

Coos Bay Times

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COOS BAY DAILY TIMES
Marshfield Oregon

A LITTLE GIRL'S ESCAPE.

As a rule parents are opposed to their children playing truant at school. In one late instance a father's heart was made glad by such action. While the father of Helen Marks was searching the ruins of the Collinwood school for the body of his daughter, she slipped up behind him and stated that she had not attended school on that particular day, but had visited her aunt instead. It is needless to state that she was forgiven on the spot.

A TEST CASE.

For many years the Southern Oregon company has held a large tract of land at Coos Bay, constantly refusing to dispose of an acre of it. There are practically one hundred thousand acres of it. The company refuses to improve any of it nor will it allow anyone else to improve it.

By the provisions of the grant under and by which this eastern corporation managed to secure this vast amount of acreage, it was stipulated that it was to be sold in tracts not exceeding 160 acres to any one person at the stated price of \$2.50 per acre. Yet all the laws seemed inadequate to keep the monopolistic crowd within bounds; and now the United States circuit court has been drafted to the aid of would-be purchasers. Suits have been filed by about 100 persons who desire to take up the land in quarter sections to force the present owners to sell as the law directs. The suits should terminate in favor of the plaintiffs. This would be common justice. Much of this land if owned by those who now seek to buy it at the price placed upon it by the government would become valuable farm land in a few years, and add to the wealth of not only the state, but those who labored to cultivate it.

For years the Southern Oregon Company, headed by Lijah Smith, has been a thorn in the side of the people of that section of the state, and the residents of that district are a unit in condemning every act of that corporation. It is to be hoped that the plaintiffs will gain the point for which they sue.—Astoria Leader.

PECULIAR AND PERTINENT.

The foundation of the strong-room of the Bank of England is 66 feet below the level of the street.

At 1000 fathoms below the surface of the ocean there is a uniform temperature just above freezing point.

The rice paper upon which the Chinese do such charming drawing is a thin sheet of the pith of a tree. The largest clock in the world is at St. Rombold's cathedral, Mechlin, Belgium, if the size of the dial is the criterion.

The Peking Electric company is to construct street railways in the Chinese empire. The capital of 1,000,000 taels has been subscribed by the Chinese.

A Swiss engineer has perfected a new fire escape. It consists of a series of folding iron ladders attached to the window frames. Each ladder reaches from one window to the next one below it. By turning a crank on any floor all the frames beneath are unfolded in less than a minute and form a continuous means of descending to the ground.

BANDON'S FINE BAND.

One of the Best Musical Organizations in Oregon.

The Bandon Concert Band, which is to give a concert in the Masonic opera house in Marshfield on Saturday evening, March 21, is numbered among the best musical organizations in the state. It has been under a professional musical director for five years, the present director being Professor E. B. Kausrud, formerly of Minneapolis. Among the members are a number of professional musicians, and at least three soloists of ability. Their coming to Marshfield promises a rare treat to all lovers of music, and as their program comprises popular pieces as well as classical, it is one that all can enjoy.

PHONE 111 for messenger boy to carry parcels and run errands.

PROPERTY TO PAY EXPENSE

Abutting Lots to Be Assessed for Public Improvements, City Paying Intersections.

The Marshfield city council believes it has found a means of rectifying an old error in the system of meeting the cost of sewer construction and similar city work. It was brought out last night in a discussion of the proposed South Marshfield sewer system, which, while not ordered at last evening's session, probably will be next Monday night.

Heretofore, the cost of sewers has been paid out of the city's general fund, which is raised by taxes on the entire city. Now it is proposed to compel the owners of abutting property to pay for the sewers and like improvements. However, as the citizens of South Marshfield were taxed to help defray the cost of the sewage system of North Marshfield, they objected strenuously against North Marshfield being relieved of helping them build their sewer system. The councilmen declare that the city cannot continue to pay for all improvements, but must follow the lead of other larger cities and divide the municipality into districts and make the property owners directly benefitted pay for the improvements.

Pay for Intersections.

In order to appease the South Marshfield property owners and endeavor to do the right thing by them, it was suggested by City Engineer Sandberg that the city pay for the street corner intersections of the proposed sewer, and then assess the cost of the remainder of the system against the benefitted property. The intersections will amount to about one-fifth of the sewage system, and cost about \$1,500. The proposed sewer will be about a mile long, of eight and ten-inch pipe, and cost about \$7,500. Deducting the cost of the intersections, each lot along the proposed sewer will have to pay between \$30 and \$35 for its construction. Otherwise, each lot would have to pay about \$51. It is proposed to distribute these payments over a period of ten years by issuing sewage district bonds for that time, bearing six per cent interest, one-tenth of the entire amount plus the interest being payable annually.

Work Last Night.

An ordinance was passed fixing the grades of Flanagan street, Fourth street and Burnett street, in South Marshfield.

The grade of Prospect avenue in Western addition was ordered re-established between Seventh and Davis streets.

The grade of Laurel street, between Western and H streets, was ordered re-established.

ADVERTISED LETTER LIST.

List of unclaimed letters remaining in the Marshfield, Oregon, post-office March 15, 1908. Persons calling for the same will please say each advertised and pay one cent for each advertised letter called for.

Tom Armstrong, E. T. Anderson, R. E. Brown, Hagbart Bentzen, Ch. Butler, F. E. Camen, J. W. Collins, John Cottle, E. M. Daves, A. L. Davison, Elek Eros, F. J. Fuller, Frank Clifford Gillaspay (2), Carrie Hawthorne, Miss P. A. Hart, Mrs. A. Jones, P. B. Kneaper, Steve Kodman, Mobbie Kohn, Lizzie McIntosh, Thomas McMahon, William Martin, Harvey Metcalf, Wilson B. Miller (2), Frank Minter, H. A. Miller, Miss Doris Pavilla, I. B. Riddle, M. Robinson, C. W. Quimby, Samuel Sapfro, Herman Stone, T. Stubbs, S. T. Smith, Frank L. Smith, Evald A. Soderblom, R. K. Thurston (4), James Woods. W. B. CURTIS, P. M.

TRAVELLE AT THE ORPHEUM.

A large and enthusiastic audience witnessed the best show ever seen in Marshfield at this house. Miss Landers met with the approval of all those who had the pleasure of hearing her sing "Mid the Green Fields of Virginia" and "Always in the Way." These songs were beautifully illustrated with colored slides, and rendered in a most pleasing manner. The great Travelle in his funny finger showgraphs made an instant hit. The manner in which he handles his deft and supple hands is unequalled on the American stage. All manners of comic figures pass in rapid succession before the eye. The lovers' scene is particularly funny, and is alone worth the advanced price of admission. The film Bandit King shows the wild and woolly west as it originally was, and cab "23" shows judicious use of a hired cab. As a result of this special engagement the already popular Orpheum is speedily becoming the popular amusement house of the city. Entire change of program Thursday night, with matinee Saturday at 3:30 p. m.

BANDON WILL LOSE TAXES

Failed to Get Municipal Levy on Rolls—Assessor Tells of Levies and Assessments.

As a result of failing to notify the county clerk at the proper time, the city of Bandon will not be able to have the county treasurer collect its municipal taxes for 1908. The councilmen of Bandon fixed the assessment of that town at five mills to meet the current municipal expenses, but somehow or other neglected to notify the county officials until after the assessment rolls had been made.

T. J. Thrift, of Coquille, assessor of Coos county, has his 1908 assessment work well under way, and is now in Marshfield fixing the values of property. He has served two terms, so he is familiar with the work and property. While there has been a marked increase in the assessed value of Coos county during recent years, Mr. Thrift has endeavored to make it conform with the general advance in values in consequence of the rapid development of this section. Probably the greatest single increase in the assessment has been in the case of the Southern Oregon company, which owns about 31,000 acres of land in Coos county. When Mr. Thrift took office, the assessed value on which the company paid taxes in Coos county was \$190,000, but he had advanced it so that in 1907 the company had to pay taxes on a valuation of \$958,000. The company, it is stated, has not attempted to develop its property, but is merely holding it until the general development of the country greatly enhances its value.

Assessor Thrift does not have anything to do with fixing the tax levy, that being fixed by the school boards of independent districts, the councilmen of the various cities and towns and the county commissioners. Mr. Thrift's duty is simply to estimate the values of the real estate and similar property, and to list the personal property of each citizen of the county. He makes his returns to the county commissioners, who pass on them and stand ready to hear any complaints against Mr. Thrift's estimates, and to change them if they see fit.

Levies in Cities.

North Bend, owing to its citizens having voted a special school levy of twelve mills, and the city councilmen fixing a city levy of five mills, will have about the largest levy in the county. In addition to these local levies, the county and state general levy is thirteen mills, making a total levy of thirty mills on North Bend property.

Marshfield property owners will have to pay a levy of twentythree and one-half mills, of which seven mills is for school purposes, three and one-half mills for the city and thirteen mills for the county and state.

Myrtle Point residents must pay the same rate as North Bend, thirty mills—ten mills for the city, seven mills for its schools and thirteen mills for the county and state.

Bandon property owners, had it not been for the failure to get the municipal levy on the rolls, would have had to pay the highest levy in the county, owing to the heavy school levy there. The city levy was to have been five mills, the school levy is fifteen mills and the state and county levy thirteen mills.

Mr. Thrift expects to be a candidate for renomination and re-election, even though he will have to run under the handicap of several hundred Republican majority, he being a Democrat.

The Crystal Theater.—A large and interested audience witnessed the new bill at the Crystal Theater last night. The main feature is a beautifully hand-colored film called "The Slave's Love." The scenes are laid in the Roman court at the time of Nero, and the story told is intensely interesting and dramatic. Every inch of a film of this kind is colored by hand, as there is no machine that can do this delicate work. Demaris Gabbert sings two of the latest songs. The whole bill is unusually interesting and up to date, and one that will appeal to all.



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