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"Sleuthing The Pastor

WHO STOLE ALSPAUGH'S CHICKENS?"

Synopsis of Previous Chapters:-Early Monday morning, March 12th, some person or persons unknown, broke into the poultry-house of Roy Alspaugh near Alspaugh Station, departing with eighteen thoroughbred Brown Leghorn chickens. By Monday noon, the owner, with the assistance of Deteckativ Dave Hoffmeister, was hot on the trail,

With the first rays of the morning's sun on Wednesday, our vigilant heroes, who had ne'er slept a wink for two days, glimpsed a stealthily moving one-horse covered wagon, carefully and softly wending its way among the indistinct shadows of the highway, with the skulking driver, completely enveloped in his great-

Their's not to reason wh;, their's but to do or die-so Roy and Dave spread the alarm, through every township, section and farm, rousing Bob Currin to up and to arm.

Hastily donning scant attire, Bob, grasping the helm of his trusty Ford and with our two heroes, tore through the dawn's early light, with Estacada but three miles away.

After awakening Constable Bates and explaining their dangerous mission, this minion of the law, armed with a brace of pistols, handcuffs and star, roused Justice Devore from his rheumatic slumbers and on receiving full legal advice and authority, joined the waiting posse and started in pursuit of the mysterious covered wagon.

All records for a Ford were eclipsed in that early morn's terrific drive down the valley, while the exhaust behind them volleyed and thundered. Just a flash and a trail of burned gasoline marked the passing of the speed demon through Eagle Creek with its brave cargo of avengers, scattering to right and left the peaceful kine and wallowing swine, from the roadway.

With a streak, a shriek and a toot, the avengers passed though Barton, tearing steadily on along the perilous River Road, until, in the darkness of the forest primeval, amid the murmuring firs and the road-rocks, their quarry loomed ahead.

With a mighty effort, the heated, straining, quivering Ford was brought to a stand-still and with all lights extinguished, exhaust muffled and with shot-guns and revolvers carefully aimed, the pursuing Ford drew abreast the suspicious covered wagon, with its interior poultry compartments visible through the half opened curtains.

The slumbering fastnesses of the circumnambient landscape were suddenly echoing with the stentorian challenge of Constable

Opposition To Herd-Law

Continued from front page

Not even the strongest opponents of the herd-law can escape seeing the constant nuisance caused by the few wandering animals, which not only make the sidewalks a broken and manure littered mess, but have lately taken to pillaging the farmers' wagons and even their automobiles.

A few opponents contend that the nearby farmers will feel that Estacada is legislating against them and their stock, but in few instances will the neighboring people be other than glad to have done away with, the nuisance of the Estacada town cows straying around their line fences.

Some definite action will probably be taken within a short time, for the Estacada council with one exception is in favor of passing a herd-law.

Springwater Items

The play which was given by the Ladies Aid on Saturday Mar. 17th proved to be a great sucess.

The Old-maids and the "Newlyweds" were arrayed in the latest vogue, every color of the rainbow being represented. Special talent was showed in their orchestra selections. Following the play refrshments were served and a social hour was enjoyed by the young people.

Mr. F. Erickson son of Peter Erickson of Springwater, has rented the S. E. Wooster place in Springwater.

A new singing school was organized in Springwater. Mr. Edwards of Vancouver Washington being the instructor.

Mrs Effert Dye of Portland is visiting Mrs. G. M. Lawrence.

One-half Taxes Due April 1st

The Estacada State Bank has been busy lately obtaining the statement of taxes for hundreds of taxpayers in this community, who each year avail themselves of the local bank's service.

The first haif of the taxes are due April 5th, with the remainder becoming due October 1st.

Bates, who with a dare-devil light in his eye, commanded "Hold up your hands-you're under arrest.

The mysterious driver, startled from his early morn's reverie, turned and faced his accusers and lo and behold, it was Rev. Spiess of the Estacada M. E. Church. who had started for an early drive to his farm, taking with him a few crates of rabbits.

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