

Coquille Herald.

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QUEEN ESTHER.

Grand Musical Production to be Given as a Benefit for Public School.

The most elaborate musical entertainment ever attempted by our local singers is the production of Queen Esther, to be given at the Masonic Opera Hall next week for the benefit of the schools.

The director, Mr. Martin E. Robinson, of Chicago, has given this, and other operas, in all the principal cities of Oregon and Washington during the past four years and the press have invariably spoken of his work in the highest terms of praise. He furnishes the costumes for the entire cast and chorus, and every member of the company will be clad in appropriate costume to represent the characters and time of the greatest monarch history has known. The story of Queen Esther is intensely interesting and especially adapted to musical and dramatic setting.

About 500 years before Christ, Xerxes, the reigning monarch of Persia, caused all the beautiful maidens of his realm to be brought before him that he might choose the most beautiful from among them to be his queen.

The choice fell on Esther, a cousin of Mordecai, a Jew, who was one of the petty officers in the King's household, and who had reared Esther as his own daughter, but had kept her nationality a secret. The prime minister of the realm at this time was Haman, an Agagite, and a deadly enemy of the Jews, and because Mordecai refused to bow down before him and pay him the same amount of homage that all the Persians went to do at his every appearance. Haman conceived the idea of having the entire Jewish annihilated. With this end in view he procured a decree from the king that on a certain day all the Jews in the kingdom were to be put to death and their property confiscated by Haman. When Mordecai heard of the daughter to his race he urged the Queen to go before the king to make supplication and save her people. Owing to a law of the Medes and Persians that none might enter before the king without having been called, Esther was loth to do so as Mordecai bid her, but finally she consented to do so and was graciously received.

When the king asked her what was her petition, she asked that the king and Haman come to a banquet she had prepared for them. The following day when they met at the queen's banquet, the king asked Esther what was her petition, and said it would be granted "to the half of the kingdom," whereupon Esther denounced Haman as the enemy of her race and told of his conspiracy to destroy all the Jews.

Upon hearing of Haman's perfidy, the king ordered his guards to take Haman out and hang him upon the gallows he had caused to be erected for Mordecai, and Mordecai was advanced to the position of chief counselor to the king.

This is the story to be told in song and action at the Masonic Opera House next week by about 65 of the singers of the city, and the event will be the greatest musical entertainment ever attempted here.

Some Seasonable Advice.

It may be a piece of superfluous advice to urge people at this season of the year to lay in a supply of Chamberlain's Cough Remedy. It is almost sure to be needed before winter is over, and much more prompt and satisfactory results are obtained when taken as soon as a cold is contracted and before it has become settled in the system, which can only be done by keeping the remedy at hand. This remedy is so widely known and so altogether good that no one should hesitate about buying it in preference to any other. It is for sale by R. S. Knowlton.

Preparations are under way for the removal of the O. K. creamery building to western edge of the lot it occupies, which will place it out on the line of the street to the waterfront. This will be a great convenience to those patrons who drive direct to the creamery with their teams.

Cripples Only will be Employed

F. M. Cromier and A. W. Fritz are establishing a manufacturing plant here in which none but cripples will be employed. The idea is the outgrowth of work Mr. Cromier started several months ago, when he opened his "Free Employment Bureau and Clearing-House for Cripples," in the Central Trust building. It is called the Associated Manufacturing Company. At first the plant will occupy but two rooms and will furnish employment to about 20 cripples. Designing and and perforating, cloth and ivory button-making apron and waist-sewing and lacemending by machinery will form part of the business. There will be room for stenographers and crippled delivery boys. Every sort of cripple, even the so-called "hopeless," will be employed in the new factory.

The enemies of the parcels post system have organized for the purpose of fighting the adoption of the system in the United States. This new organization will not lack for funds. It will probably systematically supply the newspapers of the United States with untrue statements as to the parcels post system. On the other hand the Oregon State Grange has inaugurated a movement which will probably be taken up by the National Grange, the object of which is to find out and make public what the government is paying the railroads for transporting mails. It is claimed that the government pays several times as much as express companies pay. The Grange also will work to cut off the abuse of the franking privilege and a lot of grafts of various kinds, which have grown up under the protecting care of legislation of such a nature that its true object did not appear at first glance. If the organized enemies of the parcels post system are, as they profess to be, actuated by a desire to prevent the postal deficit from growing, they would join hands with the Grange, but instead of doing so it is certain that they will do all in their power to thwart the efforts of the Grange to do away with the abuses which are the actual causes of the deficit.—Oregon Agriculturist.

We believe that the Grange has done well in demanding a thorough investigation of the methods of the postoffice department. It is a well-known fact that the whole system of postal laws and regulations is in sad need of thorough revision. As matters now stand on publisher of a newspaper can be sure that he is not violating some postal regulation. The rules and regulations are frequently changed in such a manner as to seriously affect the business of certain newspapers. Altogether too much is left to the discretion of the assistant postmaster generals. Practically nine-tenths of the law which governs newspapers is made by the officials of the postoffice department and not by Congress. It may be assumed that this is also the case with other branches of the department. It is said that it is a practical impossibility for postmasters and clerks in postoffices and railway mail service to avoid frequent violations of postal regulations and that there is such a mass of these regulations that no person can learn them all unless he has a phenomenal memory. Such conditions as these naturally lead to favoritism of law and grafting. The country needs a great postmaster-general and a congress to carry out his recommendations. When Mr. Wainmaker held the position he recommended many needed changes but Congress did not see fit to agree with him on the more important of his recommendations.—Rural Northwest

The owner of 80 acres of timber land on the Coquille river near Fairview, wants a bid for the stumpage or the land as a whole. It is N. E. 1/4 of S. W. 1/4 and S. W. 1/4 of the S. W. 1/4 of 36 in 27, S. R. 12. W. Address, F. F. Weston, 1302, Webster street, Oakland, California.

New stock mens' and boys' clothing at Robinson's.

Obituary

In Memory of Eliza Davis Yoakam. Eliza Davis was born in Burke county, Pennsylvania. November 10, 1821, and died near Susanville, Cal., October 1, 1906. August 14, 1843, she was married to John Yoakam, in Ohio, and in the spring of 1853 she moved with her husband and family to Jackson county, Oregon, where they resided for a year, when, hearing of the wonderful resources of the coast, they came to Coos Bay, settling at Empire City then the only town in the county. In 1855 they moved to a homestead about six miles from Empire City on what was then the Randolph trail, but which is now known as the Cammon wagon road.

It was here that the awful tragedy of Mrs. Yoakam's life occurred—one that would only be possible in pioneer days, when a large, burning tree fell with terrific force upon their little cabin, shattering it and instantly killing five of their children, one a babe in its mother's arms. The accident happened in the evening, when the children were nearly all asleep, and when later the anguished parents searched amid the ruins of their little ones, they found four of them dead where they had slept. Two little boys, Jasper and George, aged 7 and 5 years, were still missing, and the father and mother groped for them in the semi-darkness, expecting to find their maimed and mangled bodies, but to their unspeakable joy found them in their little trundle bed, alive and fast asleep. The branches of the tree had fallen in such a manner as to shield their little bed, and the commotion had not even awakened them. The scene of the accident is known as Yoakam's Hill, and stately firs, spreading cedars and the graceful rhododendron now grow in wild luxuriance where these hapless children lie in their dreamless sleep.

The homestead was abandoned, as the poor mother could find no happiness there, and after a few sad months in Empire City and Eastport, they moved to the Coquille river, where they remained until 1867, when they bought the William Jackson farm on South Coos river, and literally hewed for themselves a home out of the wilderness. In this home probably the happiest years of Mrs. Yoakam's life were spent; other children came to her almost empty arms, and listening to their happy laughter her old sorrow gradually faded away. For many years "Yoakam's" was synonymous with good cheer and hospitality. None was ever sent cold, hungry or ragged from her door, and many were the demands upon her time and patience, for people came from all parts of the county to share the generous entertainment provided by Mr. and Mrs. Yoakam. Around their capacious fire place, with its blazing logs of myrtle or maple, many happy groups of old and young oft gathered in the bygone days, to recount thrilling tales of pioneer experiences, or ready in one another's eyes the story youth ever loves to hear. Of this home it might be fitly written:

"In that mansion need to be Free-hearted hospitality; The great fires up the chimney roared, The stranger feasted at the board.

There groups of merry children played, There youths and maidens dreaming strayed.

All are scattered now and fled, Some are married, some are dead. Mrs. Yoakam was a woman of rare type, well fitted by nature for the struggles and adventures of pioneer life. Of strong and sturdy constitution, of indomitable pluck and courage—she feared neither man nor beast—of vast executive ability and wonderful originality of thought and expression, "Granny Yoakam," as she was affectionately called by all who knew her, was a character too seldom found.

Mr. Yoakam died in 1876, and for many years after his death his widow successfully managed the farm, failing health finally compelling her to leave it. Five years ago she went to California to spend her declining days with her son, Jasper A., and it was at his home she died. She was the mother of twelve children, five of whom survive her. They are Jasper A., John, Joseph H. Mrs. Martha Davis and Mrs. Mary Moore.

All that is mortal of dear old "Granny"—who was everybody's friend—will be brought here for burial, that her body may lie beside that of her husband, in the little cemetery on Coos river. A. R. S.

Note and Comment.

Lawrence Toole the comedian, accumulated a fortune of four hundred thousand dollars. His relatives are now able to see the point to his jokes.

Secretary Moody says the president would be pained to be obliged to run for the Presidency again. Still Mr. Roosevelt has a wonderful disregard of suffering.

Sir Thomas Lipton has been investing in gold mines in Colorado. It is to be hoped that the specimens which induced him to invest may not turn out to be Shamrock.

"In spite of ourselves we have become a world power," says Admiral Dewey but no one remembers that the Admiral tried very hard to prevent himself sailing up Manila Bay.

Senator Reed Smoot has stated that he will advocate the reestablishment of the army canteen. He ought to be able to convince the people of the country by this that he is not a lady's man.

All the good citizens of Atlanta are horrified by the acts of the mob, but it is safe to predict that those who come up for trial for having attacked or killed negroes will not receive very heavy sentences.

Judge Lambert Tree of Chicago has discovered that "Europe is a peril to young American girls". Heretofore the world has been of the opinion that the young American girl had been a peril to Europe.

Mark Twain has become an advocate of simplified spelling and pure drug reform. But we are just as mystified as ever for we never have been able to tell when he was serious and when he meant to be funny.

Walter Wellman who got as far as Spitzbergen on his way to the North Pole has arrived at Paris. This seems to have been the route he has selected on two previous occasions when he happened to overlook the Pole.

President Roosevelt has set a limit to the time when the peace negotiations shall be concluded or American intervention made. This is a blow to those Cubans who believe that the hearings and their official salaries were to go on for a life time.

The back stamp on envelopes is to be discarded and the postal service thus enabled to make a vast saving in time and expense of clerks. A law that two cents stamps should be used on picture postals would help to abolish that offense and with profit to the Department.

The Dowager Queen of Russia has landed in Denmark to visit her sister, Queen Alexandra. It would not be surprising if the czar and his family also decided to land. It would not be the first time in history that a pleasure cruise had been the euphonious synopsis for fight.

At a convention of milliners in Chicago one of the speakers announced that women could be beautiful by simply believing they were beautiful. That is all right for the woman themselves but someone must come forward now and explained how they are going to make the men believe it too.

FOR SALE.—Some fine Bottom Land Farms, in large or small lots to suit purchaser, cheap and on easy terms. E. N. Smith, Myrtle Point, Oregon.

Sample piano, standard make parlor grand, quarter oak; none better; retails at \$425.00. Must be sold, will take \$195.00 spot cash. Second hand pianos cheaper and on easy terms. Pohl, Myrtle Point, Oregon.

Farm for sale or trade—40 acres 3 miles below Dora; 30 acres hill, 10 bottom, all fenced and in grass. Price, \$1250, or trade for city property. B. Folsom, Tuttle Hotel, Coquille.

FOR SALE.—About 1 1/2 acres of land near the Academy, good house, barn and out buildings. Also young orchard. Address J. A. Jacobson, North Bend, Oregon.

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