

A FEW PRICES

to reduce stock

25c hand pumps, 10c
 Dixons 10c Graphite, 5c
 10c tubes Cement, 5c
 M & W No. 1 Inner Tubes, 75c
 Bicycle gas Lamps, \$1.75
 Best Pedals, \$1 per pair
 Foot Pumps, seamless cast base the most durable made, 50c
 Coaster Brakes, any style \$5 each
 Chain Brushes, 10c per pair
 Handle Bar grips, 5c each
 Toe Clips, 10c per pair
 A large stock of bicycles, dont want to carry them over, will make the price very low for cash only
 A full line of Fishing tackle at

REDUCED PRICES

A remnant stock of base ball goods to close, at prices to please
 25c, 50c and \$1 Boomerangs, 10c, 15c, 25c
 \$1.25 & \$1.75 Maher & Grose axes, 75c and \$1.00

THESE GOODS MUST GO

to make room for new stock, nothing cheap but the price, at

Paddock's Bicycle Den

East of Depot

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Transacts a General Banking business.
 Receives deposits subject to check or on demand certificates.
 Our customers are assured of courteous treatment and every consideration consistent with sound banking principles.
 Safety deposit boxes for rent.
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 No. 223, 100 acres about 13 miles from the city. Good house cost about \$400. About 600,000 feet of good saw timber. Will sell for \$1000.
 Stop paying rent, \$10 down and \$5 a month will purchase a lot in almost any portion of the city.
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Special Excursion to St. Louis.

August 8, 9, 10, September 5, 6 and 7 and October 8, 4 and 5 are the remaining dates upon which tickets will be sold at the reduced rates to the St. Louis Fair. These rates apply over the Denver & Rio Grande and Missouri Pacific. For the patrons of these roads special excursion cars will be run through from Portland to St. Louis without change.
 See the many points of interest about the Mormon capital and take a ride through Nature's picture gallery. During the closing months travel to the Fair will be very heavy. If you contemplate going write W. C. McBride, general agent at Portland for the Denver & Rio Grande, for particulars of these excursions.

Fruit wrapping paper can be secured at the Courier office.

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 Gold and Silver, \$1.
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Get your tonsorial work done at
IRA TOMPKINS'
 On Sixth Street—Three chairs
 Bath room in connection

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If you have a building that you want Moved, Raised or Levelled up,
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 Work reasonably and promptly done. Residence 2 miles west of Grants Pass.

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Am prepared to repair, or raise buildings and put in underpinning.
 Front street, bet. 3rd and 4th.

PROSPERITY SMILES IN THE HOP FIELDS

Good Crop and Big Price Make Josephine County Growers Happy.

Acres of Hop Yards Is Increased 50 per Cent This Year.

Hop picking began on Monday in most of the Josephine county yards. During the past week crowds of pickers have been flocking to the various yards which now all present busy, picturesque and interesting scenes. The hop pickers find here an opportunity to combine business with pleasure and to enjoy a camp outing and bring a goodly supply of the "needle." The hop picking habit, once established, is hard to overcome and many young people in Southern Oregon await the coming of the hop picking season with much the same impatience with which the small boys of the Fourth of July.

The hop picking business in this county has been growing rapidly in the past few years. At first insignificant proportions, the profits and possibilities of the hop crop were quickly observed and the acreage was soon increased. The industry may now be classed among the principal enterprises of the county.

The hop yards of this county are located in two districts, one on Rogue river from one to six miles below Grants Pass and the other on the Applegate in the vicinity of Prosser. Hop raising at the present time is confined mainly to the bottom lands of Rogue river and the Applegate, lands that never fail to yield rich returns from any planting.

The last two seasons have been conclusive tests of the excellence of this county as a hop district. Last year, while the Willamette valley hops were being ruined by rain, the Josephine county yards were experiencing an early and a most successful season. This year the Willamette valley is suffering from a season of extreme dryness, which has curtailed all sorts of crops and the hop crop as well.

In consequence of the excellent comparative showing of Josephine county yards in the past two years and the high prices which have prevailed, the acreage in this county has been materially increased. The number of acres

in bearing hops is about 20 per cent more than last year and next year will have a 50 per cent increase over the present acreage.

This year's crop shows an increase per acre from 30 to 35; per cent over last year. If the prices this year are fully as good if not better than last year, the hop growers are among the happy people of the county. The prices at the present time are quite near the 25 cent mark. Some of the growers have contracted a portion of their crops at less figures but at rates which insure them a good profit. Four firms of buyers, two being the largest in the market, have local representatives here and the resulting competition insures the top price to the growers.

Following is a partial list of the Josephine county hop growers with the number of acres in each yard in bearing hops. The figures are not accurate but will be found in general, nearly correct:

John P. Ranauz Jr., 65 acres.
 DeArmond, 20 acres.
 Bowler, 9 acres.
 Baldwin, 10 acres.
 Loesch, 20 acres.
 Rehkopf, 30 acres.
 Lincoln, 15 acres.
 Weidman, 25 acres.
 Weston, 65 acres.
 Reymers, 15 acres.
 Jennings, 8 acres.
 Johnston, 9 acres.
 York, 15 acres.
 Mrs. J. Ranauz, 25 acres.
 Conway, 8 acres.
 Findley, 17 acres.
 Robinson, 14 acres.

The following shows the acreage of new hops set out this year and which will be in full bearing next year:

Ranauz, 10 acres.
 DeArmond, 15 acres.
 Hartman, 20 acres.
 Bowler, 8 acres.
 Baldwin, 8 acres.
 Loesch, 8 acres.
 Lincoln, 6 acres.
 Holloway, 10 acres.
 Lawton, 8 acres.
 Alverson, 6 acres.
 Amplette, 6 acres.
 Jennings, 5 acres.
 Miller, 50 acres.
 Cook, 8 acres.
 Howell Bros., 20 acres.

The total acreage of hops in full bearing is about 350. This will be increased next year to over 600.

SOUTHERN OREGON IS RICH

No More Inviting Region for the Homeseeker.

The Portland Journal has the following article relative to Southern Oregon and its advantages:

Crops this year in Southern Oregon—meaning by this term that part of the state lying between the Callippa mountains and the California line, north and south, and between the Cascade and coast ranges of mountains east and west, are on the whole as good if not better than usual. Grain and hay there, as in the Willamette valley, are somewhat short, yet by no means a total or had failure, as they are in a dry season in California. Hops—for a good many hops are raised in Douglas, Jackson and Josephine counties, though not nearly so many as in Willamette valley counties—promise a full yield, of superior quality. Fruit—and this section of Oregon is as fine a fruit region—is abundant and excellent, and will bring large returns to the growers. The stock industry in that part of the state is flourishing—as well as it can in these prosperous times, when beef on foot is low and on the table high. Lumber mills are active and apparently prosperous. In brief, Southern Oregon is in excellent shape in every way, and deserves to attract a very large immigration in the near future.

As to climate, that part of Oregon cannot be excelled, if equaled, anywhere in the United States. There is no excessive and prolonged rainfall, a sometimes happens on the coast. There is no very severe winter weather, as sometimes occurs on the elevated plains of eastern Oregon. It is as a rule a delightfully equable and healthful climate, such as, once lived in awhile, is never left for long, except on strong inducement or for urgent reasons.

The soil of southern Oregon is variable, but mostly a fine volcanic gravel, exceedingly fertile when sufficiently moistened. Portions of the Rogue river and Umpqua river valleys need irrigation, most years, to produce large crops; but streams are numerous and contain abundance of water; and in time nearly all that very rich volcanic surface ash will be made to produce immense crops.

Perhaps Southern Oregon excels in fruit raising than in anything else. One need not get off a car moving through Jackson county to see thousands of acres, miles and miles of orchards bearing the finest fruit, especially, in point of value, apples, raised in the United States. Peaches, prunes, plums, apricots and grapes are also produced in profusion, and of first rate quality. Most of these orchards and vineyards are new young, fresh, vigorous, and well cared for.

Mr. J. D. Olwell and others have set an example in first class horticulture that many are following, to their own and the whole state's advantage. We look to see next year at the Lewis and Clark fair, the finest exhibition of fruits from Southern Oregon ever displayed anywhere in the world. Its people can do this.

Southern Oregon is also noted for its poultry, especially turkeys. From one little town alone many thousands of turkeys are shipped annually just before Thanksgiving and Christmas to Portland and San Francisco; and many tens of thousands from that part of the state, which seems especially adapted to raising fine poultry, an industry by no means to be despised, and which offers golden opportunities to hundreds of homeseekers with small means—even right around Portland.

Southern Oregon is rich in minerals also, and produces annually much gold. Its mountains are rich, too, in timber, some of which is of the choice and exceptionally valuable varieties. To go into details no further, there is not a pleasanter or more inviting region between the great oceans for the homeseeker than Southern Oregon.

MAKES GOOD PASTURE

Grasses for Semi-Arid Lands It Pays to Plant.

Brome grass has remarkable drought resisting qualities, and is perhaps the most suitable for the semi-arid and dry portions of the country. When properly set and established, it will withstand extremely low temperatures without injury and will successfully stand the heat of a long dry summer. It starts very early in the spring and remains green late in the fall, standing almost any amount of pasturing without serious injury. Its peculiarity is that it forms very thick bunches of leaves close to the ground, making a heavy sod and is without many seed heads. The first year's growth yields a good crop of hay, but it is distinctly a pasture grass.

Italian ryegrass grows rankly and is excellent both for pasturage and hay, being more greedily eaten by stock than almost any other kind of hay. It requires a good amount of moisture and will perhaps do better on irrigated land. It yields enormously, sometimes eight and ten tons to the acre. Because of the fact that it gives a fine color to the butter, dairymen who have pieces of moist fertile soil set in this grass can be assured that they will have pasturage from March until Christmas in this region.

Fescue is a suitable grass for either hay or pasture and is well adapted to all parts of this country. There are two varieties, meadow fescue and tall fescue, the latter being more valuable of the two. It holds sod a long time in low lying lands and is best adapted for cultivation on rich lands.

Bermuda grass makes the rankest and densest growth of any species. It possesses also the peculiarity of jointed roots and when the roots are cut or broken they immediately sprout again at the broken point and it is almost impossible to exterminate it on moist land. This grass makes an excellent hog growth and for the reason of its prolific growth from broken roots, farmers who have given it any attention find that it pays to plant it. Its long season in the equable climate of this territory adds greatly to its value for pasturing, as it keeps green and furnishes an abundance of food for nearly the entire year.

Timothy is the old reliable for wet and heavy land but it is not suited to light land even with irrigation. In the heavy soils of the foot hills and river bottoms where the rainfall is plentiful growing of timothy is a conspicuous industry and on that yielding big profits to its owners.—Homeseeker and Investor.

BIG RAILROAD CONTRACT

Arlington-Condon Road to Be Finished Jan. 1st.

The Pacific Coast Construction Company of Portland, has been awarded the contract for building the Condon-Arlington branch of the O. R. & N., which is to tap the great wheat and cattle country of Gilliam county.

The road to be constructed will be 46 miles in length and the work to be done by the contractors will be varied, as the contract provides for bridges, culverts, cuts and fills.

Work on the road will be commenced at once and the contract stipulates that all of the bridges and track work shall be finished by December 31. The track will be constructed in a modern manner and as substantially as possible. Owing to the lightness of the soil and the heavy and sudden rains common to that part of the country, a great deal of rock work will be put in along the low places where there might be danger of the winter's floods cutting the track and endangering the safety of the trains.

The bridges also will be constructed with a view to withstanding the sudden raises in the water of the streams of the section and ample protection will be given the piers from the brushwood or drift that might be washed down from the mountains.

The culverts and all openings under the track through which small or occasional streams will run, will be faced with masonry and so protected that there will be no need of continued repairs after each storm of the winter.

The road is the one which General Manager E. E. Calvin, of the O. R. & N. and the Southern Pacific decided to build during his recent trip through Gilliam County and over the line of the proposed track. To it will be tributary the great wheat belt of Gilliam county and the stock district of the interior. For years much wheat has been raised along the line of the new road from Arlington to Condon, but owing to the lack of transportation it has been impossible to get more than a small portion of the produce to the market. The residents of the district have been forced to feed the greater part of their crops and drive the cattle and sheep to Arlington in order to ship them to the Portland markets, losing by the process both time and money. The advent of the road will be a great advantage to the people and will do much to bring the district before the country as a desirable place for investment and location.

Three car loads of brick will soon arrive from Grants Pass, then the new brick building will soar upwards. All is ready for the brick.—Gold Hill News.

BITTEN BY RATTLE SNAKE

Sheepherder Has an Exciting Experience.

James Deming, a sheepherder, working a few miles east of Kennel, Cal., while climbing up a ledge Saturday of last week, put his hand in a rattlesnake hole and a rattler coiled therein sank his fangs in it. Deming rushed to his cabin, a quarter of a mile away, but his comrades were out with their flock. He applied a soda bandage to the wound, left a note to the other herders telling them he had been bitten by a rattler and that he had started for Kennel, a distance of three miles.

As the snake's poison course through his veins, he became drowsy from the pain and lost his way on a well traveled trail. It was six hours later that Harry Kelley, another herder, found the note. He started after the injured man, and found him in a delirious state beside the trail a mile from Kennel.

Relley rushed Deming on to town, only to find that there was no physician there. But there was plenty of whiskey, and the victim of the snake bite was given lots of it. Sunday morning he was still living, much to the surprise of his friends, and was taken to his home in Red Bluff, where it is said he will recover.

Everyone knows who "Sunny Jim" is. But everyone don't know that all his correspondence is handled on seventy-five Underwood Typewriters. These remarks are backed by "Force."

Of Special Interest to

House Furnishers

WINDOW SHADES—Our Special is a good one. Send us your orders for special and large sizes.
 LACE CURTAINS—In great variety, 45c to \$6 a pair.
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 CARPETS AND MATTINGS—15c to \$1.25; large variety and of the kind that wears. None better, and few as good.
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 REFRIGERATORS—at cost.
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 WALL PAPERS and Wall Paper Paste—A new idea and a great invention.
 GLASSWARE and Semi-Crockery going at little prices.

R. Thomas & Co.,

The Housefurnishers
 Grants Pass, - Oregon.

W. C. T. U. Column

What's in a name? The question is asked again because of Bishop Potter's appearance at the "dedication" of the Subway Tavern in New York. Subway Tavern and Potter's Field!

A religion that stays in the clouds is of no use to anybody. Religion must be definite, practical, useful—a binding rule of daily life—or else it is as much a mockery as the gilded prayer wheel of the Buddhist.

We desire to direct attention to the first plank in the platform of the Prohibition party: "The widely prevailing system of the licensed and legalized sale of alcoholic beverages is so ruinous to public welfare, so destructive to national health and so subversive of the rights of great masses of our citizenship, that the destruction of the traffic is, and for years has been, the most important question in American politics." Is there an honest citizen in this country who will deny this declaration?

A New York paper finds fault with a representative of the Woman's Christian Temperance Union, who said, in reference to the opening of the Subway Tavern: "We object to the new tavern, on the very ground upon which its indication is attempted—that it seeks to make drinking respectable." The principle of the Woman's Christian Temperance Union is that drinking should be kept a thing of degradation. The paper regards this sentiment as "lamentable" and declares that it seriously "injures the cause of temperance." Of course, the secular press which has business relations with the liquor interests is an infallible and unprejudiced judge on these matters.

TO PREVENT FOREST FIRES

Thinks Policy of Government Is Wrong.

"The government may mean well in setting aside vast tracts of timber land and letting them become brush covered and mere fire traps, but the system is just as mistaken as if the thing was done with malice," said Dr. W. W. Ogleby of Cottage Grove, in the Portland Journal.

"I have been on every reserve in the Pacific northwest," continued the doctor, "and for 30 years I have traversed mountains, valleys and thickets, and I know whereof I speak, when I say the entire system put in force by the government is radically wrong."

"Trees have their life like a crop of hay or a patch of cabbage. When their period of usefulness ends they begin to deteriorate and are worth less in a few years. We would call a farmer a fool, who year after year allowed his hay crop to encumber the ground without ever cutting an acre of it, and we would term him insane if he allowed this field to become so weed choked that a spark of fire would devastate the entire farm in the dry season, but this is the policy adopted by the government, and it is, as I said before, dangerous and foolish."

"There are vast forests of rotting trees in the government reserves that might have been used as sawlogs had they been cut when they were ripe. There are thousands of acres of big trees that are only shells, the entire inside having decayed and left but the bark and a thin crust beneath. Why not cut this timber before it goes to waste?"

"Another bit of folly is preventing fires to be set in the reservations until the brush and undergrowth becomes so high that when the inevitable fire comes, the whole forest is destroyed. Old settlers and Indians know that the only safe method is to annually burn off the undergrowth, when it is so thin that it would not endanger the big trees. Then the grass can grow and you have a beautiful forest, instead of a fire trap."

In speaking of the method to be followed in preventing big forest fires and the waste of valuable timber, Mr. Ogleby said:

"Use the rangers to act as overseers and let them allow annually the cutting of such timber as is ripe. The Pacific coast, year after year, produces enough timber for all lumber needs if the waste is stopped and merely the annually ripe product is cut. Then let there be fires started each year in the reserves and allow them to burn off the year's brush, and by taking proper backfire precautions, no loss will result. Had the government adopted this plan instead of the one now in vogue, we would have had vast areas of producing forests instead of the bleak hills and barren valleys that mark the path of great forest fires."

U try a Blue Ribbon, 8-cent cigar.

TO WORK FOR GOOD ROADS

Legislative Committee of State Good Roads Association.

In accordance with a resolution adopted at the last meeting of the State Good Roads Association, held in Portland last year, President Scott has announced the personnel of the legislative committee, the purpose of which will be to draft and offer to the legislature such legislation as is deemed best for the good roads movement in this state, as follows: M. A. Miller of Lebanon; C. J. Smith of Pendleton; W. W. Steiwer of Possil; J. H. Albert, of Salem; M. A. Wertz, of Grants Pass.

Among matters suggested to the committee, to cover which it is presumed bills will be drafted for presentation to the legislature, for the matter of public road construction by convict labor.

Other prospective laws is one permitting the county court to condemn property for the purpose of straightening out roads, and another for the purpose of requiring petitioners for the establishment of new roads to pay the costs of survey and viewing.

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