

# Rogue River Courier.

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## NAVIGATION POSSIBLE ON ROGUE RIVER

Mining Machinery Taken From Grants Pass to Paradise Bar By Boat.

That Rogue river for the 100 miles from Grants Pass to its mouth at Goldbeach, where it empties into the Pacific Ocean, could be made navigable for boats up to 20 or 25 tons capacity is the opinion of many experienced rivermen who have examined it. Fishermen and prospectors have been navigating Rogue river with small boats since white men settled here 50 years ago. At favorable stages of water trips in small boats have been made from Grants Pass through to the settlements in Curry county, but the dangerous rapids through the Coast mountain section rendered it dangerous to all but the most expert boatman. That a boat carrying five tons of freight can be safely taken over the most dangerous of the rapids in the river has been demonstrated by J. B. Thurner for the Rogue River Mining & Development Company.

This first shipment of freight consisted of 3900 pounds of hydraulic pipe, 3500 nails, a boiler weighing 3200 pounds, an engine of 3800 pounds and a lot of other materials and supplies, the total weight being 20,000 pounds. This was loaded on two boats that were built especially for this trip under the direction of Mr. Thurner here in Grants Pass.

The boats are each 27 feet long, 8 foot deck beam and 4 1/2 foot bottom beam and 37 inches depth of hold. Each boat carried 10,000 pounds on 26 inches draft. They were built extra strong so as to withstand the hard strain of the trip. A supply of oakum, pitch and plank were taken so repairs could be made in case a leak was caused by too hard a bump against a boulder, but these were not needed as not an accident befell either boat. It took 20 days to make the trip owing to the number of rapids that were covered with boulders that made it necessary to unload at each of these obstructions a part of the cargo and make a portage. No difficulty was had at all at Hellgate and had all the river been as it is from Grants Pass to Galice the run could have been made in three days through to the destination at Paradise Bar. Devil's Stair rapids came near being the undoing of the expedition. The river here roars through a narrow gorge and instead of being 300 to 400 feet wide and three to 10 feet deep it is but 25 to 35 feet wide and 25 to 50 deep and so high were the waves that they came near swamping the overloaded boats, for there was no chance to make a portage. So dangerous did this gorge through the Coast mountains appear that four of the crew refused to go further with the boats and returned to Grants Pass. The only man Mr. Thurner had left was A. Aubrey, the well known fisherman of this city. Mr. Aubrey was pilot for the boats and did not propose to desert his post when within 15 miles of their destination. He at once took the trail for the lower settlements and got a crew of men who had boated freight with him on the lower Rogue river. It was a wild run for the boats through the Devil's Stair but the 2 1/2 miles was made with less work but more excitement than had been experienced at the smaller rapids. Mr. Aubrey was born and raised on lower Rogue river and knows every section.

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## QUEEN ESTHER BY LOCAL TALENT

Is Rendered to Full Houses on Tuesday and Wednesday Evenings.

"Queen Esther," with its sparkling, joyous choruses so full of abounding vigor and verve, its exquisite, haunting solo melodies, its strong appeal to all that is noblest and most sacred within the heart of man or woman, its great versatility in character play and its high moral tone and lesson that righteousness exalteth a nation as an individual was given by a chorus of 75 voices on Tuesday and Wednesday evenings of this week at the Opera House under the direction of Martin E. Robinson of Chicago.

Although this beautiful opera has been given in almost every city, village and hamlet in the United States within the past 20 or more years, it has, like "Pinafore" and the "Mikado," become more and more popular with the years, and no matter how often one has heard it, the delight it brings in each hearing is always a fresh one, for deep in every human heart are tender strings of memory, of chivalry and of purity upon which the cunning hand of the author of "Queen Esther" has never failed to play with lovely harmonies, and we are always better, stronger and sweeter in soul for having listened to its beauties of word and music.

The solo parts were well cast and the music-loving public of Grants Pass have cause for a deep satisfaction and felicity in that among our people we can boast of so many good voices and such an exhibition of dramatic ability as was displayed on Tuesday and Wednesday evenings.

Mrs. W. W. Walker as Queen Esther won her way straight into the heart of every man, woman and child in the audience, not only by her lovely sympathetic voice, but by her gracious sweetness and womanliness, for she was every inch a queen, and to hear her on Tuesday evening was to love her. She possessed all of the requisite dignity and poise to give the part a most fitting and dramatic interpretation, and her rich, expressive voice was never heard to better advantage.

As King Ahasuerus, A. E. Voorhies well typified the proud, yet just ruler of the Persians. He was in excellent voice and the quality of his voice made him most acceptable for the King's role.

Perhaps the character which makes its strongest appeal to an emotional audience is that of Haman with the great gamut of feelings through which that role leads, and that H. L. Andrew was the living embodiment of that vain, cunning and unscrupulous favorite of a powerful master whom he managed with stratagem equal to that of a king's own, was universal comment among those present. All the adulation, the flattery and the conceit which the pampered eunuch of oriental opportunity and destiny was supposed to have possessed, Mr. Andrews played in his delineation of the role, and his hearers were taken in rapid succession from a tolerant pleasure and even delight in his wickedness and folly which certainly is almost painless to a sympathetic sigh and tear in his ultimate galling defeat and downfall, when the one splendid trait in his character, his love for his wife and child, stands out like a pale star in a wild black night of despair. His farewell duet with Zereah gave excellent play for his

sympathetic baritone voice, while histrionic ability was best displayed in the scene with the captain of the guards in which he is taken in his treachery, arrested and condemned to die.

Mrs. Elbert Veatch as Zereah made an excellent foil for Mr. Andrew's notes and voice and her contralto notes were full of lingering pathos and tenderness. As an example of the faithful, loyal and ambitious wife, the role of Zereah is highly typical.

H. C. Kinyon as Mordecai, left nothing to be desired in a realistic presentation of that character. He looked, acted and sang the part with so rare a fidelity as well nigh to transport his hearers over the gap of 3000 years to the dead past of Israel's humiliation and slavery. His tenor voice was vibrant with feeling, and although he took the same part at its first introduction to a Grants Pass audience 15 years ago, its quality was well nigh as pleasing as in those early days when it was in its prime. The soul of the man was in the role and the highest compliment which can be paid Mr. Kinyon is that the interpretation of the kindly, loving heart of the splendid old Hebrew came most naturally to him.

Among the younger soloists, Miss Marion Clarke as Mordecai's sister is deserving of special mention. Although only a young girl as yet and a student in our High School, she is the possessor of a wonderfully sweet, pure soprano voice full of a temperament and passion rare in one of her years. We predict that in the future she will certainly make good her promise.

As High Priest H. D. Norton was the soul of venerable piety, while all the minor soloists took their parts in a very acceptable manner.

Among the most pleasing features of the evening was the little dance given by the four little pages: Marion Mitchell, Helen Meade, Leah Slover and Roth Williams. These

little ladies, dressed in black velvet Fauntelroys with red satin trimmings, were as sweet and winsome and dainty as ever a beautiful child dared be, and they held the heart of every man and woman in the audience immersed in the witchery of their pretty, curly heads and childish graces.

The drill by the Queen's maidens in red, white and blue was also a most attractive addition to the program, and they were given a most generous recall. The chorus showed the effects of hard, painstaking work on the part of Director Robinson, and the high excellence of both their singing and acting was a marvel to the audience, considering the fact that only two weeks' work had been put upon the production. Every gesture was made gracefully and appropriately and the choruses were given with remarkable precision and unified effect. Although the preparation of "Queen Esther" has taken a great deal of faithful work and has been somewhat of a tax upon the strength of the younger boys and girls, yet it is an inspiration to sing in so beautiful an opera and drink in the lessons of an honest, beautiful life in so attractive a way, so that it must be conceded that the education to be derived from such a pleasant task, as well as the stimulus toward a development of the aesthetic side of the nature of our young people in the production of such an opera as "Queen Esther," compensates all the drain upon the strength of our young boys and girls. We are too much inclined to develop only the practical in the lives of our young people, failing to realize that no life attains a perfectly rounded and full development without much of the mellowing, softening influence of good music, good literature and high ideals.

Too much can hardly be said in praise of the ability and skill and method of Prof. Robinson as a director. He has a great knack for the handling of both children and grown-ups, and he never fails to inspire a boundless desire to please and to attain unto perfectness in those over whom he has direction. He is doing a great work for the boys and girls of our public schools. God speed him in his work.

## JOSEPHINE COUNTY TO GROW MORE FRUIT

Farmers Adopting Modern Orchard Methods, Taking Greater Interest.

Such is the interest that is being taken in the fruit industry in Josephine county that it is certain that the fruit growers meeting, to be held at the Court House this Saturday, will be the largest in attendance ever before held in the county. The farmers of this county have come to realize two important facts. One is that fruit raising can be made the biggest wealth producer of the agricultural products of Rogue River Valley, and the other is that without special training and a thorough knowledge of the industry that fruit raising is about the most unprofitable work that a person can engage in. It is the firm belief in these two facts that has put Hood River at the head of the list in point of profit and skill of orchard handling of the fruit growers of the United States. Finding that there is a big profit in fruit and a bigger profit in strictly first-class fruit put up in an honest and a strictly fancy manner, the enterprising growers of that Valley never miss an opportunity to gain new and better ideas on the growing and marketing of fruit. In the past five years more fruit growers' meetings have been held in Hood River than in the rest of Oregon, and the Hood River meetings are well attended for those growers are never so pressed with work but what they take the time to be on hand at the opening of the morning session and to stay to the close of the meeting. And what is more noticeable at Hood River than in any other fruit district in Oregon is that the business men of that bustling town give a strong encouragement to these meetings and they attend them if but for a short time, and by their presence show that they are willing to co-operate in the building up of an industry that does so much to put a farm community on a cash paying basis. When the fruit growers of Josephine county allow nothing to prevent their attending their meetings and when the business men of Grants Pass give a more active co-operation in the development of this industry, then will there be more prosperous farmers in Josephine county and more cash trade for the town.

Mrs. A. H. Gunnell, who gave two successful entertainments in this city a few years ago, at the request of many of her friends will give a reading at G. A. R. Hall Friday evening, May 31. "Mrs. Wiggs of the Cabbage Patch," the very popular novel and which has been equally successful as a play will be given by Mrs. Gunnell. There will also be several musical numbers. The entertainment will be under the auspices of the Epworth League of the M. E. Church. Admission 25 cents.

## G. P. H. S. News Notes

As this school year is nearly over, commencement and class day come once more. The following program will be the order in which they will appear, along with the other graduating exercises:

Class Day Exercises  
Opera House, May 21, 8:15 p. m.  
Chorus—"Italia".....High School  
Oration—"The Sublimest Word"  
.....Annabella Leith  
Oration—"Do Opportunities Make Great Men, or Do Great Men Make Opportunities?"  
.....Wilma Gilkey  
Oration—"The National Tendency"  
.....Fritz Dean  
Vocal Solo—"It Was April"  
.....Nina Paddock  
Oration—"Self Education"  
.....Esther Holloway  
Oration—"Janna"  
.....Bessie Leith  
Oration—"The Force That Moves the World"  
.....Ella Savage  
Piano Duet—"Invitation to the Dance"  
.....Weber  
.....Alma Wolke, Luostola Mangum  
Oration—"Egoism and Altruism as Moral Principles"  
.....Amy Isaacs  
Oration—"True Nobility"  
.....Nina Paddock

Valedictory—Address to Class of 1908  
.....Wilma Gilkey  
Response.....Bella Letcher, '08  
Address of Welcome to Eighth Grade.....Mack Tufts, '10  
Response.....Lester Coburn, '11  
Prophecy.....Dessie Cole, '09  
Class Will.....Fritz Dean  
Class Song.....Class of 1907

Baccalaureate Sermon, Sunday, May 19, 1907, 8 p. m. at Bethany Presbyterian Church, Union Service, Rev. F. C. Lovett.

Commencement Exercises  
Opera House, May 24, 8:15 p. m.  
Clarinet Duet—"Norma".....Bellini  
Dr. F. W. Van Dyke, J. A. Wharton  
Superintendent's Report.....R. B. Turner  
Piano Solo—"Bisbetto" (Verdi).....Liz  
Miss Ethel Carolyn Palmer  
Address.....Dr. Joseph Schaffer, U. of O.  
Vocal Duet—"In Heimischen Land"  
.....Kubinstein  
Mrs. Bert Barnes, Mrs. Nate Bates  
Presentation of Diplomas, H. L. Gilkey  
Chairman of the Board of Education  
Violin Quartet.....Selected  
Misses Glenna Burton, Marion Clarke, Ralph Looney, W. A. Newell.

The Seventh grade of the Central Building has been the lucky winner of a prize picture given to the class selling the greatest number of tickets, this class selling in the neighborhood of \$38. The picture is one which they may well be proud of the title of which is "Spirit of 1776."

"Queen Esther" has at last procured the desired funds for the piano,

the proceeds of it being about \$60 for the High School. All that is left after the piano is paid for will be devoted to the Library table for magazines next year.

One of the most shocking things of late was the appearance of the High School Girls in Esther. Never before did the boys notice so much powder on the girls' faces and little did the girls dream that the boys indulged in the same occupation until they beheld them Tuesday and Wednesday nights powdered and painted to the utmost. Indeed some were beyond recognition. One remarkable feature of the evening was how quickly the boys would grow those raven mustaches.

Some of the pupils of the Botany Class, to show their appreciation for their teacher, who has labored so hard to instill the mysteries of Botany into their brains, tendered him souvenirs, Herbaria, books in which were pressed various weeds and choice plants of Southern Oregon. Mr. Snedcor showed his gratification to the class by promising to exhibit them in the Medford High School, which promise greatly elated the class.

LOST—On Tuesday, May 14, immediately after the cantata, "Queen Esther," Mr. Snedcor was either lost or stolen. Any information leading to the cause of his disappearance will be gratefully received.

"All things come to him who waits," and now the close of another school year is at hand. Vacation looks very inviting and we are all very glad to have it come round, but still we look forward to next year and hope to return, teachers and pupils next September. True, we have to say goodbye to the Seniors but the Junior class is quite competent to take their place and we are expecting a good Freshman class, that is if they survive the 8th grade exams this year. There is also another thing which we are looking forward to next year and that is our H. S. paper. We hope to have our school news published in the form of a monthly paper. We elected the business manager and editor-in-chief this year so all we will have to do next Fall is to choose a name and make out the editorial staff. Of course all the H. S. pupils will subscribe for the paper and we hope that you who have been interested in our news notes this year will also subscribe.

## WORK BEGUN ON BIG BOX FACTORY

Will Use Electric Power and Be in Operation by July 1, and Lumber Bought.

The work of erecting the big box factory and planing mill, that is to be built in Grants Pass by F. W. Warren, a wealthy California lumberman, has been begun and it is expected to have the concrete piers of the foundation all in by the middle of next week. The building now to be constructed will be 90x225 feet and will be devoted entirely to manufacturing purposes. The machinery will be the latest improved and it will be one of the best equipped plants in the state. Electric power will be used the current being had from the Condon Power & Water Company, and it will be the largest box factory on the Pacific Coast using electric power. I. M. Johnson, the local manager for the factory, found after investigating the subject that electric power would be cheaper than steam. With the high price for fuel in Grants Pass all the waste and sawdust can be sold at a good profit. With electric power each machine is belted direct to a motor of its own. This enables power to be economized for when a machine is shut down its motor is stopped and it also does away with the hundreds of feet of shafting and belting thus saving in power and expense and in risk to the men and danger from fire by hot boxes.

So soon as the factory building is completed and in operation extensive sheds for storing lumber will be erected and the yard put in shape to carry a large stock of lumber so the plant may be operated for the entire year. Manager Johnson has now placed contracts with various sawmills of Rogue River Valley for over 8,000,000 feet of lumber and is in the market for all the lumber he can get. This factory will employ about 100 men and will be a substantial addition to the pay roll of Grants Pass.

### Attention G. A. R.

All members of the G. A. R., Old Soldiers, Sailors and Marines, of the War of the Rebellion and Veterans of the Spanish War, you are requested to meet at the G. A. R. Hall, Sunday, May 26th at 10:30 a. m. sharp to march in a body to the Bethany Presbyterian Church, where Union Memorial Services will be held.

Preaching by Evan P. Hughes at 11 o'clock a. m. The public is cordially invited to the services at the Church.

By order of H. B. ALVERSON, Commander Gen'l Logan Post No. 39 G. A. R.

Attest J. E. PETERSON, Adjutant.

Do you know Mrs. Wiggs? If not let Mrs. A. H. Gunnell introduce you to her at G. A. R. Hall, Friday evening, May 31st.

**If You Lose a Chance of Taking a Chance, You Take a Chance of Losing It**

We are pleased to advise the people of Grants Pass and Josephine county that our Wall Paper Factory's Agent will be in Grants Pass shortly. He will have with him an Art Display and will show illustrations of how to decorate a hall, bedroom, parlor, lodge room, etc., in the latest, up-to-date styles. To those desiring to see the latest effects in wall decorations from the best factories of Germany, France, England, Scotland, Japan and our own country, we extend a most cordial invitation. It will be very entertaining, and we urgently request that you will find time to look over the same. The exact date is not definitely known. To those who are desirous of seeing this display, phone or drop a card to that effect; I will see that you are informed of the exact date. This fine display is to be seen at my store. If interested, do not fail to send me your name.

Furniture and Carpets, Linoleums, Lace Curtains, Portieres, Mattresses, Pillows, Cots, Wall Paper, Clocks, Mirrors, Window Shades, Pictures, Picture Moulding.	<b>R. H. O'Neill</b> THE HOUSEFURNISHER Front St., bet. 6 and 7	Stoves and Ranges, Granite ware, Ageware, Tinware, Woodenware, Willoware, Cutlery, Crockery, Lamps, Glassware, Fancy China, Go-Carts, Baby Carriages.
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## A SNAP IN A FINE HOME

One of the finest homes in Grants Pass, consisting of an eight-room modern house; electric lights, sewer and bath; barn, chicken house and other outbuildings and an acre of ground, with excellent oak and laurel shade trees; located close in and in fine location for renting rooms. Can be bought for

**\$3,500.00**

if taken before June first. This is a snap, as the house alone would cost fully the amount of the purchase price to build now, and the lot alone is worth \$1000.  
Call and see me about it.

**W. L. IRELAND**  
THE REAL ESTATE MAN  
Ground Floor, Opera House Block