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**Fruit, Shade
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Hedge plants, Cypress and Privet
Berry Plants

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as well as other kinds of first class
grape roots. Apple, Pear, Peach,
Cherry and other trees at reasonable
prices. It will pay you to see me
before buying.

Let me have your orders before
the assortment is broken. Some
kinds are scarce already.

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Office in brick near Court House

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CEMENT**

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Grants Pass, Oregon

Telephone History

There seems to be a great many
confusing rumors afloat centered on
the telephone business and it is a
topic on which it might be well to
give some information.

There have been three distinct
stages in the manufacture and use
of telephones. The beginning of
the actual telephone era was when
Bell discovered that communication
could be carried on over a single
wire and by the use of what we now
call an "ill devised" telephone. He
then patented the same and called it
a telephone and after long years of
study and labor he finally interest-
ed capital and formed what is
known as the Bell Telephone Com-
pany. This completes the first
stage.

Then came the second stage, and
here was where the foundation was
laid for the most formidable trust
ever known up to this day. This
combination was effected some 25
years ago. The telephones then
used were of the magneto type with
hand generator, local battery, the
same as we have at the present date,
and was then considered a world-
wide wonder.

So strong were the entrench-
ments of this company that no or-
dinary corporation could enter the
field as a competitor in any sense.
They became so strongly fortified
that every patent that came into the
field was purchased at any price or
else was tied up in law suits for
infringements and laid to rest in
the higher courts. Every attempt
of the independent move was met
with injunctions. Publishers were
bought outright under contract not
to publish any information to assist
in an independent move. In this
way they suppressed any agitation
of the public and the price of tele-
phone service was beyond the reach
of any man in moderate circum-
stances.

This condition of affairs continued
to exist until 1898, when the Bell
patents began to expire, and one by
one passed off the records. Then
came the last stage. A dozen pat-
ents were waiting to go on record
and on the very day that the first of
the Bell patents expired there was
a stampede in the U. S. Patent
office at Washington, and with it
came a thousand and one improve-
ments in the telephone field. At
this time was when the now famous
central energy system was intro-
duced.

Among the pioneer independent
manufacturers were Kellogg, Strom-
berg-Carlson, American Electric Co.,
Dean Electric Co., and a score of
others followed in quick succession,
each company striving to outdo the
other in advancement.

The first great battle between the
Bell interests and the Independent
Telephone Company was fought in
the states of Ohio and Indiana. It
was the Bell trust against the public
and the public won. But the Bell
Telephone Company died game and
made a desperate stand at every
trench on their retreat, but defeat
was theirs and after spending mil-
lions of dollars in a most help-
less and hopeless struggle, they for
five years kept up this constant firing.

But when the people, the press
and the money powers turned their
mighty guns upon them they found
that it was useless for them to spend
their revenues and savings in that
foolish manner, so they changed
their tactics and began a new course.
They would install a new plant
where they had practically lost by
competition and then cut the rates
even so low that in one instance in
an Eastern city their earnings ran
behind their operating expenses
\$200,000 annually.

Another course they had adopted
was to buy a plant for some \$500
and advertise the same from sea to
sea in great display advertising,
thus: "Another independent com-
pany absorbed by the Bell." This
would naturally lead people to be-
lieve, who are not informed along
this line, that the Bell Company had
absorbed all of the New England
states.

But alas for the Bell Telephone
Company. It is the "Union Forever,"
and onward to victory march the
home companies over the most cold-
blooded trust, indifferent to the pub-
lic interests, that ever attempted to
deprive a nation and the whole
world of the most useful of modern
inventions.

In the spring of 1898 there came
a rap at the door of our American
men, and a voice asked, "Who comes
here?" And the answer from
\$2,000,000 phone users, "You are
welcome."

Notwithstanding the fact that the
fight for supremacy had caught the
eye of nearly every financier of the
world and that every effort has been
made to corrupt the free press
which published page after page of
manufactured matter intended to
misdirect the public mind, and ad-

mitting there have been blunders
and poor judgment in some minor
cases, but, taking it as a whole, and
first bearing in mind that there are
over 9000 home companies in the
United States, there has been less
financial disaster in the Home Tele-
phone move than in any other com-
mercial industry in the world with
even one-half so many separate com-
panies.

The writer can truthfully say that
he cannot recall a single instance of
failure within the home field. Now
there are cases where one company
absorbed the interest of another, but
conditions are very equally divided
on both sides of the firing line with
no particular advantage to either, as
such sales are invariably insignifi-
cant when considering the sale price.

The business man, at first mention
of a Home Telephone thinks two sys-
tems will be burdensome but when
he has tried the case on its merits
he decides as follows: "Well, I have
the best telephone service I have had
anywhere in America. I now reach
five customers by telephone where
before I could only get two. My ser-
vice is such that I can get a switch
board connection, leave orders to my
hired help, talk to my wife and still
have plenty of time to catch my
train. As heretofore, either my wife
or my business had to be neglected.
I have no solicitor in the field for
I can call all my customers by tele-
phone. So I put him to work in
the store that I may be better equip-
ped to take care of my increasing
business. My wife can better take
care of baby and my home, from the
fact that she can sit down and hold
baby and talk to all her near friends
anywhere within 40 miles over an
improved system with greater satis-
faction and contentment. Little
Johnny can call papa up and ask him
to bring home some candy, so papa
does not have to carry Johnny home
that night when he locks up. I can
always get the doctor for a phone
is always ready and he is ready to
answer when his telephone rings for
he knows that it is his ring. He
does not have to sit up nights fear-
ful of making miscount, therefore
neglecting his duty and his patients."
And there are a hundred other
advantages which could be given
as reasons why we need more tele-
phones and better service, and why
it means more time and profits to
every business man.

Now, does it pay for a man or
woman who has a home or a busi-
ness or both, to ponder over these
facts? Every man is working for
profits and with profits ordinarily
come pleasures both at home and
abroad. We have but "one life to
live" and all should enjoy the con-
veniences in our humble way, and
those who have them should not de-
prive others whose motto is "Live
and let live" of the conveniences
that can be placed easily within their
reach and at their disposal. H.

Deafness Cannot be Cured

By local applications, as they cannot
reach the diseased portion of the ear.
There is only one way to cure deaf-
ness, and that is by constitutional
remedies. Deafness is caused by an
inflamed condition of the mucous
lining of the Eustachian Tube. When
this tube is inflamed you have a
rumbling sound or imperfect hear-
ing, and when it is entirely closed,
deafness is the result, and unless the
inflammation can be taken out and
this tube restored to its normal con-
dition, hearing will be destroyed for-
ever; cases out of ten are caused by
catarrh, which is nothing but an in-
flamed condition of the mucous
surfaces. We will give \$100 for any
case of deafness (caused by catarrh)
that cannot be cured by Hall's Cat-
arrh Cure. Send for circulars free.
F. J. CHENEY & CO., Toledo, O.
Sold by druggists, 75c.

Take Hall's Family Pills for con-
stipation.

Kodol for dyspepsia and indigestion
will digest any and all food at
any and all times. Kodol is guaran-
teed to give prompt relief. Sold by
Sabin's drug store.

How Professionals Starch Clothes.

The laundry method for starching
collars and cuffs is considered by some
housewives to be much superior to the
usual home method. After the shirts
and collars and cuffs have been wash-
ed and dried they are ready for starch-
ing. Use five tablespoonfuls of starch
and one-half cup of cold water, one-
half teaspoonful of borax and a quart
of boiling water. Cook the starch for
half an hour. This is to be used mere-
ly on the bosoms, collars and cuffs of
shirts and on the plaited fronts of
shirt waists.

Stretch a cloth tightly on the table
and tack it so as to keep it smooth.
The starch will be like jelly and should
be rubbed in with the fingers. The
rubbing is not complete until the vari-
ous thicknesses are as one, and the
starch then must be wiped from both
sides with a damp cloth.

Good for cuts, burns, bruises and
scratches, but especially recommend-
ed for piles—DeWitt's Carbolyzed
Witch Hazel Salve. Sold by Sabin's
drug store.

CLOSING OUT SALE

Curtis & Co are selling out their entire Stock
of Jewelry, including

**Watches,
Clocks,
and Silver
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Everything must Go at Wholesale Prices, Prices that
Will Astound You

Nothing Will Be Reserved

Our intentions are to go Out of Business at the
Earliest Possible Date.

This Announcement is Not Bait; on the contrary
Grants Pass has never seen Jewelry Sold at Prices we
will quote from this date on.

Curtis & Company

Good Roads School.
Georgia's State College of Agricul-
ture will hold a good roads school in
January. Commissioners of all the
counties and all persons interested will
be invited to attend a five days' ses-
sion at Athens, Ga., when a number
of road building experts will deliver
lectures during each morning. The
afternoons will be taken up in inspec-
tions of roads in the vicinity. During
the session a United States govern-
ment expert will hold a scale of road
according to methods approved by the
bureau of roads. Manufacturers have
been invited to make exhibits of mach-
inery.

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— SELLS —
BOOKS AND DRUGS
ORANGE FRONT GRANTS PASS, ORE.

Courier and Oregonian \$2

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especially for this locality—

18 Bars 46 Inch

Twenty-seven inches to first wide space. The same quality of all Page Fence. High
carbon coiled spring steel. Stands a strain of over 18,000 pounds.



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Fence

Hog
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Page fence is guaranteed to be exactly as represented

An experienced man and tools are furnished to assist in the erection of all Page Fence, without extra cost.
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