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The Rogue River Courier

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FUTURE DEMAND FOR FRUIT.

A short time ago a gentleman from the middle west who was looking over the country chanced to be in Grants Pass and made a call at the office of the Courier. In the course of conversation he remarked that it was his opinion that the fruit business was going to be over done and as a consequence there would be a slump in prices and orchards might be a drug in the market. He was told that the demand for fruit was world wide and constantly on the increase. That this article of food was the most helpful of any that was offered man. He was further told that the northwest, and especially the Rogue River valley furnish the finest apples, pears and peaches of any section of the known world and these things being true, it seemed to us that there was no probability of the market being glutted or orchards becoming less valuable than they are today. The writer had long been convinced that lands adapted to fruit growing would enhance in value from year to year through the law of supply and demand and consequently orchard planting could safely be continued until that time when wars, pestilence and famine should combine to stop the increase in the various races of mankind. The Oregonian evidently holds similar views, as is shown by an editorial item published in that paper last Wednesday.

"Eastern apple buyers are already in the White Salmon district for the 1910 crop of fruit that has made the Pacific Northwest famous. So long as there is a demand for the apples so soon after the bloom departs there is not much liability of the industry being overdone. Oregon, Washington and Idaho apples have set a new standard in the world's fruit markets and it will be many years before the supply will get close enough to the demand to reduce prices materially.

OUR PUBLIC HIGHWAYS.

It must not be forgotten that the horrible dust on our highways is the identical thing of which mud is made in the proper season. If you want deep mud during the winter fill

in your roads during the spring and summer with plenty of dirt; then heavy wagons passing over that from May to November will insure you a mixture which will be hub deep in some places during the wet season and disagreeable for many months. Josephine county has suffered much from bad roads and it will continue to suffer until we elect men as road builders who have the ability to spend the taxpayers' money in a way that will insure for us good roads. It has been claimed by some that it does not require an expert to build a good road, but we have the proof to the contrary in the expenditure of the last \$40,000 of our taxpayers' money on our public highways.

THE VERMONT STATE ELECTION.

Vermont is one of the states which holds its election in September and this year political conditions are such as to center the anxiety of both the democratic and republican parties in the politics of that commonwealth. It will be the first state election of the year and consequently the results will be closely analyzed as affording a test of the relative strength of the two leading parties in the general elections to be held early in November. The democratic party is making strenuous exertions with a view of cutting down the lead of republican candidates to congress. The republicans on the other hand are doing their best to keep up their majorities. At this distance it is hard to even guess the result of this, the first state election of 1910.

THERE IS SOMETHING WRONG.

There is certainly something wrong in the way the government handles claims. Here is an illustration:

The treasury department has informed Brigadier General H. R. Anderson, retired, that Uncle Sam will pay a bill of \$240.10 which it has owed him for 39 years.

There are thousands of claims which have been pending even much longer than the above, and no action has been taken, either to reject or accept them. A matter that might be examined and thoroughly investigated in six months or a year should not be allowed to drag along thirty or forty years. Such a policy is dishonest in the extreme and it should not be tolerated by the American people.

WHISKEY MEN DEPOSE BRYAN.

The democrats of Nebraska met in state convention on Tuesday of this week at Grand Island. There was a motion before the convention made by representative Hitchcock, a candidate for the senatorial nomination, and in effect was to eliminate the introduction of platform planks, with accompanying speeches, unless submitted as a section of the majority or minority reports of the committee on resolutions.

This resolution was intended as a

direct rejection of W. J. Bryan's leadership, which he has maintained in Nebraska for the last twenty years. The fight against the Commoner was made by the whiskey interests, who favor local option in each municipality. This shuts out the vote of the farmer and enables the whiskey gang to concentrate all its strength in each of the cities where saloons are demanded. Mr. Bryan favors county option as the best method of dealing with the liquor question. This permits the farmers, who, as a rule, are against whiskey, to carry the county in spite of the large opposing element in the city.

COLORED PORTER HAS A HEARING.

Placed Under Heavy Bond to Await
the Action of the Grand
Jury.

The colored porter, Reynolds, who was taken to Roseburg last week and locked up in the county jail, had a hearing on Tuesday and was bound over to the district court. His bond was fixed at \$5000. One of the incidents of his examination was the appearance of a colored lawyer from Portland, who appeared to defend him. After hearing the evidence in the case the attorney stated that he would withdraw, as he believed Reynolds guilty as charged. Mr. and Mrs. Moss and little Josephine returned from Roseburg Tuesday evening, where the little girl testified in a clear manner as to the negro's conduct toward her in the pullman car. The case will come up at the next term of the circuit court. It appears that J. K. Sanders, a pullman car conductor who tried to keep Reynolds out of the hands of the officers at Grants Pass at the time he was arrested, has so far transgressed the rules of propriety that his conduct is being investigated by the Pullman company.

Mr. and Mrs. Herman Heitman and baby left Wednesday evening for Portland, after visiting with relatives in this city. They expected to remain several weeks longer, but Mr. Heitman was summoned by telegram to attend to pressing business.

FOREST FIRES ARE STILL TROUBLESOME

Fortunately None of the Conflagrations Are of Any Great Magnitude.

During the last few days there have been forest fires of considerable magnitude in the vicinity of Merlin and heavy clouds of smoke have floated from that locality down toward Grants Pass. The particulars of the fires have not reached this city except that a force of fire fighters went out from Merlin Wednesday evening and were enabled to do good work. A considerable amount of timber has been burned and many miles of fence have been destroyed.

A big fire has been raging for the last three days at the head of Six Mile creek and part of the conflagration has been inside the forest reserve. Some practical work in heading off the fire has been done and it now looks as if it would be under control within the next twenty-four hours. The fire has been in a heavy timbered section and no little amount of damage has been done. If news from the district is not satisfactory the forest service will send additional help.

A fire has been burning on Slate creek during the last two days and a considerable stretch of country has been burned over. The forest service office here has had a force of fire fighters on the ground and they have done fine service and it is now believed that this fire also is under control.

These numerous fires have filled this whole section with smoke and the excessive heat has had considerable effect in raising the temperature in this part of the valley. The forest service is keeping a sharp lookout over a large section of country so as to be in the field promptly should fires break out.

LIVELY MIXUP ON WILDERVILLE ROAD

While returning from a trip to Wilderville Monday, A. H. and G. Baber had a rather exciting experience, an automobile, two mules and a team of horses taking the principal

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REAL

FREDERICK A. PURDY
Merlin

ESTATE

parts in the performance. The boys were driving a livery team and leading their mules behind the buggy when the animals became frightened by the auto, which approached from the rear, and in a remarkably short time the horses, buggy, mules and men were rolling around in the dust of the road, with Graf Baber under the overturned buggy and the mules and horses pulling the vehicle in opposite directions. Strange as it may seem, no damage was done to anyone concerned, and with the assistance of the auto driver everything was soon righted and the journey resumed.

OSTEOPATHIC CONVENTION AT SAN FRANCISCO

The American Osteopathic association will hold its national convention in San Francisco August 1 to 6 inclusive. A large number of osteopathic physicians from the east will be in attendance and a special pullman of delegates from Chicago passed through Grants Pass this Friday morning on the way to the convention. Dr. H. G. Kimbley, of this city joined the special at this point and will attend the convention, after which he will make a visit to Southern California, returning to his practice here on September 1.

A GREAT \$12 SUIT SALE

WHAT A CHANCE!!

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