

Cloverdale Courier

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Frank Taylor, Editor and Publisher.

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THURSDAY, AUGUST 3, 1916

The ways of the government are sometimes curious. For example, there is a law that forbids importing the plumage or skins of birds of paradise. That means, of course, that the skins and plumage cannot legally be sold or worn in the United States; yet when customs inspectors recently seized five hundred and twenty-seven skins that smugglers were trying to bring into this country, the government sold them at auction—*Youth's Companion*.

Some time ago judgment was given against Multnomah County for damages sustained when an auto truck fell through a weak county bridge. The county was held to be responsible for the condition of the bridge. Now a judgment for \$1,300 has been won against Douglas County for personal injury sustained by a passenger jolted off a stage on a bad road. The decision has been appealed to the State Supreme Court. If sustained, this verdict will set a costly precedent.—*Oregon Voter*.

CONFIDING IN THE TELEPHONE.

A new use for the trouble department of a telephone office has been discovered. The Southwestern Telephone News reports it in these words: The family had not had their telephone very long, and everyone took a deep and abiding interest in it. On the outside of the directory they had noted the words, "Trouble, call No. 4217."

It had been a hard morning, and everything had gone wrong. Finally the lady of the house, in desperation, turned to her trusty telephone and called 4217.

"This is the trouble department," answered the operator sweetly.

"Is this where you report your troubles?" asked the lady.

"Yes, ma'am."

"Well, I only want to report that our cat got drowned in the cistern this morning; the baby is cutting a new tooth; the cook left without warning; we are out of sugar and starch; the stovepipe fell down; the milkman left only a pint instead of a quart today; the bread won't raise; my oldest child is coming down with the measles; the plumbing in the cellar leaks; we have only enough coal to last through tomorrow; the paint gave out when I got only half over the dining-room floor; the mainspring of the clock is broken; my three sisters-in-law are coming tomorrow to visit; the man has not called for the garbage for two weeks; our dog has the mange; the looking-glass fell off the wall a while ago and broke to pieces; and I think my husband is taking considerable notice of a widow lady that lives next door. That's all today, but if anything happens later I'll call you up and tell you about it."

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