

ZELL HOUNDED BY NEW DEPUTY

Although this yarn is not quite new, it's still good for broad grins and belly laughs. About six years ago, while gathered in the blacksmith shop owned by W. A. Bishop, such prominent citizens as John and George Schump, R. Combest, Bishop and Gentry were chewing the rag when in popped a newly commissioned deputy sheriff.

The green officer, feeling the importance of his ilk, mumbled something to the effect that he was running down bootleggers and imbibers of fire water. Self-consciously trying to be casual he displayed his shining badge and hilt of a new revolver, casting significant glances from one to the other of his beholders. After satisfying himself that each and every one probably carried gallons of the unlawful stimulant he dashed off toward the county hall.

The men in the blacksmith shop, being who they were, saw an opportunity for some fun. And, as may be expected, Bishop had a plan ready.

W. A. dashed overhead and returned with an old Harper whiskey bottle, empty, of course, but soon to be filled with vinegar. A look-out was posted and when the sus-

picious deputy drew near they went through all the antics of passing drinks. Just as he entered the building one of the jokers hastily rammed the decoy into a barrel while the rest of them talked loudly of buying additional supplies. Of course the victim's curiosity was aroused and he began to ask questions.

It happened that at that moment Frank Zell, now known as buyer and seller of things blessed with age, was on the opposite side of the street. He was pointed out to the young sleuth as one enroute to the scene of manufacturing operations where that very day no small amount of liquid was to be concocted. And Frank, now object of the gumshoe's calculations, was totally unaware of the situation. In fact Zell was quite disturbed by this sheriff's interest, for during the entire day he was shadowed as only a detective hot on the trail can do it. Wherever the antique dealer went his new second tiptoe. If Frank would blow his nose his follower pulled out a handkerchief. When he stopped at the pump his shadow was thirsty. In fact the hounded man was developing a crick in his neck from keeping an eye to the rear.

Occasionally the resourceful county man would speak to the fellows lined up for the parade. One time they suggested that Frank Zell usually hid cases of liquor in a hay rack. Promptly a load of alfalfa standing on the street was scattered thither and yon as though a young twister had played on the pile. And still the two kept a watchful eye on each other. But, like everything else, it couldn't last forever. Guffaws resounded from one end of the avenue to the other and the secret was out.

Frank, for the first time since the trailing had begun, was able to stop dead in his tracks without the deputy sheriff stepping on him. His appetite returned and he began to realize the humor of the situation. But it seems that, when Sheriff Jennings learned of the efficiency and thoroughness of his new aide, he saw fit to send the law enforcer back to the hills minus badge and gun, but still wondering where the liquor was cached.

HERE MONDAY

H. C. Harris and W. S. Tucker, Grants Pass, were in this city Monday investigating property which they are considering for mining purposes. The two are experienced men and may join the local panning group.

SOME MARKDOWN

Two storekeepers in the fur line were discussing prices. "I've marked all my goods down," said the first, "to a third or even a quarter of the original prices."

"I've gone further than that," returned the other. "My prices are so low that when burglars broke into my store the other night they went away without taking anything. It was cheaper to come back and buy the stuff in the morning."

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Aged Store Ledgers Show History, Traits

Intimate and amusing information is contained in unlimited amounts in ledgers and account books on record at the Museum of Southern Oregon, many of which are more than 75 years old. Piecemeal history and legends may be garnered from such pages as those kept, for instance, by Casper Kubli accounting for business transactions in 1862 handled by his store in Jacksonville.

In a very attractive and legible hand such items as were found necessary by early day residents may be seen. Accounts, common to the then popular custom, were settled once a year and averaged from two to \$5000 for a single family. The first of the month to pioneers meant only that their financial indebtedness was brought to date in the books with no reminders mailed, which would indicate settlers had something besides hardships in their day.

Prices were at more or less great variance from those the present age haggles over. Shoes, snappiest hump-toed models, were a luxury at \$1.50 the pair while boiled oil brought \$4 a gallon. Turpentine was traded at \$3 for four quarts, flour \$1.25 a barrel and pound plugs of tobacco rated a dollar of any man's money.

Among a few of the articles recorded more or less obsolete today were candlewicks, purchased by C. C. Beekman to be used in the improved lighting system at the bank; 10 pistol balls at two cents each; six yards lining for nine cents, and 12 yards of calico totaling eight and one-half cents, the latest importation for milady's gigantic dress. These represent a few of the many

Surveyed Railroad Would Prove Boon

(Continued from page one)

Twenty-eight miles of lumber camp railroad near the sea would lie in the path of the line through Jacksonville. Five miles of this roadbed could be utilized, remainder contributing easy title to needed land. Right of way in existence between Medford and here would be incorporated into the development also, routing the rails through the center of this city. Many valuable advantages seem to favor building of the cross-country line through this district to the Oregon coast, to which might be added the fact that such rail connections would give southern Oregon the only coast military protection between San Francisco and Portland.

Gus Michaelsen, surveyor and mechanical engineer, from whom much of this information was obtained, is at present interested in Tom Nickerson's Pink Blossom quartz mine in Applegate country. He obtained a third share in the workings, which include 160 feet of tunnel with 30-foot sink and equipment to absorb his interest and energies while the proposed railroad development hangs fire. Gus awaits with great interest future development of what he believes to be the most practical and logical course for traffic through this section, having himself been over every foot of the route.

OPERATING PLACER MINE ON MIDDLE FORK LOCATION

Johnson and son are now in operation on their placer mine one and one-half miles up middle fork from the mouth of Elliott creek. Good pay rewards their labor and they are happy as they listen to gravel rumbling through boxes.

The two men don't seem to mind getting wet and working hard for they have been producing face value for time and exposure. They enjoy good health and have miners' reputations as being honest, friendly and obliging to their fellow men.

CLASSIFIED

TWO EXPERIENCED MINERS want grubstake to go prospecting on Klamath river in exchange for third interest. See Arne Carlesen, Jacksonville.

FOR SALE OR TRADE—Light wagon, practically new, had very little use. For further information see Charles Horn, Jacksonville.

EXCHANGE—Cabinet size Victrola with 15 records for typewriter. See W. S. Blair, opposite post office, Jacksonville.

interesting items one may discover in books nearly a century old.

And, too, many a story is told with figures and listings. One Frank Brown, evidently celebrating something or other, had sauntered into an establishment to stock up in staples and whatever should strike his fancy. After buying three or four items a miner might find use for, a bottle of champagne, at \$2.50 a throw, was listed. Apparently the buyer consumed this as further purchases were made. A few more items down another quart of champagne was written. And, as the list grew, the liquid was charged with regularity, till a grand total of four quarts of the best champagne and a long list of articles sufficient to last even until the man should sober up, was written. It is supposed, by those versed in the ways of similar waters, that the order—along with the buyer—was delivered, in keeping with the fine reputation of the establishment.

Casper Kubli, merchant, unknowingly left as glowing an account of the early life in this city as may be found. His son, K. K. Kubli, known to many here, later became state senator, and is practicing law in Portland. George Little, curator of the museum, has the documents of these and many other establishments available to any who wish to peruse their contents and perhaps read of many thrilling occurrences between the lines. Mr. Little points out that these notes are but a small sample of the great variety of curious and unusual at-

tractions of the museum, entrance to which is free. The collection may be viewed at any reasonable hour or any day of the week and has been made possible through cooperation of city governments, private contributors and the Jacksonville Chamber of Commerce.

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