

MEDFORD MAIL TRIBUNE

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Official Paper of the City of Medford.

GEORGE PUTNAM, Editor and Manager.

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PENNY WISE AND POUND FOOLISH.

The action of the county commissioners in cutting off fruit inspectors for the sake of economy at this time is exceedingly ill-advised and brings the fruit growing interests of the valley face to face with a grave crisis. The campaign to eradicate pear blight is only half finished. Much work must yet be done to free the valley from pests, and a dollar spent now will save a hundred in the future.

Fruit growing is the principal industry of the valley, and upon the thousands of acres of orchards is based the commercial prosperity of the region. Land not worth \$50 an acre for farming is worth \$500 to \$2500 an acre in orchard. It is therefore essential to the prosperity of the county that full and ample protection be given the horticultural interests.

A successful campaign against pear blight has been waged for the past year under the direction of P. J. O'Gara, pathologist for the department of agriculture. The remarkable showing made in controlling and eliminating pests has attracted nation wide attention. It would be little less than criminal to drop the campaign when the battle is but half fought, for the sake of saving a few dollars on a penny wise and pound foolish policy.

The Rogue River valley is the only section of the United States where the government has stationed one of its leading experts to direct the warfare, and the concession was made only on the understanding that he was to be furnished ample assistance in carrying on the battle. If he is not given this assistance his time will be wasted and he will immediately leave for regions where such effort is appreciated—and his departure will cause a depreciation in orchard property, as it injures the security of the investment.

The county commissioners last summer, at the request of the horticultural interests, appointed three deputy inspectors to co-operate with Inspector Taylor in cleaning up the orchards. This was, in comparison with the work to be done, a minimum force. In November, after three months' service, the commissioners discharged one inspector on the ground of economy. Now they plan the discharge of the second deputy for the same reason, and Inspector Taylor is resigning in disgust. Next Professor O'Gara will leave, and the campaign against orchard pests collapse.

This must not be permitted to occur. The commissioners are servants of the people, and must follow a broad course and act for the best interests of the valley. If those who pay the taxes desire the money spent in channels benefitting the entire county, it is the duty of the commissioners to so spend it. And it is plainly their duty in the present instance.

PROTECTION OF TREES

(Contributed.)

In towns and cities the trunk of every tree, whether young or old, newly planted or of full growth, should be enclosed to a proper height in wire netting of a small mesh. Unless this is done, or some similar precaution taken, it is not worth while to plant. The necessity for some such protection is readily apparent on examining the trees from the curb stone side, and observing the large number on which the bark has been gnawed by horses. There is a feeling akin to pity when one notes the patient, repeated efforts of the tree to repair the injury—how it tries each year to cover the wound with new wood and bark, only to have it torn and widened by some fresh attack. It is wasted time to discuss punitive measure as a remedy for this evil. The horse is not to blame; and any law for the prosecution of the driver would be practically inoperative. A more sensible way would be to protect the tree by some other simple, inexpensive device which are available. All of the trees in Washington are protected by wire screens, of a large mesh, wrapped around the trunk. But this, in turn, will never be done until the care of the trees devolves upon the city authorities or a tree-planting society.

invested with necessary powers. The man in a rented house will not invest a cent to protect the trees in front of his residence, and the landlord cares nothing about it so long as he gets his rent. The erection of electric wires for telephone service trolley lines and illuminating purposes is a prolific source of injury. It is a disputed question whether electricity itself does much harm; in fact, a mild current may be beneficial to trees as well as men. Professor Stone states that as shown by experiments, the alternating current is less disastrous to plant life than the direct current, and that either, when used at a certain strength, will accelerate growth and strength. The injury from the current is mostly local, being confined to points of contact; and this can be largely prevented by a complete insulation of the wires. But the mutilation or destruction of trees caused by the stringing of the wires is a different matter. This evil can be prevented by the village or town authorities, unless a right-of-way has been granted which gives the railroad or telephone or electric light company permission to remove any obstruction that interferes with the erection of its poles and wires.

Ill Health Is More Expensive Than Any Cure.
This country is now filled with people who migrate across the continent in all directions seeking that which gold cannot buy. Nine-tenths of them are suffering from throat and lung trouble or chronic catarrh resulting from neglected colds, and spending fortunes vainly trying to regain lost health. Could every sufferer but undo the past and cure that first neglected cold, all this sorrow, pain, anxiety and expense could have been avoided. Chamberlain's Cough Remedy is famous for its cures of colds, and can always be depended upon. Use it and the more serious diseases may be avoided. For sale by Leon B. Haskins' Pharmacy.

MEN REACH SAFETY AFGTER HARD FIGHT
VANCOUVER, B. C., Dec. 14.—Ten men composing the crew of the gasoline schooner Lulu of the hall-but fishing fleet which blew up following a fire on board, 30 miles south of Prince Rupert, have reached that place after a trying experience with the waves. The fire broke out suddenly Sunday night and burned so fiercely that the crew found it impossible to extinguish it. They abandoned the boat and in a few minutes the gasoline tanks blew up and she sank. The Lulu was built in Seattle in 1888 and had many adventures during her career on the west coast.

FOLLY AS IT FLIE

A Family Likeness.



Two Rascals.



Open All Night.



Polite.



His Viewpoint.



In the Airship Days.



DIED

Benjamin Eggleston.
Benjamin Eggleston, an old and respected resident of Ashland, died Saturday afternoon suddenly as the result of an attack of heart disease. Mr. Eggleston had not been in rugged health for several years, but during the past month or two had seemed unusually vigorous and active for one of his years. Saturday afternoon he was an interested attendant upon the fruit growers' meeting at the city hall and after its close was returning to his home on Church street when he suddenly fell to the sidewalk in front of the Baptist parsonage. He was carried into the parsonage and doctors were in attendance in a very few minutes, but he did not regain consciousness.

J. B. Brown.
After an illness not known to be so serious, J. B. Brown died very suddenly and peacefully at his home in Ashland on Church street Sunday morning, December 12, at 3 o'clock, in the 68th year of his age. John Bernard Brown, born in Livermore Fall, Me., April 6, 1842, was graduated from Kentakill college, Maine. During the civil war he had charge of the United States mails for the army of the Potomac and at this time he was detailed by the postoffice department to superintend the first railway mail car ever tried by the United States government and under his care it proved a decided success.

Mrs. William Nichols.
Mrs. William Nichols of Portland, a passenger on the Shasta flyer yesterday morning, en route home from Los Angeles, Cal., whither she had gone for her health, died just after the train reached Ashland. The body was taken in charge by the Dodge undertaking establishment and prepared for shipment on to Portland on the evening train. The deceased was a widow and 28 years of age. She was attended by her sister, Mrs. Paulson.

In looking around for trees to plant that orchard of yours don't forget to see L. E. Hoyer. He has the goods as orders for over 200,000 trees for this season will prove. 228*

EDEN PRECINCT ITEMS.

Miss Lettie Stanciloff of Phoenix was shopping in Medford last Friday.

George Alford of Fern Valley was visiting in Talent last Saturday. James Allen of North Talent was doing trading among Talent merchants last Saturday.

Mrs. Nancy Holmie spent Sunday with her daughter, Mrs. E. Gibbs.

Noah Chandler has recovered from his recent illness sufficiently to return to his home in North Talent.

Ed Hamlin of Eden Valley was making Medford a business visit last Saturday.

Ed Sims of the Phoenix merchants was delivering groceries in North Talent last Saturday.

Elmer Steverson of Ashland was down buying vegetables of C. Corey last Sunday.

George Roberts of North Talent was over in Fern Valley Sunday visiting his daughter, Mrs. Lem Hughes. S. S. Stephens has been hauling wood from his orchard tract, which he has been clearing preparatory to planting to peaches.

William Beardsley of Phoenix has been up on Coleman creek getting out a fine lot of poles for the electric light and telephone companies.

Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Roberts and daughter, Miss Lulla, spent last Sunday at the pleasant home of Mr. and Mrs. C. Corey.

Roy Coffman, who has been out from Missouri for nearly two years in Rogue River valley, will visit his old home soon, expecting to reach home in time to spend Christmas.

The Odd Fellows' lodge of Talent sent a nurse down to Medford to nurse one of their brothers, E. R. Oatman, who is quite ill at his home in that city. The boys of Talent are not slow to find out where to show their fraternity, not only do they preach but practice.

George Williams of Phoenix met with an accident last Saturday which may lay him up for some time. While getting off a load of wood his foot slipped, causing him to fall on his head and shoulders. It is feared he may have sustained internal injuries.

"PANDERS" TOO SENSATIONAL NOT ADMITTED TO LIBRARY

TOLEDO, Ohio, Dec. 14.—Because the local library board deemed the book "Pandora" too much to the sensational, the Rev. Cyrus Townsend Brady's "The Island of Regeneration" will not be admitted to the shelves of the public library here, according to the library trustees. The novel deals with the sex problem and the conventions of a puritanical world.

New Store, New Stock.

Van De Car & Jasmann buy their diamonds unmounted and free from flaws. The largest assortment of watches and jewelry in the city. Phipps Bldg., East Main street. 229*

SCIENTIFIC SCHOOL LIGHTING.

Both municipal authorities and the general public are becoming more and more alive to the fact that in justice to the children, the simple principles of good artificial illumination must not be neglected in lighting school rooms. For there are few schools which do not require a certain amount of artificial light, and many during the winter months, are lighted artificially late in the afternoon nearly every day.

Considerable investigation in regard to the conditions of eyesight in school children has been carried on recently both here and abroad. The results in many cases are of great significance. For example, Dr. Herman Cohn of Breslau reports that short-sight hardly exists among the pupils in the lower grades, but becomes more and more prevalent until among the pupils who remain in school fourteen years, 63 per cent are found to have imperfect sight. Dr. Maximilian Bondi of Vienna, reports similar high figures. In America, conditions seem to be approximately the same. The Vermont legislature, in 1905, began a study of the eyesight of children in the schools and recent reports show that 34 per cent of these children were found to have defective vision. In New York of 58,948 children recently examined, 17,938 or 30 per cent were found to have defective vision. A circular issued by the United States bureau of information shows that near-sightedness steadily increases from class to class, until in the highest grades of the public schools as many as 60 to 70 per cent of children have defective eyesight. Many similar figures could be given, but the above are sufficient to show the importance of the subject. It is true, of course, that all defective eyesight cannot be attributed to poor artificial lighting, but the connection is sufficiently evident to emphasize the necessity of paying great attention to proper illumination.

STRIKERS FAILED TO REPORT FOR DUTY

BUTTE, Mont., Dec. 14.—Not a man reported for work today, though at a joint meeting of the Order of Railway Conductors and the Brotherhood of Railway Trainmen held here last night authority was given the striking switchmen to return to work as individuals without jeopardizing their rights as members of the union. It was furthermore decided that the strike will be continued.

NOTICE

All Yeomen are requested to be at the regular meeting of the Order in the Redmen hall Monday evening at 7:30 p. m. 299*

Four hundred and eighteen acres first-class ranch, four miles from railroad station, 40 acres alfalfa, irrigation for 160 acres, first-class orchard, 3 good barns, 2 good houses, school, daily mail. A snap for \$50 per acre; one-fourth cash, 3 to 5 years for balance. See J. W. Dressler Agency, West Main. 237*

BENSON'S BARGAINS

We Are Headquarters for Small Orchard Tracts

4 miles south of Medford. Price \$245 per acre.

Will exchange five residence lots for improved city property.

Our plan and terms makes investment easy. Own some property and receive your share of the increase in value this spring.

2 1/2 acres on Newtown street, good 5-room house, well and outbuildings, nearly all set to fruit. \$2800

2 1/2 acres between Peach and Newtown streets; nicely located for subdividing. \$2100

We represent seven strong fire insurance companies. Insure before the fire; its too late after.

Within 100 feet of Oakdale avenue, new 10-room modern house, south front, large lot. \$2500

Surety Bonds—We represent the Union Guarantee Association of Portland.

Become informed about our ten and twenty-acre orchard tracts, mostly undeveloped and prices right.

One five-acre tract, close in, will make 26 building lots. Figure it out and see for yourself what you can make on it. \$4000

Our rental department can handle your houses right.

Benson Investment Company

Over Farmers and Fruitgrowers Bank

NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that the undersigned will apply to the city council of the city of Medford, Oregon, at its next meeting for a license to sell spirituous, vinous and malt liquors, in quantities less than a gallon, for a period of six months, at its place of business at lots 5, 6, 7, 8 and 9, in block 20, in the city of Medford, Oregon.

Dated December 8, 1909. HOTEL NASH COMPANY.

Engagement Extraordinary

of The

Schubert Symphony Club

Quartette and Orchestra

Under the auspices of the High School at the High School Auditorium

Wednesday, Dec. 15, at 8 p. m.

Reserved Seats on Sale at Haskins' Drug Store 50 and 75 cents