

MEDFORD MAIL TRIBUNE

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Official Paper of the City of Medford.

GEORGE PUTNAM, Editor and Manager.

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RE-ELECT THE OLD COUNCIL.

Medford has an excellent city government, one of the best in Oregon, perhaps the best. Certainly the city is making great progress in public improvement under the present administration and it is therefore a matter of congratulation that present councilmen, against their own inclinations, and only after strong pressure from their constituents, have consented to become candidates for office again—and they certainly have earned re-election.

Medford is on the eve of great things. Another year will see a population exceeding 10,000. Important municipal questions are to be decided, and it is fitting that men who have been tried and found not wanting should be continued in office—especially is this so until the water muddle is definitely settled.

It is very important that in this critical time—the time when the village of yesterday is becoming the metropolis of tomorrow, when an avalanche of public expense has descended upon the community, when the improvements that other cities have spent 20 years in constructing are being acquired in as many months, that harmony and unity so essential to the realization of the future be the order of the day, and factional disturbances and petty rivalries be buried, that the entire population may pull together for the common good. It was such a feeling that induced Joe Brown to withdraw his candidacy for council from the Second ward, when he found that Councilman Wortman had consented to serve another term, and it is to be hoped that other prospective candidates will show themselves equally broad-minded and big enough to put aside ambition, at least for the present.

Councilmen Eifert, Wortman and Merrick, who originally representing contending factions, but now represent only Medford, have all made good records and faithfully served their wards, as can be evidenced from a comparison with conditions existing at the last election, and at a great sacrifice of time, energy and personal business interests. There should be no opposition to them, and their re-election should be unanimous—an evidence to the world of the harmony that exists in Medford, which has outgrown and sloughed off the factional warfare so typical of the village, that it may realize its destiny.

WHERE MONEY IS WASTED.

The fact is patent that through ignorance of proper methods, careless or indifferent supervision, much of the money expended for the building of public roads is wasted.

The Atlanta Constitution is making a fight for better roads in Georgia and in a recent edition pointedly directs attention to this fact, and indicates the necessity for adequate knowledge and experience in the conduct of road construction. It says:

It is estimated that the sum of \$70,000,000 is spent annually in the construction of public highways in this country. Of this great sum of money it is safe to assert that two-thirds of it is mispent; that is to say, it has not been spent in a way to produce the kind of result possible to obtain from its investment. This is largely the result of lack of proper information and experience in methods of work.

One of the very first things that county commissioners ought to do is to have a good map of the county showing location of all the public roads in it. A study of the topography of the county is also essential. In the improvement of the roads selected it is expedient to make such changes as will avoid going over the tops of the hills. It costs no more to build around a hill than it does to go over the top of it, and the distance is usually not greater. By building around a hill the road can be made practically on a plane, thus saving much wear and tear.

In planning the building of highways a good idea is to make the county town the central place from which to make the roads radiate as main arteries; then build cross-roads as feeders to these main traveled highways.

During the past year the outstanding warrants in Jackson county have increased by \$80,000. The county officials state that most of it was spent for the building of better roads. And still on every side complaint is being made regarding the highways of the county.

It is important to Jackson county that every dollar, every stroke of the pick should be made to count. Every road built should be an investment for the future; if the investment is bad, it cannot expect returns.

There are many ways of building roads, as there are in doing everything else, but there is only one best way. Our county officials should find this best way, and having found it, use it. It would doubtless prove of inestimable value to make a survey of the situation and ascertain whether there is much waste and where it is located.

It may cost a little bit here and there to secure necessary information or expert assistance, but results attained are well worth the expenditure. A few dollars judiciously placed may prevent the waste of a thousand or several times that sum.

OREGONIAN PRAISING ITS VIRTUES

FROM THE VALLEY RECORD.

The editorial page of the Oregonian is constantly bragging on its virtues and at this time is having a special spasm parading its vanity before its readers. After it recovers from this attack it will get around to the rural press of the state and tell the country editor that if it was not for the Oregonian he would not have any news at all, that he is lazy and shiftless, the proper thing for him to do is to emulate the Oregonian editor and amount to something.

The Oregonian editor seems to get great satisfaction out of self adulation and keeps it up for weeks at a time. It is a wonder he does not take a survey of his own sheet and then cease his flattery or clean the sheet up so the public can read it without having its vile advertisements protrude themselves under the nose of its readers. The Oregonian yearly signs up contracts with firms that advertise alleged remedies for the nastiest diseases that the human family are afflicted with, diseases that no gentleman or lady is supposed to have. Alleged specialists are privileged to bawl out their shocking offerings in just as plain and nauseating language as it is possible for big black type to challenge the attention with. Aside from these yearly contracts the classified ads teem with myriads of filthy reading offerings of relief for men and women.

Country publishers have for years excluded these nasty advertisements from their advertising columns and refuse to admit them at any rate, and just why the Oregonian is so anxious to rival the originals of Oregon as an advertising medium has been some-

what of a mystery. Country publishers close to their readers to refuse to admit these nasty advertisements at any price and feel they can afford to lose the revenue, and why the Oregonian, with its great pretense at virtue and decency, persists in thrusting them in the face of the homes of Oregon citizens for the paltry dollar is past the understanding of the Oregon Press association.

In former years when the Oregonian was really appearing like a decent sheet two Sunday publications flourished in Portland, exposing domestic scandals of citizens. But times have changed and the Oregonian beats them to it and when Saturday evening comes these sheets find themselves rehashing a thrice told tale. After scraping up the entire northwest of its grist of scandal and nastiness, it seems to fish it out of San Francisco and California pools and has it sent red hot off the griddle from New York and eastern points. To this it adds every few days tales from French life under Paris date lines, tales that are not even associated with the names of prominent individuals with which to furnish an excuse for intruding them upon the public eye.

There may be some reasons born out of experience in the work of a metropolitan daily that may seem to make it necessary to feed the public with the very last detail of corruption growing out of the scandalous relation of people, the crime and debauchery common to the race, but the Oregonian could at least "cut out" the dirty ads and the self adulation and praise it bestows upon itself almost daily.

BUTTE FALLS ITEMS.

The annual school meeting for the levying of a special tax was held on Wednesday, December 8, at the school house and on motion a levy of ten mills was made for the current school year. A part of this levy is for paying off about \$1500 of the present school district debt and the balance for interest and running school expenses.

Windy Adams was caught in the trip line at the mill and was given a good somersault, but was not injured by his mishap.

Mrs. Cobby, formerly Miss Nattling, was trading in town during the week.

Mr. Erie and son have gone to hatching in their new cottage. Mr. Erie is our painter and has some fine jobs of painting hereabouts.

It is almost impossible to travel the highways as the mud is deep and the roads full of cuts.

C. P. Briggs has been sick abed since his visit to the homestead as he was caught in the heavy snow-storm and had to walk back through the deep snow, taking a severe cold which threatened pneumonia trouble. He is now better.

The infant child of Mr. Rayburn, and also the daughter of Mrs. Barritt, our school teacher, are suffering from an incipient attack of pneumonia.

Our local boarding house has raised the price of board and many of the boarders have taken to hatching as they think they can live cheaper.

We have had another fall of snow and the ground is covered with the beautiful to the depth of several inches.

Mr. and Mrs. Boughton gave a social to the young people Friday night which was well attended and was much enjoyed. Music, games and refreshments passed the hours very pleasantly and all retired to their homes well pleased with the evening's entertainment.

Dr. Holt of Eagle Point was in professional attendance upon the children of Mrs. Barritt and Mr. Rayburn who are suffering from bad attacks of cold.

The athletic club will give a dance on Christmas night and Will Chambers and wife will furnish a fine supper. Tickets, \$2.00 per couple.

Since the return of "Windy" Adams from Medford there has been quite a stir among the mill hands. It seems as if Mr. Nelson, the head sawyer, and Mr. Zimmerman, the "donkey" man, did not suit "Windy." It is a great loss to have these men quit, as they were both competent and reliable men, but this only enforces with increased emphasis the absolute necessity of business principles being applied in the management of the mill.

It appears that some six or more deer were hauled into Derby during the last week. As it is so difficult to get anyone to inform upon these men, would it not be advisable for our game wardens to make a visit to the section and quietly investigate?

It seems as if a very self-important man of our town, who has more of the "spv" than man in his make-up, went to the valley lately and filled up booze and along about 12 o'clock at night he came puffing into town and

he prefers the balmy climate of the Rogue.

Real Estate Agent Barns of Grants Pass has been here looking after timber lands and inspecting the outlook for Butte Falls.

The ditch along the road from Eagle Point to Brownsboro is ruining the roadway with water overflowing from it and as there is no way, except by wading, to cross the stream, it is an obstruction to the highway and the supervisor should build a crossing over it. Attention has been heretofore called to this but nothing has been done save to place a narrow pole over the ditch and this has been washed away, so that foot travelers must either cling to the fence of barbed wire or else wade or swim. Let it be attended to. The time for such backwoods roads or crossings has gone and we are now in the age of foot bridges and paved roads.

WOMAN RUSHED INTO BUILDING SAVES STOCK

SPOKANE, Wash., Dec. 17.—Mme. Winslow, who operates an ostrich plume factory here, is a heroine in the eyes of her friends today.

Yesterday a fire started in the store from a defective flue. Mme. Winslow thought she had smothered the flames and was returning to her work when neighbors saw dense smoke and summoned the fire department.

The flames spread rapidly and the woman had hardly emerged from the building before it was a mass of flames. Then it was that Mme. Winslow remembered that her valuable property was in jeopardy, and by a dash into the flames, a deed which would have done credit to a veteran fireman, she saved \$500 of her stock and today will be doing business for the Christmas trade despite the fact that the store building was destroyed.

Prepaid Railroad Orders.

"Something which is of considerable interest to the public generally and which is perhaps not generally known in effect between stations of the Southern Pacific company and all points in the United States. By means of this system tickets may be purchased at Medford from any place in the United States and mailed or telegraphed direct to the party wishing to come here. Sleeper accommodations and small amounts of cash in connection with these tickets may also be forwarded at the same time."

For the Best

In harness, saddles, whips, robes, tents, blankets, wagon sheets, axle grease and gaff cure, as well as all kinds of custom work, see

J. C. Smith

314 E. Main.

HEALTH HINTS

ON PAGE 6 ARE ALL RIGHT, BUT THE SPACE THEY OCCUPY COST MORE THAN THIS DOES — SO DOES ELECTRIC JUICE. CALL AT HASKINS' DRUG STORE, MEDFORD PHARMACY, MOORE HOTEL, SMOKE HOUSE, MEDFORD MAIL TRIBUNE AND MANY OTHER PLACES AND FIND WHY MY GAS LIGHTS ARE BEING USED INSTEAD OF ELECTRICITY.

'Nuf ced'

J. W. WHITNEY

211 WEST MAIN. PHONE 1082.

HASKINS for HEALTH Christmas Suggestions

PERFUME ATOMIZERS

The improved Devilbess style, the most perfect made; all are guaranteed to atomize and are ornamental as well as useful; at 25c to \$3.00

Pianos For Xmas

AT SHERMAN CLAY & CO. 134 West Main Street

The noblest Christmas gift of all is a fine PIANO. A Christmas gift that will bring joy and gladness into your home. Your little girl is as good as any other little girl. Make this blessed Yuletide time a memorable event in her life, and brighten the home life of the entire family, not only for this Christmas, but for all the years of your lives to come.

A FINE HIGH GRADE PIANO, only very slightly used, for \$135. Organs in fine shape for \$22 and \$45.

SHERMAN CLAY & CO.

Victor Talking Machines—all the latest records.

134 WEST MAIN.

Steinway and other Pianos.

Are You Going East ?

Have you a friend coming west? You ought to bring one to Medford. Call and see us. Let us talk routes and rates with you. Information cheerfully furnished. Phone, address or call on

Southern Pacific R. R.

A. S. ROSENBAUM, Agent

FARMERS

Send us your name and address and we will mail to you a calendar and we will have the "Furrow" mailed to you for coming year FREE.

Hubbard Bros.