

MEDFORD MAIL TRIBUNE

PUBLISHED DAILY EXCEPT SATURDAY.
A consolidation of the Medford Mail, established 1880; the Southern Oregonian, established 1892; the Democratic Times, established 1872; the Ashland Tribune, established 1898, and the Medford Tribune, established 1906.

Official Paper of the City of Medford.

GEORGE PUTNAM, Editor and Manager.

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UNPATRIOTIC ACTION.

Why do some prominent but unpatriotic citizens of Medford buy supplies in Portland instead of patronizing home supply houses? The quantity of groceries and other products shipped in regularly is a shame.

This is not the way to build up a city. The Portland or other foreign merchant does nothing for Medford. He does not contribute to its progress in any way. He does not help foot the bill that keeps Medford in the limelight. He does nothing for the community and is deserving of nothing from it.

Money sent out of the city is lost to circulation in the city. Only by keeping it here and in circulation is the city benefited. Local stores are as good as any in the country, and if those people sending away for merchandise will buy in the same quantities and pay cash and the freight, as they have to do when they send away, they can get just as good prices. But they will ask the local merchant to carry them on his capital, buy in small quantities, and when they make a large cash purchase, go away from home.

Every man who makes a living in Medford and the Rogue River valley owes it to himself and the community to buy everything here, even if he pays more, for he will thus be contributing his mite to the growth and prosperity of the community, and in return secure his share. No matter what it is wanted, clothes, household utensils, dry goods or groceries, buy them in Medford.

NEWSPAPERS PAY FOR IT.

The Willamette Pulp and Paper Mill company at Oregon City has announced that the sum of \$2000 will be distributed among its employes as a Christmas gift. The newspapers are paying for this Christmas gift, the price of paper having been raised three-quarters of a cent a pound since last May. In the last month an increase of ten cents a hundred has gone into effect with further advances threatened.

Last spring paper sold for \$2.60 per hundred pounds at the mills in carload lots. This week the Mail Tribune paid \$3.35 a hundred weight for a carload at Oregon City. The freight rate from Oregon City is higher than the rate from Chicago to Portland, so that the interior paper pays a much higher rate for its materials than the Portland paper.

The Taft-Aldrich-Payne tariff bill is responsible for the huge profits of the paper trust, and the newspapers of the country, along with other consumers, can thank the administration for being continuously plundered.

It is to be hoped that the Oregon City mill also remembered Uncle Joe Cannon with a handsome check as the cause of their prosperity this glad some Christmas time.

The news that Arbuckle Bros. were forced to pay to the government \$695,573 for shortage in payment of duties on imports may well cause uneasiness in the Willamette valley, as it will probably be followed by a rise in the price of the favorite beverage to recoup the payment.

WHAT BAD ROADS COST

(Sacramento Bee.)

It is a remarkable thing that while farmers and fruit growers as a rule are keenly mindful of the importance of cheap transportation by rail, they are commonly indifferent to the high cost of hauling over bad roads. And yet the tax imposed upon rural industries by poor highways is relatively far greater, in proportion to distance, than that laid upon them by excessive railroad rates, however indefensible the latter may be.

The average freight rate in the United States by rail is less than 1 per cent per ton per mile, while the average cost of hauling by wagon over highways is about 30 cents per ton per mile. In Europe the average cost of hauling by wagon is from 8 to 10 cents per ton per mile, or less than one-third the cost in this country. The difference is due almost entirely to the general inferiority of American roads. It is true that there are thousands of miles of good roads in the United States, but by far the greater part of the highway mileage is decidedly poor and much of it exceedingly bad.

How many producers realize what

a great saving would be effected by good roads in place of bad? It would be about 20 cents a mile on each ton hauled. Assuming the product of a 100-acre farm to be one ton to the acre, or a total yield of 100 tons, and the average haul from the farm to the railroad or steamboat to be ten miles, the saving would amount to \$200 a year. In other words, it would cost \$100 instead of \$300 to haul the crop.

At 1 cent per ton-mile the cost of hauling the farmer's crop of 100 tons a distance of ten miles by rail would be \$10. This is just one-thirtieth the cost of hauling by team the same distance over bad roads, at the rate of 30 cents per ton-mile, which would amount to \$300 for 100 tons hauled ten miles.

It is plain that nothing is more important to rural districts than good public highways. Bad roads involve an enormous loss. When it takes 12 horses and three men to do the hauling on bad roads that could be done by four horses and one man on good roads, the loss is just as real as if it were paid directly out of the farmer's pocket in dollars and cents.

NICARAGUA IN A NUTSHELL

There is only four square miles difference between the area of Nicaragua and the state of New York. Take Connecticut out of New England, and Nicaragua would cover the rest of it. It is approximately half the size of the state of Washington. To be exact, it covers 49,200 square miles, which is larger than Holland, Belgium and Denmark combined. It

has a remarkable extent of coast line on two oceans. On the Caribbean, it reaches nearly 300 miles, or approximately the distance from Washington to New York. Its least width is 125 miles, or approximately the distance from Chicago to the Mississippi river. It has the smallest population of any Central American country, but

is correspondingly capable of great arterial development. There are only about 600,000 people within its limits. Of these, five-sixths are upon the western or Pacific side. The eastern or Caribbean shore lies low and is drained by many rivers. The only industry of this section is the growing of bananas which were shipped in 1908 to the number of 1,500,000 bunches, valued at 50 cents a bunch. The principal town here is Bluefields, a little south of the center, having 5,000 inhabitants. It is 1,186 miles from New Orleans and 310 miles from Colon. The only other important places on this east coast are Greytown, at the southern point, with 2,000 inhabitants, near the mouth of the San Juan river, Cape Gracias a Dios, at the northern point, with only 1,500 people. On the isolated Pacific slope the chief cities are Leon, the historic and interesting old capital, with 60,000 inhabitants; Managua, the present capital, with 40,000; Masagalpa, with 16,000; Granada, with 12,000; and several other towns of from 5,000 to 10,000. The principal port on the Pacific side is Corinto, near the northern end, with only about 2,000 people. At the southern end is the harbor of San Juan del Sur.

There is one railroad in Nicaragua which starts at Corinto and runs up Managua and thence across to Granada on Lake Nicaragua, which is the largest inland body of water in all Latin America. If one wishes to go to Nicaragua, he can take steamers on the Atlantic side from New York, New Orleans or Mobile. Go by Pacific he will take steamers from San Francisco or from coast points of other countries. Perhaps the quickest way to reach it today is either through Mexico by rail and by steamer from Salina Cruz to Corinto, or by steamer from New Orleans direct to Bluefields. The latter journey generally takes about four days. If, however, one lands on the east coast, it is practically impossible to go to the west coast on account of the lack of railroads and other facilities. A common way to go to the west coast is via Panama and the Pacific side.

The total value of the foreign trade of Nicaragua in 1908 amounted to \$7,500,000, of which exports were \$4,500,000, and imports \$3,000,000. Nicaragua bought from the United States textiles, clothing, machinery, etc., valued at \$1,300,000. She sold to the United States bananas, coffee, rubber, mahogany, cattle, hides, etc., valued at \$1,050,000.

Nicaragua has a president, a cabinet with five ministers or secretaries, thirteen departments or states, and five divisions like our territories. Its national assembly consists of only one chamber which is now in session.

Lying between 10 degrees 45 minutes and 14 degrees 55 minutes north latitude, and between 83 degrees 11 minutes and 87 degrees 40 minutes west longitude, it is located all within the tropics, but it has a considerable variety of climate. Although the east is low-lying and very warm, the central and western sections are in parts so mountainous and elevated that the temperature never reaches a high point and the climate can be considered salubrious. The western section, in which the greater part of the population is located, has such a varying latitude, and the country is so broken with lakes and so close to the sea, that it is not by any means as hot as it would appear to be on the map.

Look! Look!

The Rogue River Fish Co. has for Xmas corn fed turkeys and milk fed geese and chickens. Call and see us. 238*

The city of Jacksonville, the business men of Jacksonville and the citizens of Jacksonville have had their experience with a cheaper form of light than electric light several years ago. Before considering a cheaper form of light get their experience. 240

THE ELECTRIC METER

Contrary to popular impression, the electric meter is the most perfect and accurate measuring instrument; it measures the electricity that passes through it with greater accuracy than the average watch measures time, but like the watch it is delicate and needs to be cleaned repaired and adjusted sometimes.

Electric meters do not get out of order very often (if they are not worn out), and when they do they more frequently register in favor of the consumer than in favor of the company.

We will test our consumers' meters at frequent intervals (free of charge) that they may register correctly, and that there may be no cause for complaint.

If the consumer thinks his bill too large, please notify us at once and we will gladly do all we can to ascertain the facts and make all necessary corrections; if the consumer thinks his bill too small, kindly re-

Get That Piano

YOUR HOME NEEDS IT. YOUR LITTLE GIRL NEEDS IT. BRIGHTEN YOUR HOME WITH MUSIC—THE LANGUAGE OF THE ANGELS. "A THING OF BEAUTY IS A JOY FOREVER."

Just one more day in which to buy a Christmas Piano. The pianos have been selling rapidly, but we have plenty left. In all our chain of stores, which are in every city of any importance on the Pacific coast, none have done so well as our Medford store. Cities with twenty times the population of Medford have fallen behind in the number and quality of pianos sold this month. We are proud of Medford. The citizens have treated us royally and clean, honest business methods have won out in Medford, as they do everywhere.

Our pianos consist of the STEINWAY, A. B. CHASE, CONOVER, CABLE, EVERETT, PACKARD, LUDWIG, KINGSBURY, ESTEY, KURTZMANN, EMERSON WELLINGTON and other pianos. OUR PLAYER PIANOS, A. B. CHASE Upright and Grand SOHMER CECILIAN, CAROLA INNER PLAYER and KINGSBURY INNER PLAYER, EUPHONA INNER PLAYER, ESTEY ORGANS, PIPE ORGANS and CHICAGO COTTAGE ORGANS, VICTOR TALKING MACHINES. One price to all and that the right price. Leave Orders for Tuning.

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ANOTHER MAN IS KILLED IN QUARREL OVER CARDS

BUTTE, Mont., Dec. 23.—In a quarrel over a game of cards at a prospector's camp in the Powder River country near here, early today, W. J. Schmalse instantly killed Thos. Bell, a prospector, when he struck him over the head with a poker. Schmalse then telephoned to the Butte officers to come and get him. H claims he acted in self defense.

THE FAMILY CIRCLE.

They enjoy a well lighted home and there is no nicer or more convenient light than electricity, if they get enough of it. One of my gas lights flood a room with white light, giving 400 candle power at less than one cent per hour. There is absolutely no odor, no gasoline in the house and a child can operate it. Call and see them.

J. W. WHITNEY,
211 W. Main, next R. R. Elec. Co. 235*

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 relied upon. Use it and the more serious diseases may be avoided. For sale by Leon B. Haskins' Pharmacy. *

Be sure you are right before you go ahead, is good advice that applies to the light business as well as other business. Electric light has stood the test of time as the safest and most economical light and before considering cheaper lights get the experience of people who have used them several months at least. 240

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An Electric-lighted Window is a helping hand to increased business. It extends for you the glad hand of business fellowship to every possible customer. A well lighted store inside and out, makes good friends, and good friends make good customers. Our expert can show you the best and cheapest methods of sign and window lighting. 'Phone for him.

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