

SOCIAL AND PERSONAL

Peach trees for sale at ten cents each. H. B. Patterson, Nash hotel.

Excavation for the business building of shade trees on the various lots to be erected at the corner of Central avenue and Sixth street has been commenced.

George Brown, the pioneer merchant of Eagle Point, was in Medford Thursday on a business visit.

The Merrivold Shop has office supplies, including files, blank books, memorandum books, pencils, pens, inks, inkwells, tablets, typewriter supplies, envelopes, paste, mangleage and fountain pens.

Mrs. W. R. Coleman is visiting relatives and friends at Phoenix. The Easter sale in the Presbyterian church parlor opens at 10 a. m. Sandwiches and coffee will be served at noon.

Coffees at Goodfriend's. It costs no more to insure in the big companies than the small ones. See R. A. Holmes, the insurance man, room 16, Jackson Co. bank.

Sam Morris, aged about 35 years, died at his home near Rock Point Tuesday of consumption. Mr. Morris had been afflicted with the disease for several years, but seemed to have partially overcome it during the past year.

Teas at Goodfriend's. Come to the Easter sale Presbyterian church parlor Thursday, March 17, for home cooking, kitchen aprons, kimonos, fancy aprons, neckwear.

'Buy your paints, glass, wallpaper, stains, varnish, brushes and have your picture framed at Metcalf's, 318 East Main. 312\*'

R. A. Holmes, the insurance man, devotes his whole time to fire insurance and can give you better service. Room 16, Jackson Co. bank. 312

William Childers of Gold Hill was in Medford on business Wednesday. L. E. Tidball, representing Blake, McFall & Co., is in Medford.

A musical program will be given in the Presbyterian church Thursday, March 17 at 3 p. m. in connection with the Easter bazaar. Admission free. 308

Phone 2691, Goodfriend's. G. M. Bieler of Corvallis, Or., is in Medford on a business trip.

Mr. and Mrs. W. D. Rose and Mrs. E. L. Jamecon of Craig, Colo., are in this city of a tour of inspection. 49c oranges, 25c. Rardon's Bakery.

Mr. and Mrs. Ben Coleman arrived in Medford Tuesday evening. Ben tried out with Casey's Northwest team in Medford last season for a place on the pitching staff and is likely to appear in a Medford uniform this year. He intends making his home in Medford, having become enamored of the city while here last season.

Bath fixtures at Goodfriend's. Three fine large lots in Tuttle's addition, \$800 cash. Siakiyou Realty Co., room 22, Jackson County Bank building.

E. V. Carter, George W. Dunn and G. S. Butler and Mr. McCoy of Ashland were among those who attended the meeting of the Bankers' association Tuesday evening. 50c oranges, 35c. Rardon's Bakery.

Look up the records of the companies we represent. R. A. Holmes, the insurance man, room 16, Jackson Co. bank. 312

Kitchen utensils at Goodfriend's. H. B. Tronson of Eagle Point was a Medford visitor Thursday.

Jack Butler of Kanes creek, one of the old-time miners of that section, was in Medford on St. Patrick's day. "Things are lookin' foine on th' erik," said Jack, "and the byes are expectin' to clane up a wad durin' the season. Sure, there is a bunch of fellers wid money comin' in, and while they ain't talkin' a whole lot, they're ivery once in a while investin' in some Kanes creek ground. Take it from me, young feller, there'll be somethin' doin' in the country pretty soon."

Carpet sweepers at Goodfriend's. Five-room house and lot 100x120, east side, \$1500, terms. Siakiyou Realty Co., room 22, Jackson County Bank building. 308

Simon Shaw, who has been working at the Buzzard mine, on Elk creek, is in town, waiting for the installation of a plow to purify the air in the tunnel. The mine, in Mr. Shaw's opinion, is one of the real, big mines in Southern Oregon. While the ore is low grade, there is so much of it and it is so easily mined that it looks like a big proposition.

Visit the candy booth of the Presbyterian church bazaar at the Rogue River Electric Co. on Thursday, the 17th. 308

Fred H. Thompson arrived from Minneapolis at 4 o'clock Wednesday afternoon, this being his first visit to Oregon. At 7:30 p. m. he was duly accepted as a member of the Commercial club. It took him less than four hours to find that this was the country he had been looking for and that the best start he could make would be to join the Commercial club.

Visit the candy booth of the Presbyterian church bazaar at the Rogue River Electric Co. on Thursday, the 17th. 308

Door mats at Goodfriend's. E. B. Sawyer for surveys. Subdivision and platting a specialty. Room 12, Emerick.

Perhaps you need a typewriter. You can secure any make you wish, in a rebuilt typewriter, at The Merrivold Shop, at a reasonable price. \* Ed Purdy of Klamath Falls is here on a short visit. The "Duke" says things are fine in the sagebrush country.

Darby O'Toole, the veteran trackman, who has fixed more "high centers" and "low joints" than most any man on the coast, is visiting some of his old friends in Medford.

Whitman's candies are unexcelled. The Merrivold Shop has the exclusive agency for Medford.

John H. Carkin, attorney at law, over Jackson County Bank. \* Wear Kidd's Shoes. \* Carving sets at Goodfriend's.

John Devlin of Applegate was in Medford on a business visit Thursday.

The force of men employed in setting poles for the Home Telephone Co. between Medford and Jacksonville has been temporarily laid off owing to a shortage in poles.

Books—Bibles, Prayer Books, poetry, fiction, gift books for children and adults. Come in and look them over at The Merrivold Shop. \* M. B. Rice of Lakeview is here on a short business visit.

A. C. Gridley of Edgewood, Cal., is in Medford looking after business matters.

The King's Daughters will have home-made candy at the Easter bazaar Thursday in the Presbyterian church parlor. 308

Palms—The finest Kentias that ever were shipped to Medford. Call and see them. 923 E. Main. 313\* J. B. Anderson of Pasadena, Cal., is here on a tour of inspection.

Mrs. F. W. Cowles was a Medford visitor Thursday from the Cowles farm, east of the city.

Bedding plants of all description, 923 E. Main. Medford Greenhouse. Call or write for prices. Phone 606. 313\*

Mr. and Mrs. J. L. Garden of Gold Ray were Medford visitors Wednesday. \*Wringers at Goodfriend's.

'T WAS A RELIEF WHEN THE SUN WENT DOWN

Actors Were Good, But Critic Takes Exception to the Rot Peddled by the Author of the Play.

The play last night at the opera house was a strong one from a physical point of view. The actors all seemed to possess unusually strong voices and they used them to their full capacity through the four acts of the melodrama entitled, "As the Sun Went Down." In point of fact, it was really gratifying when the sun did go down and with it the last curtain, and yet this is scarcely just, as the performance pleased a large part of the audience. In fact, it was a soul-feast for the gallery.

A man who buys a chromo and hangs it on his wall and enjoys its doubtful imitation of art should not be sneered at by the owner of one of Rembrandt's masterpieces. Melodrama fills a place in the field of amusement and there are many who would be even more than bored with an Ibsen play with great artists in the cast than the writer of this article is by the ordinary melodrama. So, after all, it is a question of viewpoint.

The play last night was beautifully staged and the actors worked with earnestness to please and should have our thanks. The poor actor is not to blame for the rot that is given him to commit and present to the public. Personally, we believe that the melodrama, the yellow-back novel and the minister who preaches the literal lake of fire and brimstone should be relegated to one of the Philippine islands. They give a distorted picture of God and nature. There is no medium that exerts more influence upon the age than the books that people read and the plays they see and enjoy. Those who are paid a salary for looking to the moral betterment of the community and are thereby exempt from spraying and pruning trees, should make their first crusade upon the literature and drama of their time, for

ENGLAND PLEASED BY TEDDY'S SPEECH

His Utterances at Khartoum Please Press and People of Great Britain and He is Praised in Return.

LONDON, March 17.—The praises of Theodore Roosevelt are being sung today on every side. The acclamations of the press and the people are the result of Roosevelt's enthusiastic, unstinted praise of the work Great Britain has done in civilizing and upbuilding her African possessions, particularly Egypt and the Sudan.

Above the general laudation is heard the expression of a belief that Roosevelt's brief visit has done more good for England than armies and officials could have done in years.

The diplomats and politicians scanned carefully Roosevelt's utterances at Khartoum with reference to British rule in Africa. They expressed pleasure at the remark of the former American president that he hoped the administration under which the Sudan had thrived would be maintained. Statesmen see in this utterance an expression of general public opinion in the United States and take it as an indication of good will.

It is certain that the American statesman's remarks will heighten the cordiality of his reception here. Already tentative plans are under way for Roosevelt's reception in London.

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NEW YORK, March 17.—Mrs. Hetty Green will indirectly make New York an Easter offering valued at \$600,000, according to Miss T. Brizzi, director of studies at the Christopher Columbus university, today.

Miss Brizzi said that Mrs. Green intends to give Countess Leary a large plot of ground on Fifth avenue near Central Park and the Museum of Arts, to enable the countess to carry out her plan for a memorial to Christopher Columbus.

The memorial is to be a free university of art where students are to be taught the higher handicraft without cost to themselves. The movement was started by Countess Leary three years ago, and now occupies five houses on Charlton street.

According to Miss Brizzi, the land to be given by Mrs. Green will front Fifth avenue for a block, and on it a great palace is to be constructed.

BUSINESS LOCALS

—Singer sewing machines, 244 S. G street. Phone 2954. 314

—Peach trees for sale cheap. An entire carload at 10c each. H. B. Patterson, Nash hotel.

—For wood of all kinds, see the Square Deal Woodward. Phone 2601. Fir street, between Second and Third streets. Gould & Lindley, proprietors. 261\*

—Wear Kidd's Shoes. —If you want satisfaction try a sack of Mt. Hood Snow-Fall Flour. For sale at the Russ Mill. Remember the place. Polk & Son.

—For sale—Wolf Creek Cove fruit tracts. The H. L. Claffin Realty Co., 203 Corbett building, Portland, Or., are offering the best of Rogue River valley fruit lands, in small tracts, on easy payments, at wholesale prices. Southern Pacific not on center of tract. Investigate at once. E. M. Andrews, local agent. 310\*

—Paints, wall paper, glass, Metcalf's, 318 E. Main street. 312\*

they are molding the thought of the century. Let me say in passing that the actors were good and the manager has staged his play in a painstaking and artistic manner.

"St. Elmo" will be seen tonight. It is the dramatization of the well-known novel, written in the last century, but seems to have a popularity which holds its youth. The plot is laid in the little town of St. Elmo, at the foot of Lookout mountain, Tennessee, which should admit of some very pretty scenery, and has already a good sale of seats. E. M. A.

Haskins for Health.

FARCICAL TELEPHONE PROMOTION

Story of the Independent Telephone Company of Omaha Up to Date.

(Public Service, Chicago, Feb. 1909.) Such reckless promotions as the one described in this article not only brings disaster and opprobrium upon the people directly interested in them, but tend to intensify the general and unfeeling district of soundly organized and capably managed public utility corporations that prevails in some communities. When in order to induce the granting of a franchise, promoters promise to provide a public utility at rates known to be inadequate to meet the cost of furnishing that utility, they attempt the impossible, and the result can be nothing but failure, bringing disappointment, disgust and financial loss to the misled community. We submit that it is the duty of city governments to protect their people against such palpable frauds.

Omaha is not as proud of its "independent" telephone company as it expected to be. The reality turns out so completely and amazingly different from the prospect that thousands of good Omaha citizens who voted to give the "independent" a franchise are wondering why they have faith in human promises.

The "independent" telephone movement is responsible for many cases of bald misrepresentation and recklessness, but its Omaha case is the very superlative of bare faith and conscienceless manipulation. The promoters of the game, as is usual, promised the impossible and delivered something else. The same trick had been turned in many American cities before, but the knowledge of this fact did not prevent a majority of electors in Omaha from voting away the privilege for the game in their city two years ago last November.

As an extenuating circumstance for the people of Omaha, let it be said that the game, in its prospective form, is most alluring; most any community will "fall for it," to use the language of the chance-taking fraternity. Some suave and nicely dressed gentlemen appear upon the scene with the announcement that they have come to relieve the dear people of the exactions of a "grinding monopoly." In furthering this relief work, these patriotic gentlemen beg most eloquently to be allowed to invest large sums of money in the city in the construction of a telephone plant. Most any city likes to welcome investments.

Bid for Labor Vote. Furthermore, these capital-laden gentlemen point out that the construction of the plant will give work to a large number of men, and the operation of the plant, after it is completed, will furnish permanent employment to many. A good thing say all, for the industrial development of the city. But the great prize offered is a superior telephone service at rates much less than the city has ever heard of before. Of course, the promoting gentlemen say, this is to be a great and profitable business enterprise, it is not to be merely a philanthropic endeavor, and the good people of the town will get in on the profits. Because a local financial interest will work for the future welfare of the business, Wall street is to be deprived of the opportunity to invest in the enterprise and what bonds and stocks can be spared by the backers of the promoters will be graciously sold to local people on a basis that will bring at least 10 per cent annually. How cruel to shut grasping Wall street out of such splendidly paying securities! But poor Wall street is used to being deprived of these 10 to 25 per cent securities—it even had to stand aside and all of Miller's 52 per cent Franklin Syndicate securities go into the hands of frugal workmen and confiding widows.

After voting a franchise to the promoters, Omaha got its "independent" telephone plant. It has been in operation since December 2, 1907, more than a year. The "superior" service consists of not more than 4000 stations as against about 20,000 stations of the "grinding monopoly."

Independent Rates Are Higher. The rates of the "independent" are higher than those of the grinding monopoly. The "independent" charges \$2 a month for a business telephone and the old company charges \$6 a month for a business telephone. Some thoughtless people may conclude from this statement of facts that the "independent" rates are lower, but not so. There's a simple deduction to be made here. The man who buys 20,000 pins for \$4 gets them at 20c per 1000. The man who buys 4000 pins for \$2. The \$6 purchaser gets his pins at 30 cents per thousand, while the \$2 purchaser pays 50 cents per thousand. The illustration is fair and applicable. No one rents a telephone to decorate his desk or wall; a man pays for a telephone for the service he gets out of it, and its worth to him is measured by the amount of such service. A telephone through which you may communicate with 20,000 other telephones certainly costs more to furnish and is worth more to the user than a telephone through which you can reach only 4000 other telephones. The merchant who gets a 20,000-station telephone service for \$6 per month is buying his telephone service at a lower rate than the merchant who pays \$2 per month for a 4000-station service.

In the construction of the Omaha "independent" plant many men were employed for some months. It is true, but their aggregate wages will not balance the waste forced upon hundreds of business houses for years

by the necessity of having two telephones on account of the division made in the local telephone service. It is a clear case of one class of citizen gaining at the expense of another class, and on the whole such transactions bring no benefit to any community. Furthermore, many of the workmen who were engaged in building this plant took part of their wages in the bonds of the company, which are of doubtful value.

Financial History of a Farce. The financial history of the Independent Telephone company of Omaha is a comedy. The authorized capitalization is as follows: Capital stock ..... \$5,000,000 Bonds ..... 2,330,000 \$7,330,000

The Union Telephone Construction company was given \$1,500,000 in preferred stock for building the plant, with a switchboard capacity of 6000 automatic telephones. Whether or not any of the balance of the bonds and stock has been issued we are unable to state, but if not, then the outstanding capitalization of a telephone plant of 6000 stations is \$2,000,000, or \$500 per station. The amount of "water" in this may be imagined when one considers the fact that the Bell telephone plant at Omaha is capitalized at only \$97 per station.

The Union Telephone Construction company and its fiscal agents met with poor success in their attempts to unload these "securities" in Omaha. It is understood that most of the real money put into the construction of the plant came from the Pacific coast. The funds were realized from bonds held by the Oregon Savings and Investment company of Portland, which failed in August, 1907, because it was not able to realize on the securities of which it held to the value of \$1,200,000. Some of the bonds were sold at 90 with an equal amount of preferred stock thrown in as a bonus. In other words, the purchaser of \$1000 of bonds for \$900 received \$1000 of 5 per cent bonds and \$1000 of "guaranteed" 4 per cent preferred stock, making what would be a 10 per cent investment, provided, of course, that the bonds are kept good and, furthermore, that the "guarantee" of 4 per cent on the preferred stock is worth anything. Naturally the only "guarantee" of 4 per cent on the preferred stock is based upon the ability of the property to earn enough to pay its operating, general and depreciation expenses, its bond interest and then 4 per cent on its preferred stock. This was figured out in a prospectus issued by the company last fall as follows:

Receipts. 6000 telephones with extras, per year ..... \$251,205.00 Long distance percentage ..... 24,000.00 Total ..... \$275,205.00 Expenditures. Interest \$1,500,000 bonds at 5 per cent ..... \$ 75,000.00 Interest \$1,500,000 pref. rates 4 per cent stock at 4 per cent ..... 60,000.00 Operating, maintenance, etc. .... 46,500.00 Sinking fund ..... 25,874.00 Surplus ..... 67,831.00 \$175,205.00 Rates Ridiculously Low. The prospectus from which the above figures were taken stated that the earnings and expenses "should be" as stated by November 1, 1908. Since the date of the prospectus the company has reduced its rates from \$1.50 to \$2 per month for business service and from \$2 to \$1 per month for residence service, this action being forced by the mandate of the state railroad commission forbidding free service. On December 31, 1908, the Independent Telephone company published in the World-Herald an advertisement with a very appropriate deep black border, in which its new rates were announced as follows: From January 1 our rates to all old and new subscribers will be: Business Telephones. Up to 6000 telephones, per month ..... \$2.00 From 6000 to 7000 telephones ..... 2.50 From 7000 to 10,000 telephones ..... 3.00 50 cents extra charged if not paid by the 10th of each month. Residence Telephones. Up to 6000 telephones, per month ..... \$1.00 From 6000 to 7000 telephones, per month ..... 1.25 From 7000 to 10,000 telephones ..... 1.50 25 cents extra charged if not paid by the 10th of each month. Under the new schedule of rates, when the company has 6000 telephones in service, its earnings from rentals cannot be more than \$120,000 per year even if we allow the improbability of the business telephones so as to maintain the ratio of 1 to 2, if we allow liberally for "extras," which means extension telephones, extra trunk lines, etc., and for long-distance earnings, the gross earnings cannot exceed the following estimate: 2000 business telephones at \$30 per year ..... \$60,000.00 4000 residence telephones at \$15 per year ..... 60,000.00 Extras ..... 30,000.00 Long distance ..... 24,000.00 \$164,000.00 From the above possible, but not probable earnings, will have to come the following expenses, according to the company's own prospectus: Interest \$1,500,000 bonds at 5 per cent ..... \$75,000.00 Interest \$1,500,000 pref. stock at 4 per cent ..... 60,000.00 Operating, maintenance, etc. .... 46,500.00 \$181,500.00 This would make an annual deficit of \$17,500. It may be said that the preferred stock dividends may be passed, turning the \$17,500 deficit into a surplus of \$43,500, but how about the ridiculously low figure for operating expense given in the company's prospectus and the entire absence of a depreciation charge. For "operating, maintenance, etc." the company allows only \$46,500 a year, and this must include all salaries and wages, insurance and taxes, repair and reconstruction material,

light, heat and power. The "independent" company at Lincoln, Neb., also with an automatic system and only about 5000 telephones in service, paid out more than \$50,000 in one year for wages alone, to say nothing of insurance, taxes, repair and reconstruction material, rent, light, heat and power. The estimate of \$46,500 for operating an automatic plant of 6000 stations is at the rate of only \$7.75 per station, and we have never heard of such a plant anywhere being operated at as low a rate as \$10 per station. If we concede that the Omaha plant can be operated at the very low rate of \$10 per station, then the yearly operating expenses would be \$60,000.

The Omaha company claims to have \$1,600,000 invested in its plant, but if we cut this to less than one-half, and allow \$750,000 of physical property, there should be a yearly depreciation charge of at least 7 per cent, making \$52,500. It is just as impossible for the company to attempt to evade this charge as it is to cheat the grim reaper—it is as sure as death. There is nothing theoretical about the depreciation of telephone property; it is a stubborn practicality. The actual expenses of the 6000-station plant of the Independent Telephone company of Omaha will be nearer the following figures than those given in the prospectus:

Interest \$1,500,000 bonds at 5 per cent ..... \$ 75,000.00 Operating, maintenance, etc. .... 60,000.00 Depreciation, \$750,000, at 7 per cent ..... 52,500.00 Total ..... \$187,500.00 Possible, but not probable earnings ..... 164,000.00

Possible deficit ..... \$ 23,500.00

The trouble with the Independent Telephone company of Omaha is that it is fearfully over-capitalized and its rates for service are by no means sufficient to cover interest charges, operating expenses and depreciation charges. But, say the manipulators of the concern, the rates are to be increased as the business grows. So is the capitalization to be increased; likewise the fixed charges and operating expenses. The outcome promises to be even more disastrous than in the case of the Indianapolis independent telephone concern, where the people have paid so dearly for their folly in permitting a public utility competition with possibilities for nothing but misrepresentation, sinister manipulation and waste.

Talk of "Armour Interests." It has already been found necessary to reorganize the Independent Telephone company of Omaha. Last month, Joseph Harris of Chicago, president of the Automatic Electric company, which furnishes the equipment, took control of the concern. At the time it was announced in the Omaha newspapers that the syndicate headed by Mr. Harris had taken control of the company, the World-Herald, upon which the press agent of the company is employed as a reporter, said:

"The men who have secured control of the Omaha plant represent the Armour interests."

This newspaper statement is only another misrepresentation, the purpose of which, evidently is, to lend credit to the concern by attaching the Armour name to it. Mr. Samuel McRoberts, treasurer of Armour & Co., and the representative of the Armour interests in all public utility properties, was asked by the writer of this article:

"Do Joseph Harris and his associates represent the Armour interests in connection with the Independent Telephone company of Omaha?" "No," was Mr. McRoberts' most emphatic reply.

GOOD ROADS COMPANY ORGANIZED AT SPOKANE

SPOKANE, Wash., March 17.—The Good Roads Contracting company of Spokane has been organized under the laws of Washington with a nominal capital of \$10,000, to build county roads at a profit of not more than 7 per cent on the investment, the purpose being to give the people the greatest value for every dollar expended. The incorporators are officers of the Spokane County Good Roads association, of which J. A. Perry, formerly a newspaper man in Missouri, is secretary, the trustees being William H. Cowles, owner and publisher of the Spokesman-Review and the Chronicle; R. Insinger, chairman of the board of governors of the 18th national irrigation congress; David Brown, originator of the national apple show and head of the Hazelwood company, a \$2,000,000 concern operating dairy plants in Washington, Oregon and Idaho; D.

I stood on Ben Eder and saw the east Kindle and flame with mystic fan. And out of the glory God's high point Walked on the golden surges of the Etna.

The kings were wroth in the council hall On Tara's hill, but the stranger spoke. And I heard the idols of Erin fall And a wailing wild in the Druid's oak.

And the sword was stayed in the warrior's grasp. Peace held the island from shore to shore. And calm embellied, in friendship's clasp. Bowed 'neath the cross the stranger bowed.

To God be glory! Mine eyes have seen The dream and hope of my life fulfilled. Christ bless forever mine life of grace! His home in the hearts of my brethren build!

W. Twoby, president of the Old National bank; Frederick W. Dewar, counsel, and F. H. Mrazek, millstone-merchant, who is now in Europe studying good roads and methods of building to get the best results.

THE COMING OF SAINT PATRICK

By BRYAN CONWAY. [Copyright, 1910, by American Press Association.]

'T WAS Canal, the hard, green, undimmed with years. Chanted this lay in Cru-neamh, While leaning around on their sparkling spurs. Listened the chieftains of his clan

Let death's hand palely my hoary head And freeze the pulse of my heart within! I've seen the people that erst were dead Resurgent rise from the tomb of sin.

For summers liveonce by Cara's wave My heart has sighed for the pure crowd. Death beckons me to the grass green grave. I go, for my clan from the curse is freed.

The forest oft as the wind sang through Whispered the name of the beaver of faith. The spectral mist in the mountain blue Showed crozier and cope in the shadowy wraith.

The founts that flowed and the foaming milk Of Patrick lipped as they fished and fell; The voice of the trumpet among the hills. Shouted his name in the thunder's swell.

And oft it haunted the twilight's hush In tones melodious murmured soft. The blackbird warbled it to the thrush; The skylark caroled it forth aloft.

WITH MYSTIC FIRE

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W. Twoby, president of the Old National bank; Frederick W. Dewar, counsel, and F. H. Mrazek, millstone-merchant, who is now in Europe studying good roads and methods of building to get the best results.

FINE WEATHER

A full line of Howard, Hamilton, Illinois, Elgin and Waltham watches in Solid Gold or Filled Cases.

Fine Watch Repairing a Specialty

DIAMONDS

J. W. DIAMOND

115 West Main Medford