

MEDFORD MAIL TRIBUNE

PUBLISHED DAILY EXCEPT SATURDAY. A consolidation of the Medford Mail, established 1839; the Southern Oregonian, established 1892; the Democratic Times, established 1873; the Ashland Tribune, established 1894, and the Medford Tribune, established 1906.

Official Paper of the City of Medford. GEORGE PUTNAM, Editor and Manager.

Subscription Rates: One year by mail, \$8.00. One month by mail or carrier, \$1.00.

OTHER PEOPLE'S MONEY.

The Mail Tribune along with other Oregon papers, has been solicited by a representative of the Lewis Publishing company of St. Louis and by local members of "the American Woman's league" to give freely of its space in the promotion of the Lewis' schemes, to the end that a woman's club building, proportionate in cost to the amount of money collected by local women, may be erected here.

E. G. Lewis is a St. Louis promoter who got into trouble some years ago for violating federal banking laws and had a fraud order placed against him. He seems to be one of the mail order get-rich-quick variety, who prey upon the poor and use their savings and industry to extend his operations.

The Woman's league is an offspring of his brain. It was established less than a year ago and boasts of a membership running into the hundreds of thousands. It professes to be educational in aims, furnishing correspondence courses to members. Requirements for membership consist of securing subscriptions to magazines, periodicals and newspapers, the publishers allowing a commission of one-half on all subscriptions sent by the league, secured through its members.

Chapters are advertised to share in the profits of an endowment of Lewis Publishing company stock, evidently largely "water." The league will build for local chapters a clubhouse, dependent in cost upon the quantity of subscriptions turned in. But the title to the property rests in the league, owned by the Lewis Publishing company.

Members of the league are supposed to subscribe for the Woman's National Daily, published by Lewis, to keep in touch with league news. They also are invited to subscribe to the Woman's Magazine, and the rest of the half dozen periodicals published by Lewis. They are also advised to deposit their savings in the People's Trust company, the Lewis bank. Members are also given a chance to buy notes in the "Builders' Fund," by continuing their subscription efforts, receiving a credit of \$40 on every \$100 worth of subscriptions after the membership fee is paid.

The Lewis companies pay no taxes in Oregon, spend no money, and do nothing to develop the country. The magazine business will be taken away from local merchants. If a building is built, it will be with the money collected locally by the ladies, and it will have foreign ownership. Publishers of periodicals will give the local women the same commission which they give the league, which will build them a building they can own themselves.

The Lewis operations have been written up both by Collier's and by the Rural New Yorker and other journals of influence and standing. The following appeared in the Rural New Yorker, February 26, 1910, and gives an insight into the methods pursued:

"For the benefit of confiding people who think they are going to get great benefits from money sent E. G. Lewis, St. Louis, Mo., for his new scheme, the so-called American Women's league, we print herewith a photograph of a note given Mrs. Anna Orton, widow, North Tarrytown, N. Y., four years ago, and now 14 months overdue. Mrs. Elizabeth Dinsdale of the same place holds a similar note for \$100. Mr. James Lunsdan held a similar note for \$300, but was induced by Lewis to exchange it for a receipt, which has never been paid. Mr. John R. Orton holds a preliminary receipt for \$25 since August 30, 1905. All of these parties are at Tarrytown, N. Y., and it is safe to say that no league will be formed in that town. When this note became due it was presented for payment through the Tarrytown National bank, and the Boatman's bank of St. Louis. Payment on it was repeatedly refused by Lewis. The Dinsdale note was also presented for payment in the same way, and after repeated refusals to pay by Lewis, the note was regularly protested. Lewis promised to pay it in 60 to 90 days. It isn't paid yet.

"Originally these people sent the money to Lewis for stock in the People's U. S. bank. This was in 1904. The profits they were led to expect amounted \$20 per cent Miller of state prison fame. The bank was capitalized for \$2,500,000; and we understand the poor people through the country contributed nearly a million and a half of cash. The money he collected through letters and circulars, but principally through a cheap woman's paper. Lewis promised to put up dollar for dollar of his own money with the country people, but it was found that he really didn't have any money of any account to put up, and practically put in little or none. He also promised that the directors of the bank were to be other bankers and responsible men of St. Louis and that none of the funds should be used for those interested. It was found that he appointed himself and his employees officers of the bank, and we believe he organized a publishing company and a speculative land company, and used the funds of the bank to promote these schemes. He made one fatal mistake; he organized as a national bank, and when he began to violate the banking laws of Uncle Sam, he got the national bank inspectors after him, and the bank was closed and fraud orders issued against him, so that neither himself nor the bank could use the mails. This was in the spring of 1905, and he was cut off from the use of the bank funds and also unable to collect more from the people. The people, however, had about \$1,300,000 in the bank. The bank was to be closed up and the proceeds returned to the people, and Lewis set

to work to put himself in position to control his money. He played high for it, and got it in this way: He wrote the people that their bank had been assassinated by the government; but he was going to save it for them. It was found that 87 cents on the dollar could be returned to the people, but Lewis promised them 100 cents on the dollar with interest if they would assign their claims over to him. You see the situation; Lewis was hard up for ready cash. He was willing to promise a bonus of 13 per cent to the people who turned over the 87 cents to him without security. Of course, he obscured the point. He played on the feelings and sentiments of the people. He claimed he was working only for them, to get justice for them, to restore the People's bank, and eloquence of this kind by the yard. Well, Mrs. Dinsdale and Mrs. Orton indorsed their stock and sent it to Lewis as he requested, and under his promise that he would pay the face value in three years with interest. They got the notes. In all Mr. Lewis got about \$900,000 out of the bank on notes of this kind sent him by the original investors in his defunct bank. They did not have the notes long, however, when he wanted to exchange them for stock in his land company. When this failed he wanted to exchange them for stock in his publishing company, and lastly he made repeated and frantic efforts to get them exchanged for stock in his new People's Trust company, which, by the way, was supposed to be organized under state laws, and not under inspection by United States inspectors. But these women held on to their notes, in spite of Mr. Lewis' hysterical efforts to induce them to put them into his possession by forwarding them to his trust company. The first installments of interest were paid on his notes, but no further payments have been made.

All told now we have on file claims against Lewis aggregating several thousand dollars. All tell the same story. All were induced to send the money for the bank. Practically all accepted notes similar to the above, and Lewis, of course, got the cash for them out of the bank. Some of the victims changed from one stock to another as he requested, and at times demanded. Many sent the notes back under the promise that the money was to be returned. What they got in return is the "interim receipt." Those who changed for Lewis Publishing company stock were promised dividends, and some of them got one or two small dividends. It is not apparent, however, that the company ever earned any dividends, and as it is an offense punishable in both the civil and criminal courts, to pay dividends where none is earned, this phase of the case may yet be examined as to its legal aspects. The whole mess as revealed in the correspondence and other evidence before us, is, in our judgment, one of the most flagrant and successful attempts at deception and fraud that we have yet examined.

"What do the deluded women who have fallen into his American Women's league scheme think of this? Can they hear the hungry cry of children appealing to Mr. Lewis to return their mothers' savings that they may have bread? Will they expect more from their labor and investments than these poor widows have received? This condition admits of no argument. Lewis pretends now he is building up institutions of learning and culture and charity for women. Here is his record with helpless widows and orphan children. If there be anything more contemptible in the history of fake schemes, we have yet to discover it."

THE POLITICAL WORLD.

The first Jefferson Dollar Dinner to be given in Minnesota will be served April 13, in St. Paul.

The general election in Georgia this year will be held October 5, when a full list of state and county officials will be chosen.

The progressive Republicans of New Hampshire have decided upon Robert P. Bass of Peterboro as their candidate for governor.

The Democratic congressional committee has about decided to establish its headquarters in Chicago during the coming campaign.

The organization of Minnesota branch of the National Republican league will be perfected at a convention to be held in Minneapolis next month.

Senator Aldrich will soon make a trip through some of the southern states delivering speeches on the subject of currency reform and the work of the monetary commission.

H. W. Barker of Sparta, a member of the state senate, has become a candidate for the Republican nomination for governor of Wisconsin. County option is the main plank in his platform.

It is now eighteen years since the Democrats have elected a governor of New York, although during that period they have on several occasions narrowly missed it. They regard the prospects for success this year as unusually bright.

As a part of the program to commit political parties in Minnesota to county option, William J. Bryan has been invited by the Anti-Saloon league of that state to be the principal speaker at a big rally to be held in St. Paul in May.

The Christian party is soon to hold a conference in Rock Island Illinois, for the purpose of discussing a united demand for a direct vote of the people women included, on prohibition and other leading issues of the day.

It is reported that former Representative William P. Hepburn of the eighth Iowa district will re-enter politics, and try next fall for his old seat in the house. After a long service in that body he lost to his democratic opponent in November, 1906.

Under the initiative and referendum law, nearly a score of measures will be submitted for the consideration of the electors of Oregon at the general election next November. Limited woman suffrage and state-wide prohibition are among the proposals to be voted on.

The guests of honor and speakers at the annual dinner of the League of Republican state clubs to be given in Washington on April 9, will be President Taft, Vice President Sherman, Senator Lodge of Massachusetts, and Representative McKinley of Illinois, J. Hampton Moore of Pennsylvania, Duncan E. McKinlay of California, and Frank O. Loudon of Illinois.

Caleb Powers who for eight years was confined in Kentucky jails with a charge of complicity in the murder hanging over him, and who was pardoned about a year ago by Governor Augustus E. Wilson, is making the fight of his life to succeed Representative Don C. Edwards in the Eleventh Kentucky district. Friends of Powers express the opinion that he has excellent chance of success.

STUDENTS GIVE BLOOD TO MAKE A SERUM

BOSTON, March 30.—The students of the Tufts' Medical school are giving their blood to make serum for the treatment of certain forms of hemorrhage, especially in the treatment of hemorrhages in infants. Much of the serum which is used in the local hospitals is furnished through the Herbert Johnson fund and is derived from rabbits.

In certain cases the use of animal serum would be dangerous, then the blood of the young, healthy students of the college is used. The removal is not dangerous to the student, the professors declare, as the usual amount of blood extracted is two ounces and never over four ounces. The median vein in either arm forms the basis of the supply.

SEAT SALE FOR OPERA OPENS SATURDAY

The sale of seats for the Lombardi Grand Opera company will open at Haskins' drug store Saturday morning at 10 o'clock. As this attraction is way out of the ordinary, the season ticket sale will not hold good for this time. The free list is entirely suspended, even the newspapers gladly paying for their seats. Saturday morning, 10 o'clock. First come, first served.

TRIES WHISKY TABLETS: BEATS WIFE FIRST THING

WASHINGTON COURTHOUSE, O., March 30.—It has been discovered by Mayor Coke Doster of Greenfield that a new kind of patent whisky is being introduced in dry towns.

A man named Roby Willett was arrested for beating his wife. He was asked to explain where he got his whisky and said that he sent to Cincinnati and bought six tablets, each of which by dissolving would make a pint of whisky. He immediately proceeded to manufacture a pint of whisky and drank it. The result was that he is alleged to have knocked his wife down and began a war dance on her face with his hob-nailed boots.

After being looked up at the city jail he screamed and created such a disturbance that the hose was turned on him before he would quiet down. The mayor sentenced him to 30 days in the workhouse and imposed a fine of \$50 and costs. In addition to this, an affidavit was filed against Willett for assault with intent to kill, and he is now awaiting the action of the grand jury.

Goodwin Buys Farm.

LOS ANGELES, Cal., March 30.—It became known today that Nat Goodwin, the comedian, has purchased an orange grove in the San Jacinto valley and intends to erect upon it one of the most picturesque homes in Southern California. The purchase price is said to have been \$100,000.

The property consists of 1200 acres. It lies 100 miles southeast of Los Angeles and south of Riverside. Nearly half the ranch is in bearing trees and the other half planted with alfalfa.

ORCHARDS AND HOMES. Mr. Landseeker, did you ever stop to consider that it is not an easy task to select a profitable orchard or orchard site, especially for one unacquainted with the country or the business? I have been right next to the soil here for the past twenty years, raising trees and fruit, and I feel that I can give you information that is of value to you. Would you hire a lawyer or dentist to build you a house? No. Then why not seek a practical fruit-grower to advise you as to a location for an orchard? Phone 5003, Ashland, or Address E. E. FOSS, TALENT, OR.

Excursion Rate to the East DURING 1910 FROM ALL POINTS ON THE Southern Pacific (LINES IN OREGON) TO RATES Chicago \$72.50 Council Bluffs \$60.00 Omaha \$60.00 Kansas City \$60.00 St. Joseph \$60.00 St. Paul \$60.00 St. Paul via Council Bluffs \$63.90 Minneapolis direct \$60.00 Minneapolis, via Council Bluffs \$63.90 Duluth, direct \$66.90 Duluth, via Council Bluffs \$67.50 St. Louis \$67.50 Tickets will be on sale May 2d and 9th; June 2d, 17th and 24th; July 5th and 22d; August 3d; September 8th.

The above rates apply from Portland only. From points south of Portland, add ONE WAY local rate to Portland, to make through rate via Portland. One way through California, add \$15.00 to above rates. Ten days provided for the going trip. Stop-overs within limits in either direction. Final return limit three months from date of sale, but not later than October 31st. Inquire of any S. P. Agent for complete information. or WM. McMURRAY General Passenger Agent, Portland, Oregon

Twelve Acres, \$11,000. John D. Olwell reports the sale of the Elmer Outman place at Talent by T. J. Shaeffer to James R. Bar-

hour of New York, containing 12 acres, for \$11,000. The property adjoins the Pellett orchard and is set to fruit.

The Most Profitable Investments Are Orchard Tracts If Located in the Famous Eden Valley Orchard Well informed business people from all parts of the United States and Canada are looking to the Rogue River valley for safe investments. Years of experience in buying and selling orchard land fits us the better for supplying investments that will yield large returns. Our properties have proven worth. We can assure you that you take no risk when you purchase one of the 30 to 100-acre orchard tracts located in the famous Eden Valley orchard. We sell tracts to suit, planted to the best commercial varieties of bearing trees. You are assured of a splendid income the first year. We can state positively that this is the best chance for solid, sound investment to be found in America. A high-class bearing orchard of proven worth is certainly a more profitable investment than waiting for trees to grow on land that never produced fruit. You are sure of big returns almost at once, either as a grower or by re-selling. Come and let us show you. BUILD A HOME ENJOY ALL MODERN IMPROVEMENTS A small bearing orchard, planted to the best commercial varieties of trees will provide the most fascinating as well as healthful and profitable employment, and insures an income of from \$500 to \$1000 per acre each year. Here is solid investment, and the income or profit from sale is sure. SECURE AN INCOME MAKE MONEY BY INVESTING You can buy as many acres as you desire, build a home on ground commanding a view of the entire valley—enjoy the electric light and power, telephone, daily mail, and live within easy reach of the business and social life of the metropolitan city of Medford. A climate unsurpassed anywhere. John D. Olwell EXHIBIT BUILDING MEDFORD