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MEDFORD MAIL TRIBUNE

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER PUBLISHED DAILY EXCEPT SATUR-DAY BY THE MEDFORD PRINTING CO.

The Democratic Times, The Medford Mail, The Medford Tribune, The South-ern Oregonian, The Ashland Tribune. GEORGE PUTNAM, Editor and Manager

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SWORN CIRCULATION.



Editor Wagner Out Against L. D. Mc-Kee. Who is at Present Assistant Postmaster - Fight is Waxing Warmer and Warmer.

Ashland is in the throes of a contest for the postmastership though ne one would know it if they depended city to find it out. The newspapers in Ashland are edited on a policy of strict conservatism, every item of human interest that may portray the least taint of feeling being elimnated lest it disturb the peaceful slumber of some citizen of the great home town of Oregon.

Postmaster J. R. Casey's term of held the position eight years. Mr. Casey is a candidate for re-appoint ment and the other candidates are F. D. Wagner, editor of the Ashland Tidings, and L. D. McKee assistant postmaster for the past six or eight years. Mr. Casey is an old soldier and quite aged. In the past he has, promised to recommend Mr. McKee as his successor and the Assistant Postmaster has remained with the service with the object of ultimately being appointed postmaster on the strength of his record for efficiency and the strong hold he has on the public confidence, and on undoubted popularity with the people. Mr. Me-Kee's campaign is being managed by himself strictly along the line that his record is good, that the public wish him to hold the office, Though ke*is a republican in politics he inot presing this feature as the gov ernment service requires that posta officials must refrain from takin, an active part in polities, Mr. Wagner's chims are pre-eminoutly political, as he has been fo years the editor of the republican organ of Ashland and is noted for his conservatism and obedience to the dictum of the party machinery. He belongs to the unchine faction in politics at all times and has been the ally of Ex-Smutor E. V. Carter in all of that pulitician's long frictions struggles for supremary in the parity connert's. This is comsidered a this backing mining muchine used and there are miney who believe it will influence Congressions Hawley's recommenifation. The editor has no petition out, his application being hard od by a few influential letters. Mr CROWN PRINCE TO TRAINS BURIED Kee's petition contains the si ture's of about one thousand sett and about 95 min cent of the her ness men. While the pathre of the chains of the could lates are radcally at variance the strend is the contrast is know and it is freely predicted that Congressment Dawley w make no recommendation for must months and that Postiliative Conwill remain in charge as a hold of for a considerable period. Next Year an Return From Tour

RESULTS OF DIRECT LEGISLATION

SINCE irect legislation obtained in Oregon twenty-six important questions have been settled by the people. Twenty-five measures pronosed by initiative petition, three measures enacted by the legislature against which the referendum was invoked, and three measures passed and submitted to the people by the legislature, have been approved. Twenty three initiative measures have been rejected, as have three referended

gislative measures and seven legislative measures submitted to the people. Above all claims for good or evil made regarding direct legislation, its chief henefit lies in its educational value, in its creating popular interest a government and in its upbuilding of citizenship.

The sixty-four measures voted upon have been supported by seventy he different organizations. Each of the initiative measures averaged over 10,000 signatures. The cost to the state during the last four elections for

Political machines and bosses have been abolished. The people are iving more and more attention to matters of government. Partisanship is becoming less and less marked. The people are learning to think instead of letting others do their thinking for them,

DEATH OF CAPTAIN EGGLESTON

EATH has called Captain M. F. Eggleston, representative of Jackson county at the legislature, one of the most widely and favorably knows Daily average for six months ending and most prominent citizens of Southern Oregon, who for many years has faithfully and efficiently served the public in various capacities.

> Reared on an Indiana farm, appointed to West Point at an early ag-Captain Eggleston served as an officer in the army at various posts for ten years after graduation. Tiring of army life, he resigned and for a

> period pursued the avocation of mining engineer. Coming to Souther Oregon in 1892, he drifted into journalism and founded the Ashland Town Talk, which became the Ashland Tribune and later the Medford Tribune Abandoning journalism, Captain Eggleston studied law, was admitte-

> to practice and for many years held the dual position of municipal judg and recorder of the city of Ashland. Few cities have enjoyed as impartia and efficient an administration as that given by him, and public apprecia tion was manifested by his repeated election,

> In polities Captain Eggleston was a sincere believer in progressive politics. He played a prominent role in the old Populist party days, and as manager of the Bryan campaign in '96, helped to carry Jackson count

> by a thousand majority for the Nebraskan. With the adoption of the aitiative and referendum, Captain Eggleston returned to the Republica tion was manifested by repeated elections.

Though but a short time in the legislature, Captain Eggleston's ability was at once recognized. He was a formidable candidate for speaker and was made a member of the most important committees. The bills he intra duced are evidence of the care and study spent in their compilation, an upon the newspapers of the heavenly his loss is a severe blow to Jackson county.

Captain Eggleston was the pioneer hooster of Southern Oregon. score of years ago he wrote the first "boom" literature, the first publicit pamphiet, and played a leading role in advertising the Rogue River Valle and Ashland.. As president of the Commercial club he blazed the path that has since been followed with such material success.

Captain Egglesion was an all round and evenly developed character He followed many avocations and made good in them all. His poise anaudicial temperament, his mastery of minutia, peculiarly fitted him for public service, and his loss, in the prime of life," is keenly felt, sincerely office expires in February, he having regretted and mourned by a large circle of friends and admirers. friends and admirers.

GROWING INDEPENDENCE OF THE PRESS.

WE hear more or less talk of a subsidized press. Some of it is base on fact, more on fancy. The press is far more independent today than since newspapers were first invested, freer from prejudice and partisanship and even from the tainted influence of the counting house.

The early papers, like the early writers, were all subsidized in





York next year is made here today SALEM, Ore., Feb. 4.- "How end to Berlin dispatches, a railroad publish a time inde in a newspaper in a town where in mentpaper is published," was a query pro- tour recently abandoned on account tages of the interior are out of fue pounded in the senate by Din what of the plaque in the far east. His because of non-arrival of trains. No Clackamas,

Quick as a flash came the answer arrow Stheria and thence through real for two days. Hundreds of men from President Selling:

"Where there is no newspaper the whence he will return direct to Ber- the wind is so strong and the cold so time table will not be published. That, fin. answers itself."

The answer to the conundrum was will rublishing the (time of arrival indications of moderating, given when Senator Albee's bill rest and departure of trains and he has quiring railroads to publish time tab. found the a subsance, for the tele- If you are sure that your store of

les came up for passage. , phone is too offen basy and not every fers better values than any other in Albee explained that railroads for person has a telephone. The bill was your line, be equally sure that it p

Around the World

of States from San Francisco to New

some reason unknown to him have passed without opposition.

form or other. They were personal, faction or party organs, with new and gossip a secondary consideration, colored to sait the occasion. From the political tract, dodger and pamphlet of two centuries ago has evolved he metropolitan newspaper of today.

It was but natural that the ruling caste should edit the early paper s they edited the output of the early writers. Authors were first slavea in Accop's case, and later public charges, as in Greece, or dependent r pensioners of the great, even as late as Johnson's time. It is only th ast century or so that the pen of genius brought a livelihood and the author could live by his production. So it has been in the short histor f journalism, only recently that the newspaper has been a self-supportinistitution.

Aesop's copy was edited to please his masters, the great of that fa way day. He preached the virtue of obedience, docility, industry, i trengthen the rule of the tew over the many. So with succeeding general ions of writers until a very late day "render unto Caesar the things that tro Caesar's" was always the central theme, and those in authority say a it that the literature produced still further intrenched them in power 'hurch or nobility fed them-and used them. Genius had ever to humbland prostitute itself, to flatter, to cojule, to lie, to propitinte the unworthy n order to get three meals a day.

Under such conditions was the newspaper horn. With it came the rowth of education and the spread of democracy, creating a demand for he writer and an opportunity for the newspaper. And as humanity ha earned to read, so it has learned to think and the field of the newspape ias broadened.

Thusking breeds independence. Empty formulas are discarded. The wople are thinking. So the newspaper must also discard formulas and learn to think, and as a mere matter of self preservation, become free an independent in thought and action. The subsidized and tainted press will gradually sink into oblivion, if for no other reason, because it is no longer brofitable

in Storm Yet.

better advertised.

