

MEDFORD MAIL TRIBUNE

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GEORGE PUTNAM, Editor and Manager

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Full Leased Wire United Press Dispatches.

The Mail Tribune is on sale at the Ferry News Stand, San Francisco, Portland Hotel News Stand, Portland, Bowman News Co., Portland, Ore., W. O. Whitney, Seattle, Wash.

JOLTS AND JINGLES

By Ad Brown

His Last Jump. He let on he was prospectin' And didn't bring no name;

When the boys heard tell about it Not a one had much to say, But began some preparations

A bit of painted shingle now Is standin' on the plain, "Here lies a man wot jumped just once—

A boy named Horace Hall has been arrested for robbing a hardware store at Portland.

They are going to try to teach school boys to cook at San Jose. Success will depend upon the looks of the teacher.

The Kaiser is going to send a squadron of warships to this country for a visit. Too bad there isn't a seaport at Milwaukee.

The trouble with a lot of us In every kind of line: We find the float but do not know Where we can find the mine.

No small town is happy until it has two things, a brass band and a newspaper.

One Medford man says it looks as if spring were here but he isn't going to take chances on having a hair cut yet awhile.

Mrs. Garb Hettill says she may be deaf but she never yet failed to hear Johnny in the jam closet.

Uncle Eph Says: E. Alonzo Squash says he's going to try to get the cause this year but hasn't picked out which cause yet.

What a funny world it would be if the amount of talkin' people would be equally divided.

I am lucky. Last time I went out lookin' for gold I found a buttercup. There is hope for the mossback. Even an agate so afflicted takes a polish gracefully.

LIBRARY APPEALS FOR NON-FICTION

Some books of non-fiction that the library is anxious to have added to its collection:

- Abbott—On the training of parents. Bagley—Classroom management. Bailey—Country life movement in United States; garden making; training of farmers. Bennett—How to live on 24 hours a day. Bryce—American commonwealth. Butler—Meaning of education. Cooley—Domestic art in woman's education. Crothers—Among friends. Daniels—The furnishing of a modern home. Fletcher—A-B-Z of our own nutrition. Glover—Dame Curtsey's book of novel entertainments. Harvey—Priscilla Irish crochet book. Henderson—Education and the larger life. James—Catering for two. James—Talks to teachers on psychology. Kingsland—Book of good manners. Krehbiel—How to listen to music. Laughlin—Complete hostess. Sawyer—Paper bag cookery. Upton—Standard operas. Watson—Farm poultry. Waugh—American apple orchard.

THE OREGONIAN TO THE RESCUE.

THAT staunch old tory of journalism, enemy of higher education, opponent of good roads and advocate of the bloody noose, the Portland Oregonian, takes a column of its editorial space to praise the inefficiency of the public schools and defend their incompetency as exhibited by their output.

The Oregonian asserts that 20 years ago there were no schools worth the name in Oregon, and no high schools at all, except in Portland. The teachers were unfit, the salaries ruinously low, the schools ungraded.

Conditions must have been deplorable indeed! It is remarkable that so many Oregonians can read and write. Indeed, one would think the state just emerging from barbarism into civilization.

Compared with conditions then existing, present conditions may present a most favorable contrast. Few of the Oregonians of today were in Oregon 20 years ago, so are unable to make the comparison. But they can compare the school system of the Oregon of today with the systems in vogue elsewhere—and the comparison is not favorable to Oregon.

It has become a habit with many native Oregonians to complacently view the faults and flaws of the present, because their recollection presents pioneer conditions so much worse in comparison. They cheerfully accept the worst railroad service in the country because it is incomparably better than the old stage coach service was. The wagon roads of today are so much better than the pioneer trails that many are satisfied.

The fact that in Benton county only four out of thirty-nine eighth grade graduates passed examinations, that in Marion county only twelve out of 118 passed, and seven of these were conditioned hold-overs who tried a second time, in Klamath county but three out of sixteen passed, that only thirty-eight out of ninety-six passed in Jackson county and similar reports from other counties, shows that something is wrong with the public school system.

Nor is the fault due to low salaries, as the Oregonian suggests. Jackson county pays enough for its teachers. In Medford alone the payroll totals \$50,000 a year. Schools cost more than government.

Whatever may have been the output of Oregon schools twenty years ago, the present output averages poorly when compared with the output of eastern states twenty years ago.

The issue is not, as the Oregonian holds, how perfect our schools are today when compared with what the schools formerly were, but how imperfect they are when compared with the schools of other states—where the fault, and what the remedy.

Oregon pays enough for its public schools. It is entitled to the best.

OUTLOOK FOR YEAR IS GOOD.

DUN'S Commercial Agency has issued its annual trade review of conditions in the Pacific northwest during 1911 as compared with 1912. It shows healthy conditions and favorable prospects for the coming year. The following is a summary of the report:

In spite of certain adverse conditions, which were shared to some extent by the whole country, business in this section for the year just closed had some favorable features.

The increase in grain crop of Oregon, Washington and Idaho over 1910, amounted to about \$23,000,000; for Oregon, Washington and Alaska, fisheries showed a gain of about \$7,000,000; the net results of the hop crop for Oregon and Washington showed an increase; the live stock industry gained in importance, and the business of Alaska, represented mainly by fisheries and mining, has been larger. On the other hand, there has been a decrease in the value of fruit raised in Oregon and Washington of about \$3,000,000, the previous year having been a banner one; wool production showed a small decrease and in lumber and shingles there was a decrease of probably twenty percent.

In Oregon there have been 65 fewer failures with increase in liabilities of \$117,599, in Idaho five more with a gain in liabilities of \$741,057, and in Washington 83 more with increased liabilities of \$3,953,609. Real estate has not been active and there has been a decrease in building operations in the four large cities.

Dividing the reports received according to lines of business, it is found that practically the same number claimed increases in volume of trade as decreases.

Bank clearings in Tacoma, Seattle and Spokane showed a loss, while Portland showed a gain.

There has been very little speculation, the banks have been very conservative and carried large reserves, and financial conditions are sound.

Prospects for 1912 are generally regarded as favorable.

PARENTS AND TEACHERS FORM AN ASSOCIATION

A Parent and Teachers' association meeting will be held at the Jacksonville high school assembly on Friday evening, February 9. All parents are urged to attend. Refreshments will be served. The following program will be given: Duet, selected—Mr. and Mrs. Clyde Shaw. Address—Supt. J. P. Wells. Solo—"Light in Darkness," Gypsie Johnston. Address, selected—Mr. Johnston. Solo, selected—Mrs. J. P. Wells. Debate—Resolved, That Corporal Punishment Should Be Excluded From the Schools; Affirmative, Mr. Gallup and Miss Gillette; negative, Mr. Omen and Miss Rita Johnston. Haskins for health.

OLD FRIEND IN FANCY GARB

"Bohemian Girl" Up to Date—Dear Old Friend, But Mother Can't Be Made More Beautiful by Putting on Worth Dress in Old Age.

Operas, like ladies' hats, after a time go out of style. "The Bohemian Girl" is of the old school. It was written at a time when Bellini, Rossini and Donizetti were the foremost composers. They cared but little for dramatic consistency. Their sole purpose seemed to be to write arias for the different voices and string them together with an insipid recitative. "The Bohemian Girl" is known and loved for its melody and as such will always be entertaining. It is, however, more suited to concert or chamber music than to opera.

As to the performance of last night, it was neither, fish, fish nor fowl. Mr. Aborn has attempted to embellish this simple, melodious opera and make a grand, spectacular affair of it, and in so doing he has obscured its simplicity and fallen short of producing anything grand. The action is stopped too much by arias to admit of anything dramatic. Balfe, the composer, was by no means a master of orchestration. He had nothing more in mind than a simple accompaniment when he wrote his orchestral score. The Wagnerian heaven had not yet begun to work in the musical world.

"The Bohemian Girl" is a dear old friend, but mother cannot be made more beautiful to us by putting on a Worth gown late in life.

As to the cast, some of them were very good. Miss Blanche Morrison made a pretty Arline and sang well, as did also Hattie Belle Ladd in the part of the queen. Mr. Phillips made a good Thaddeus. Mr. Luckstone sings well, but is totally lacking in dramatic ability. He should confine his efforts to oratorio. He does not belong in opera. George Shields made a splendid Devilshoff. Augustus Vaughan deserves credit for accepting the part of Florestin. He played it well, however—as well as that insipid part can be played. The musical director took all the tempo too fast and made the fatal mistake of leading the singer rather than following.

Taking the entertainment as a passing show, it was enjoyable. The ballet was very good, as was also the chorus, and Mr. Aborn deserves credit for the splendid setting he has given the opera. Had he only taken the opera of "Carmen" instead of "The Bohemian Girl," left out the horses and sword fakers, pigs and geese, and put in an orchestra of 20 pieces, his attempt at a revival would have been an artistic success. ED ANDREWS.

Haskins for health.



How Brownell Got what he wanted, is an interesting story. We give it more complete in this week's Saturday Evening Post and the Literary Digest.

Brownell uses a Duplex (multiple total) Burroughs Adding Machine. The Duplex is different from any other adding machine. It is different from any other of the 86 Burroughs adding machines. The ordinary adding machine carries a grand total—the only total it can give. The Duplex breaks the totals up into any number of groups of items, giving a total of each item while carrying a grand total of all the groups. You probably don't know what this means to your work. Brownell didn't. But he says he'd rather know than to have \$10,000 in cash and not know. Let us tell you what it means, without a cent of cost or obligation to you. Burroughs Adding Machine Co. Norris B. Gregg, Sales Mgr., Commercial Club Bldg., Portland.

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SEVEN BANDITS HOLD UP TRAIN

Only One Package of Registered Mail Secured by Robbers, After Making Two Futile Attempts to Dynamite Safe in Express Car.

MEMPHIS, Tenn., Feb. 8.—Seven bandits held up Rock Island train No. 17 two miles out of Hurlburt, but secured only one package of registered mail, after making two futile attempts to dynamite the safe in the express car. The explosion was so heavy that it shook houses along the river front in Memphis. It is the second holdup at the same spot within two months. Mail Clerk Badie escaped from the car and ran two miles to Hurlburt to give the alarm. He said two bandits boarded the train near Hurlburt and the others boarded it a moment later. The robbers cut the wires on the Arkansas side of the river.

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Dr. E. Kirchgessner

Practice limited to chronic diseases. HOTEL HOLLAND Wednesdays. Hours, 10 to 3.

W. E. Phipps has removed his law office from the Phipps Building to First National Bank Building rooms 207-208. Telephone number changed to 1272.

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Seattle Appraisals

Several Medford people have employed us to appraise Seattle real estate. Such appraisal is usually worth more than its cost. Ira J. Dodge of Medford was formerly connected with this office. Other Seattle and Medford references on request. R. C. ERSKINE & COMPANY 200 New York Bldg., Seattle (Charter Member Seattle Real Estate Assn.)

REAL ESTATE

Willamette Valley Farms of all descriptions, Garden and Fruit Lands, Timber Lands. Some excellent bargains in ALBANY CITY PROPERTY. Write or call on J. V. PIPE, 203 West Second St., Albany, Ore.

Kodak Time

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Medford Book Store