

MEDFORD MAIL TRIBUNE

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GEORGE PUTNAM, Editor and Manager

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SWORN CIRCULATION. Daily average for eleven months ending November 30, 1911, 2751.

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.

MEDFORD, OREGON. Metropolis of Southern Oregon and Northern California, and the fastest-growing city in Oregon. Population—U. S. census 1910—8240; estimated, 1911—10,000. Five hundred thousand dollar Gravity Water System completed, giving finest supply pure mountain water, and 17.3 miles of streets paved. Postoffice receipts for year ending November 30, 1911, show increase of 19 per cent. Banner fruit city in Oregon—Rogue River Spitzenberg apples won sweepstakes prize and title of "Apple King of the World" at the National Apple Show, Spokane, 1909, and a car of Newtowna won First Prize in 1910 at Canadian International Apple Show, Vancouver, B. C. First Prize in 1911 at Spokane National Apple Show won by carload of Newtowna. Rogue River apples brought highest prices in all markets of the world during the past six years.

JOLTS AND JINGLES By Ad Brown

A New Club.

This evening we launch the most exclusive club ever organized in Medford. Membership is open to all residents who have never in all their lives stolen an umbrella. Upon receipt of fifty cents in stamps we will furnish a beautiful typewritten certificate of admission, which entitles members to all privileges of the club. Don't delay, if you are eligible, join now!

Another club we have in mind is a candidates' club, with ten round bouts as a feature of each meeting.

One Medford man, who received a meerschaum pipe for Christmas, says the thing already has a few freckles.

Just Grammar. There was a young lady from Kent, whose grammar was terribly bent; She said to her flame: "I'm so glad you have come, But I'll miss you so much when you've went."

We know her quite well, and a blunder Of hers often tends us asunder; She said—this is true—"I seen what to do, And I done it"—now ain't she the wonder?

She spends lots of time with a book, Historical, trashy or cook; And she says: "I enjoy Readin' books, my dear boy, 'Cause they learn me so much." Get the book!

This lady is short and quite fat, In her hair she wears a big "rat." 'Twas stolen one day And I heard her say: "It just wonders me who done that."

She married and now has a daughter, Who's afraid to go near the water. A friend asked her why, And she said with a sigh: "'Cause Mommer says I shouldn't oughter."

She also possesses a son, Who bets on the horses that run; He asked her one day, For some money to play, And she told him, "I haven't got none."

A peddler one day rang the bell And playing cards offered to sell. "You play poker?" he cried, "Sure I do," she replied; "I used to could play it quite well."

Her husband is practicing law, He's lanky, he's lean, and he's raw; "I feed you well, Bill," She remarked, "And yet, still 'You're the thinnest I ever have saw."

Sometimes I think the health department ought to put "Mining Fever" warnings on certain men's houses.

SPEAKING OF KNOCKERS.

KNOCKING done by the central labor body against Oregon, in the circular sent broadcast warning people to stay away from Oregon as a wilderness, has called public attention to knockers generally—and the number of them there are in Oregon.

There seems to be something in isolation that breeds pessimism. The provincial citizen, familiar only with his own narrow horizon, becomes narrowed mentally. Travel is the great antidote. Until recently only an occasional citizen ever traveled out of the state.

Few native Oregonians comprehend the natural resources and greatness of the state, or have abiding faith in its destiny essential for its development. That is why the state has had to look so much to outsiders for progress and why, until the drift of immigration set this way, material progress was so slight.

California has capitalized her climate and her scenery, cut her timber, opened her mines, extended her railroads, dammed her rivers and irrigated her deserts. Oregon, until the last decade, was content to mark time. Even Washington, without half of Oregon's attractions, developed twice as rapidly.

The knocker has played and is still playing his part in retarding Oregon. You will find him opposed to almost any innovation. At heart he has no faith in his home town, county or state and is opposed to every improvement. He does this because he knows no better.

Perhaps the worst example of the old mossback knocker, a survival out of the old Oregon into the new, is the Portland Oregonian. It is far worse than any labor council, for it keeps it up 365 days in the year. It slanders Oregon as a "freak state," dubs her the "fool of the family," the home of "freak legislation" and never omits to print interviews at home and abroad damning her fair name.

It is no surprise to find the hoary-headed knocker, that constantly attacks the state university, that helped slaughter the normal schools, that belittles population claims of its own city, that opposed municipal docks, that fought an open river, that championed the gambling ring, that has consistently opposed progress in so many lines, also fighting the good roads bills. What else could be expected? The Oregonian should follow its own advice to the labor unions and stop knocking Oregon.

ANOTHER RATE VICTORY.

IN SO FAR as it covers the issue, the Interstate Commerce commission in its decision in the Medford rate case has practically sustained the contentions of the Medford Traffic bureau that prevailing rates from California points to southern Oregon points were inequitable, unjust and discriminating. In the commission's own words:

"There is no justification for the widespread difference which exists between the San Francisco-Portland rate and those to intermediate points.

"The commission has made an investigation into rates to points in southern Oregon and finds them to be excessive and unreasonable in themselves."

The railroads have been given until March 1 to present additional evidence to sustain present rates, and a decision is expected shortly after establishing equitable rates.

Present rates are an absurdity. The imaginary Oregon boundary line is made the basis of increased charges this side of the line, and shipments from San Francisco have to be made by rail first to Portland and thence rebilled here, a total distance of approximately 1100 miles, to secure a lower rate than that made for the 400 mile haul here.

When the Interstate Commerce commission finishes its consideration of the Medford cases, and the Medford initiative bill providing equitable rates in Oregon becomes a law, Medford, as well as other interior cities of Oregon, will have a chance to develop its surrounding territory, utilize its natural resources, become a distributing point and grow as it should grow.

THE ONLY CHANCE.

THE physical collapse of Senator La Follette and his practical withdrawal from the presidential race is a great misfortune. La Follette's record in his own state, his constructive policies, his familiarity with existing evils and his program of remedies all helped make him the natural leader of insurgency.

Progressive republicans must now unite upon Roosevelt—unless they would abandon the party entirely to the stand-patters and reactionaries. Those who would again make the republican party the party of the people are therefore turning toward the former president, as the only hope of saving the party both from defeat and from the tories.

Roosevelt is far from perfect. Arrogant, dictatorial, autocratic, swell headed and know-it-all, as he is, with his human weaknesses and idiosyncracies, his sins of omission and commission very numerous, he yet holds the public confidence and the faith of the masses in his integrity and his sincerity is unshaken. He alone can lead the republican party to victory and restore it to its former pre-eminence.

A Bit of Jackson County History

(By C. B. Watson.) The utilitarian sense is being developed so fast nowadays that but little time is given to retrospection. To stop occasionally and glance backward is sometimes a source of inspiration. The boosting spirit so dominates everything else that we take no time to measure the speed of progress, the vanishing view, nor to check our erratic course by an occasional back-sight. There are yet many old timers in Jackson county who would gladly aid

ords of Jackson county will be of interest.

For many years I have searched for the first and original records and finally with the assistance of W. R. Coleman, our present county clerk, I have been enabled to examine the original commissioners' records of this county and to make a transcript of them.

It will not be expedient to print a full transcript, but the facts here recorded from the record, written in a splendid hand, are absolutely correct.

The legislative assembly of the territory of Oregon, next preceding March, 1853, appointed three county commissioners, and designated the time and place for them to meet and organize Jackson county. The first entry in that record is as follows:

TERRITORY OF OREGON March 7, 1853. First Meeting of the Board. "Be it remembered, That on the seventh day of March, in the year of our Lord, one thousand eight hundred and fifty-three, James Clugage, Nathaniel C. Dean and Abel George, county commissioners of the county aforesaid by appointment of the legislative assembly of said territory, met at the court house in the precinct of Jacksonville, county and territory aforesaid, and were duly sworn into office by Daniel M. Kenney, P. M., in said precinct."

They then proceeded to organize and elected James Clugage to be president of the board of commissioners. Dr. C. E. Alexander was appointed clerk "to act as such until a successor was duly elected and qualified." The president and clerk were then "duly sworn into office."

The board now being duly organized "it proceeded to fulfill the duties as in such case made and provided."

Their next official act was the appointment of two justices of the peace for Jacksonville precinct to act until successors should be elected and qualified. Dr. John W. McCully and Hiram Abbott were appointed and were "duly sworn into office." Morgan W. Davis and M. G. Kennedy were then appointed constables for said precinct gave bonds and were "sworn into office."

This finished their first day's work and the board adjourned until the "next regular session unless sooner convened for some special purpose."

It will be remembered that gold had been discovered where Jacksonville now is about three years before, during which time a mining camp such as Bret Harte and Mark Twain used to write about was built up with all the "wild west" accessories. Two justices of the peace found employment.

The second session of the board of commissioners met on April 4, 1853, at 9 o'clock a. m. At this session Dr. C. E. Alexander resigned his position of clerk and C. S. Drew, who had been acting as deputy clerk, was appointed to succeed him. There being no sheriff, E. H. Baluehard was appointed as elisor to perform a sheriff's duties.

The naming of precincts and fixing of voting places was the next order of business and the following entry records that event in the order here given, to-wit:

"One at Emery & Co.'s sawmill to be known as Ashland precinct. Elections to be held at the house of Eber Emery and that of the said Eber Emery, John Gibbs and Patrick Dunn be and are hereby appointed judges of elections therefor. One at Dardanelles, and to be known as Dardanelles precinct. Elections to be held at the house of William Lawless and the said William Lawless, John W. Patrick and Isaac Woolen be and are hereby appointed judges of elections there. One at Perkins' old ferry on Rogue river to be known as Perkinsville district. Elections to be held at the house of Benjamin Holstad and

that Benjamin Holstad, William Rose and ——— Brown be and are hereby appointed judges of elections therefor. One at Grave creek to be known as the Grave Creek precinct. Elections to be held at the house of Bates and Twogood and that A. S. Bates, ——— McKee and Thos. Raymond be and are hereby appointed judges of elections therefor. One on Cow creek to be known as Cow Creek precinct. Elections to be held at the house of Hardy Elib, and that Elib, ——— Wiley and John Fortune be and are hereby appointed judges of elections therefor. One at Applegate creek to be known as Applegate precinct. Elections to be held at the house of Dr. Edward Sheit and that John Gunn, William Thompson and ——— Hart be and are hereby appointed judges of elections therefor. One on Illinois river to be known as Canyon Creek precinct. Elections to be held at the house of Miller and C. W. Miller and ——— Roda be and are hereby appointed judges of elections therefor. One on Althouse creek to be known as Althouse precinct. Elections to be held at the house of J. C. Anderson & Co., and that the said Anderson, William Chapman and Robert Magruder be and are hereby appointed judges of elections therefor. One at Jacksonville to be known as Jacksonville precinct. Elections to be held at the Robinson house and that L. A. Rice, H. A. Overbeck and Hiram Abbott be and are hereby appointed judges of elections therefor."

This terminated the labors of the board for the first day of the second session. On the following day they completed the naming of precincts with the following order:

"Ordered that a precinct be and is hereby established at Port Orford to be known as Port Orford precinct. Elections to be held at the house of Gamble and Tichnor and that said Gamble, ——— Lount and ——— Hall be and are hereby appointed judges of elections therefor."

It is interesting to note the extent of territory which Jackson county covered. Port Orford is now in Curry county, Cow creek is in Douglas county, Althouse and Canyon precincts in Josephine county. At that time Jackson county extended from the Pacific ocean to an indefinite boundary of the territory on the east. There were no white men inhabiting the country east of the Cascades except a few wandering trappers and hunters. Indians were plentiful and at times treacherous. A few trails offered the only highways for travel, and merchandise was landed at Crescent City, Coos Bay and the Umpqua river from whence it was carried inland by pack-trains.

This old commissioners' record is immensely interesting when in the present conditions we read the history of progress between the lines. As we progress in it we recognize the trails of then to the highways of today and the records then kept to be the wool upon which the history since has been woven. If this shall appear to be interesting, I shall be pleased to point out the trails and work them into highways. The record will show what boosters these old pioneers were and the difficulties under which they labored. The location of precincts and voting places indicates the locality of the principal settlements.

Jacksonville and Althouse were allotted two justices of the peace each which indicates them as the leading communities in this then wild region. The principal trail was the present toll road over the Siskiyou and its northward extension to the Willamette. Other trails gained importance with mining discoveries to the west. As the coast region was approached Crescent City became the chief base of supplies and the trail grew into a wagon road.

Dr. W. S. Jones and wife left Medford Tuesday evening for Iowa. Mrs. Jones will remain until some time next fall, but the doctor expects to return within a few weeks.

Mrs. Pottenger, mother of T. E.

Nineteen Years Ago Today

Items from The Medford Mail of February 17, 1893.

The Jackson County bank held its annual meeting on February 4, when the following officers were elected: President, W. I. Vawter; vice president, Wm. Slinger; cashier, J. E. Eayart; directors, W. I. Vawter, Wm. Slinger, C. H. Pierce, A. A. Davis and J. E. Eayart.

In the line of implements comes the announcement that John Unks is soon to commence the erection of a furniture store on Seventh (Main) street and across the street from the Clarendon hotel. It will be two stories high and 24 by 40 feet in size. L. M. Lyon will do the work. (The Weeks & McGowan company's magnificent brick building now covers this ground.)

On Wednesday of last week Elder Walton performed the ceremony which made J. K. Darnell and Margaret Higinbotham life partners.

It was the custom in Jackson county years ago for the newspapers to print each year a list of the "heavy-weight" taxpayers—those who paid taxes on property valuations of \$2000 or more. In the list published 19 years ago today it is found that B. P. Adkins' property was valued at \$5345. (Mr. Adkins' 1911 property

Pottenger and Mrs. G. L. Davis, who has been visiting in Medford for the past three months, returned Tuesday evening to her home in Minneapolis, Kan.

J. P. Jones, traveling passenger agent for the Southern Pacific, was in Medford Monday of this week. There were all sorts of rumors about us to the object of his visit, but it was probably nothing more than a mission of encouraging trade for his road.

On Monday of this week the Southern Oregon Packing company of Medford shipped a carload of hoon to Wadhams & Co., Portland. C. W. Walters is agent for the latter firm at this place and it was through him that the shipment was made.

Valley Second Hand Store

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Seattle Appraisals

Several Medford people have employed us to appraise Seattle real estate. Such appraisal is usually worth more than it costs. Ira J. Dodge of Medford was formerly connected with this office. Other Seattle and Medford references on request. E. C. ERSKINE & COMPANY 206 New York Bldg., Seattle (Charter Member Seattle Real Estate Assn.)

FOR SALE

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The farm is irrigated from Rogue river.

Medford Real Estate & Employment Agency

FOR SALE 20 acres at Eagle Point, \$2200. 20 acres 3 miles out from Medford \$200 per acre. 10 acres improved, house, barn, orchard, etc., \$5000. 9 acres improved 1 1/2 miles out, \$7000. 5 room bungalow with kitchen furniture, \$2200. 5 room bungalow, \$1550. 4 room house, \$35 down, \$10 per month, \$750. 3 room house, lot 60x125, \$125 down, bal. \$10 per month. 10 acres, 2 1/2 miles out, improved. Houses for sale. Call and see us. 160 acres 4 1/2 miles out, \$150 per acre.

TRADE 5 acres, will take house as part exchange. 10 acres near Central Point for house in town. 20 acres up Griffin creek good for chicken ranch. 5 acres at Eagle Point for a good lot or a team. 2 Rec cars to trade for acreage or lots. I have all kinds of trades to offer. Trades, trades of all kinds.

EMPLOYMENT 2 men for pruning. Girls for general housework. Six coal miners.

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