

MEDFORD MAIL TRIBUNE

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GEORGE PUTNAM, Editor and Manager

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Full Licensed Wire United Press Dispatches.

The Mail Tribune is on sale at the Perry News Stand, San Francisco.

MEDFORD, OREGON. Metropolis of Southern Oregon and Northern California.

Population—U. S. census 1910—2840; estimated, 1911—35,000.

Five hundred thousand dollar Gravity Water System completed, giving finest supply pure mountain water.

Postoffice receipts for year ending November 30, 1911, show increase of 19 per cent.

Apple King of the World? at the National Apple Show, Spokane, 1909, and a car of Newtowns won First Prize in 1910.

at Canadian International Apple Show, Vancouver, B. C. First Prize in 1911 at Spokane National Apple Show won by Carlons of Newtowns.

Medford River bears brought highest prices in all markets of the world during the past six years.

Write Commercial Club, enclosing 5 cents for postage for the finest community pamphlet ever published.

OAKDALE TENNIS CLUB ADDS A NEW COURT

The Oakdale Tennis club at their grounds on South Oakdale avenue will hold open grounds to any and all persons in this vicinity who are interested in tennis.

Upon Saturday, June 8, the grounds are open to the general public and any that desire may play tennis there on that day or day call and inspect the grounds.

The grounds are owned by the club which now comprises about 40 members, but more associate and charter members are wanted to carry out the plans of the organization.

The secretary of the club, Harvey Field, will give information regarding the costs of membership, which are reasonable.

FOREST RANGERS BATTLE WITH FIERCE FIRES

SAN BERNARDINO, Cal., June 6.—Steadily forcing back a detachment of forest rangers who battled against its advance throughout the night, a terrific forest fire penetrated into Bear Valley today and is threatening the famous Pine Knot Hotel.

According to brief reports from the mountains at noon, a shift of wind direction only can save the building.

The fire is raging in a virgin forest and unless checked may sweep thousands of acres of giant pines on both sides of Bear Valley Lake.

NIXON OF NEVADA DIES; SENATOR AND MINING MAN

WASHINGTON, June 6.—Senator George S. Nixon of Nevada died in a local hospital here last night of spinal meningitis.

Senator Nixon had been in the hospital since last Thursday when an operation for nasal catarrh was performed.

Spinal meningitis developed and the senator's condition soon became critical and for the past 24 hours death has been momentarily expected.

MEXICAN REBELS NEAR TO FEDERAL LINE

CHIHUAHUA, Mexico, June 6.—Slowly the rebel and federal armies are drawing together and within three days a sharp skirmishing may be expected west of this city along the line of the Mexican Northwestern railway.

As well as south along Mexican Central, the route of Heurta's northward advance from Torreon.

SHALL THE BLACK FLAG FLY?

SHALL the black flag of repudiation fly over Jackson county?

That is what will probably happen if the Ashland coterie captained by Benton Bowers, E. D. Briggs and S. A. Carlton are successful in their threats to block construction of the Medford bridge.

If the bridge expenditure is illegal, so is every other expenditure made by the county and particularly are those expenditures made in previous years when the county expense exceeded the receipts, which is not the case this year.

The Oregon constitution prohibits counties from contracting indebtedness over \$5000. For half a century Jackson county as well as every other county in the state has contracted indebtedness over the constitutional limit.

This technically illegal indebtedness has all been incurred in previous years. The outstanding warrants are scattered from New York to California. They are evidences of debt contracted in the name of the people of Jackson county, and are worth money because the good faith and promises of Jackson county has never been questioned or repudiated.

Under the provisions of the Medford charter, Jackson county is compelled to build and maintain bridges within the city, as Multnomah county must maintain bridges in Portland. It is the county's duty to provide an adequate bridge over Bear creek.

Medford has paid into the county road and bridge fund in the past three years \$59,728.68, half of which went to the Medford road district.

Whether Medford received any return of the money she paid into the road and bridge fund or not, under the statutes, Jackson county must provide adequate bridges and if accident happens, Jackson county must foot the bills as the responsible party.

There was a four mill levy made this year by the county for road and bridge purposes and the Medford bridge was included in the levy.

The same condition exists with the Ashland Armory appropriation. It was covered by special levy. The funds raised for a special purpose should not be diverted to another purpose.

Section 6320 of the Code provides: "The county court or commissioners' court of each county in the state may levy a tax of not to exceed ten mills on the dollar on all taxable property of said county, at the time of making the annual tax levy upon the previous year's assessment, which shall be set apart as a general road fund, to be used in the building and improving the public or county roads or bridges on county roads of the county in which the property is located."

This law is not complied with in Jackson county. The county treasurer keeps no General Road Fund. Instead he places the money raised for road purposes and other purposes as well in the General Fund—and there is no warrant for such a procedure.

There was a General Road Fund kept in Jackson county until six years ago, when, it is said, because the road expenditures were less than the road levy, acting upon the advice of the then County Judge G. W. Dunn, the General Road Fund was abolished and merged with the General Fund, where it could be used in the redemption of warrants.

The merging of the Road Fund into the General Fund is a procedure that benefits only the warrant holders. Today the county treasurer is using the money paid into the county this year for this year's road and highway construction to redeem outstanding warrants issued in previous years, and issuing new warrants to pay for the road and bridge building contracted for this year.

What is the object of state laws regulating county finance if county treasurers pay no attention to them and continually violate them?

To a layman, unskilled in the tortuous maze of the law, it would seem impossible to prevent the construction of a bridge for which a special tax levy was made, and the money for which, as provided by state law, should be on hand, and if not on hand, the treasurer and his bondsmen are responsible for and can be made to produce.

If an attempt is made to enjoin the bridge and the attempt is successful, other injunctions will follow and the flood-gates of litigation be opened, that the flood of bankruptcy may engulf the county, destroy its credit and paralyze its progress.

Butchers and the Public Market

To the Editor:—I understand that there is a movement on foot among certain merchants of this city to prevent the selling of meat at our Public Market.

The reason given being that the party's now engaged in selling meat there are not the producers of the meat and that the purpose of the market being to bring the producer and consumer into direct trade with one another, these parties should have no such right there.

The purpose of the market as above expressed is correct so far as it goes, but the prime object of a public market is, and always has been, to reduce the cost of living to the general public at the same time furnishing a ready market for the home producer.

The reason it is able to accomplish this purpose is that it eliminates all the excessive middlemen who, under the usual method of trade, stand between the producer and the consumer, and it breaks up all monopoly.

The success of this plan here in Medford, as already experienced, has resulted in mutual benefit to both producer and consumer, and this is true regardless of whether they traded at the market or at the stores, for no sooner had the market opened for business, than the prices of vegetables, berries, etc., came down at the stores to meet the competition at the market, and the producer, if not satisfied with the prices offered at the stores instead of accepting any old price or carting his goods home again, took them to the market and found there a ready sale at a fair price for all he had brought to town.

But the plea that the man who is selling meat at our market should be denied that right because he does not raise all the cattle, hogs and sheep which he slaughters, dresses, cools, cuts and delivers; and that therefore we must be denied the privilege of trading with him, is, judging from my point of view, a very lame excuse for compelling the public to pay the unreasonable prices asked at the meat shops in this city.

Why, do you know that many a family in our city and vicinity had meat on their tables last Sunday for the first time in weeks, all because they could buy it at the public market at a price which they could afford to pay, and many a man's table expense is now from twenty to fifty cents per day less than it was before the market opened.

This is the same to him as five to ten dollars per month more on his wages, because while it does not increase his wages it does increase the purchasing power thereof which is the equivalent to him.

And now, Mr. Merchant, can't you see that while the average family spend their entire income anyway, that you do not lose on this market proposition? Because what the family saves on their table expense, they will spend for better clothing, furniture, homes and other necessities and luxuries of life and it all comes back to you anyway.

This, of course, refers to the merchants collectively and not to any individual man or business for it would be the grossest injustice to deprive the whole public of this modern method of trade and thereby compel them to tax themselves for the benefit of a few tradesmen and a few launds by paying to said tradesmen excessive prices for his goods that he in turn may pay to the trusts and land monopolists excessive prices for the privilege of doing a specific business on our own main streets.

The man who is at present supplying meat at our public market is as much the producer of his meats as the man who fells trees and converts them into fuel and lumber is a producer, even though he did not plant the trees as seed.

A visit to our public market at any hour will convince even a casual observer that more than any other stalls we need the "meat stall."

We do not only need the "meat stall" Yea! We, the Public, demand it. The benefit of the many we hold to be of far greater importance than a privilege to the few.

By all means, let us have the "meat stall."

A CONSUMER.

Taft Forces Map Plans to Combat Roosevelt

CHICAGO, June 6.—A plan to meet the full force of Colonel Roosevelt's fight to control the organization of the Republican national convention, making permanent the temporary organization with Senator Root as chairman, was partly agreed to today by Taft leaders here.

Luther McCarthy Gets Bout with Kaufman

SPRINGFIELD, Mo., June 6.—Luther McCarthy who recently defeated Carl Morris here, practically closed a deal here today for a bout with Al Kaufman in San Francisco June 26.

Duchess of Cannaught Rests Easy in Sickness

MONTREAL, Que., June 6.—No change for the worse occurred today in the condition of the Duchess of Cannaught, who is suffering from an attack of appendicitis.

WHERE TO GO TONIGHT

STAR THEATRE. Berry, peach, pear and apple boxes for sale cheap. We have an assortment of boxes which we desire to dispose of at once at very attractive prices.

From Mouth to Mouth

our fame has spread for careful and accurate dentistry. Our patients system has made us popular. Skilled operators in extracting, and in fitting single teeth or full sets, in filling with gold, platinum or composition, are at the service of the public, and our charges are known to be moderate.

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Office Supplies

A complete line always on hand, including the celebrated Kee Lox Carbons and Ribbons for which we are sole agents

Medford Book Store

NEW THOUGHT MEETINGS. Are Held in Moose Hall every Thursday at 3 p. m. Everybody invited.

BARGAIN

Greatest auto bargain of the season, 25 h. p. roadster, new, run less than 150 miles. Will sell at great sacrifice.

MORTGAGE LOANS

Money on hand at all times to loan on improved ranches and city property at lowest rates with "on or before privilege."

A SNAP

60 acres, six miles from Medford, good graded road crosses the tract, all free soil, at \$50 per acre. \$1000 will handle, easy terms on balance.

W. T. York & Co.

W. T. York & Co. NEW THOUGHT MEETINGS. Are Held in Moose Hall every Thursday at 3 p. m. Everybody invited.

