

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.

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MEDFORD, OREGON.

Metropolis of Southern Oregon and Northern California, and the fastest-growing city in Oregon.

Population—U. S. census 1910—2840; 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 cup of Newtons 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 Newtons.

Rogue River pears 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.

OUR NEW GUARDIANS

C. E. SPENCE, C. L. Shaw and B. G. Leedy, executive committee of the state Grange, are out with an attack in the Portland Labor Press, upon the Home Rule Good Roads bill being circulated by the Medford Commercial club. The gentlemen are sponsors for the chasy Grange road bills now being circulated, measures approved by but few granges and no one else. The grange committee's appeal reads as follows:

"To Organized Labor:—The undersigned officers of the Oregon State Grange hereby appeal to the voters of Oregon to support good roads.

"They can do so by signing Initiative Road bill petitions 'Submitted by the State Grange.'"

The Grange bills if passed will give the people of Oregon direct say where roads shall be located, how the money shall be voted, how expended, what labor and material may be employed.

The so-called Harmony bills, giving absolute power to a few state and county officials to select roads and expend money in their construction, are practically dead.

But privilege and power die hard. Some men believe they are God-appointed and God-anointed to rule. Hence the initiative petition fathered by Medford men who oppose the people's rule.

This boss rule bill, if enacted, means the absolute power of the judges of the county court to call bond elections, then select the roads after bonds are voted, the people to pay. With all respect due our judges, we believe the people directly interested should retain this power. That is the reason for the Grange bills."

Most of this is a senseless demagogic appeal to class prejudice and though perhaps worthy of the soap box orator endeavoring to arouse class consciousness, is entirely unworthy of the executive committee of the state grange—an organization that is being prostituted by unscrupulous leaders for political purposes, thus destroying its usefulness.

The Home Rule Good Roads bill means just what its name implies. County courts are authorized to call road bond elections, and a majority of the people must approve at the polls before bonds can be issued. The methods of procedure regarding amount of bonds, selection of roads to be improved, and other details are left for the counties themselves to determine, thus giving every county home rule in the expenditure of its road money.

Under the Home Rule bill county courts can handle the funds, or they can appoint a commission to. They can designate the roads or call local conventions to designate them. There is nothing in the measure to prevent any county from adopting the cumbersome methods suggested by the Grange bills, if desired, or from following any scheme or plans desired.

One thing is certain, people will not vote for bonds unless they know when, where and how the money is to be expended, and as the farmers constitute a large percentage of the voters, their approval is essential, and it will not be forthcoming if they do not have a voice in road affairs.

Conditions that fit one county, do not fit another. Counties like Jackson with a thousand miles of highway needed, should not be limited with the restrictions imposed upon counties with only one short main highway, like Hood River.

As each city is the best judge of its needs, and has been given home rule in Oregon, so is each county the best judge of its needs, and also should be given the latitude of home rule in managing its affairs.

In endeavoring to dictate to all the counties in Oregon the manner in which they must expend their own road money, the Grange officials are guilty of an unwarranted interference in matters that do not concern them.

Let the Grange officials run the Grange and cease trying to manage Oregon. It is rank presumption on their part to constitute themselves guardians of the state—as bad a presumption as it is for the Portland coterie back of the compromise road bills to also assume the role of dictators to the commonwealth.

The people of each county know what is best for their own localities—all that they ask is the chance to spend their own money as they want to—and this opportunity is afforded by the Home Rule road bill.

SIGN UP FOR WATER.

ELSEWHERE in this issue is given the list of those who have signed up for irrigation under the proposed canal extensions of the Rogue River Canal Co. The list shows many of the most progressive farmers and orchardists who fully realize the need of water.

But the list should be ten times as long. Only a small fraction of the land under the proposed extensions is signed up. It is up to every land owner to act at once, for irrigation will double the value of his land and threble its output.

The present wet season is an object lesson in the value of irrigation. The greatest hay and grain crops in recent years await cutting. The record vegetable and potato crop will be harvested. Young orchards have grown phenomenally and the fruit buds for the coming year are setting very heavy, assuring a large fruit crop for next season.

Do not delay signing up for water if you are a land owner. Prove your progressiveness while you have a chance.

VICE PRESIDENTIAL BOOMS SPROUTING

BALTIMORE, Md., June 24.—Vice Presidential booms sprouted in the pre-convention camps today. Most of the boosting was done by friends of the candidates. Most of those mentioned either being too coy to speak of it, or else determined to land first place or none. The only open and avowed running mate was Mayor Preston of Baltimore, who is backed by the Maryland delegations, and the people of Baltimore.

The booms that blossomed today included those of Governor John Burke of North Dakota; Representative Francis Burton Harrison of New York; ex-Governor W. L. Douglass of Massachusetts; ex-Governor Jas. A. Montague of Virginia and Clark Howell of Atlanta, Ga.

The Clark people say they want

Governor Wilson to take second place if Clark heads the ticket; the Wilson camp say they would be satisfied with Marshall of Indiana or Burke of North Dakota. Mayor William J. Gaynor's friends say he won't consider the vice presidency, preferring to remain mayor of New York City.

Would Enlarge Soldiers Home Praising the present management of the Soldiers' Home, at Roseburg, but declaring that it is not large enough to accommodate the soldiers making application for admittance to it, the G. A. R. this afternoon passed a resolution asking the legislature for an appropriation to enlarge the institution.—Capital Journal.

W. A. Finley, D.D., president of the Oregon Agricultural college from 1865 to 1871, when the great school here was a South Methodist institution and known as "Corvallis College," died at Santa Rosa, Calif., on June 18. He was 78 years of age, and died of general debility.—Corvallis Gazette.

MANY SIGNING UP FOR CANAL EXTENSIONS

(Continued from Page 1)

owned by parties not signed up yet 2941 acres—the building of this canal is assured as soon as 2000 acres are subscribed for.

Names of parties under the proposed High and Middle Line Canals, which will be constructed provided 10,000 acres are contracted for and for which at this time a petition to the Canal company for the construction of these canals is being circulated, these canals comprise Units 3, 4, 5 and 6.

This petition is signed by the following parties:

J. T. Sullivan, 180 acres; Hoover & Ingalls, 156 acres; R. P. Cowgill, 153 acres; A. C. Abrams, 50 acres; Hillcrest Orchard Co., 50 acres; E. N. Warner, 15 acres; Kirby L. Miller, 6 acres; L. Worthington, 10 acres; Berkeley Orchard Co., 140 acres; Brown & Mickle, 20 acres; J. Wols, 17 acres; James A. Perry, 30 acres; F. L. Carpenter, 10 acres; Ira Dodge, 10 acres; W. G. Knipps, 10 acres; Edward Judy, 20 acres; Wilson Critzer, 40 acres; T. P. Walters, 5 acres; A. K. Ware, 16 acres; J. W. McClatchy, 12 acres; C. Rinking, 10 acres; F. L. Hopping, 5 acres; W. R. Lamb, 15 acres; H. C. Stoddard, 8 acres; A. O. Bailey, 10 acres; James Campbell, 10 acres; L. C. Coleman, 20 acres; Polk Hull, 5 acres; 5 parties with four acres and less, 16 acres. Total, 1,049 acres.

It had previously been reported that almost 2,000 acres had been signed up for, this number included the Hopkins Extension which is reported separately.

Since there are but 23,000 acres of land in the districts under the High and Middle Line canals it will be necessary for the land owners to subscribe at least one half of these holdings. There are a number who subscribed for all of their lands but there are also many who subscribe much less. Committees who have been appointed at the irrigation meeting are now making a strenuous effort in securing the desired petitioners for the 10,000 acres, they will visit the several localities which are covered by the proposed canals and hope to meet with ultimate success.

Following are the views of a few of the ranchers and business men of the valley regarding the project:

Fred Hopkins of Snowy Butte Orchards:—I shall make my water pay by the pasturage I get through irrigation after I have harvested my barley, the soil contains enough natural food growth to produce pasturage crops, provided the grain field is properly irrigated after it is cut. You may tell the orchardist south of you that we have no shortage of pear crops, our trees now look better and our crop will exceed any previous year. I attribute this to our last year's irrigation, during the fruit growing season when the settings for the following year are being formed—we are almost in a position now to assure our crops for the following year, all through the success of proper irrigation. If you have any acceptances send them down to our orchards and let them see that water in the right time is as important as the sun rays in the three summer months.

W. D. Stone Central Point:—Yes I have signed up 15 of my 22 acres and would be willing to give a premium above the stipulated price if I had the water for the months of July and August of this year on my orchards. They cannot build it to soon for me.

J. A. Perry, Medford:—I have signed up 30 acres of my land and would be willing to give \$500 above the company's price if I could get the water this year. I believe that the building of the irrigation canals will mean better land values. Our crops would become a staple article not alone for its superiority but in size, color and annual production. A regular market once established will continue from year to year and will improve in years.

J. W. Davidson, Central Point:—I bought my land in 1911 with the understanding that the land was under the line of the canals to be built and that I would procure water for irrigation. I don't want any dry farming in mine, while we did not need any irrigation so far this year, we will want it for our second, third and possible fourth crop of alfalfa hay, in the months of July, August and September. If I could get this irrigation in these months my yield of alfalfa would be assured of 9 tons to the acre. Last year it was less than 5, which is considered a fair crop considering the shortage of the 1911 rain fall. Yes if you can bring it about 17 all means wash it along you cannot put it to strong for me.

W. J. Hill:—I can sell any of the land in the Rogue River valley quicker and easier with a water right and add the water to the cost of the land. Very few people will so easily buy unless water is assured. Land with water is worth double what it is without. Come on with the water, I

am ready to sign up for all the land I have that the ditch will cover.

Wilson Critzer, Detroit, Mich., visiting Medford says:—Through the advice of Prof. O'ara three years ago I purchased 40 acres of land in section 10 near Phoenix and I am more than pleased with my investment. I am surprised of the growth of your valley since my last visit, the advantages your district has over other localities can be readily seen. I have learned of the canal enterprise and at once consulted with Mr. O'ara who again advised me to procure a water right. I therefore have signed up for the whole tract of 40 acres and hope that the canals will be built at an early day.

Chas. Lebo of the Medford Realty and Improvement company.—Just as important to the nation the building of the Panama Canal for the increase of commerce is that of the building of the irrigation canals in the Rogue River valley for the increase of soil products. Every live person who is at all interest in this valley may be an owner of land, a merchant, mechanic or laborer, should have public spirit enough to help and make it possible to construct the proposed canals. The expenditure of the one and a half millions of dollars for the construction of these canals means the marking of the greatest agriculture district on this coast, it will mean reliable crops, steady markets, good land values and good times. If I can be of any help, command me.

C. M. Kidd:—I have signed up 40 of my 70 acres for water near Central Point, that ought to show where I stand. I want to see every farmer sign up for at least one-half of his acreage. I will mean so much for everybody in our valley. Our yields of crops do not now compare favorably with other sections and surely there is no excuse other than lack of practical farming of which the most essential item is proper irrigation. If you run short see me again, I may come through for a little more of it.

J. D. Bell:—It is my candid opinion that if the required 10,000 acres are pledged and the building of the canals is assured that every land owner will have earned more, either by his team, or by work on the canals, by sale of feed and country products, more than his first installment on payment would amount to before it was due. I understand it is the intention of the Rogue River Canal Co. to give preference to the farmers of the valley for the hire of help and purchase of needed supplies, and everything with the exception of powder and cement will be products of the valley.

Dr. J. E. Reddy:—The building of the High and Middle Line Canals at an expenditure of over one million dollars in the valley and among the people of the valley means a great deal and it is every persons duty to encourage this project. Everybody will get a piece of this big chunk. I venture to say that land in this valley will increase from 30 to 50 per cent in value as soon as water is furnished.

C. L. Reames:—By all means if I had farming land, orchards or even a truck garden I would want water on every inch of it. The time will come soon that a piece of land without a water privilege will not be worth considering.

W. M. Colvig:—With a little of the Medford spirit, everybody pulling for the good cause, there should be no difficulty in procuring the desired 10,000 acres asked for by the Canal company to build the canals. I will mean an increase of population in our valley, it would mean more crops and many more mouths to feed. Yes, you may say I am with you and if I can be of any service to you just say the word.

Many additional interviews have been secured dealing with this subject but lack of space prevents their publication in this issue.

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SOCIALISTS ENTER A FULL TICKET

At a mass convention held by the socialists of Jackson county in this city Saturday afternoon a platform was adopted for the coming election and placed a full ticket in the field. The platform follows:

We, the Socialists of Jackson county, Oregon, in mass convention assembled, hereby endorse the principles of International Socialism, and the national and state platform.

The socialist party is the political expression of the economic interests of the workers. Its defeats have been their defeats and its victories their victories. It is a party founded upon the science and laws of social development. It proposes, since all social necessities today are socially produced, the means of their production shall be socially owned and democratically controlled.

That the working class may come in possession of the means of production, they should organize both on the political and industrial field.

To assist the workers in their struggle for power we demand the following:

- 1. Unrestricted and equal suffrage for both men and women.
- 2. The abolition of the contract system on all public works.

We pledge all our candidates to the principles herein announced.

The socialists announced their candidates as follows:

Representatives for Jackson county, R. G. Satchwell and D. C. White of Medford.

County Judge, W. H. Breese of Talent.

County commissioner, George H. Millar, Medford, two-year term; Harvey Richardson, Agate, four-year term.

School superintendent, Amandus Butcher, of Medford.

County clerk, C. F. Bowman, of Gold Hill.

County recorder, John Reter, of Medford.

County Assessor, E. J. Odell, of Agate.

County Sheriff, F. E. W. Smith, of Talent.

County treasurer, J. A. Smith, of Medford.

County surveyor, E. W. Cooper, of Sams Valley.

County coroner, Dr. E. Davis, of Central Point.

Joint representative, Douglas and Josephine counties, C. A. Strickland of Ashland.

NORMAL RAIN FOR JUNE IS DOUBLED

A precipitation of .27 of an inch on Saturday night made the total rainfall for the storm just past 1.56, and the total for the month 1.95 or about double the normal which is .98.

White clouds will probably linger today and Tuesday no more rain is expected.