

MEDFORD MAIL TRIBUNE

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GEORGE PUTNAM, Editor and Manager

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SWORN CIRCULATION. Daily average of eleven months ending November 30, 1911, 3151.

Full Licensed Wire United Press Dispatches.

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MEDFORD, OREGON. Metropolitan of Southern Oregon and Northern California, and the fastest-growing city in Oregon.

Population—U. S. census 1910—5540; estimated, 1911—10,000.

Five hundred thousand dollar Gravity Water System completed, giving first 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 Spitzberg apples won sweepstakes prize and title of "Apple King of the World" at the National Apple Show, Spokane, 1909, and a car of Newberry won First Prize in 1910.

At Canadian International Apple Show, Vancouver, B. C.

First Prize in 1911 at Spokane National Apple Show won by certain of Newberry.

Rogue River pears brought highest prices in all markets of the world during the past six years.

Write Commercial Club, enclosing 4 cents for postage for the finest community pamphlet ever published.

A NECESSARY PRELIMINARY

THE organization of a company to build a railroad to Crescent City from Medford is the first step in the program of accomplishment.

Such a company can make needed surveys, acquire rights-of-way and terminals, secure promise or subsidies and be in shape to interest capital in the enterprise. It can talk business and deliver the goods.

Railroads do not build themselves. They are the result of organized effort and untiring energy. Before capital can be interested, it is essential that the preliminaries must be finished and an attractive, definite proposition submitted. This the company now being organized can do.

Experience has conclusively demonstrated the fact that the Southern Pacific will do nothing for Southern Oregon that it is not forced to do. The Blue Ledge proposal disproved for once and all that no matter what the inducement or the gain in prospect, no branch lines will be constructed or favored, unless competition forces it. This has always been the company's policy and is still the policy.

There is no immediate demand or necessity for the electric line the Southern Pacific is constructing in the Willamette Valley. But because the Hill system is constructing an electric line, the Southern Pacific is busy paralleling its own steam line and the Hill line, with a superfluous electric line.

There was no call for two railroads in the Deschutes valley, but because competition, the Harriman system feverishly built an unneeded railroad.

Instances could be multiplied showing that the Southern Pacific policy is a dog-in-the-manger affair of millions for defense but not a nickel for development. Its officials are so busy watching rivals develop their own neglected territory that they have no time to so develop that territory that competition would be impractical. In no instance have they discovered that a needed railroad would pay until someone else started to build it.

Some day the Hill system will carry out its original plan and complete its line to Medford. It will be far more apt to extend to the coast if the preliminary work of rights-of-way, surveys and subsidies are offered.

COMMUNICATION.

Medford, Ore., Aug. 30, 1912. To the Editor:

I am not the "Mr. Optimist" who according to communication in your paper of last evening Mr. Whisler has apparently tried to locate through his post office address, neither do I care to pose in the Whisler, Bowers class of self-appointed guardians of the public welfare. But in view of the kind of argument in the communication above referred to, also in the speech of Mr. Shields at the opera house recently, and realizing that a large majority of our voters are as yet but ill advised on the question of Single Tax, I should like to have you print the following reply to Mr. Whisler's letter, because he asks question to which some one ought to make reply.

Mr. Optimist and the rest of us who voted for direct legislation at past elections in Oregon, knew that we were voting for a system of true representative government, the kind which represents the majority of the voters, not the old kind which misrepresents. The wise builder first secures the necessary tools and machinery, and then fashions his structure.

Well, direct legislation as we now have it in Oregon, is but the necessary machinery by the use of which we may fashion the structure of the Single Tax or any other structure of reform which the majority of the voters choose to adopt.

To read Mr. Whisler's "dope" is but to laugh, for he assumes, or pretends to assume, that now that we have the privilege of expressing our choice in this matter, (a privilege which certain favored classes never intended we should have), that we must needs express it but one way, and that for the Single Tax, while any "Dub" can understand that we have the chance to vote it down if we do not want it. He need not fear that it will carry unless a majority of the voters favor it; and if a majority do favor it then nothing that Mr. Whisler or any others of the privileged class can say or do will prevent it from becoming operative.

Neither Mr. Fells nor Mr. U'Ren have ever sought to cloud or confuse the issue. The issue until now has not been the Single Tax. It has been the shaping of the machinery by means of which we may have (not must have) the Single Tax if we so desire. Now, the issue of Tax Reform is squarely before the voter and he is asked to investigate and make his choice accordingly, and right here I wish to say "A word to the wise," it is this: If you wish to know the true merits and virtues of the Single Tax don't seek your information from its opponents. The opposition of any measure is a good index to its merits or otherwise.

And speaking of "attempting to cloud the issue," the opponents of Single Tax assert that in 1910 the issue of county option in taxation was clouded under the pretext of abolishing poll tax in Oregon, which they claim, (and Mr. Shields and his associate from Josephine county, both reiterated this assertion at the opera house the other evening), that the poll tax in Oregon had already been abolished since 1907.

Now Mr. Editor, I want to make it plain that these gentlemen are resorting to deliberate untruths by making such statements, and in proof of my accusation I herewith attach my receipt for Poll Tax which was assessed against me and collected July 1, 1910, before I had yet been in the state three months time. Furthermore, when Mr. Whisler makes such assertions as he does in the last paragraph of that letter, trying to confuse Single Tax with "Communism" and "Socialism" he shows one of two things: First, either he has no correct understanding of the question, and is attempting to discuss that which he knows nothing about or else he is deliberately making false statements in order to prejudice the voters against the issue at hand.

We can all see that several cities of west Canada, under virtual Single Tax regime, are enjoying an era of unprecedented prosperity, and to show the readers of this article in what favor the Single Tax is received there after having been tried out, I quote from a recent issue of "The Public," a paper of recognized authority: "At a meeting of Mayors of eleven western Canadian cities, held last month in Winnipeg, a resolution endorsing the Single Tax was unanimously adopted." "Stop crushing business with taxes. Abolish all taxes on personal property, buildings and occupations. Do away with every tax on labor or its product. Then we will have prosperity." In conclusion let me add that I have been familiar with this subject of Single Tax for many years, it is a system under which each person must contribute towards the expenses of government, either directly or indirectly, in proportion to the privileges which he enjoys at the expense of the whole people. Under its operation none are unjustly taxed and none can escape their just share of the burden. To understand it fully is but to believe in it, and I have no hesitancy in recommending it to every voter.

Respectfully, J. D. RICKERT.



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RURAL ROUTE NO. 3 BE IN OPERATION IN NEAR FUTURE

As soon as the residents of that section of the valley to be covered by rural route No. 3, call at the Medford postoffice and signify that they will erect and maintain mail boxes at their ranches, the route will be authorized and service commence. A request from Washington, reached Postmaster Woodford to this effect today.

The new rural route is 26.6 miles in length. The route is officially described as follows: Leave postoffice via Central avenue and Main street east to one-quarter mile east of S. W. corner of section 21, 2.3 miles; north .5 mile; west to Roosevelt avenue 1.5 miles; north to McAndrews .4 mile; east and north to Egan orchards 2.7 miles; north 1.4 miles; west to Browns 1.7 miles; north to Phipps 1 mile; east to Cowles 1 mile; north to Turpins 1.7 miles; east on desert .3 mile; north on desert 1 mile; west to Agate crossing 1.3 miles; south to Phipps 2.5 miles; west to Central Point Rural route No. 2 1.5 miles; south and east to Pickels 4.1 miles; South and west to postoffice 1.7 miles. Total 26.6 miles.

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A SNAP

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The terms made on new high grade pianos by the manufacturers for the Eller's Music House has certainly started every thinking person in Medford and vicinity to wonder how and why pianos are offered at these terms, and the advertisements of the Eller's Music House, who are now in the midst of the greatest sale Medford and vicinity has ever known, has a proposition from the manufacturers, that is an exceptional one and the chance only once in a life time to secure a high grade piano for less than you would pay for a cheap piano at any other time, think of buying a piano for \$136. The Eller's Music House will show you how you can secure one that is guaranteed and the payment of \$1.00 cash and the promise to pay \$1.00 each week, the piano will be delivered to your home free of charge, beautiful stool to match, and a piano that in after years will prove everything that the Eller's Music House has guaranteed it to be. There is no doubt as to the quality and value of the instruments sold for the guarantee backed by over \$10,000,000, better still each and every piano in this house is guaranteed by the Eller's Music House who are the largest piano dealers in America, and buy their pianos in large quantities for spot cash, securing at all times the best for the least money. The most valuable and reputable pianos are now represented exclusively by the Eller's Music House in Medford and vicinity. Time honored manufacturers, who for more than a century have an honored reputation of building pianos of quality. Eller's Music House, 217 West Main street, Medford, Ore.

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SCHMIDT For "Good Shoes" AT RIGHT PRICES will occupy the room at No. 21 North Central Ave. (opposite Postoffice) about October the first with complete and carefully selected lines of good shoes for everybody. Courtesy and a correct fit will be the first and last consideration in this new shoe store. Experience of a "Quarter of a Century" says A Fit or No Sale

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STATE PRIMARIES BEING HELD IN CALIFORNIA TODAY

SAN FRANCISCO, Cal., Sept. 2.—State, congressional and county primaries are being held in California today. Eleven congressmen, eighty members of the assembly and twenty of the state senate are to be nominated in the republican, democratic and socialist parties, besides superior judges in various counties.

Chief interest centers in the republican situation. The fight is between the Bull Moose progressive and the Taft standpatter branches. The contest is keen, because the character of the legislature nominees will determine whether Taft or Roosevelt electors shall go on the ballot for the presidential electors of the republican party. The legislature nominees and holdover senators from the state convention which meets three weeks after the primaries and selects the electors that are designated as republicans. The announced plan of Governor Johnson is to secure the nomination of Roosevelt republicans who will vote for Roosevelt electors. The Taft people have practically admitted defeat.

Re-appointment of the state by the last legislature to allow for three new congressmen complicated the congressional situation. Nine incumbents find themselves in pre-arranged stamping grounds. William Kent, incumbent, found himself in a new district. He has announced his intention of running by petition as a bull mooser in the First district. The re-nomination of John I. Raker, incumbent, in the Second district is sure.

A bitter fight is on in the Third district including Sacramento, between Frank Neflin, Roosevelt, and former secretary of state Charles F. Curry. Taftite.

CROWDS CHEER WHEN T. R. STARTS ON LONG TOUR

NEW YORK, Sept. 3.—Theodore Roosevelt, struck out on a trail of Bandana handkerchiefs today to follow it on a month's journey to the four corners of the country. The first day's trip took him into Connecticut and Massachusetts and then turned westward. He was greeted at every stop by large crowds. He discussed socialism, one of Woodrow Wilson's speeches, the tariff, democrats and the weather.

He spoke feelingly of the weather for he made some speeches standing bareheaded in the rain. The colonel announced his belief the national government should help to lighten the expenses of political campaigns. He declared himself in favor of the control of insurance companies by the national government.

He said the school houses should be used for political meetings and polling places. He said, "It ought not to be necessary for parties to hire buildings in which the candidates speak. We have school houses in which they can speak. We can make each school house the senate chamber of the plain people."