

Potter Palmers' Planting Largest Pear Orchard in World

Modoc orchard, owned and developed by the Palmer Investment Co. of Chicago, comprising the heirs of Potter Palmer, the famous Chicagoan, will eventually be the largest commercial pear orchard in the world. Not only this, but it will be one of the beauty spots of the northwest and famed throughout the country.

When Mrs. Potter Palmer accompanied by her sons, Honore and Potter Jr., visited Medford five years ago, she at once fell in love with the Rogue river valley, declaring it one of the most beautiful places in the world. After an investigation, she made extensive investments in orchard property, buying among other tracts, the old Bybee ranch, consisting of 1700 acres, through which meandered the Rogue river, bordered by forest.

Improvement and beautification of the tract began at once under the direction of W. A. Sumner, manager of the Palmer Investment Co. Drives and boulevards have been laid out, the foundation laid for a

costly villa which Honore Palmer will make his summer home, and the picturesque features taken full advantage of. There will be winding roads, flower gardens, bits of forest, extensive lawns as well as miles of fruit trees.

The Palmers are developers for investment purposes—not speculators. All their improvements are permanent. For five years a large force of men have been busy clearing land and planting fruit trees. There are already 172 acres planted to pears, which are of seven varieties. Eventually something over 500 acres will be planted to pears alone. The soil is the richest bottom land and all under water.

To insure the safety of the acreage set to fruit, a huge levee was built this year to intercept the overflow of the Rogue at flood times. The dike is 1550 feet long, 6 feet high, and has width of 125 feet. A large ditch has also been necessitated. It is 1250 feet long, 25 feet in width at the bottom and 50 feet across at the top, with an average depth of 6 1/2 feet.

In the center of the tract is a large slough. Work is being rushed on its reclamation. The slough is 3000 feet long, with an average width of 160 feet, and a depth of 5 ft. Huge trees are being pulled out by means of a large donkey engine. The average force of men employed on this one feature is eighteen. It is estimated that one half a ton of powder will be used in getting rid of the stumps. 2000 cords of firewood will be secured from the clearing up of this slough. With the completion of this work a body of land some 250 acres or more in size, will be ready for planting.

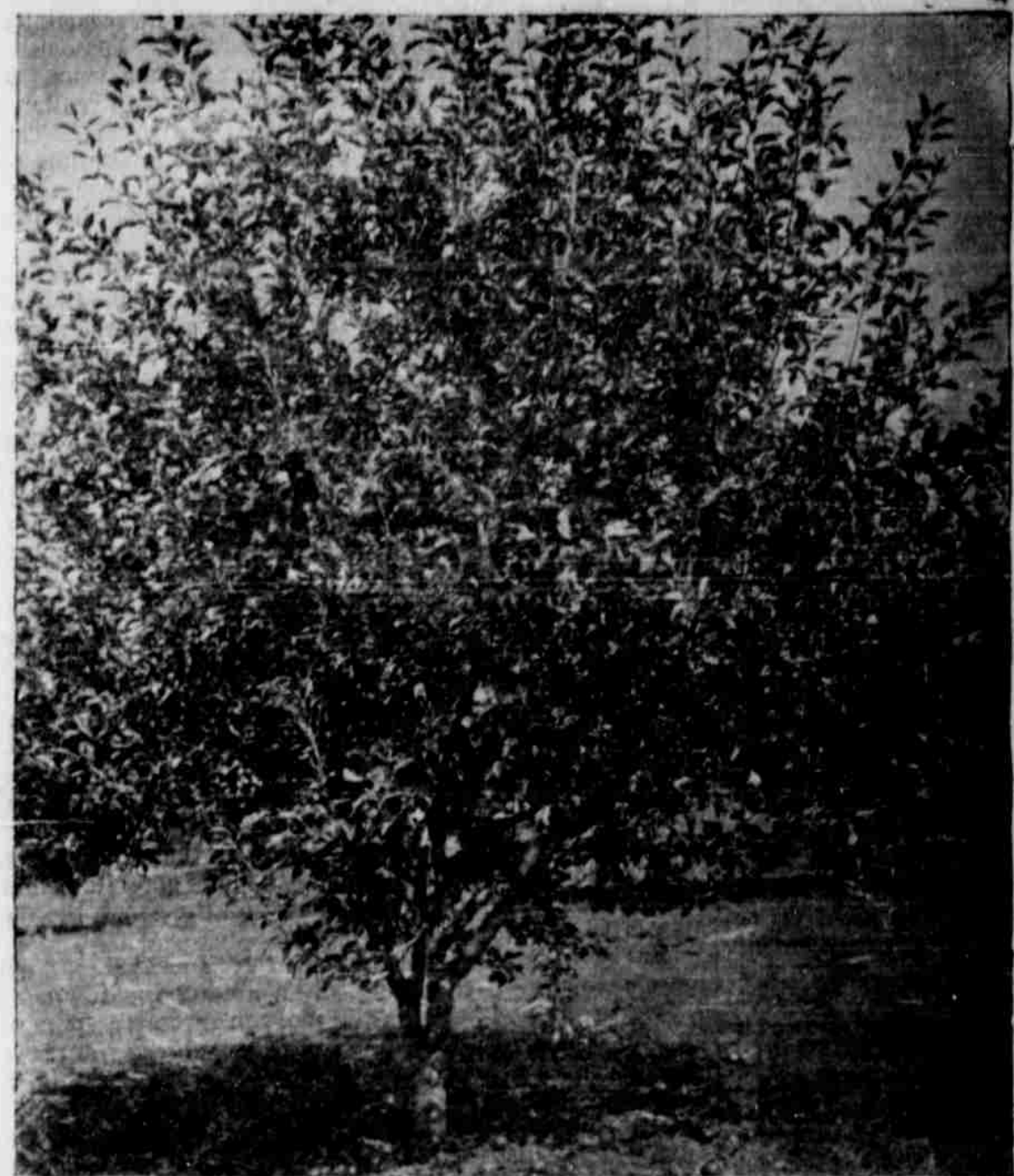
An ideal location on the hillside overlooking the entire valley has been reserved for building of a substantial residence at some future date. In the meantime a huge concrete wall has been erected to retain dirt for lawn purposes. The dirt for the lawn was secured at a point some 200 yards above the location of the building site and was all brought down hill by means of a dump cart on rails. To relieve the

harsh aspect of the wall, ivy and other softening features peculiar to the landscape artist will be brought into play.

In connection with the beautifying of a hillside a reservoir has been constructed in solid rock at a point 150 yards above the residence. A pump house at the foot of the hill fully equipped, supplies water from the irrigation canal for lawn and irrigation purposes, pumping water 200 feet higher. The water for the residence is secured from a well.

The orchard headquarters are located on a natural bank overlooking the entire orchard area. Here are grouped the men's mess house and sleeping quarters, six cottages for married men and families, blacksmith shop fully equipped, huge barn with capacity of 100 tons of hay, 24 stalls for horses and mules, also implement sheds. Almost every conceivable tool and implement necessary to a well conducted farm are in evidence.

When the plans of the owners are completed, Modoc orchard will be one of the show places of Oregon.



Typical Young Apple Tree

All Kinds of Mineral Abound in Hills of Southern Oregon

This is the pioneer mining district of Oregon. Gold was first discovered on Jackson creek in 1851, bringing thousands of fortune-hunters over the Siskiyou mountains from California. For years Jacksonville, the first Oregon mining camp, located five miles from the present city of Medford, was one of the liveliest gold districts in the west. It still remains a substantial mining district.

The vast acreage of old channels, gravel bars and auriferous placer deposits, together with the abundant winter rains and numerous streams, combine to make this section one of the leading hydraulic placer districts in America. Placer mining has always been largely followed here. Fully \$25,000,000 in virgin gold has been produced from the several diggings since the original discovery. Jackson creek diggings alone have produced nearly \$5,000,000. The hydraulic mines, a half hundred in number, are among the best equipped in America, with their miles of

ditches and flumes, thousands of feet of iron and steel pipe, their batteries of giants and all necessary machinery for hydraulic mining. The season of mining being long, the water supply and diggings abundant, the output from Jackson county's surface mines total a half million each year.

No Restrictions on Dumps
The rivers and streams of the district are unavigable, and there are no restrictions in the matter of dumping tailings into them. This gives the placer miner every possible opportunity for unobstructed operation. There yet remains considerable unclaimed placer ground here, but the greatest opportunity along this line is in the investment of small and great capital by the purchase of undeveloped properties, giving them development, adequate equipment and intelligent management.

Though this district has a number of producing quartz mines, this feature of the gold mining industry is in its infancy. Quartz mining has

been followed here for almost as long a period as placer mining. Many notable discoveries have been made. There are 32 quartz mines in the districts tributary to Medford, and more than three times that number of claims. The free-milling character of the quartz makes it easy of reduction.

Copper Mining District
The copper mines of the Blue Ledge district, though located in Siskiyou, Cal., five miles south of the state line, are tributary to Medford at a distance of 25 miles. The deposits of copper in the district have been exploited and developed sufficiently to prove them beyond any possible question the greatest bodies of copper in the west. Another rich copper district lies to the northeast along Grave creek.

The Blue Ledge mine is owned by R. B. Towne of New York City. Close to \$1,000,000 has been spent in development work and it is expected that a smelter will be erected there this season.

An immense body of coal is under development within five miles of Medford. The coal is being removed in quantity, and is proving an excellent fuel product.

The most encouraging feature in the mining situation in Oregon consists of the fact that "wild-catting" has been almost entirely eliminated from the industry in this state, and money that formerly went for promotion, flotation, commission, brokerage and graft, is now being fruitfully applied to the opening up of mines and developing ore bodies of commercial grade.

The year 1912 was an important one to the mining industry of southern Oregon. For many years southern Oregon has held a steady and important place in placer mining and the output from the gravels of southern Oregon has been an important addition to the world's supply of gold. The opening of 1913 is a time of greater promise for substantial progress in mining.

How the Valley Impressed a Practical Fruit Grower

To the Editor:
I wish to add my mite to what has already been written in regard to the future development in Rogue river valley. This topic has been handled ably in your editorials the past twelve months but a few words from a layman may not be out of place at this time.

The writer came to this valley in the spring of 1906 and has spent the greater portion of the time since in fruit growing near Ashland.

About seven or eight years ago the residents of this portion of Southern Oregon commenced planting fruit trees, raising some of them, but mostly raising the price of lands, while cereals and root crops, potatoes, etc., were greatly neglected so far as producing them here was concerned. Certain business interests were instrumental in closing the flour mills although practical mill men have told us that it would be more profitable to haul wheat in to manufacture flour and by-products here than to ship in the manufactured goods, under the present high-priced management.

Diversified Farming
During a portion of 1911 I spent the time in the Willamette valley visiting the principal towns between Portland and Eugene having lived at different parts of that region in years gone by. I was anxious to investigate the conditions and note the progress in fruit culture, etc. I attended a county fair in one of the largest counties saw two sickly looking boxes of Gravenstein apples as a fruit display, but a most excellent poultry exhibit impressed me favorably.

I left Eugene early in October during a cold wet spell arriving in Rogue River to find people sitting in the shade and certainly it looked good to me. I took in a portion of the Medford fair and a slide from the stock, the exhibits were superior to what I saw in the Willamette valley, and it was encouraging to see this valley going back to diversified farming.

I recall a statement in the editorial columns of your New Year's issue one year ago to the effect that the era of exploiting has passed and development has begun. I am glad this is so and the progress made during the season of 1912 proved the accuracy of your prediction.

Readjustment Urged
The hay, potatoes and grain crops which later kept the threshing outfit busy until late in the season, the poultry and egg products all indicate

a tendency toward mixed farming. What of the fruit industry?

Well, it would require a long article on that particular subject to say what might be said. However, I believe it will be adjusted in the near future so as to utilize the by-products and with preserving plants and evaporators there will be less waste and let hope for still more improved methods in marketing what is suitable for packing. I know the good and bad side of the business for I was hit as hard as any one in this valley, but it is my favorite occupation and I am hopeful for the time where there will not be so much risk and disappointment in pursuing it. I think the land suitable to fruit should be given to that product but there are many acres better suited to other crops. Mean time let us hope for development in all lines, lumber, mining, stock raising, etc., the latter must be pursued on a smaller scale than formerly and with intensive methods of farming.

Increase Payrolls
Of course we all hope for the time when we shall have more industries so as to increase the payroll and improve local market conditions. Also we are praying for the time when

TO CONSIDER FRANCHISE
(Continued from page 1.)

development of the valley and we believe that a proper development of our tracts and the valley as well depends upon the construction of an interurban trolley line, so we plan to build one. There is no reason why this place should not grow like Los Angeles. Huntington and his interurban lines made Los Angeles, for you have the soil and climate. An interurban trolley line will be the breath of life to Medford.

"We expect to build such a trolley line and expect to lose money the first few years but to make it back again on development. We do not care particularly to build it ourselves and if anyone else will take it off our hands and build according to our plans we will give them a bonus of \$25,000.

"We have a construction company in Oakland which has agreed to build the line for us for \$100,000 bonus, they may build it or we will do it ourselves.

"We plan to start a line from Medford, cross the new bridge, go out East Main street and swing south to Ashland along the foothills. Our agreement with the city will be closely lived up to."

the proper railroad work shall begin and the octopus shall not have all the say in transportation.

Lastly, I'm not in favor of strife between the various towns in the valley other than in a spirit of friendly emulation. There is room for all and each of the three cities has its own peculiar resources and conditions. The one a gateway to the valley, another so situated as to be the logical center for various industries that will make it the leading commercial city, and the mountain city of homes, schools and churches and with natural resources enough when developed to make it a great resort city. The smaller places are leaving the village stage and rapidly becoming social and industrial centers of importance and we must not forget our county seat which is destined to take on new life, surrounded as it is with farming and mining industries and looking for railroad work also.

So, let us hope for even greater progress in the coming year and for many future years until this splendid valley shall come into its own and be in reality the best in the great state of Oregon.

Dec. 29, 1912. J. M. BROOKS.

BUILDING ERA FOR RAILROADS
(Continued from page 1.)

Trolley Lines in Sight
Interurban trolley lines are also in prospect. The M. P. Minney company of Oakland, owning 1000 acres of Rogue River land has asked for a franchise putting up a certified check to commence construction within 90 days and have 10 miles of a proposed 27 mile line completed within eight months. This line will link the towns of the valley closer together and bring the country districts in close touch with Medford.

Another electric carline in Medford is offered by W. S. Bullis of New York who seeks a franchise, and the third by W. S. Barnum, owner of the Rogue River Valley railroad which now links Medford with Jacksonville. The Oregon-Electric railway is reported to have a surveying party in the field working toward Medford from the north, and the head engineer has said that his men would reach Medford within the next month. The party was lately at work near Glendale. It is the general prediction that the electric line will be continued through the Umpqua and the Rogue valleys within the next year. The Oregon Electric is now completed as far south as Eugene. It is owned by the Hill interests.

Jackson Street a Fine Boulevard

With the completion of the Jackson street bridge will follow great activity to make Jackson Medford's most beautiful boulevard. Last year the city council ordered cement sidewalks on the south side of West Jackson street from the city limits to Riverside and these are nearly completed, and there will without doubt be another resolution for sidewalks along the entire street.

Jackson boulevard is the only street running east and west through the city without a break or turn, and is from 60 to 200 feet higher than the center of the city.

The Medford Realty & Improvement company have already built six beautiful bungalows on the west end at Summit and will complete eight more during the coming summer. Jackson school is also at Summit, opposite the Medford Realty & Improvement company's property and is one of the finest school buildings in Southern Oregon.

The Jackson Boulevard Improvement association is being organized by the property owners along and adjoining the boulevard, and with the co-operation of the city council, the Greater Medford club and such other organizations as have for their object the making a "City Beautiful" great progress is predicted.

On the east end, Queen Addition, a large portion of which is owned by the Medford Realty & Improvement Co., will be built up and construction will probably commence in the spring.

Highcroft Addition, of which Chas. S. Lebo is the manager, will have a landscape architect lay out a beautiful addition. These villa sites are large enough to enable the owners to have beautiful grounds, and an arch will be erected over Jackson boulevard at the head of the addition. No expense will be spared to complete the work, and it is estimated that within the next two years \$250,000 will be spent on improvements by the Medford Realty & Improvement company alone.

STOLE TRASH; GETS FIVE TO TEN YEARS IN PRISON

VANCOUVER, Wash., Jan. 1.—For robbing Scott Swetland, packing house manager, of three pennies, a beer check, penknife and a purse, James Brennan, 22 and James Cameron 29, are today sentenced to not less than five and not more than ten years each in the penitentiary.

Greater Medford Club Studies Politics and Economics

The regular monthly meeting, held Monday afternoon in the public library assembly room, was in point of attendance and program one of the most successful meetings ever held by the Greater Medford club.

Mrs. Davidson presided in her characteristically capable manner, and after the routine business, which included reports from heads of departments, Mr. Mulkey was asked to address the ladies on "How to Vote." Mr. Mulkey confined his remarks mainly to the technicalities of voting under the Australian ballot law, explaining that all who had failed to register could be sworn in at the city hall on election day in the presence of three witnesses—also that all participation in fights or brawls, indulgence in profanity, or conversation within fifty feet of voting booths, were misdemeanors and punishable by law.

The addresses of Messrs. Heter, Gates and Elert, candidates for the mayoralty, were received with marked interest and enthusiasm by the ladies.

Mrs. Rebec, chairman of the department of education, unable to be present, sent a most interesting paper, which was read by Mrs. French.

Mrs. Schiefelin, as head of the political department, outlined the work to be undertaken, beginning with the study of our city charter and ordinances, and proceeding to the study of the county and state governments.

Mrs. Schiefelin extended a cordial invitation to all the ladies of Medford, whether club members or not, to attend the meetings of this department. A splendid opportunity to acquaint ourselves with the workings of our city government.

Home economics was very ably presented by Mrs. J. C. Schmidt, who as chairman of this department gave the following comprehensive outline of subjects to be studied:

1. Household architecture, covering interior decoration, and ventilation.
2. Household hygiene, covering personal and child hygiene.
3. Food and dietetics, including a study of food values and adulterations of foods.
4. Domestic science, cooking and serving. The various methods of cooking, such as with gas, electricity, fireless and paper bags.
5. Household management, financing the home, the servant problem, modern inventions for reduction of labor.
6. Home care of the sick.
7. Textiles and clothing.
8. Home care of children.

Mrs. Schmidt laid special emphasis on the point that an understanding of household economics with its resultant scientific management of the home would give to women the leisure so much desired for other interests, as well as a greater degree of

comfort and enjoyment for every member of the home.

The following remarks illustrate Mrs. Schmidt's views:

"Let us resolve that our house-keeping shall not be a burden, shall not absorb the greater part of the day, and shall not be extravagant."

The work of organized club women, asserted Mrs. Schmidt, is said to have its greatest value, in its influence on the woman herself, as a home-maker.

Mrs. R. W. Stearns, as chairman of the social hygiene department, is planning to organize small study-classes for all who are interested in study along these lines.

Mrs. E. M. Andrews, chairman of the music department, explained that this department was organized not for any particular society, or for musicians exclusively, but for the entire community—for all who love music and who wish to study the composers, the history of music, and kindred subjects.

With the co-operation of all the musical talent of the city, together with the support of all who are interested in a general way, Mrs. Andrews hopes to make this department of the club, as attractive and helpful as it is in the clubs of larger cities, and is making plans for some very delightful musical affairs to be given during the year.

In the absence of Mrs. Heard and Mrs. Byrd, Mrs. Davidson gave a short talk on the functions of the civic department, explaining among other things, that the observance of laws of sanitation would be referred to this department.

Mrs. W. G. Davidson, during her presidency of the Greater Medford club, has achieved some most gratifying results, among them being the organization of departmental work, one of vital importance and far-reaching in its influence, supplying as it does, something of interest to every woman of our city.

The affiliation with the State Federation of Clubs is another distinct advantage to the club, keeping us in touch with the work of other clubs of the state, and gaining for the club, as a representative of Medford, a recognition it would not otherwise receive.

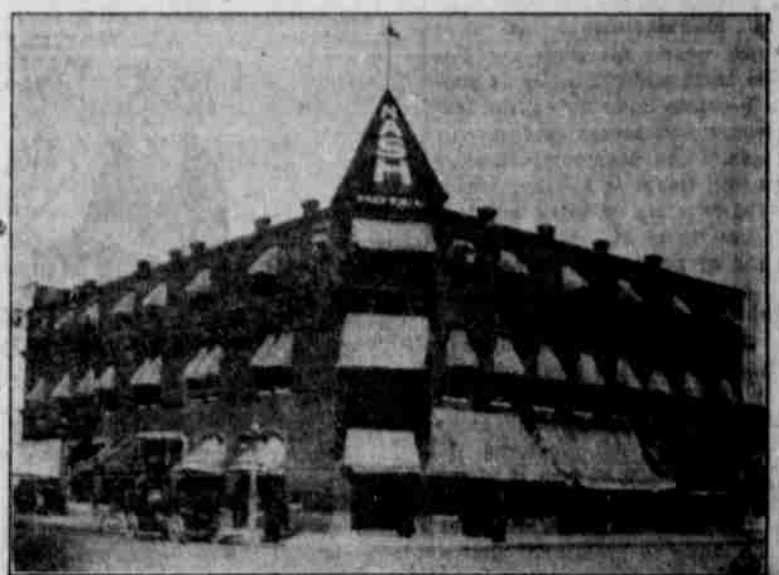
The ladies of the Greater Medford club feel that they have an excellent foundation laid for the work of nineteen hundred thirteen.

MERCHANTS' ASS'N IS STRONG BODY

Medford merchants, noted for their progressiveness in giving the city some of the finest trading institutions to be found in the state outside of Portland, are also alive to the advantages of co-operation. For this purpose, and in order that they may present a solid front for the betterment of conditions in the city they formed an association.

The Merchants' association meets at short intervals and its sessions are devoted to a discussion not only of their own affairs, but all matters pertaining to the welfare and betterment of city and valley. It also maintains a rating bureau for the protection of its members.

NASH HOTEL



75 ROOMS 25 WITH BATH
50 WITH HOT AND COLD WATER.
Bell & Sheridan, Props.
10 Commercial Sample Rooms