

MEDFORD MAIL TRIBUNE

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GEORGE PUTNAM, Editor and Manager

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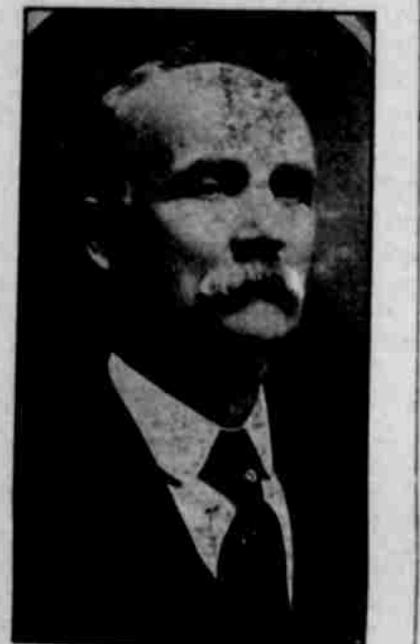
Full Licensed Wire United Press Dispatches.

MEDFORD, OREGON. Metropolis of Southern Oregon and Northern California, and the fastest-growing city in Oregon. Population—U. S. census 1910—3540; estimated, 1911—10,000.

Commercial Club

(By W. M. Colvig, President.)

A well organized and efficiently managed Commercial club is of vital necessity to any ambitious community; for that which is everybody's business is generally nobody's business, and if makes no difference how many enterprises may exist in the public mind no results will follow unless there be some executive force to crowd these matters to the front. The Medford Commercial



W. M. Colvig, President

club has always been a leader in every movement that has inaugurated for the benefit of Rogue river valley. It is entitled to the support of the people, not only for the good it has done but in order to make it more effective in its future work. The club during the past year has sent out 3129 personally dictated letters to Eastern inquirers, and has distributed 18,000 separate pieces of community literature. We often hear it said that times have not been as good during the past year as they were two or three years ago. This is partly true; there have not been as many land sales in evidence nor perhaps such high prices realized, but yet there has been a steady growth all over the valley. Many costly improvements have been made, many fine rural homes built during the present year, and the present condition of business is very hopeful. There seems to be now dawning upon Southern Oregon an era of railroad building, and there is no doubt but that the Hill system will, within the year, connect the Oregon Electric lines with the Pacific & Eastern railroad, which is owned by the same interests. There is much criticism heard over the fact that we do not have many manufactures located among us; while immigration follows the westward march of Empire, yet it is many years after a new civilization is planted before the people engage in manufacturing. At first they draw nearly all their supplies from the east; and gradually as population becomes more dense, the factories come and locate among the consumers. The near completion of the Panama Canal is another enterprise that is going to work wonders on the Pacific coast. It will bring thousands of people here who have already been influenced by the publicity which has been given.

This club is an incorporated body under the laws of the state of Oregon. It only costs \$1.00 to join it, and \$1.00 per month, as membership dues. Its manner of business is thoroughly democratic, and it ought to have the support of every business man in the community. This fact should be made so prominent that a man who does not belong to it ought not to be regarded as a public spirited citizen. The work of the club in the years past has been the means of placing the name of Medford in the front rank of public notice throughout the United States.

1913 TO BE A BANNER YEAR.

THE Mail Tribune today presents its annual review of the record of progress and achievements made by the Rogue River valley in 1912.

It has been a year of bountiful harvests and of substantial progress. While building operations have been quiet, the production of the valley has materially increased. The balance of trade is turning in our favor. Exports are double what they ever were in any previous year. The valley is beginning to ship other products than fruit.

Diversified production shows marked increase. Truck farming, stimulated by the public market is assuming respectable proportions. Poultry raising is becoming a source of wealth. Raising the prices of property has given way to raising the necessities of life.

The coming year is bright with promise. Half a dozen railroads to the coast are projected—at least one of which will be built. Applications for trolley franchises already filed indicate interurban development that always follows the trolley. Projected extensions of irrigation systems promise to place the entire valley under water.

Lumber mills and canneries in prospect will supply needed payrolls and aid the valley to become more self-supporting. Coal mines are being rapidly developed and arrangements concluded for a great cement plant. All the materials for a dozen great industries have been showered upon the region.

Nineteen hundred and thirteen finds Medford the best built and best improved city of its size to be found anywhere. Its public improvements reach a total of \$1,768,576 and comprise 18.61 miles of hard surface pavement, 27.79 miles of cast-iron mains in distributing water system and 23 miles of gravity pipe, 26.26 miles of sewer system, 26.34 miles of cement sidewalk and other improvements in proportion. It finds many handsome business blocks, a magnificent hospital and a public library. Cluster lights adorn the business center. The best hotels in the state welcome the traveler. In short, Medford has made good its promise as the most metropolitan small city on the coast, the most attractive and the most convenient.

Jackson county's lead among the counties is even more pronounced than Medford's among the towns. It is known far and wide as the most progressive county in Oregon. In everything Jackson county leads the procession, whether it be horticulture, good roads building, climate or resources.

The future is bright with promise. The resources are here. It is time to talk good times, to get in and boost and make good times, for we have the goods—and if 1913 is not the record year in the history of southern Oregon, we will have failed to use our opportunities.

With optimism, courage and hope, the Mail Tribune speeds the old year out and the new year in and wishes its many readers a prosperous and happy Nineteen Hundred and Thirteen.

MONEY IN PEARS.

THE value of an orchard, like that of a farm or any other commercial enterprise, must be based upon profits realized. When large profits are realized year after year, it justifies an extremely high valuation upon the property.

Prices received in 1912 for fruit have been lower than the average, yet a good Rogue River valley pear orchard will show a handsome profit despite the unfavorable market. Here are three instances:

From 14 acres of pears in the Snowy Butte orchard at Central Point, Fred H. Hopkins sold in 1912, 7000 boxes of Winter Nelis pears at \$1.87 1/2 a box, f.o.b. orchard. He consigned 103 boxes of Nelis from which he has not received returns. He sold 500 boxes of Bartlett's and Fall Butter that netted \$1.40 a box, at the orchard, and netted \$560 from 500 boxes of Comice and Bosc grown as grafts. The crop has netted him \$14,385, or over \$1000 an acre. This is nothing unusual for this orchard—but almost an annual occurrence.

John Gore has an eight acre Bartlett pear orchard near Medford, which has netted him for the past six years from \$500 to \$1000 an acre annually. He has shipped as high as 13 carloads a year from this small grove. In 1912 the yield was 9 boxes to the tree, or 648 boxes to the acre. He sold the pears for an average of \$2.00 a box in eastern markets. The cost of growing, packing and shipping averaged \$1.00 a box, leaving him a profit of \$9 to the tree or \$648 an acre.

H. W. Bingham purchased a young pear grove of ten acres last winter, planted to Clargeau, Bartlett and Nelis. He harvested nearly 800 boxes to the acre, and received an average price of \$1.23 a box, net, realizing \$7100 net, on the orchard.

Other instances could be cited, showing that even with poor prices, there is good money in pears in the Rogue River valley.

University Club

One of the most important social clubs in the valley is the Rogue River Valley University club, located at Medford. This organization reflects in a great degree the type of citizenship found in the valley. Its members must be University men and over 100 are enrolled, representing 49 different educational institutions, seven of them foreign and 28 state universities. Harvard men predominate with Yale second.

The club is social in its nature, making a city home for its members most of them being orchardists and residing in the country. However the club plans to turn its attention in the future to lectures on important topics and live question of the day.

Fraternal Orders

Many fraternal orders of worldwide fame are represented by lodges in Medford so that the stranger in the city, if he be a member of an order may find himself among friends. There are 23 lodges in the city, all of them active. They are A. F. & A. Masons, Royal Arch Masons, Eastern Star, A. O. U. Workman, Degree of Honor, B. P. O. Elks, Fraternal Brotherhood Eagles, Fraternal Union, G. A. R., W. R. Corps, Redmen, Degree of Pocahontas, I. O. O. F., Patriarchs Militant, Rebekahs, Macebees, Knights of Pythias, Pythian Sisters, Modern Woodmen, Woodmen of the World, Women of Woodcraft Moose and the Knights of Columbus.

All of the lodges are well equipped with quarters, the Oddfellows and Redmen owning their own buildings.

Finest Hospital Between Portland and Sacramento



Sacred Heart Hospital

Since most of us have been enjoying good health we fail to realize the importance of an institution of this kind in our midst.

Ideal is its location, situated on a high hill overlooking the city of Medford, as well as the beautiful Rogue river valley.

The hospital is fully equipped with all the latest appliances for medical or surgical cases, including mater-

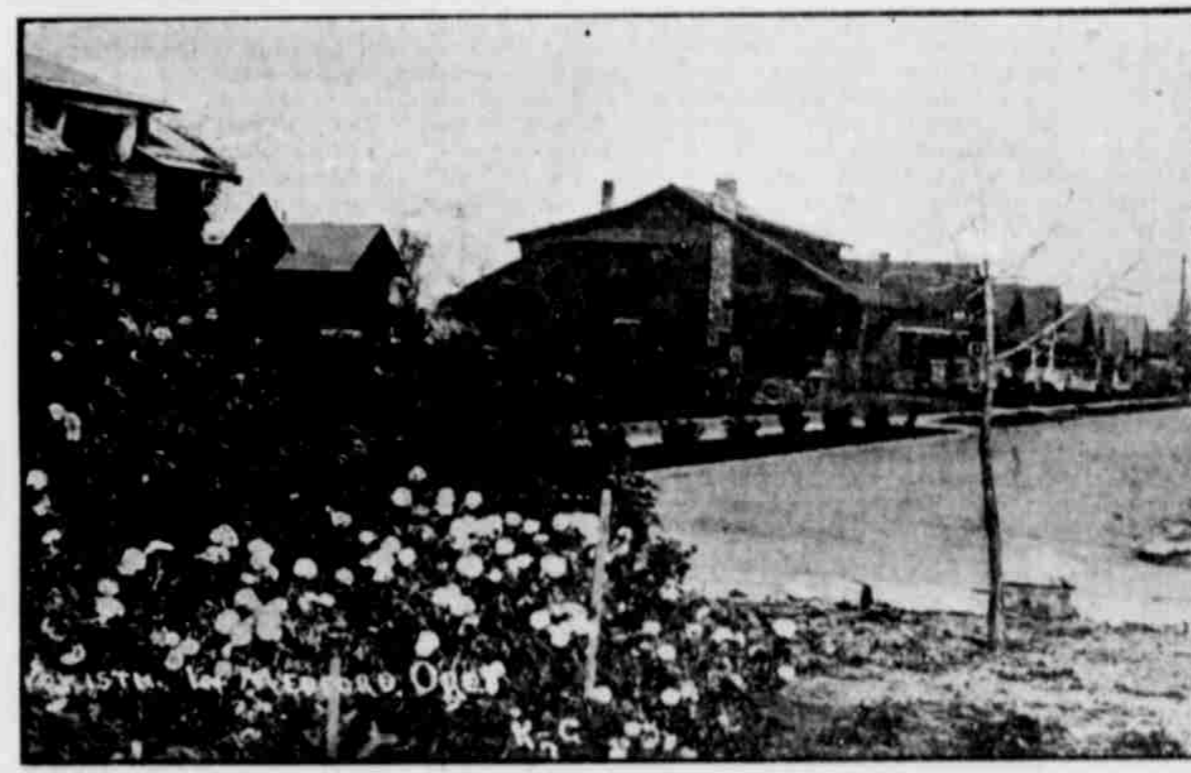
nity wards and isolation wards for contagious diseases, that would do justice to any city, as it represents an investment of \$161,000.

Statistics of the hospital will show that the medical men here are advanced in their different lines of work and are capable of handling the most difficult surgical as well as medical cases.

It has been proven that the eff-

matic conditions here are beneficial for rheumatism, lung troubles and nerve diseases; and the Sisters are making an effort to induce people with the above named diseases to come here. Since the opening the Sisters have cared for nearly a thousand surgical and medical cases and some of these have come from different places in northern California.

Medford a City of Beautiful Homes



A Row of Medford Bungalows

Medford is rapidly becoming a city of beautiful homes. With the growth of the city has come a great improvement in architectural design and finish. As the new water system has been completed, insuring an abundance of life-giving moisture.

majority of residents own their homes. Flats and tenements—these demoralizers of the home—are as yet unknown. Numerous new additions that have been placed on the market at easy terms have gone like hotcakes, rendering it cheaper to buy and build than to pay rent.

A Healthy City

At last the minds of the people have become awakened to the fact that many diseases are scourges within the community, resulting by wise prevention numbers of the most virulent and fatal may be absolutely prevented. The Rogue river valley is surrounded with snow-capped mountains a great portion of the year, bordered with balsamitic forests varying in extent from 50 to 100 miles. The valley has an elevation of from 1000 to 2000 feet and contains not a marshy district within its scope, consequently mosquitoes are, practically unknown.

Climatic conditions are the best, no extremes of temperature, with an annual rainfall of 26 to 28 inches—Medford with its paved streets and completed sewer system has practically eliminated the housefly pest. Its water supply is taken from the mountains and is furnished in over-abundance. There has not been a single case of typhoid fever within the city limits of Medford reported during the past four months and less than one death per 1000 inhabitants from tuberculosis during the past year. The entire mortality rate from all causes is less than nine per 1000.

E. B. PICKEL, Chairman Committee on Epidemic, Endemic and Communicable Diseases of the State Board of Health.

Twenty-Six Thousand Five Hundred Books Circulated in Medford Public Library

The public library was housed in the new building on February 8th last. The number of volumes in the library at that time was approximately 2,990. 850 volumes have been added this year. This, however, does not mean that there are 2850 volumes in the library, because the books which are in constant circulation wear out. They are, of course, mended and rebound and made to last as long as possible, but

in a small library like this, the life of a book is much shorter than in a large city library.

26,500 Books Circulated. The number of books circulated last year was 26,500 and the number of cards issued 1717.

The money available for new books has been as nearly as possible divided equally between adult fiction, non-fiction and juvenile. The public will find many valuable additions to the non-fiction and the reference departments, especially books dealing

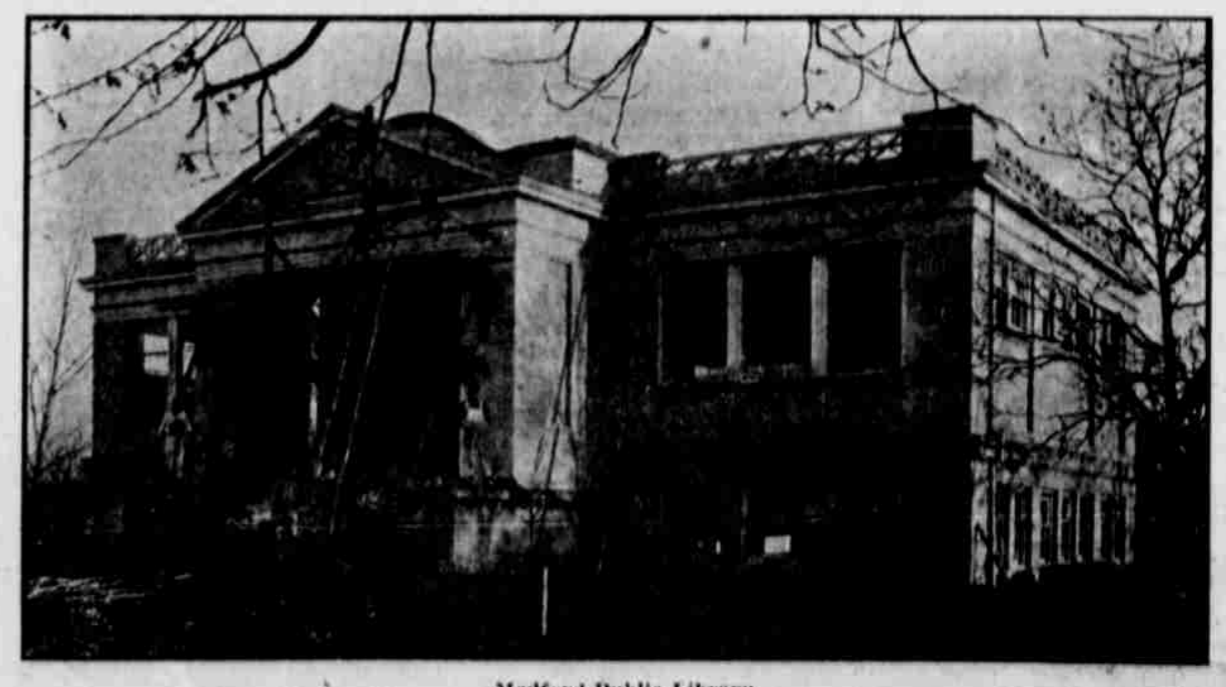
ture have been added.

The books for the children have been carefully chosen and a great deal of time and thought has been used in spending the small amount of money available for books to the best advantage.

The patronage in the reading room grows constantly as the public learns what the library has to offer.

The lecture room in the basement is used by several clubs and societies, which meet there regularly. Anyone writing an article on a

during the last year, besides many magazines and a beautiful fern. It goes without saying that the crying need of a library is money for books. The money received last year from the city, fines and gifts (the latter being \$16.76) was \$2748.00. The total expenditures were \$2646. Of this amount there has been spent for books and magazines \$738.93. Nearly \$475 of the amount expended last year went towards the building, which will not be necessary again, but there are always repairs. Gifts



Medford Public Library

with the industries of the valley. Interesting late books on general subjects as well as travel, biography, philosophy, history, arts and litera-

special subject may obtain material from Salem through this library. The library has been fortunate in having 250 volumes presented to it

of money to the library will surely be well placed and will give needed aid in helping make this institution worthy of our city.