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JOLTS AND JINGLES By Ad Brown

I've got a hunch you remember, old chum How we used to get up 'fore it was light

And visit the yards on a circus day morn To see that the show got in right We used to stand round till at last they came in

The wagons, the cages, and men, We watched them unpack as we scrambled about— Ah, life had the thrills in it then!

And now, old fox, if I ask you to stir As late as eight-thirty from bed, You murmur vague threats about kicking my shins Or taking a poke at my head.

Horse racing is again permitted in Indiana which probably means that a lot of the natives will let up on Pegasus and turn their attention to the pacers and trotters.

An extensive manipulator of con games has been arrested at San Francisco. Please note his name is O. D. Conn.

The Chicago investigation has uncovered a lot of sleek employers who are experts on how little a girl may live on.

The city of Guajimiquilapa, Guatemala, has been destroyed by an earthquake. Out of the ruins will emerge another set of vowels and consonants.

The Warblers Are Migrating. Two strangers passed through town Sunday, stopped at church, and rendered very substantial help during the singing.—Langlois Item in Bandon World.

OBITUARY. A pioneer of 1850 passes away at the age of 82 years and 2 days.

Nathan B. Nye was born March 1, 1831, in Oakland, Macon county, Michigan, and died suddenly March 3rd, 1913, at the home of his son, living near Gold Hill, Ore.

In 1850 he and two brothers crossed the plains with an oxen team to California and engaged in mining at Scott's Bar. In the spring of 1851 they passed through the Rogue river valley to Salem and for a time owned and conducted a bakery, one of the first in Salem.

Later in the same year they returned to the Rogue river valley, engaging in mining at Jacksonville, at that time the population numbering nine men. In the fall of 1852 they returned to Michigan with a few thousand dollars in gold dust, among which was a nugget weighing 4900. Mr. Nye carried this gold dust on to Philadelphia and had it coined. For a number of years thereafter he followed watch-making and repairing.

In 1855 he was married to Miss Mary Hill of Romeo, Mich. A son and daughter were born to them, the daughter passing away in early womanhood.

In 1860, the time of the great old excitement in Colorado he moved with his family to Pikes Peak, later going on to California Gulch, and returning to Michigan in 1861. In 1863, he came west to Alder Gulch, Montana, to the gold excitement there. Again he returned to Colorado, making a rush for Ourary gold fields.

A DRY YEAR IN PROSPECT.

THIS promises to be an unusually dry season. Less than half the rainfall due has already fallen. There have been instances in the past of prolonged drought. Such this year would mean an immense loss to farmers and orchardists. It would, however, demonstrate once and for all time, the value and necessity of irrigation and would be worth while the present loss for the future gain.

The man who has water on his farm or orchard does not worry about the future. He need not care whether it rains or not. He has eliminated the greatest possibility of failure. His crop is assured. The water is worth while simply as crop insurance. Yet it will take some such calamity as a real dry year to make Rogue river valley farmers realize the necessity of irrigation.

Pioneers say that in 1878 there was no rain after January. Conditions were much the same as this year. Grain and other crops were planted but lack of moisture prevented germination. Along in July came a week's down-pour, that started everything growing, so a grain yield was harvested late—but no fruit.

In 1888 there was another such year. The "spring drought" continued, without intermission until the 23rd day of May, and the chance for a crop of grain was remote. The wheat fields were as devoid of green as the county road and the pessimists had it all their own way until "Jape" got busy, and we had a good crop anyway.

That was the year when Uncle Fred Barneburg, one of the most sagacious men who ever had his home in this valley, made the remark that "It would be a God's blessing if we could have just one famine year in the Rogue River valley, just to show the folly of ignoring the magnificent supply of water with which Providence intended we should enrich southern Oregon."

Eighty-eight was a quarter of a century ago. Practically every commercial orchard now in this valley was planted after that year. One can hardly conceive the alarm which would prevail now, should we have a repetition of that spring drought, with so much at stake as we have today, depending on nature's bounty in rainfall. And yet, any pioneer will tell you that many years have known but little rainfall after the first day of March until late in the haying season. The older pioneer can tell you of a year when a grain crop seemed so improbable that a group of financiers attempted to corner all the grain in the valley in May, when transportation from without was impossible.

They were defeated in their undertaking by the rain which redeemed the valley from the stigma of a failed crop in early summer.

Conditions have changed materially since. Conceive of the effect of a year of drought with immense fruit interests of today on land values. Admitting that every productive acre is well worth the price asked for it now, how many years would it require to restore normal values, if one year's drought should prevail at this time? Providence may fail to hold us immune from dry years when we absolutely ignore the safeguard of irrigation, where it has so often demonstrated that it is the one thing needful to make annual good crops of fruit a surety.

Even now the orchardist is scanning the horizon in the vain expectation of "rain tomorrow." Already we have reached the season when only summer showers can be expected, and we feel grateful in the knowledge of a heavy snowfall in the higher mountains, making plenty of water in the ditches,—but where are the ditches? Miles away from the orchards where the water will soon be wanted, a drying north wind exhausting the winter's store of moisture in the soil, and the hillsides still barren of verdure and the bloom not yet on the fruit trees.

It is almost criminal neglect to fail to take the only possible precaution against possible failure of crops in this valley—and thus eliminate all chance of failure by using the water so abundant in the foothills.

Farmers and orchardists should waste no time but sign up at once for water, so that construction of an immense system can begin when the requisite amount of land is under contract.

THE ASHLAND ANVIL CHORUS.

THE Ashland Tidings, in its infinite wisdom remarks:

The Medford Mail Tribune says the fishermen of the Rogue river valley should take off their hats to one C. L. Reames for his attitude on the Rogue river fish bill. The Ashland fishermen, to judge from remarks on the street, feel more like taking a swift kick at him. They say that had not Mr. Reames introduced the first bill in behalf of the cannery people, their bill could have been beaten, but if not beaten, could never have been passed over West's veto. They declare, however, that the fact that a Jackson county man introduced the bill in the first place, nullified all his efforts to prevent its passage later.

Is that so? Where do these Ashland fishermen get their information? None of them ever spent any money to protect fishing in the Rogue, none of them ever appeared at Salem in the interest of fish legislation. As in other matters, their principal efforts have been confined to knocking those who do try to do something.

For the last three legislative sessions, Rogue river fishing has been a live issue before the legislature, but there has never been a delegation of Ashland fishermen before any of these fish committees.

Had any other course been followed than that taken by Mr. Reames, the Rogue river would have been reopened under terms dictated by the commercial fishermen, instead of by anglers, for there never was a day during the life of the legislature that a combination of mouth of the river interests with Josephine, could not have passed any kind of a bill they wanted over the governor's veto.

But the Ashland bait brigade that keeps its money and spends its talk, does its fishing during the spawning season, and makes its legislative fights 300 miles from Salem, knows better.

For the last thirteen years he has resided in southern Oregon, making his home with his son, H. B. Nye.

The funeral services, conducted by Rev. Richards of Ashland, were held at the home Wednesday, March 5, and were attended by a large number of sorrowing friends and relatives. One nephew rode fifty miles on horseback to be present at the funeral.

Though quiet and retiring in disposition, Mr. Nye was loved and respected by all who knew him and he will be greatly missed. Sympathy will go out to the son and wife who will miss him most in their home.

GREER LIBEL CASE TO COME UP SOON

The case of the state vs. Bert R. Greer, editor of the Ashland Tidings, will be among the first cases called when the criminal work in the circuit court is taken up for the March term. It is believed that Greer will have returned from the east, where he has been since December by that time but if he is not here Prosecuting Attorney Kelly will move to have his bond forfeited.

Greer was charged with criminal libel during the full campaign by County Judge F. L. Tou Velle, then a candidate. He was given a preliminary hearing and bound over to await action by the grand jury.

COURT HOUSE NEWS

New Cases. Helen E. Curtis vs. W. D. Curtis, divorce.

Gus Newberry as administrator of the estate of T. J. Triplett vs. W. W. Gregory et al, suit to declare a deed a mortgage.

Sarah Wilcox vs. Chas. Wilcox, divorce.

Valley Pride Cooperative Creamery vs. O. E. Rose, action in ejectment.

Marriage Licenses. V. E. Zumwalt and Maud Carl. Loren L. Damon and Luzella Brown.

J. H. Haight and Ada Sounichsen.

Probate. Estate M. W. Smith, deceased, order appointing appraisers.

Estate Frank Ennes, deceased, order for sale of real property.

Real Estate Transfers. J. W. Hogsett et al. to J. E. Brown et al, deed land in sec. 24, twp. 25 s., r. 1 w. 200

John A. Taylor et ux. to James Taylor, deed land in sec. 18, twp. 29 s., r. 2 e. 10

Edith M. Cameron to John Cameron, deed lots 26 and 27, blk. F, R. R. ad. Ashland 1

Edith M. Cameron to John Cameron, deed to lots 31 and 32, blk. O, R. R. ad. Ashland 1

C. P. Briggs et ux. to Farmers and Fruitgrowers bank, deed lots 7 and 8, blk. 24, Butte Falls 427

F. W. Withaft et ux. to C. W. Withaft, power of attorney. F. W. Withaft et ux. to C. V. Beeler, deed lots 2, blk. 6, Highland Park, Medford. 1

Walter C. Smith to Burl C. Smith, deed one-seventh interest in lots 23, 24, blk. 1, Ashland 10

College Hill, Add. Inc. to E. C. De Armond, deed lots 1, 2, 3, 4, 10, 11, 12, 13, 15, all of blk. 5, 6, 7, 8, 9 and 14, Cottage Hill add., Medford. 10

Fred Rapp and C. W. Palm, deed part sec. 24, twp. 24 s., r. 3 e. 2500

B. Saleman to W. I. Coffman, deed placer mine in sec. 4, twp. 28 s., r. 3 w. 1

F. E. Furry to Edmund Anderson, deed part sec. 26, twp. 27 s., r. 1 w. 1

Edward Miller to Maude Alderson, deed part sec. 20, twp. 28 s., r. 1 w. 10

Woods Lumber Co. to W. I. Vawter, deed part sec. 36 s., r. 1 w. 1700

Martha B. Howard to J. B. Howard, deed lot 9, blk. 12, lot 7, blk. 3, Medford. 1

A. F. Garrison to C. F. Nelson, deed one-third interest Bo-

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unanza Quartz claim. 10 Joan St. Luc de Roboam to S. P. De Roboam, deed lots in Jacksonville 1 W. A. Wright to E. J. Wright, deed one-half interest in sec. 20, twp. 46 s., r. 3 e. 10

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