

MEDFORD MAIL TRIBUNE

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GEORGE PUTNAM, Editor and Manager

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Full Season Wire United Press Dispatches.

THE BIG AND THE LITTLE TOWN.

In an article entitled "The City and Privacy," Dr. Frank Crane says:

One reason why people flock to cities is that they may be able to mind their own business.

Political economists seek complex and devious reasons for the tremendous rapidity of city growth and for the desertion of the country and of the country town.

The cause, however, is quite simple, as simple as human nature. The people go to cities because they "want to." That's all.

Take the village of Podunk. In the first place you would not be allowed to go there to live without explaining why you came, where you came from, and what your business is.

You can rent a flat in Chicago, however, and nobody cares a tuppence who you are or what is your criminal record, so long as you are peaceable.

Your neighbors know all about you and your wife, your sons, and your daughters. The bank cashier knows the size of your pile, the grocer and butcher know what you eat, the dry goods merchant knows what sort of underclothes you wear and how much your women folks spend on corsets, and they all meet and check up.

When you leave town they know it, also when you return; and they want to know what you were doing.

It is all a very cozy family arrangement. You live in the constant glare of the limelight.

Some people like it, and feel lost and lonesome in the city. But more and more that class is growing to whom this perpetual invasion of privacy is disagreeable.

It is pretty generally assumed among moralists that people love the privacy of cities because they wish to plunge into vice. Doubtless some do. But it is doubtful if the average city bred person is any more immoral than the country bred.

It is conceivable that a person may wish to live his own life as he pleases, and not under the unremitting supervision of Mrs. Grundy, and that this wish may be prompted not by a desire for secret crime but simply by a desire for personal privacy.

The matter is really a conflict between the old idea that morality is conformity and the modern idea that morality is the responsible expression of one's own personality.

The city means the revolt of the soul of man against moral dictation. Of course, wicked people have always resented moral tyranny. Now the good people are beginning to resent it too. So the country is squeezing out its best and its worst into the cities.

These remarks are true to a large extent. Village gossip and busy bodies, and restrictive efforts to curtail personal liberty are partly responsible for the exodus from the village to the city.

These small communities tend to make people small. The narrow environment of lives restricts horizons and dwarfs perspectives.

People having nothing else to talk about, talk about each other, and all the unlovable traits of human character are exposed.

The fault lies with the people themselves rather than with the environment. Life is what the individual makes it.

There is no reason why people should not mind their own business in the village as well as in the city. There is no reason why any one should pay any attention to neighbors efforts to regulate him, why he should not give free expression to personality—why the larger things of life should not occupy attention instead of petty surroundings.

The small town has many charms that the city lacks. It has the fresh air and the sunshine, room to breathe, expand and develop, to enjoy at first hand beauties of nature that make life worth living.

The small town perhaps does not offer as great a degree of personal liberty as the city, but it is free from smoke laden atmosphere, free from the gloomy twilight of sky scrapers with their imprisoned thousands, free from the friendlessness of maddening dollar chasing throngs, the incessant clanging trolleys, the roaring elevated, the weary slavery of the sweatshop, the dreary grind of the factory, the underpaid drudgery of the department stores, the tawdry glare of white slavery, the hopelessness of slums.

Life offers much more and should mean much more in the peaceful village than in the over-crowded city. Life should be much sweeter and clearer, where every face is the face of an acquaintance, and cheery salutations replace the chilly glance of strangers, where the music of children's laughter and the whistled melody of the meadow lark rings even in the market places. If it doesn't, the individual is as much to blame as the community for the small town offers the best perspective of life.

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STATE TAX LEVY FIGURES ARE NAMED

SALEM, Ore., Dec. 6.—The tax commission today, in making public the state tax levy for the fiscal year ending December 31, 1914, announced that the total amount of revenue required for general state purposes for the year, not including amounts apportioned on a special millage basis, would be \$2,888,258.10.

Added to that sum will be a tax of one twenty-fifth of a mill, yielding \$38,171.30, for the Monmouth Normal school, and a tax of one-fourth of a mill, yielding \$238,570.60, for the state road fund, making the total amount needed \$4,165,000.

County Rates to Vary

To raise this money the average rate of taxation on all property in the state will be a little more than four and one-third mills, or, to be exact, .044365. The rates in the various counties will vary widely, depending on the relation of assessed to full cash value of property in each county.

The lowest will be 3.1 mills and the highest 5.6 mills.

In Multnomah county the rate required to raise the amount of state tax apportioned to that county will be approximately 4.7 mills.

New Record Made

The levy for next year is by far the highest in the history of the state, being \$1,101,184 more than in 1912, which held the record up to this time.

The state revenue required, including the Monmouth normal school fund and the state road fund, as apportioned among the counties, is as follows:

Baker \$ 92,713

Benton 53,083

Clackamas 154,275

Clatsop 87,356

Columbia 66,965

Coos 90,081

Crook 64,462

Curry 15,656

Douglas 139,692

Gilliam 37,268

Grant 36,096

Harney 34,007

Hood River 43,162

Jackson 140,348

Josephine 43,820

Klamath 64,291

Lake 33,549

Lane 169,291

Lincoln 30,812

Linn 131,781

Malheur 48,618

Marion 183,785

Morrow 40,188

Multnomah 1,582,621

Polk 74,670

Sherman 36,115

Tillamook 71,117

Umatilla 172,664

Union 85,341

Wallowa 46,198

Wasco 68,518

Washington 112,126

Wheeler 17,980

Yamhill 89,519

REDMEN HOLD CELEBRATION TONIGHT

Big class adoption of the tribes of the Improved Order of Red Men will be held at the Red Men's Wigwam on Apple street tonight. About fifty will see the degrees of the order exemplified by Westonka's drill team.

The personal and class secured by the committee of the various tribes speak well for the order. Westonka tribe represents the best class of American citizen of Medford, having its own home and being careful in its selection of membership. The members of the various tribes in Rogue River valley with candidates will be here this evening. A banquet will follow the ceremony of the adoption of pale-faces. Past Great Sachem Lee Jacobs, Past Sachem D. T. Selsby and Past Sachem Frank Martin will have charge of the affair.

ARMS FOR ULSTER SEIZED, CONFISCATED

RELEAST, Dec. 6.—Obeying the British government's order against the importation of arms to Ireland, customs officials seized today and confiscated several large consignments of rifles and ammunition.

Ulster leaders, who assert the proclamation was aimed at Ulsterites, ridiculed the affair. The Ulster volunteers, they said, already are organized, armed and equipped.

"And we will fight the home rule law to the last ditch," they added.

It was known, however, that large quantities of ammunition and rifles were smuggled out of here last night and concealed in the country. Unionists boasted, too, that they would continue importations.

The Liberal press of England and Ireland continued today to applaud the proclamation.

PHONE TRUST MUST EXCHANGE WITH HOME

SALEM, Ore., Dec. 6.—The state railroad commission has today ordered the Pacific Telephone and Telegraph company to interchange calls with the Home Telephone and Telegraph company in the Oregon hotel at Portland.

The order established a precedent in the state and was bitterly contested by the Pacific States company. The hotel, however, will be compelled to pay the Pacific States company 3 1-3 cents on all outgoing calls transferred from Home to Pacific lines in the building.

The order resulted from a complaint filed with the commission by the Wright, Dickinson company, owners of the Oregon hotel.

ELKS MEMORIAL SERVICES SUNDAY

An elaborate musical program has been prepared by B. P. O. E. lodge 1168 for their fifth annual memorial Sunday, December 7, at 2:30 p. m., Page theater. Lodge members will assemble at Elks hall at 1:30 o'clock and march to the theater in a body.

The public is cordially invited. The following is the program:

Selection _____ Orchestra

Under the Direction of Chas. D. Hazelrigg.

Oratorical Address—Exalted Ruler A. C. Burgess.

Solo—Mrs. Nellie Hazelrigg.

Opening Exercises—Officers of Lodge

Opening Ode—Members of Lodge

Divine Blessing—Chaplain

Carl D. Heilbronner.

Duet—"Calm Is the Night"

Mr. and Mrs. George Andrews.

Select Reading—"Thunatopsis"

Mrs. George T. Wilson.

Trio—"La Charity"

Mrs. George Andrews, Miss Grace Brown, Mrs. Gladys LaMar.

Eulogy—Brother Gus Newberry

Closing Ceremonies—Officers of Lodge

Doxology—Everybody

Benediction—Chaplain

HUNDRED PERSONS KILLED IN ROUMANIAN COLLISION

BUCHAREST, Dec. 6.—One hundred persons were either killed or seriously wounded today in a collision between a passenger and freight train near Colshbi, Roumania.

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