

MEDFORD MAIL TRIBUNE

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LIVESTOCK SLUMP FOLLOWS BIG SHOW

PORTLAND, Dec. 22.—Receipts for the week have been, cattle, 655; calves, 15; hogs, 3766; sheep, 5133. A natural apathy was apparent in the cattle market this week, following the big stock show, when exceptionally heavy shipments were made. Cattle prices suffered a severe slump, top quality going at 25 cents lower and other grades at even more of a decline. Killers had supplied their needs temporarily and will have to work off the surplus, but as liquidation will be light for the next few months the situation is expected to improve this next week. The hog market dropped off 10 cents during the week, with extreme top at \$7.85 for the week's close for choice stuff, with heavy stock 10 to 15 cents down. Liberal liquidation increases the seasonal weakness. The sheep house business held up well for the week. Some choice mutton and lambs were marketed. Lambs moved easily at \$6.25 and prime wethers held their own at \$5.00, while ewes closed around \$4.00, when choice stuff was offered.

MOTION PICTURE DANCE LESSONS AT THE ISIS

"Wall flowers," people who "just can't learn," and others who are awkward dancers, will welcome the Kalem production, "Motion Picture dancing lessons." This two-part feature marks a distinct forward step in the motion picture industry. The dancing lessons are given by Wallace McCutcheon and Miss Joan Sawyer, known as instructors to the "Four Hundred." Mr. McCutcheon and Miss Sawyer were the hit of the season at the New York Theatre Roof Garden last summer. The lessons they give in the "Motion Picture Dancing Lessons" are so clear and easy to learn that anyone seeing the pictures can become a perfect dancer, with just a little practice. The tango, turkey trot and hesitation waltz are first shown, as danced by the patrons of one of New York's most famous cabarets. Later, Mr. McCutcheon and Miss Sawyer take the floor and show their method. The scene shifts to Mr. McCutcheon's studio, where he is seen teaching several pupils the dances named. To better illustrate the steps, the pictures, at intervals, show just the lower limbs. It is a most unusual feature and well worth seeing.

HAMMERSLEY TRAPPING RING-TAILED VARMINTS

Despite the wrangle of Governor West and the game commission, Warden Riley Hammersley of the Willow Flat district, is still on the job. Winter duties for the wardens now consist largely of operating trap lines for the improvement of the state biological collection, to which Warden Hammersley recently added two ringtailed cats and their tamer but less desirable cousin of the wild, whose first name is "pole." One of the ringtails was taken alive and journeyed to Portland in a birdcage, where he will become the official mascot of the department. For several days the first of the week the Willow Flat warden visited in this city before returning to the trap line.—Gold Hill News.

WEDDING BELLS

A the Presbyterian manse December 21st, George McKay Leslie and Hattie I. Fuller were united in marriage by Rev. W. F. Shields. Mr. Leslie is an employee of the Southern Pacific, and Mrs. Leslie, his bride, is one of Medford's girls. These young people have gone to Portland and to the home of the groom's parents for a honeymoon. The many friends of the bride and groom wish that they may make their home in Medford where both are highly esteemed.

ANOTHER VICTIM FOR THE SLAUGHTER

THE PORTLAND OREGONIAN has nominated R. A. Booth of Eugene as republican candidate for United States senate to succeed George E. Chamberlain—not because it is expected that Mr. Booth can be elected, but because it is expected that he can aid in the defeat of former Senator Jonathan Bourne, Jr. for the nomination. Mr. Booth, who is a wealthy retired lumberman, has accepted the Oregonian's nomination on account of the "unsolicited indorsements" received from all over the state, and his hat is in the ring. An analysis of the campaign in Booth's behalf to date is interesting. He was shoved in the limelight by President of the Senate Dan J. Malarkey, as chairman of the Oregon Panama-Pacific fair board. It was at first decided to make Booth the Oregonian machine candidate for governor—then he was switched to the senatorial class. A carefully prepared plan was outlined and followed. Mr. Booth was waited upon by a large delegation of his fellow-townsmen and neighbors, organized by the Eugene Commercial club. Speeches were made and photos taken for the Oregonian. Hundreds of letters were sent in advance to prominent republicans throughout the state asking them to indorse the candidacy, and the "unsolicited indorsements" determined his course. "Delegations have been organized in neighboring towns," says the Oregonian, "to visit Mr. Booth personally and assure him of the support and loyalty of their communities." The platform will be announced later. Mr. Booth is a successful business man, a pioneer who has built up a large fortune as head of the Booth-Kelly Lumber company, from which he has retired. What his particular training or capacity is to represent Oregon in the senate is yet to be demonstrated. What crimes he has committed to be selected as the victim of the slaughter by the Oregonian are also unknown. The Oregonian's record of political victories is unbroken. Its political graveyard is full of overflowing with candidates it has chosen for the people. Fulton, Withycombe, Bowerman, Selling, are only a few of its more recent standard-bearers that have felt its passionate kiss of political death. Surely Mr. Booth deserves a better fate—but he, too, has listened to the song of the journalistic hag and is being lured to political destruction.

COMMUNICATION

To the Editor and Citizens at Large: As there is more or less controversy at the present time on the condition of our city government, I would like to say a few words.

It seems to me that the city affairs should be run on an absolute business basis. No manufacturing concern of any calibre could be successfully conducted without being operated in a thoroughly systematic manner, and our city government must be conducted on the same basis to be successful. As I understand, our city affairs today, they are more or less in bad shape; we have gone into debt for unnecessary things, especially during these hard times, through which taxes have been increased away out of proportion to the present valuation of property.

In all well-regulated cities, taxes always raise and fall with the increase and decrease of property valuations. In our city the actual valuation of property has steadily declined for the past three years, while taxation has been on the increase, which is a bad state of affairs. It has a tendency to drive away prospective investors of capital, has a depressing influence on business in general, works a hardship on all property holders and especially on those of our citizens who have manfully stood by our little city and paid their taxes almost without a murmur. Today these same citizens are beginning to feel that they are overburdened and are looking about for relief. Now, there is always a cause for every effect, and the only way to obtain relief is for us to find the cause and eradicate it, and that will bring our longed-for relief. To begin with, retrenchment is of great importance; there is no question in my mind but what the running expenses of this municipality can be reduced, also a saving made in numerous other ways. These things are absolutely necessary under the present condition of affairs.

To begin with, salary to councilmen should cease, since the work required of them has so greatly diminished with the cessation of public improvements. The petty sum of \$25 per month is surely no inducement to any qualified man of business, and as for those who have not these qualifications, our council chamber is not the place for such. Our "city dads" should be only such men as have demonstrated their ability as practical economical financiers, men of wide affairs. As our election draws near, it behooves our best class of citizens to be awake to their duty and use all honorable means to induce such a class of men to serve our city and get it into proper running order.

For the benefit of our incoming city officers, I will herewith give some of my experience as general superintendent of construction and operation of a million dollar manufacturing in the state of Iowa for a period of nine years. This plant was run on a systematic, economical basis. Each department had to stand on its own bottom, and receipts and disbursements of each department had to be kept absolutely separate, no "robbing Pe-

ter to pay Paul," as has been done in our city affairs, or to put it more plainly, using funds from one department to make up a deficiency in another. Our system was to take stock the last Sunday of every month and have trial balance sheet in my hands the first of each succeeding month, thus enabling me to see at a glance if there was any deficit or surplus in any department, then it would immediately be remedied, so keeping our business in a healthy condition at all times, with no chance for leakage. All new construction work should be classified under the head of "betterment account."

I am sure this would prove a very good system to employ in running our city affairs, as at any time during the year our citizens could readily learn how our city finances stood, thus doing away with the mixing of funds, and so complicating the business, and at the year end it would be an easy matter to make up the annual report. It matters not what form of city government we have, commission or otherwise, unless it is conducted in a systematic business manner results will be unsatisfactory. To suggest how our city business could be managed along this line, let a committee of three councilmen be appointed as auditing and finance committee, their business to audit all bills at the end of each month. The recorder to turn over a trial balance sheet in a condensed form the first of every month to this committee, said committee will thus know condition of affairs in each

John A. Perl UNDERTAKER Lady Assistant 28 S. BARTLETT Phones M. 47 and 47-J2 Ambulance Service Deputy Coroner

department and to audit and report same at next regular council meeting. This committee should also be the "board of public works," so that they would be familiar with the expenditures along that line and have the power to remove any incompetent city employee and to see that every man in the employ of the city gives absolute value received. The taxpayers of Medford should demand that each city employee should earn every dollar of his salary. Yours for better government. F. V. MEDVNSKI Medford, Dec. 20.

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