

## MEDFORD MAIL TRIBUNE

GEORGE PUTNAM, Editor.

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## REJUVENATING THE VALLEY

THE MAIL TRIBUNE is desirous that both sides be heard regarding the new city charter, hence offers its space to both those for and against. It requests that articles be made as short as possible, and that they be left at the office the day before to insure publication.

While the charter is deserving of serious study by all, it is by no means as important to the community as the establishment of a beet sugar factory and a lumber manufacturing plant. It does little good to improve the system of city government if you fail to furnish employment to those governed.

Medford's greatest needs and the valley's greatest needs are payrolls—creative industries that will utilize and develop natural resources. The beet sugar factory fills the bill better than any single institution does because it profits the farmer, the stock raiser, the laborer and the general public. Its benefits are the widest spread.

A study of what the sugar beet has done for Colorado, for Utah, for Idaho, for California and for other states is evidence sufficient of what it will do for the Rogue River valley. It will bring about an era of intensive, diversified farming, transform methods of agriculture, increase the cultivated area, improve the soil, stimulate stock-raising, increase population and provide a payroll.

The following is a description of conditions in Colorado before the coming of the sugar beet and the transformation it wrought:

When the sugar beet first came to Colorado the staple crop was potatoes, and had been wheat. Ignorance of the demands of the soil for a diversification of crops or a disinclination to practice it had brought the yield in both cases from far above the national average to a point near to that mark. The farmers were standing still. At heart they were progressive, but they lacked the opportunity. They had become used to a practice in farm management that reeked little of the intensive. Fertilization on a heavy scale was unknown, or if known, unpracticed. They faced decadence, if not ruin.

The advent of the beet sugar gave them the very inspiration that they needed. Fields that had been barely scratched and still less properly tilled took on new life under the demands of the beet for better soil treatment. They were fertilized after approved methods, were assiduously tilled, caajoled and petted almost into bearing, and the reward which followed was couched in terms that rang with the clink of gold; almost as resonantly with the consciousness that at last Colorado farmers were becoming the equals if not the superiors of the husbandmen of the corn belt states.

Men who had decided to sell their farms and seek a new location gave up those notions and stayed to reap the golden harvest which the beet offered if properly cultivated. Towns that were languishing because the farmers upon whom they were dependent were losing their grip, took on new life and developed into cities. Greeley and Fort Collins and Fort Morgan what the beet has done for the urban centers in the short space of fifteen years. With the prosperity of the farmers these towns that grew up became commercial centers of large areas.

What the sugar beet did for Colorado it will do for the Rogue River valley. Every farmer is vitally concerned and should do his utmost to secure the project by agreeing to plant as many acres as possible to beets and inducing his neighbor also to plant.

## Medynski's Views on the Charter

To the Citizens of Medford:

I saw in Thursday morning's issue of the Medford Sun an article signed by the Medford charter commission, saying, "there has not been a single valid objection raised to the charter," and they also "challenge the bringing of any such objection"—they graciously admit "there is some lack of understanding," and to that end are seeking to further inform the people (by prearranged meetings) of some of the so-called important changes they wish to introduce into Medford.

In view of the fact that I am in a position to refute their insinuation that the city's business under the present administration is not being conducted "along the lines of a businesslike basis," I will say right here the present office force have faithfully done their duty, and have welcomed all changes suggested, along the line of "better business methods."

To begin with, we started off last spring by having the books expeted. We also established a system of indexing them, thus increasing, simplifying and expediting the facilities for ready reference, and to assist the force in giving greater efficiency. We increased the typewriting facilities, also installed a cash register, which all progressive business methods handling large amounts of cash feel the necessity of, and which our city officers especially needed. We found the treasurer's report of January 1, 1914, gave the total bonded indebtedness of the city to be \$1,338,500, and cash on hand of \$87,823.32, which cash was distributed between our four banks, without security bonds. These bonds we obtained to the amount of \$25,000 from each bank, as security for handling the city's money. Our bonded indebtedness has been reduced this year in the neighborhood of \$65,000, which our city books, which are open for public inspection at all reasonable hours, will verify. So that at the present time our office work will compare favorably with any modern methods.

Now, to take up the subject of the new charter and state my reasons for not favoring it. First and foremost, the new ballot system proposed is complicating the ballot instead of simplifying it. Complication increases the chances for mistakes, also for manipulation. Our present ballot system is simple, secret and honest, and was adopted because of those very virtues. Each candidate is fully credited with every vote cast for him by the people. What more can an honest candidate ask?

My second objection to the new charter plan is that the people are virtually asked to relinquish their voice in popular government. They may still be permitted to vote bonds and special taxes, but whether or not

they will be granted the power to recall is another matter.

You must remember, the directors elected by the people appoint the central election board, consisting of the secretary (already their appointee) and four other electors, these five doing the counting of the ballots (see article 6, sections 129 and 138).

Now, supposing one or more of the board of directors are named on the recall petition—which would be the most likely to occur, the appointment of their friends or their opponents, on this central election board? Do you not see whereby such a system can be perverted? Our present system of counting is much to be preferred, in my estimation. Furthermore, cast your eyes over No. 5 of section 138. Do you see the "Louisiana lottery method?"

Thirdly—The manager is appointed by the board of directors, hence the people have no power of recall over him, should he not give satisfaction. Any objection to the idea is that it is virtually a return to a condition from which all progressive cities are attempting to escape—that of "bossism." City manager is a higher sounding name than "political boss," but when the cloak has been removed it will be found that the city manager, if he desires to be a boss, will have little hindrance. If the city manager is a phenomenon, he can run every department and detail of government as it should be run and at the same time please the people who foot the bills. But he may not be infallible, even though he does get big pay. And, remember, section 25 leaves it optional with the board of directors as to what he shall receive as salary. They could make it \$20,000 per year if they wished.

The second objection—that the city manager might become a political boss, is an especially strong one. And, it will not be removed by making that official subject to the recall. It will be difficult at best to find a manager who has the requisite ability to be a city manager and is willing to serve in that capacity even at a very high salary. But it will be next to impossible to obtain the services of such a man if he shall be liable to have his career as city manager cut short by the recall, in case he shall take measures that will antagonize a considerable part of the community, as his sense of duty might easily compel him to do. But the wrong man chosen to be city manager because the right one could not be engaged, might easily become a "political boss," and with the power and patronage vested in him, could so strengthen himself that he would retain his job in spite of efforts to recall him, especially if, as is usual, only a small part of the voters took part in the recall election.

As the above objections cover the main reasons for my not favoring the new charter, I will close this by giving you some light on what the present city administration has accomplished during the year of 1914. As chairman of finances, I will give here a condensed statement of what has been done and which the city annual reports will give in detail later.

We have tried to follow out the principles on which we were elected, viz., efficiency and economy. The payroll for the year of 1913 was \$35,320; we have reduced this \$9300, which has been done not by crippling the efficiency, but by laying off superfluous employees—which does not mean that one man is doing three men's work, but which does mean that three men were employed to do one man's work. It has been said that we are making one man do three men's work. It would be an absolute impossibility for one man to do even two men's work. If a man is receiving good pay, it is his duty to do all in his power—hence that is his limit.

We have also saved on streets and roads and water \$16,008.23, which makes a total of \$25,328.23. Our gravity water system has been overhauled and is now in better shape than it ever was.

Our streets and roads have been kept in the best of condition and our fire department is better equipped than ever before.

Now, instead of a new city charter, we are more greatly in need of a ground floor office with more room and a fireproof vault so as to keep all valuable city documents safely. The vacant lot beside the city hall could be utilized reasonably for this purpose at a cost of about \$5000, as all that is required there is end walls and roof. This would also give us a more commodious city hall, or council chamber upstairs, and with ample room for all city offices under one roof.

This present council has been engaged throughout the past year in making practical improvements.

There is much talk of the present charter being antiquated, but we have found nothing in it that hinders practical work being done by practical men.

To quote from the New Year's editorial of our esteemed paper, The Sun, "there are numerous promises, but what we all want is results." It matters not so much what the charter of a city is, for without practical men to administer it, the most excellent and voluminous of charters will not give satisfactory results, but, with the right men at the helm a poor charter can be improved by ordinances from time to time, as the need presents itself, and so be made into a very creditable and efficient one. It is easy to theorize, but to obtain the right results you must have men of practical experience to work them out.

Theoretically, many things may look feasible and very much to be desired, but when they are put to the test they prove very dear experiments. I took the office I hold for the express purpose of trying to demonstrate the need and benefit of practical, not theoretical work. This has not been a "bed of roses," for I have met with considerable opposition, but what I have accomplished for the good of the city will speak for itself. All of the reductions we have made in salaries, etc., this past year has enabled us when making up the city budget to lower our tax assessment for next year.

F. V. MEDYNSKI.  
Medford, Jan. 2, 1915.

A Good Resolution.  
To help build up Medford payrolls by smoking Governor Johnson or Mt. Pitt cigars.

## REDUCE HOUSEHOLD EXPENSES!

Make Your Own Cough Medicine

The difference in buying one of the most efficient, latest and up-to-date cough and cold remedies (which can be made at home), and buying the ordinary, ready-made kind, is that with the new one you get all pure medicine instead of buying a large proportion of sugar and water, besides paying for bottles, corks and labels; and it usually requires 2 to 3 bottles of the old-fashioned ready-made remedies to break up a cough or cold, while 2 ounces (50c worth) of Schiffmann's new Concentrated Elixopectorant, which is so strongly concentrated that 2 ounces, when mixed at home with simply one pint of granulated sugar and one-half pint of water, make a full pint (16 ounces) of excellent cough remedy, and will be sufficient to probably last the whole family the entire winter. It positively contains no chloroform, opium, morphine or other narcotics, and is so pleasant that children like to take it. Arrangements have been made with drug store named below to refund the money to any person who finds it does not give perfect satisfaction, or if it is not found the very best remedy ever used for coughs, colds, bronchitis, croup, whooping cough and hoarseness. You will be the sole judge, and under the positive guarantee by these druggists, absolutely no risk is run in buying this remedy. For sale here by

Medford Pharmacy  
**John A. Perl**  
UNDERTAKER  
Lady Assistant  
50 S. BARTLETT  
Phone M. 47 and 47-38  
Ambulance Service Deputy Coroner

BEGIN HEARINGS  
FOR RATE INCREASE  
WESTERN RAILROADS

WASHINGTON, Jan. 4.—Public hearings on freight rate increases proposed by railroads west of the Mississippi river will begin in Chicago on February 15 and will be conducted by Interstate Commerce Commissioner Daniels.

The hearings will mark the beginning in public of an important rate case essentially different from the recent eastern case, in that the western roads are not asking for a horizontal increase in all rates, but an increase based upon traffic conditions and upon the movement of individual classes and commodities.

Some of the advances proposed aggregating as much as 50 per cent while others amount to only two or three per cent. On some kinds of traffic no increases have been proposed.

It is understood the western roads have endeavored to raise their rates so as not to bear too hard on the general shipper.

PLANS TO RAISE  
GARDEN TRUCK

To the Editor:

Since I purchased the Fry place, on the Pacific highway, north of Medford, a great many people have asked me what I intend to raise to pay interest on the investment of \$200 per acre.

I will say that I came from Payson, Wash., where similar land sells at \$1000 per acre. There the yields are principally berries. I shall plant five acres to loganberries, three acres to other berries, three acres to asparagus and ten acres to Kentucky Wonder beans, and the balance I shall plant to onions, tomatoes, corn or anything that the farming company here will handle. I will raise berries and vegetables for the canning factory here at Medford.

I will take water from the Rogue River Valley Canal company as fast as I can get my land ready. I believe

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that Bear creek bottom is as good land as I have seen anywhere, but think it should be irrigated to obtain the best results.

It is, I believe, particularly adapted to the growing of the crops I have

named above, and at the price I paid it is the cheapest land of any on the coast. Very truly,

CARL E. MERRILL.

LESS MEAT IF BACK  
AND KIDNEYS HURT

Take a glass of Salts to flush Kidneys if Bladder bothers you—Drink lots of water.

Eating meat regularly eventually produces kidney trouble in some form or other, says a well-known authority, because the uric acid in meat excites the kidneys, they become overworked, get sluggish, clog up and cause all sorts of distress, particularly backache and misery in the kidney region; rheumatic twinges, severe headaches, acid stomach, constipation, torpid liver, sleeplessness, bladder and urinary irritation.

The moment your back hurts or kidneys aren't acting right, or if bladder bothers you, get about four ounces of Jad Salts from any good pharmacy; take a tablespoonful in a glass of water before breakfast for a few days and your kidneys will then act fine. This famous salts is made from the acid of grapes and lemon juice, combined with lithia, and has been used for generations to flush clogged kidneys and stimulate them to normal activity; also to neutralize the acids in the urine so it no longer irritates, thus ending bladder disorders.

Jad Salts cannot injure anyone; makes a delightful effervescent lithia-water drink which millions of men and women take now and then to keep the kidneys and urinary organs clean, thus avoiding serious kidney disease.

## IT Theatre

TODAY

Our Mutual Girl  
Reel 27

A Soul Astray  
Two Reel "A" Sociological Drama, Intense

The Dog of Flanders  
Two Part Thanhouser

His Favorite Pastime  
Keystone Comedy

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