

MEDFORD MAIL TRIBUNE

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER PUBLISHED EVERY AFTERNOON EXCEPT SUNDAY BY THE MEDFORD PRINTING CO.

Office Mail Tribune Building, 25-27-29 North Fir street, telephone 75.

Subscription Rates: One year, by mail, \$3.00; One month, by mail, .50; Per month, delivered by carrier in Medford, Phoenix, Jacksonville and Central Point, .50.

Official Paper of the City of Medford, Official Paper of Jackson County, Entered as second-class matter at Medford, Oregon, under the act of March 3, 1879.

Sworn Circulation for 1914, 2588. Full leased wire Associated Press dispatches.

GENERAL FRENCH PAYS A VISIT TO LONDON OFFICE

LONDON, Jan. 11.—For three days the operations of the British army in Flanders were directed by telegraph from the home of Sir John French, near Hyde Park, London, during the general's recent visit here.

From a man who was in close touch with Sir John during his recent visit to England, the following details are learned: General French arrived at Folkestone, wearing the overcoat and rather soiled cap of an enlisted man.

COMMUNICATION.

To the Editor: Mayor Purdin in his spiel on the new charter says: "Let us go back to the good old times of our late activities."

Now what were those good old times? We paved about twenty-one miles of streets at a cost of about \$125,000; the contractors brought their help and teams from another state and even boarded their hands and were careful not to leave a dollar here of that large amount.

The common people have an opportunity to relieve themselves of the additional burdens sought to be imposed upon them by the uncommon people by voting against the new charter.

That change in the new charter regarding the liquor traffic disguised to catch men and women who are unfamiliar with politics reads as follows:

... subject to the constitution and general laws of the state of Oregon. Now four or six years ago the legislature passed a special law enabling the city of Medford to pass any measures for its government, irrespective of any general laws of the state, leaving the license of saloons entirely with the city council; so if in 1916 the council wishes to license saloons they may do so, irrespective of the prohibition act.

J. S. HOWARD. Editor's Note—In the above appeal to prejudice and betrayal of ignorance, Mr. Howard has his wires badly crossed when he asserts that city or legislative action can nullify the state constitution.

COMPARISON OF CHARTERS

DESPITE proof to the contrary, lies are still in circulation regarding the new charter. Among these, the most persistent is the assertion that the board has undue power in the ordering of street improvements.

Section 80 of the present charter gives the majority of the council the power to order an improvement and to assess the cost, notwithstanding any protests that may be made by the property owners.

The old charter provides delinquency after ten days' notice after assessment notice is published. The new charter six months' time, as follows:

Present Charter Sec. 85. If within ten days from the service of the notice of the final publication thereof... New Charter Sec. 90. At any time after six months shall have elapsed from the date when any assessment became delinquent...

Regarding control of the liquor traffic, although any provision is invalidated by the prohibition constitutional amendment after January 1, 1916, the old charter contained the famous joker that enabled Medford to have home rule until the home rule amendment nullified it four years ago:

Present Charter Sec. 19. To license, tax, regulate or prohibit bar rooms, drinking shops, billiard rooms, bowling alleys, dance house and all places where spirituous, malt or vinous liquors are sold or kept for sale... New Charter Sec. 11. To license, tax, regulate or prohibit bar rooms, drinking shops, billiard rooms, bowling alleys, dance houses and all places where spirituous, malt or vinous liquors are sold or kept for sale...

The recall is assured by the state constitution, although omitted from the present charter:

New Charter Sec. 141. Recall Petition.—A petition, signed by qualified electors of the city equal in number to at least twenty-five per cent of the total number of votes cast in said city in the last preceding municipal election...

THE RESULT OF SUGAR BEETS

AS the seat of the great Oxnard sugar factory, the town of Oxnard is necessarily the business center for the sugar beet industry, only recently established.

The growing of sugar beets in the valley has proved highly successful; the farmers were quick to realize the numerous benefits to be derived from this wonderful product.

The acreage planted yearly varies between 10,000 and 18,000 acres, this being regulated by meteorological conditions and the market price of other competing staple crops of the county.

The sugar beet, lowly as it grows in the ground, has done much for the Santa Clara valley. It has brought into existence the thriving town of Oxnard, where before was only a great farmstead.

When the American Beet Sugar company began the erection of its plant at Oxnard, or rather when the management picked out the site, there was no dweller on the present townsite.

The valley farmers receive for their beets every year approximately \$1,000,000. The intensive farming necessary to make beet growing successful also made good and wealthy farmers of men who farmed their land but poorly and with little profit to the county or to themselves before.

laborers the sugar beet has helped, and to the whole county of Ventura it has meant putting the land in touch with the best methods of production known to farm life.

WHY NOT NOW?

LITTLE remains to be said upon the new charter. Its pros and cons have been thoroughly discussed.

Great advance has been made in recent years in the science of city government. The old system of city management by divided responsibility and multiplicity of officers is passing away.

The best features of the commission form, as proven by the experience of some four hundred cities, are embodied in the new charter.

The new charter, or substantially the same charter, will be adopted at some future day if rejected tomorrow, for Medford is bound to progress.

Jackson County Leads State in Highways Says Samuel Hill

To the Editor: I did not get your letter in time for your New Year's edition, but I suppose you will be issuing the regular daily and weekly during the year 1915, and I trust to your advantage—I know to the public's.

I would like to say to the Mail Tribune, in my opinion Jackson county has done more for the improvement of highways than any single county in the state of Oregon.

The True Believer

(Ben Lampman in Gold Hill News.) His faith was matchless; if a wight might say, "Christ, the reformer, cometh back today," then would he fix his vision on the hills, and pay his rent and straighten up his bills; and change his raiment and anoint his hair, and how his head and wait the Christ in prayer.

GOMB SAGE TEA IN HAIR TO DARKEN IT

Grandma kept her locks dark, glossy, thick with a mixture of Sage Tea and Sulphur.

The old-time mixture of Sage Tea and Sulphur for darkening gray, streaked and faded hair is grandma's hair treatment, and folks are again using it to keep their hair a good, even color, which is quite sensible, as we are living in an age when a youthful appearance is of the greatest advantage.

John A. Perl UNDERTAKER Lady Assistant 20 S. BARKLEY Phone M. 47 and 47-38 Ambulance Service Deputy Coroner

MISSOURI ATTACKS IT Theatre

TONIGHT AND TUESDAY Our Mutual Girl

—A suit charging the American Baling company of St. Louis of being a trust in restraint of trade was filed today with the supreme court.

The American Bakery company was organized in 1907. Attorney General Barker charges that the American company and seven other baking firms in St. Louis are members of a combination formed by the American Bakery company, and that under an agreement among them the size of a loaf of bread has been reduced from sixteen to thirteen ounces.

A Good Resolution. To help build up Medford payrolls by smoking Governor Johnson or Mt. Pitt cigars. Grant county tax levy reduced four mills.

STAR MONDAY-TUESDAY

MAN IN THE VAULT One Part ERNEST MALTRAVERS Two Parts

HEARST-SELIG One Part In the Land of Arcadia Two Parts

Too Much Burglar One Part

STAR THEATER

K. L. Bernard, Manager COMING BACK HOME

The Famous Player Films (PARAMOUNT SUBJECTS)

WEEKLY AT THE STAR BEGINNING

Friday and Saturday January 15 and 16, 1915

Miss Mary Pickford America's Sweetheart In

The Eagle's Mate

A Thrilling Story of the Mountains

Complete Change of Local Scenes Tuesday

See Others As They See You and Enjoy a Big Laugh

Admission 5c, 10c AND 15c

Souvenir Postcards with each Admission Ticket Friday

Admission Always Five and Ten Cents