

MEDFORD MAIL TRIBUNE

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER PUBLISHED EVERY AFTERNOON EXCEPT SUNDAY BY THE MEDFORD PRINTING CO. Office Mail Tribune Building, 25-27-29 North P St. street; telephone 75.

PROHIBITION—RUSSIA AND OREGON

RUSSIA is one country which has genuine prohibition. This was made possible by the absolute monopoly by the government of the liquor business. An article in the Review of Reviews describes the result as follows:

The government's intention evidently was to keep the drinkshops closed only for a short time, in order to facilitate the concentration and mobilization of troops. But once the people had a taste of real prohibition, the czar's administration found that it was not easy to return to its old ways and resume its profitable business.

The result has been a regenerated and revolutionized Russia. Crime has been diminished 40 per cent, or even more. Wife-beating has ceased almost entirely. Children who had never seen their fathers sober and always feared them now behold them with astonishment and asked their mothers, "Will papa always be so?"

What a farce, compared to Russian prohibition, will Oregon prohibition be under the law proposed by the committee of one hundred and presented to the legislature. Instead of a prohibition measure, it should be labeled "a bill to promote booze guzzling at home and build up the whisky trust in other states."

The bill forbids the manufacture or sale of liquor in Oregon, but permits a wholesale mail-order booze industry.

It shuts down Oregon breweries and wineries, forbids saloons or drug stores from selling liquor, forbids club lockers, but permits any one to ship in from without the state five gallons of whisky or wine or twenty gallons of malt liquors in each month!

What a difference between real prohibition and the proposed Oregon article!

If prohibition confers the benefits its advocates claim, if liquor does the damage it is alleged to, let us give real prohibition a trial and forbid not only the manufacture or sale, but importing of all varieties of booze.

NICKEL-IN-THE-SLOT FRAUD

COUNTY ATTORNEY KELLY'S determination to order out all nickel-in-the-slot machines will have the support of all law-abiding citizens.

The law on the subject reads as follows:

Section 2112.—Any person or persons who shall conduct, maintain, or operate, either as owner or owners, proprietor or proprietors, lessee or lessees, employ or employers, agent or agents, or who shall play or use any nickel-in-the-slot machine or other device of like character wherein there enters any element of chance, whether the same be played for money, checks, credits, or other thing of representative value, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, and upon conviction shall be punished by a fine of not less than \$10 nor more than \$100, and in default of payment of the fine imposed shall be imprisoned in the county jail one day for each \$25 thereof.

Section 2113.—In all prosecutions under this act for conducting, maintaining, or operating any such machine or device, proof of the possession of such machine or device, or of permitting the same to be or remain in any public place owned or controlled by the person so prosecuted, convenient for use, shall be prima facie evidence against such person of violation of this act.

There is no more barefaced robbery practiced than these slot machines. The player has not one chance in a hundred of breaking even. They are purposely made with an overwhelming percentage in favor of the "house" and their victims are principally partially intoxicated men.

The pretense that they give a package of chewing gum with every nickel played is a barefaced subterfuge. No gum is forthcoming on any of the machines played in Medford.

Of all the slot machines that ever victimized the public, those now in Medford are the crookedest.

HOW TO SECURE PROSPERITY

THERE can be no question but that the securing of a beet sugar factory is the greatest opportunity ever offered the Rogue River valley. It involves no local expenditure of capital and offers the greatest net return to the farmer of any crop he can produce—a fixed market for all the energy and industry he can invest.

The beet sugar factory will mean the expenditure of three-quarters of a million dollars in the valley for construction. It will furnish an annual market for 15,000 cords of wood. It will distribute among the growers a million dollars a year to farmers and laborers of new money.

Every person in the valley will profit by the establishment of the factory. Its benefits are multitudinous. It will fix permanent land values. In a few years one factory cannot begin to handle the beet crop that can be raised, and another will be necessary.

Here is a chance to restore prosperity to the valley—an abiding and lasting prosperity. Will you do your share to secure it? All you need do is to sign up for some acreage yourself, if you are a farmer, and get your neighbors to sign up. If not a farmer, make it a point to induce your farmer acquaintances to sign up.

A long pull, a strong pull and a pull all together and we can get that prosperity-producer for the valley.

The Beginning of the End

In any general survey of the history of the great war in its fifth month, the moral rather than the military effect of the operations takes first place. For if the German attack in the opening months might fairly be likened to a forest fire sweeping irresistibly forward over vast districts, ever widening its area of destruction and mounting ever higher in its violence, it is not less patent that, December come, there was east and west in Europe an evident slackening of the fire—growing competence on the part of those whose necessity it was to limit, control, extinguish the blaze.

Looking at the fields of operation in December, it was plain that while there had been no success in actually extinguishing the conflagration, it had been limited, circumscribed, confined to the narrowest bounds since it broke out. In places it was actually flung back; at no point was it permitted to ravage again many of the districts which it had swept over in the early days of August and September.

John A. Perl UNDERTAKER Lady Assistant 88 S. BARTLETT Phone M. 47 and 47-78 Ambulance Service Deputy Coroner

had been in danger. In October, in November, the German drive for the sea coast, for Calais and Dunkirk, threatened to conquer for the Kaiser that "window on the channel" which for all pan-Germans had been the dream of all dreams, the first step in the series which was to acquire for Germany her "place in the sun."

But if in November and in the terrible battle of Ypres, of Flanders, this German advance had been halted, in December it was clear that, like the march to Paris, the sweep to the channel had been definitely repulsed. From Switzerland to the North Sea the great German offensive had come to a full stop, fallen dead, lost the necessary numbers and force, had sunk to the level of a mere siege operation in which the Germans were more frequently on the defensive than the offensive, and one by one towns and villages in Flanders, in Artois, in Champagne, which had been captured in the initial drives, were regained by allied advances, advances measured by rods, not miles, achieved in days, not hours.

For this the explanation was to be found, rather in the east than the west, for while her western campaign was still at a crisis Germany had again, as before the battle of the Marne, to hurry eastward troops necessary to enforce victory in Flanders to avoid the imminent disaster Russian masses had prepared in Poland. East and west, Russian, French and British armies increased in numbers, in effectiveness, in material, particularly in artillery, while Austrian resource and military value declined still more rapidly than before, and at last there seemed to be the approach of a time when German numbers and courage, German efficiency and skill, would no longer avail to keep the battle lines on both fronts outside her own territory.

Looking seaward, too, the decisive defeat of the last German fleet on the high seas—always inevitable, given the superiority of the allied navies—served to emphasize once more how fatally the net was being drawn about the German empire. It served to recall for all Americans the circumstances of the confederacy, when—Gettysburg lost and the Atlantic blockade made effective—the superiority in resources and numbers of the north was established, and the civil war settled down to a process of attrition. Then came destruction by campaigns in which neither skill, devotion nor valor could avail against numbers, wealth and sea power.

Thus for the outside world December seemed to mark the beginning of the end, not in the sense that the approach of peace was measurably hastened, not that the prospect of a long and terrible war was banished, but simply in the sense that under the political conditions existing, while the ranks of her enemies remained unbroken, there was no longer any promise of ultimate German victory. Germany's problem henceforth seemed to be one of defense, not attack; of endurance, not conquest. William II was not to conquer Europe as Napoleon did at Austerlitz. Germany was not to control the continent as France had a little more than a century before. It remained to be seen whether the German emperor could hold Belgium as Frederick the Great had held Silesia, against the combined military strength of Europe.

A Good Resolution.

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

THE PAGE Medford's Leading Theater

SUNDAY ONLY Matinee and Evening

It's Always a Big Show at the Page

Special Great Feature

The Thumb Print

A Thrilling and Powerful Detective Drama in Four Parts

Other Good Pictures

Special Musical Program By Page Theatre Orchestra

Sunday, Matinee 2 P. M. Evening at 7 O'Clock Admission 5-10-15c

RAISE IN WHEAT ORDERED PROBED BY PRESIDENT

WASHINGTON, Jan. 16.—President Wilson today directed Attorney General Gregory to investigate whether there had been any violations of law in the rise of prices of wheat and flour.

The department of commerce probably will be asked by the president to furnish information showing what degree of increase in exports of wheat and flour followed the outbreak of the European war. Mr. Gregory has promised prompt prosecutions on any evidence that illegal combinations have forced up the price of wheat and flour or other food products.

One investigation now being conducted in Chicago is being watched closely by the department of justice. From various sources suggestions have been made to the president that an embargo be laid on wheat and flour exports, to keep home prices normal. Officials declined today to comment on any of them.

THE SPOILERS AT THE PAGE THEATER MONDAY

"The Spoilers" is a story native to the soil of these states. It is typically American. It covers a period in the development of the Puget Sound country and Alaska wherein adventures of all sorts, noble and otherwise struggled with savage tenacity for fortune. It is now retold in moving picture form by W. N. Selig in nine reels with a fidelity to detail that is truly satisfying. The film drama is intensely interesting. Nothing like the hand to hand fight between Glenister and McNamara has ever been shown on the stage before. It would be impossible in speaking drama. No gladiatorial combat of Ancient Rome was fiercer or bloodier, and this struggle has the added virtue of a true dramatic situation, the world old struggle between right and wrong, good and evil, condensed into the forms of two characters of the story who have become familiar through previous presentations in the plot. It is the story of modern American frontier life. This most wonderful picture is to receive its initial presentation in Medford at the Page for an engagement of two days starting January 18th, matinee and evening.

IT Theatre FRIDAY AND SATURDAY Matinee-Evening

Mystery of the Sleeping House

Episode No. 2, "Zudora" Complete Two Reels

Mutual Weekly News

Shorty Escapes Matrimony

Two Reel Broncho, Shorty Series Princess Comedy

In Her Sleep

5 and 10c ANY SEAT 5 and 10c

STAR

Sunday Only

Selig One Part

Rival Stage Lines

Vitagraph Feature Two Parts

Saved from a Life of Crime

Kalem Comedy One Part

Bud, Bill and the Waiter

Essany Special, Two Parts

The Place, the Time and the Man

George Ades Fable

The Club Girls and the Four Times Veteran

MATINEE AT TWO

SHOOTS SELF; FALLS DOWN TWELVE STORIES

SAN FRANCISCO, Cal., Jan. 16.—After paying his hotel bill in advance for two days, Thomas Merker of Point Richmond went upstairs to the room assigned him early today, neatly laid away his coat, waistcoat and shoes, carefully leaned out the window, so that no strains should fall on the carpet and shot himself through the head. His body plunged downward 12 stories into Union Square.

With Medford crane to Medford made

LORD ROBERT'S ESTATE APPRAISES \$385,000

LONDON, Jan. 16, 1.16 p. m.—Field Marshal Lord Roberts, who died in France November 14 of last year, left an estate of \$385,000, all of which goes to his widow and daughters. This amount is exclusive of property previously settled on his family by Lord Roberts.

Funeral Notice Funeral services of Verena Cameron, wife of Zach Cameron, will be held at the Weeks & McGowan chapel, Sunday, January 17th at 2:00 p. m., Rev. Shields officiating. Interment in I. O. O. F. cemetery.

DRY CONSTRUCTION CAUSE OF GREAT QUAKE MORTALITY

PARIS, Jan. 16.—The correspondent of the Excelsior in Rome wires that he learns officially that 35,000 persons were killed and 45,000 injured in the earthquake.

Newspaper specials from Rome agree that the great mortality is attributable to the method of dry construction employed in the affected region, the stones being piled upon each other without mortar. The only buildings which escaped total destruction were the modern houses built of reinforced concrete.

The serious landslide which has occurred at Montecorvino Rovella, which sent masses of earth from the mountainside into the Fucino canal, damming that stream, threatens to add a flood to the other calamities in the region. Gangs of men are working strenuously to remove the obstruction.

CREATE OFFICE OF PUBLIC DEFENDER

SALEM, Ore., Jan. 16.—The office of public defender will be created in every county of 75,000 population or more, should a bill introduced in the house today by Representative Lewis be enacted into law.

The bill makes it the duty of public defenders to defend all persons who are financially able to employ counsel, and also to prosecute actions for the collection of wages for those who are not able to employ counsel in cases in which the sum involved does not exceed \$100, and to defend persons in all civil litigation in which, in his judgment, they are being persecuted.

NEW MEMBERS OF STATE HEALTH BOARD

SALEM, Or., Jan. 16.—Two new members of the state board of health have been appointed by Governor Withycombe, and Dr. Andrew C. Smith was reappointed, the terms of office of three of the old members terminating today. The two members who have not formerly served, that were selected by the governor, are: Dr. M. B. Macedulis, city health officer of Portland, and Dr. A. C. Seeley of Roseburg. Members whose terms expired simultaneously with that of Dr. Smith, but who were not reappointed, are: Dr. A. C. Kinney of Astoria, and Dr. T. J. Higgins of Baker. The hold-over members are Dr. E. A. Pierce, Portland; Dr. W. B. Morse, Salem, and Dr. E. B. Pickel, Medford.

CARRANZA FORCES TAKE GUADALAJARA

VERA CRUZ, Jan. 16.—According to official information reaching Vera Cruz today, the town of Guadalajara has been recaptured by the Carranza leader, General Dieguez.

Guadalajara was taken by the Villa troops in December, the Carranza troops under Dieguez evacuating the position and withdrawing to Quapatlan.

SMISER SELECTED AS ALASKAN ATTORNEY

WASHINGTON, Jan. 16.—President Wilson has selected J. A. Smiser for United States attorney for the division of Alaska. The nomination will be made soon.

THE PAGE TWO DAYS MONDAY AND TUESDAY January 18th and 19th Medford's Leading Theater It's Always a Big Show at the Page ANNOUNCEMENT EXTRAORDINARY By special arrangement with the All-Star Feature Distributors, this Theater will present JANUARY 18th AND 19th Afternoon and Evening The Spoilers REX BEACH'S Red-blooded story of Alaska, pronounced by press and public the greatest photo-spectacle ever produced. The admission, while more than our regular price, is less than for this great feature in many cities. Lower Floor, 25c; Balcony, 15c; Children, 15c. MUSIC FOR THIS ATTRACTION BY PAGE THEATRE ORCHESTRA

THE PAGE Friday-Saturday Matinee and Saturday Evening Medford's Leading Theater. It's Always a Big Show at the Page SPECIAL GREAT FEATURE Box Office Attraction Company Presents the New York Lyceum Theater Success as Produced by Daniel Frohman THE THIEF By Henry Bernstein, Author of Samson, Israel, etc. Featuring Dorothy Donnelly, Creator of Madam X. AN EPOCH-MAKING FEATURE This great Photo Masterpiece will only be shown Friday Night, Saturday Matinee and Evening MUSIC BY PAGE THEATRE ORCHESTRA ADMISSION 5, 10, 15 CENTS

PAGE THEATRE 21 Thursday, Jan. 21 RONLAND CLIFFORDS and BIG COMPANY of 50 DANCERS & SINGERS LA SALLE OPERA HOUSE (CHICAGO) SUCCESS. IN THE WHIRLY GIRLY TANGO HIT! SEPTEMBER MORN MUSIC BY AUBREY SHAWER TANGOS BY VIRGIL BENNETT LYRICS BY ARTHUR GILLESPIE STAGED BY FRANK TANNEHILL GREAT TANGOESQUE CARNIVAL COSTUMES A RIOT IN COLORS SCENIC ENVIRONMENTS SUPERBLY DESIGNED. PRICES 50c, 75c, \$1.00, \$1.50 Seat Sale Opens Tuesday. Mail Orders Now. Phone 418 THIS IS NOT A MOVING PICTURE SHOW