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GEORGE PUTNAM, Editor.

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EM-TEES

Almost Everybody. Every alumni and alumnae and their respective wives and husbands and former students are urged to be present.—Iowa City (Iowa) Citizen. What Ailed Tim? Words from the Morgans at St. Petersburg states that they have not been the best at that place this winter. Among other things they say Mrs. Brinkley fell and dislocated her shoulder. Other members of the family had not fared so well.—The Salina (O.) News-Record. Generous Verdict. Verdict Blixenstein was smiling on lady friends in those parts Sunday afternoon.—Union Cor. of the Grayville (Ill.) Mercury. How, Indeed? We know the beautiful spring is here, but how can a man expect his old cox to give milk when her under looks like the swivel end of a cucumber.—Washington (N. C.) Progress. Vers Late. Plot. He loved her. To prove it, he got goused. On 100-proof hecker and wept. All over the parlor rug. He loved her. To prove it, he threw up. His job because he got lonesome. Working down there in the office, all day. He loved her. And he stuck around every living minute. And never let her forget what he looked like. Or anything. Tab. And one pleasant evening He came home lit up with. The cursed stuff. Add killed her; because He loved her. —Bjork. Gee, Bjork, you've got a real happy little way about you in sending contributions to a funny column, haven't you? Why don't you apply your talents to something merrier, like keeping the city morgue or cutting an undertaking parlor?

COMMUNICATION.

To the Editor: Why increase our city indebtedness by a bond issue to build a railroad to the Blue Ledge mine when we have timber enough in sight of Medford to keep a box factory and sawmill running for the next twenty years? Let us develop what we have in sight, which can be done without a bond issue. Let those interested in the Blue Ledge and other mines form a stock company, sell stock in shares from \$10 to \$100 each; then the mine owners can take stock and help build the road and all others that wish to become railroad magnates. I think it a foolish venture for Medford to embark in the railroad business when there is no assurance that it would be a paying investment. We can have a box factory, saw mill and sawpines without going to the Blue Ledge mine. I expect to be called a "knocker" because I take issue with the powers that be, but no matter; I would rather be called a "knocker" than to be classed among the boosters, for I never yet have heard of a knocker being called a liar, and there are many living witnesses in the valley that will testify that boosters are liars. We defeated a bond issue that would have been a temporary relief to many of our citizens on the grounds that we should not increase our indebtedness—the so-called business men helped defeat it. But now, as this is in the interest of "big business," the merchants are unanimous for it. We should vote down all bond issues. W. J. DRUMHILL.

INVISIBLE GOVERNMENT

AN interesting glimpse of how a railroad uses passes to influence courts and legislatures is shown by the hearing being conducted into the affairs of the Louisville & Nashville railroad by the interstate commerce commission. Before the passage of the laws forbidding the giving of passes in interstate commerce, such methods were in vogue throughout the country, but they are now confined to a few southern states.

The railroad viewpoint is illustrated by the testimony of President Milton A. Smith, who remarked: "It is an exceedingly difficult matter to protect the property of a large corporation in states from confiscation by the people, acting through their law making bodies. You know all men are free and equal, but we could not get along without our plutocrats. Under our form of government it is permissible to do anything necessary to get another man's property provided you can keep out of jail. All legislative bodies are a menace; in action, they are a calamity. They are many and numerous, and we have trouble at times with all of them, beginning with congress and going down the line to the town council. We must do what we can to conciliate them all. We have to protect ourselves."

Therefore, the Louisville & Nashville issued passes in Tennessee and Kentucky, in one year, to the value of \$226,224. Some were given to influence courts, some to bribe legislators, some to kill and some to secure legislation. Two trunks full of missives reveal the secrets of the passes. Here is a sample:

"W. H. Ingram has asked me for transportation for his wife and daughter Annie to Louisville. He is the judge of the Princeton city court and has decided practically every case in our favor that has come before him, and we have many small ones. Besides, he is one of the Bell county jury commissioners and I think perhaps I will be in a position, by getting this favor for him, to get a better class of jurors."

Another reads as follows: "You will please be kind enough to return this letter with a pass for Dr. E. Foley from Williamsburg to Lexington and return. The L. & N. railroad company has some three or four cases of weighty importance to be tried in the Witley circuit court during the next twelve days, beginning next Monday. The thirty men from whom the jury will be selected have already been summoned. Among that number is a brother of Dr. E. Foley and also two of his close, substantial, personal friends who listen to him and take his advice generally about matters where they are interested."

A sample of many hundreds of requests from members of the legislature are those from H. J. Meyers, running for re-election, one of which concludes: "Please send these, and don't kick, as you know they will do me some good and I need them all."

Isham T. Byron, writing on the stationery of the house of representatives, of Tennessee, Nashville, April 16, 1913, asks for a half dozen passes for friends named, and adds a postscript saying: "Special. What do you want me to do with the bills now before the railroad committee? Let me know at once."

It was by the free use of passes that our invisible government was enabled to exercise such control throughout the nation in the days gone by, for which the railroads are burdened by watered capitalization and the public by excessive rates.

The passes were both a source of blackmail by public officials and self-protection and corruption by the railroads, and it was a good thing for all concerned when they were abolished.

What Became of Joe Dies?

A True Story of Pioneer Days of Southern Oregon by O. A. Stearns.

(Continued from Thursday.) Some time in late November, 1861, following the incidents narrated, there came through the country a Dr. Dodd, a lecturer on the then little known science of mesmerism. The doctor was accompanied by a rather frail-looking young man, whom the doctor stated to be one of the best subjects then known in the United States to illustrate the uncanny powers of the new science. The doctor gave a lecture in one of the two brick buildings of which the little burg boasted, and it was attended by practically all the adult population of the place. After his introductory remarks, in which he gave a history of mesmerism, as far as then known, he asked that his audience select three of their number to come up on the stage to blindfold his subject, whom he had mesmerized, and who was then apparently in a profound slumber, reclining in an easy chair. This request he said, was made to insure against any deception or trickery on his part, as he expected to demonstrate some very remarkable powers of his subject that would suggest trickery as a possible explanation unless guarded against.

At the request of the audience the following well-known citizens were selected and took up their positions at the platform: Orange Jacobs, the resident schoolmaster, afterwards delegate to congress from the territory of Washington, and later chief justice of that state; Dr. Miner, a resident physician and the third member, if I mistake not, was the late Timothy Davenport. After the committee had bound several handkerchiefs and mufflers around the subject's head, the doctor, who stood all the time in the farther end of the platform, instructed the committee to submit such tests as placing sealed letters or folded newspapers behind the subject's head, when he would read the contents accurately. He was then requested to describe articles in the pockets of any one in the audience; if a watch, give the factory number and any other items of identification that the owner himself was ignorant of.

Finally, the doctor stated that his subject possessed the ability to read

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BELL-ANS Absolutely Removes Indigestion. One package proves it. 25c at all druggists.

REBECCA DISCUSSES COUNTY PROBLEMS PUBLIC SCHOOLS

To the Editor:

Though I am away from the Rogue River valley most of the time, it still is the place I truly regard as home, and I still pay taxes there. I think, therefore, it is not unseemly for me to interest myself in Jackson county public affairs.

As an educator, whose eye cannot ever stray very far from the schools and their problems, I have been watching with anxious concern the development in connection with the primary campaign over the county school-superintendency. I refer to the disposition not only of some of the candidates themselves to regard the superintendency of county schools as a superfluous and waste. I wish most earnestly to record myself as affirming that the man who takes that attitude, whether he calls himself educator or citizen, is no friend of the schools. Unless blindly uninformed, he is either a politician who wants an office at all costs, or else that type of bad citizen who conceives his public duty to be confined to a slashing of the tax sheets.

To say that the schools of Jackson county require little or no supervision is very flattering to the good teachers of those schools; but is it good sense or good business? If one of the gentlemen who propose the cutting down or cutting out of county school supervision chanced to come into ownership of a hundred little ranches of choice blooded sheep corresponding to the hundred odd little schools scattered over the level and up and down the far-away mountains and canyons of Jackson county's 3000 square miles, would he honestly expect those ranches and their sheep to thrive without the boss fairly near and often at hand? Teachers like other humans tend to get slack and ineffective and to go to pieces. Any experienced school man can testify to the queer and occasionally atrocious things that happen in forgotten schools. The public is no sufficient check, because too commonly the public is not alert, and what is more, the public is no expert judge, much less an expert guide. Neither does the school director, by being elected to his office, become an educator, any more than I should become a physician by happening to be given the oversight of a doctor's office and practice. And what are the candid facts about these teachers who are to be released from supervision? Down to this present school year graduates of the eighth grade were admissible to the county teachers' examinations, and of the candidates who actually presented themselves, 80 per cent were only eighth-grade graduates. I do not wish to be misunderstood—the girls who make up the rank and file of our rural teachers are good, honest, earnest young souls, and the reflection is on society rather than on them; nevertheless, for the momentous business of civilization and humanity which is devolved upon them as trainers of the young they are mostly little better than children, with a pitiful deficiency of preparation and experience.

To offer to take these teachers from under all close direction, and to point to the good old times of a few years ago when they got along without it, is to propose to let our rural schools slide back. It is no simple answer to say, "Let the superintendent inspect his schools." The superintendent should actively take a part in the business, of course, but every day there comes up in his office matters that cannot be turned over to a mere clerk—meetings of the county school board, gatherings of teachers and officers, visits of directors, teachers, parents, children with their troubles and problems as important as any that arise out in the field. The "deputy" who could handle these affairs would not be a clerk, but a man or woman requiring to be paid fully as well as any supervisor.

I wonder if the persons who propose to "let the superintendent do" would be willing to try what could be done. It so happened that Hobart Taylor was in the audience and immediately came forward, took the chair at the subject's side and grasped his hand. After an interval of silence the subject began speaking in a slow, strained voice that grew stronger as he proceeded, and this is the substance, if not the exact words, of his reply.

(To be Continued)

To Make Skin Clear Don't worry about skin troubles. You can have a clear, clean complexion by using a little cream, obtained at any drug store for 25c, or extra large bottles at \$1.00. Zeno's easily removes all traces of pimples, black heads, sebum, and ringworms and makes the skin clear and healthy. Zeno is neither watery, sticky nor greasy and stains nothing. It is easily applied and costs a mere trifle for each application. It is always obtainable. Zeno, Cleveland.

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it," have any idea of the size of the job? As I have already said, Jackson county has 3000 square miles, mostly mountain and canyon, and more than a hundred school districts. I have ridden over some portions of this territory in the pleasant season, with one of the young men who have been holding the superintendency position the last two or three years. It was then what I was able to see what must be the nature of his work when, in making his rounds in the dead of winter, he has to trudge for fifteen and even twenty miles a day, through impossible roads or no roads at all, shin-high in mud, hip-high in snow.

This is no fairy tale, but the literal fact. It was on my coming to realize it that I conceived for the man himself who did this thing cheerfully, eagerly and well, the admiration and friendship which I have gladly avowed, and for his tuition as an educational and sociological power for good, the deep respect I have. However, the question is not of the or that individual, but of the work to be done. When Jackson county reduced its superintendency from two to one it took a false step of economy. To abolish them altogether would be a public sin. Nakedly put, it would be saving a little money by setting the hundred county schools and their several thousand children back.

GEORGE REBECC, Portland, May 12.



The Star Spangled Smoke!

Alert, square-shouldered, ready-for-a-fight-or-a-frolic men like the punch, dash, vim and vigor of the great American smoke—"Bull" Durham. Wherever the flag goes there you'll find these lively lads "rolling their own" with

GENUINE "BULL" DURHAM SMOKING TOBACCO It takes only a little practice to learn to "roll your own" with "Bull" Durham. Simply get the knack—then you'll enjoy your cigarette as you never did before.

Rolled in a cigarette "Bull" Durham gives you the freshest, mildest, wholesomest smoke in the world. For far-greater smoking pleasure and satisfaction "roll your own" with "Bull" Durham.

Ask for FREE package of "papers" with each 5c pack.



Auto Service from Eagle Point to Medford and Back The undersigned will leave Frank Lewis' conveyance every day except Sunday for Medford with his auto at 1 o'clock p. m., arriving at 2:00 p. m. Leave Nash Hotel, Medford, at 5:00 p. m., arrive Eagle Point at 6:00 p. m. A part of the traffic is solicited. S. H. HARNISH, Eagle Point, Oregon.

HOCHAMBEAU Imported Percheron Stallion owned by Walter Kille will make the stand at Eugene's Fair, Ashland, Medford and Tuesday Talent Wednesday and Thursday systems each Friday and Saturday.



DR. J. W. MORROW Candidate for DELEGATE AT LARGE To the National Democratic Convention VOTE FOR HIM (Paid Advt.)

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Symptoms of a Run-down Condition. We Have a Remedy. We ask every weak, run-down person in Medford to try our Vinol, with the understanding that their money will be returned if it does not re-establish their health. Letters like the following give us confidence:

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ARTHUR C. SPENCER



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W. W. TRUMAN For County Assessor Experienced and Capable YES Next Friday is the day To Vote

72 X | W. W. TRUMAN If elected I will work, co-operate with citizens to establish a better and equal standard of living.