

MEDFORD MAIL TRIBUNE

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GEORGE PUTNAM, Editor

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EM-TEES

DID YOU KNOW THAT On account of his long tail a peacock couldn't rush things going thru a revolving door.

To make shooting more humane a Terra Haute barber has invented a bullet that carries a pillow over its point.

GRAVITY About the simplest way to understand the law of gravity is to take off your shoes and slide the bare foot in front of the other foot then take a flat iron and a feather in your hand holding them directly over the foot, then turn the wrist over to the northwest.—Prof M. T. Cranham, C. O. D.

Since firemen of Hieville have Thursday afternoon off, the mayor has issued an order declaring it unlawful for any of the citizens to have a fire on that afternoon.

C. Sharp is a piano teacher in the city of Chicago.

OUR DIPPY DICTIONARY LUCKY GUY—A fellow who got something you wanted. CON GAME—See 6-day bike race.

WITH THE SPIRITS AT THE PAGE SUNDAY NIGHT

Skeptics and believers in spiritualism will have an opportunity at the Page theatre Saturday night to witness a séance in a lighted building in which it is said Dr. Eddy will make some demonstrations of the occult that are unexplainable, except upon the theory that spiritualism exists and that there are ways of passing behind the veil that divides the natural from the supernatural. It is said Dr. Eddy has been successful in Philadelphia and other cities in demonstrating his unusual powers. Slate writing, floating tables and chairs, remarkable tests of the human mind are a simple matter to his materialization and dematerialization of spirit forms. Surrounded by a committee and with the lights of the theatre and stage at full height it is said Dr. Eddy is able to bring forward shadowy forms that occupy the stage and then move among the audience. A series of tests by members of the Royal Society of England failed to elicit from that body any expressions but those of wonder.

Font's Grocery Co. Guaranteed fresh ranch eggs 35c dozen. We sell for cash and no delivery.

OLD-TIME COLD CURE—DRINK HOT TEA!

Get a small package of Hamburg Breast Tea, or as the German folks call it, "Hamburger Brust Thee," at any pharmacy. Take a tablespoonful of the tea, put a cup of boiling water upon it, pour through a sieve and drink a teaspoon full at any time during the day or before retiring. It is the most effective way to break a cold and cure grip, as it opens the pores of the skin, relieves congestion, also loosens the bowels, thus breaking up a cold. Try it the next time you suffer from a cold or the grip. It is inexpensive and entirely vegetable, therefore safe and harmless.

RUB RHEUMATISM FROM STIFF, ACHING JOINTS

Rub Soreness from joints and muscles with a small trial bottle of old St. Jacobs Oil

Stop "dosing" Rheumatism. It's pain only; not one case in fifty requires internal treatment. Rub soothing, penetrating "St. Jacobs Oil" right on the "tender spot," and by the time you say Jack Robinson—out comes the rheumatic pain. "St. Jacobs Oil" is a harmless rheumatism cure which never disappoints and doesn't burn the skin. It takes pain, soreness and stiffness from aching joints, muscles and bones; stops sciatica, lumbago, backache, neuralgia, limb-ache, etc. Get a 25-cent bottle of old-time, honest "St. Jacobs Oil" from any drug store, and in a moment you'll be free from pains, aches and stiffness. Don't suffer! Rub rheumatism away.

A MATTER OF PROGRESS

DESPITE many columns of space occupied in arguments against the proposed irrigation district, no valid reasons have been advanced why any property owner affected should not vote for the creation of the district.

The election scheduled for December 27 is a mere preliminary. It is a necessary beginning. Like the election held in the Talent district some months since, it does not saddle any indebtedness upon any property, but paves the way for a proposal later to be submitted to be voted upon.

The characters of the men named as directors are above reproach. There is no likelihood of their including any property not susceptible of benefit by irrigation. There is no probability of any hardship being worked upon any one. As a matter of fact, any one with suitable land can rent it, with water upon it, to beet sugar growers at from \$10 to \$25 an acre annually—more money than any of the objectors are now realizing from their property.

The only material progress the valley has made the past four years has been by extension of irrigated area. The only progress it can hope for in the next few years is by further extension of the watered area, thus increasing the yields. The only prosperous orchardists and farmers this year are those who have irrigation.

The question, boiled down, is whether we are a progressive or a reactionary people. Do we want to continue to mark time and go backwards, as orchardists and farmers go bankrupt and are forced to leave the country, or do we want to progress by giving them an opportunity to work out their own salvation.

The great majority of those opposing the district plan are opposed to irrigation in any form. They are to blame for the present non-developed condition and the hard times existing. They would keep the valley, agriculturally and industrially, as it was a score of years ago, forgetting that by so doing they are driving people away and depreciating the value of their own property, which, without water, is an unprofitable investment at prices asked.

The campaign waged against the district plan is one of misrepresentation and unreasonable prejudice. It is the usual campaign of reaction. It will get us nowhere except in bankruptcy.

Rejection of the district plan will mean the postponement of irrigation indefinitely. It will mean retarded growth to the community and hardship for all. It will establish convincingly to the world that when it comes to real progress, we are hopeless—a good place to stay away from.

ADRIFT AT MERRY CHRISTMASTIDE

"THE foxes have holes, and the birds of the air have nests, but the son of man hath not where to lay his head."—Matt., 8:20.

This is a bible verse which almost anyone can repeat. There is a personal reaction to the words "hath not where to lay his head" which makes them not to be forgotten.

They express what is most forlorn in human experience. What dread is so terrible as that of being without shelter? If a friend's house burns down, we hurry to offer help and sympathy. If a city is stricken we raise funds for the homeless, as in the San Francisco fire.

But when a nation's population is driven from the shelter of its homes, when the women, children and old men of a hundred towns have not where to lay their heads, we accept the horror because "This is war."

We can measure war economically by its cost in money; we can value it scientifically by its marvelous instruments of destruction; we can compute it potentially by the size of its armies and navies; but we can never estimate it humanely because we have no gauge for human pain.

We know what misery would mean to us if we were set adrift on the face of the earth in Christmas weather, but we cannot imagine the agonies of a people whose homes are in the line of advance of some "tremendous offensive."

Yet there is a sad toll of little nations which have been martyrs in the strife of the great powers: Belgium, Poland, Serbia, Armenia, Montenegro, and now Rumania. It is not possible to estimate the total of the refugees, exiles, orphans and outcasts which this war has made, the great host of derelicts who have not where to lay their heads.

We know of projectiles, shells, grenades, liquid fire, shrapnel, bayonets, pistols and knives as the munitions of war. But war has other weapons—cold, famine, disease and death for non-combatants when they are homeless. It is not only the soldiers who count in war's losses. Any war is a war on the helpless as well as the strong, on babes as well as men.

And for every shout of those who rejoice over victory there rises the wailing of cold and hungry children in the land which has suffered defeat.

Soldiers as individuals are not necessarily responsible for robbing, burning and murdering of innocent victims; any army in action is in itself a instrument of atrocity; like a plague of locusts, it sweeps a green country brown as it passes.

Even the foxes which have their dens and the birds of the air which have their nests are more fortunate than the helpless civilians of a vanquished land.

In the gaiety of the most costly Christmas known in the world—as is this of 1916 in the United States—it is easy to forget that the earth is crowded with grief-worn wanderers. In truth, the horrors of the great war have passed far beyond human comprehension, but that is no good reason for failing to understand as much as one may.

AGED MAN STRUCK AND INJURED BY STREET CAR

Jasper Gillespie, age 76 years, was struck by the Southern Oregon Traction company street car near the Trail mill, Friday and sustained three broken ribs, and a severe shock. The aged man was blinded by the smoke from the locomotive, which proceeded down the track, ahead of the car. Gillespie stepped in front of the car, after the engine had passed. He was knocked off the track. According to the doctor's report his injuries are

not serious but he will be in bed for the next ten days.

Gillespie had been watching the unloading of the sawmill machinery most of the afternoon and was on his way home when the accident occurred. Medical assistance was rushed to the aged man.

Font's Grocery Co. Peanut butter, 12c pound. Peanuts 12c pound. Sauer kraut 10c quart. Raisins 12c package. Get our prices on Christmas goods. 127

FIRST BAND CONCERT FOR TUESDAY NIGHT

The Medford Junior band will make its first appearance at the concert to be given by the Medford senior band at the Natorium next Tuesday evening, Dec. 19. The boys band was recently organized by Mr. Rowland and has met twice weekly for practice. The members are of the age of eleven to fifteen years. The little band has made wonderful progress during the short period of existence, and the playing of the boys will be a surprise to the audience at the concert to be given by the Medford band next Tuesday evening. One of the finest programs is in preparation for the concert and the band will meet twice between now and the 19th for practice. Amongst those assisting the band are Miss Geraldine Theiss, Mrs. Hovious, Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Andrews, Mrs. E. C. Root and Mr. F. A. Haight. A most welcome number on the program will be a selection by the quartets under Mr. George Andrews' direction. The band selections will include "Il Trovatore," a Rossini overture, a descriptive on "Dublin Bay," and "Manhattan Beach" march by Sousa. A large number of tickets have been sold, which will insure a bumper crowd at the band's initial concert. The performance is to commence at 8.

COMMUNICATIONS

To the Editor: In fairness to the Canal company and to Mr. P. Welch, who is financing the same, I can hardly allow Mr. Reames' letter, appearing in your issue of the 15th, to pass unnoticed, although, viewing the matter from a strictly personal viewpoint it would be my judgment to allow such a "pusillanimous" trade to pass without comment. However, as this has never been, nor even will be, a personal matter so far as I am concerned, I shall, as I have in the past, continue to refute all of Mr. Reames' unjust, unfair and utterly untruthful statements regarding the methods and affairs of the company which I have the honor to represent.

For the consideration of the public I beg to append a copy of a communication which I have received from Mr. P. J. Neff, attorney for this company, in which letter he corroborates some statements which I made in a former communication, and absolutely refutes Mr. Reames' statements to the contrary.

Mr. Neff's letter is as follows: "Mr. E. M. Brown, Medford, Oregon.

"Dear Sir: In answer to your inquiry, I beg leave to say that I have never undertaken to advise Mr. Reames or anyone else as to the total acreage covered by water contracts issued by the canal company. Mr. Reames stated to me in a conversation that contracts covering ten thousand acres had been issued, and that the water rights of these lands would be prior to the water rights of the district. I replied that only about three thousand acres of contracts had been issued to outside parties, and that all other certificates issued had been upon the company's lands; that these later contracts could and would all be cancelled, and the water rights as to them subordinated to the water rights of the district, and that therefore there was only a matter of some three thousand acres whose water rights would in any event be prior to the water rights of the district, and that I believed some satisfactory arrangement can be brought about as to even these lands.

"I also beg to advise you that at the time of the preparation of the petition for the proposed fifty-five thousand acre district, I, as attorney for the canal company, conferred with Mr. Reames personally, and at his

personal request furnished him data and information necessary to prepare the description of the district which was a part of the petition. My conversation with Mr. Reames at the time enables me to say with certainty that Mr. Reames understood exactly what the district comprised and that the canal company was behind the movement exactly as it is behind the present movement.

(Signed "Respectfully, PORTER J. NEFF")

About the only effect the foregoing letter will have, I presume, will be to cause Mr. Reames to call Mr. Neff a liar, also; but, from the facts which have been put before the people, I am willing to allow my case to rest with the people who know Mr. Reames' blustering tactics sufficiently well to allow them to make a righteous judgment in this case.

Mr. Welch's Attitude

It does not seem to me, however, that these matters are highly relevant to the real questions before the people. I know Mr. Welch's feeling and attitude towards this whole matter so well that I feel warranted in giving the positive assurance that he would rather lose all that he has invested in the canal company than be connected with any transaction that was not fair and above board, and which would not result in any landowner getting a fair and honest return for every dollar paid to the company.

The company has spent a great deal of money here and has always paid its bills promptly. It never has, like many another enterprise, asked special considerations or concessions of the citizens of this valley, and at this time stands ready to advance all the money necessary to irrigate the lands within reach of its water sup-

ply, and to do so on any fair basis to the company and the landowner. The company stands ready to guarantee its water supply, and to agree that the price it receives shall be based on the amount of water it is actually able to supply the district. If Mr. Reames is correct in his contention that the company cannot supply water for more than ten thousand acres, then the total cost to the district will not exceed four hundred thousand dollars, and the district will be in position to eliminate all but ten thousand acres of the lands. This would make it possible for every one of Mr. Reames' clients to have his lands eliminated and would make everybody happy all around. If, on the other hand, the company can actually furnish water for the whole twenty thousand acres, then the point of Mr. Reames' objection is gone.

Reames Lost His Head

Mr. Reames seems to have lost his head entirely and forgets that the whole controversy in which he now finds himself is of his own choosing, as will be evidenced by the fact that he was not satisfied with making glaring malicious statements before the body of landowners congregated at the court room at the time of the meeting of the people with the county court, which statements myself and the attorney for the canal company saw fit to pass by without comment rather than start a disagreeable discussion; but followed it up with an endeavor written harrangue in an endeavor to belittle the largest and most substantial business in the entire valley,—a business backed by one of the most substantial men in the entire west, Mr. P. Welch.

Does the public prefer to pay Mr. Reames his good money for nothing,

or do they prefer to invest it in a legitimate investment which will render the landowner good returns on his investment and provide him the best and most economical insurance against crop failure to be obtained? It is Mr. Reames' business to keep this agitation up and if the people fall for his game it will not be through any further advertising that he gets through me.

E. M. BROWN, Manager, Rogue River Valley Canal Company.

For Dad or Mother

Kryptok Bifocals



Two Visions in a One-Piece Lens Highest Type of Bifocal Lenses No Cement; No Lines of Separation No Dropping Apart Nor Collecting of Dirt As Graceful and Practical as Any Single Vision Lenses Come in and see them. DR. RICKERT Over the May Co. Medford, Ore.

Will there be a Victrola in your home this Christmas? You can search the whole world over and not find another gift that will bring so much pleasure to every member of the family. Any Victor dealer in any city in the world will gladly demonstrate the Victrola and play any music you wish to hear. Write today for illustrated catalogs. \$15 \$25 \$40 \$50 \$75 \$100 \$150 \$200 Hale Piano House Always use Victor Machines with Victor Records and Victor Needles—the combination. There is no other way to get the unequalled Victor tone. New Victor Records demonstrated at all dealers on the 28th of each month. Victrola XVI, \$200; Victrola IV, \$15; Victrola VIII, \$40; Victrola X, \$75.

Hardware Herald Written With Double-Fitted Broad Ax. Published Semi-Occasionally by Crater Lake Hardware Co. VOL. 6. MEDFORD OREGON, 523 MAIN ST., DEC. 16, 1916. NO. 8. The Stewart \$7 Phonograph HAS ARRIVED COME AND HEAR IT Buy One For the Family For Christmas 6 SHOPPING DAYS UNTIL CHRISTMAS Mrs. A. True Lundy Surgical Fittings a Specialty Medford Hotel JOHN A. PERL UNDERTAKER 28 S. BARTLETT Phone M. 478 and 47-J-2 Automobile Hearse Service.