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GEORGE PUTNAM, Editor

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EM-TEES

TOYLAND TALK

BL. CHARLES B. DRISCOLL Said toyland dear to the little drum "I do wish Santa Claus would come! I want to tell the dear, old man, About my little Christmas plan. You see, I've sat here on the shelf, And thought it out all by myself; I want to go to some poor kid Who has no toys nor Sunday lid!"

"Why sure!" the little drum replied, As he rolled over on his side. "You want to go where you will be The entire show, and so do we! But Santa Claus knows all this stuff. He's old, I guess and wise enough; He knows that rich kids too, must play.

On overhearing all this talk, I vary quickly took a walk. And as I hurried through the door I found this note upon the floor: "Dear Santa Claus—My dad had dough, But that is not my fault, you know. Please don't forget us poor rich boys, When you're distributing your toys."

WOW

We see a German U-boat sank a battleship because it was "Safforn" and French.

FABLE

Once upon a time there was a moving picture that had an artist in his luxurious studio painting a portrait of a woman and when he finished ye portrait, it really looked like her.

OLD STUFF

In a theatrical ad—"Positively the last appearance in America."

A Denver genius has invented writing paper made of rubber. The practical novelty of this paper is that you don't have to stop writing when you come to the edge of the paper.

Writer of Tales for Boys Dead

BATTLE CREEK, Mich., Dec. 23.—Alfred B. Tozer, former Chicago newspaper man and author, under various pen names, of hundreds of stories for boys, died here tonight after a long illness. Mr. Tozer was born in New York state 69 years ago.

Hattie Howlett of Eagle Point was a Medford visitor Friday afternoon.

BELLANS

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

DEO FOR COUGHS AND COLDS. Dennis Eucalyptus Ointment. AT ALL DRUG STORES. TUBES 25c JARS 50c

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A Rogue River Valley Product BRANDON BROS., Eagle Point, Ore. Medford Phone 332-N.

JOHN A. PERL

UNDERTAKER Lady Assistant 28 S. BARTLETT Phone M. 47a and 47-J-3 Automobile Hearse Service. Ambulance Service. Coroner.

THE CAPITAL OF HEAVEN

THE Kingdom of Heaven is here on Earth. It is the widest of earth's empires, and the most beautiful.

It has fifty-two states, which are the weeks of the year. It has 365 glorious cities. And Christmas is its capital.

From the capital of Heaven no guns frown; no bastions bulwark its gold-paved streets against the armies of other kingdoms.

The gates are open ever, and in its spacious parliament all languages are spoken, which the necromancy of the edifice transforms into a common tongue called Love.

The avenues of this capital are lined with evergreen, emblem of that which is eternal; and silver stars sparkle from the shining towers that pierce the gentle sky.

In these towers dwell those happy mortals for whom the capital of Heaven was builded—the rulers of the kingdom's capital—they of whom Jesus said: "Suffer little children, and forbid them not, to come unto me: for such is the Kingdom of Heaven."

So brilliant are the stars in the towers of the capital of Heaven that their gleams illumine the most distant states of the kingdom; so that every dweller therein, if he but look sharply, may distinguish the capital's beauties from afar.

And through all the states and cities of the kingdom the best used roads lead ever toward the capital.

As the ways approach they grow more beautiful and wider; they are inlaid with pearls which were tears of joy, and they echo with youthful laughter.

At the doors of the capital, sweet music is heard, and every traveler enters its portals to the accompaniment of children's carols.

The roads from the capital are noted for kindly deeds, and are filled with travelers sharing their means, and helping one another.

These roads are suffused with a gentle glow, and in the heart of each wayfarer abides the desire to help bear another's burden.

The glories of retrospect are slow to fade, and often the good-will implanted by a sojourn in the shining city remains with the traveler in the farthest regions of the kingdom, until it is again time to make the pilgrimage to the capital.

The Kingdom of Heaven is here on Earth. And Christmas is its capital.

IS THERE A SANTA CLAUS?

WHAT'S this loose talk we hear floating around—the talk of doubters and dissenters, the half-afraid questioning of unbelievers—

"Is there a Santa Claus?"

Who dares ask this question? Who dares doubt? Who dares even grant the possibility of denial?

We call down upon his head the wrath of all right-thinking men.

Would the world's hard heart turn soft each year amid the snows and blows of winter, sending rays of gladness into each dark spot, if there were no Santa Claus?

Would grim-faced gargoyles, the buccaneers of business, cease their warfare against their fellows and try to make right the wrongs they have done, if there were no Santa Claus?

Would slinking servants of sin lay aside their tawdry tinsel and accept for once the things of the spirit and the tidings of righteousness, if there were no Santa Claus?

Would war-mad millions halt in their slaughter to kneel before tiny sprigs of evergreen, their death-dealing engines idle for once, if there were no Santa Claus?

Would starved little children with pinched and piteous faces laugh with glee over bountiful dinners and beautiful dolls and marvelous toys, if there were no Santa Claus?

Go to with that talk that would blast childish hopes and snatch the joy from humanity's breast! Shame on you, for even suggesting such a question!

And if still there's a bit of unbelief—if still you are unconvinced of the jolly saint's existence—we ask you to wait till Monday for your answer.

Then, amid the squeals of happy children and the pleasant voices of grown folk made glad, you'll have to accept the universal verdict:

OF COURSE, there's a Santa Claus!

FOR THE COMMON GOOD

STUDENTS of history are familiar with the long and bitter fight waged against the creation of the public school district by large property owners.

It was declared anarchistic and confiscatory to tax a man's property for the purpose of educating his neighbor's children. It was held unjust to force a man to pay for what did not benefit him personally.

Rich men, with heavy property interests, objected to having their property levied upon to build school houses and educate children of people owning no property, and fought the assessments through the courts.

The same opposition that greeted the formation of school districts was also encountered in the formation of road and improvement districts, of paving, sewer and water districts, and later of harbor and port districts. Property owners protested assessments for the common good. It was argued unjust to force improvements that individuals did not want, against their will. Yet without such common action there could be no progress.

When the first paving was laid at Marshfield, a few years ago, such protests were heeded. Only one-half of the street was paved, and objectors on the paved side had their will, and the mud holes were left in front of their property. The advantages of the pavement were so obvious, however, that within the year all clamored for pavement and the entire street was paved.

The same arguments used against school districts and

against the creation of an irrigation district. It is argued illogical to the people of the valley, as they are being used against the creation of an irrigation district. It is argued that it is socialistic and confiscatory and unjust to place water upon a district when some of the individual owners do not want the improvement, just as a century ago it was claimed unjust to make the property owner pay for educating the poor man's children.

In the evolution of civilization, the individual selfish desire has had to give way to the common good. The courts universally hold the broad view that the individual has no right when it conflicts with the greatest good to the greatest number. The progress of civilization can be traced directly to the growth of this principle. The economic and industrial progress of the people depends upon it.

The only way this region can secure water cheaply is by the creation of irrigation districts. Reactionaries who oppose all progress are making a desperate fight against it from selfish motives. They seek to block development because they do not wish to contribute their share to progress. Yet if the improvement was forced upon them, and the advantages demonstrated before their eyes, like the reactionaries of Marshfield, they would realize the advantages and be eager to seek its benefits.

MILLION DOLLAR FRUIT CROP 1916 DUE TO WATER

(Continued From Page One.)

boundaries and are receiving water from present ditches have expressed themselves for the district plan, believing that the general use of irrigation will raise land values throughout the valley through increased production. This will bring prosperity to the valley as a whole, and these men are selfish enough, if you wish to so call it, to have a share in a wave of prosperity oversweeping the entire Rogue River valley.

What Irrigation Did.

The condensed statements follow: Dr. J. L. Helms by the use of water was this past season able to cut six tons of alfalfa to the acre from his ranch south of Medford.

Guy Connor, fruit distributor of Medford, cites sales slips showing that Winter Nelis pears grown under irrigation bring over \$1900 to the ear, while unirrigated Winter Nelis pears from this section brings only \$1300 to the ear.

H. W. Bingham raised on the Hampton orchards this past season by the use of water 6000 boxes of Ben Davis apples on ten acres.

The 401 orchard is not irrigated, and on its 576 acres, of which about 400 are in bearing, raised in 1916 only 24½ cars of fruit.

The Bear Creek orchards, with about half that acreage, raised in 1916 with the use of water 60 cars of fruit.

The Austin Corbin orchard, near Eagle Point, with less than forty acres, produced 8894 boxes of fruit, or about 14 cars. In addition, a cover crop of red clover was grown between the trees, of which the first cutting in 1916 produced two tons of hay to the acre. The use of the irrigated cover crop also eliminated all expense of cultivation.

Creates Net Profit.

The Gold Range orchard in 1916, with the use of water, produced ten cars of apples and four cars of pears, the first year that it has ever paid any revenue. Their alfalfa field also paid this year its first net revenue.

C. M. Speck in 1916, with the use of water, picked twenty cars of apples and seven cars of pears. In 1915, without water, his sixty-acre Newtown orchard produced 3500 boxes of poor grade fruit. In 1916, with Bear creek water, the same trees produced 14,000 boxes of high-grade fruit.

H. L. Irwin produced seven and one-half cars of pears on his orchard in 1916 with the use of water which netted him \$1.60 per box.

George B. Carpenter produced on thirty-seven acres eighteen cars of fruit after several cars had been blown off the trees by the wind, and without water would not have had much of a crop.

Frank Isaacs, expert orchardist and packer, states that the superiority in quality and quantity of fruit raised in the Wenatchee district over the Rogue River valley is due almost entirely to the universal use of irrigation by Wenatchee orchardists.

Increases in Yield.

J. P. Hansen & Sons, orchardists, increased their yield of fruit from 1271 boxes of inferior quality without water to 3837 boxes of fancy and extra fancy fruit with water.

W. D. Stone, orchardist of the Willow Springs district, before using water operated his orchard at a net loss. With the addition of water he cleared \$254.30 per acre.

J. J. Hauri of the Willow Springs district raises with water six tons of alfalfa to the acre, while his neighbors, without water, raise only two tons to the acre on the same kind of ground.

the city water mains, for which he paid 10 cents per 1000 gallons, or a total of \$400. Next season, if Mr. Egan irrigates under the same system as during 1916, he must again pay the city the \$400, whereas if he was under the district he would have had to pay only maintenance.

With the use of this water the pear orchard produced 2358 boxes of Bartlett's, 269 boxes of Howells, 100 half boxes of Comice, 50 half boxes of Bose. These pears netted Mr. Egan \$3000. The apple orchard produced 920 boxes of Jonathans and 4500 boxes of Jonathans.

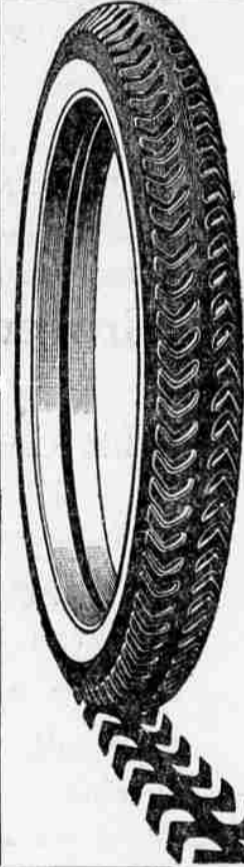
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RIVERSIDE GARAGE ROBERTS BROS. Props.

For Sale--153 Acres \$150,000

BROOKHURST

A Magnificent Country Home Now on the Market Over 5000 pear trees, best commercial varieties, seven years old 1400 Newtown apple trees eleven years old 50 acres of alfalfa on choicest Bear Creek bottom land

One among the "show places" of the famous Rogue River Valley, located on the Crater Lake Highway, one miles from the city of Medford, the metropolis of Southern Oregon.

Climate unexcelled, no extremes of temperature. Mean minimum temperature for 25 years for coldest month of the year, January, 30 degrees above zero.

ALL UNDER FENCE—ALL UNDER IRRIGATION

"I consider this remarkable increase in returns from my orchard (\$254.30 net per acre on eight-year-old pear trees) the direct profit arising from my investment in irrigation," said Mr. Stone of Medford.

Irrigation adds 500 per cent to the value of an orchard, 150 per cent to alfalfa.

"My net gain on alfalfa was \$20.50 per acre by the use of water," states F. H. Hopkins of Central Point.

DR. E. B. PICKEL, Owner