

MEDFORD MAIL TRIBUNE

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ROBERT RUHL, Editor. R. E. SMITH, Manager.

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Ye Smudge Pot By Arthur Perry

The news Friday contained the information that Stromboli was erupting. Last February this volcano, which is located in the Italian Alps, erupted.

Stromboli holds the long distance record for rock throwing for volcanoes. It has been known to heave a boulder the size of the Nash, 175 miles.

ANOTHER MERRY CHASE (Eugene Register.) Mary Chase returned from Independence Tuesday.

Ralph Bardwell has a bell attached to his auto, which he rings at all crossings, and can be used either for selling fish, or playing the evening vesper.

Bill Gates is so strong for W. Wilson's ideas, that if the president renounced them himself, Bill would still be for them.

THE NC-4 COMPETITOR (Eugene Guard) Ed Lajoie made a flying trip to Silverton and on to Sifton, Wash., where he visited at the home of his sister.

A local citizen, whose name is just as well unmentioned, performed the old-fashioned trick of stepping on a banana peeling Fri morn. with the usual strain on the pavement, which in the opinion of the faller will last for some time.

It has not occurred to any one of the wise men in Europe, that the quickest way to settle the Italian question is to shut off the supply of macaroni.

TO KEEP FROM GOING UP (Kreka Journal) Mr. Graham has gone below to consult a physician, his health not being fully restored since his attack of the "flu" in the winter.

CAN'T GET TO RIM OF LAKE BEFORE JULY 15

KLAMATH FALLS, Ore., May 24.—With five feet of snow at headquarters camp in Crater Lake National park, and an estimated seven feet at the rim of the lake, it is not probable that automobiles will be able to reach the rim of this celebrated scenic gem before July 15 this year.

Momyer states that there are many high drifts far above the main snow level now in the park.

Don't Let It Linger A cough that follows a gripe or any other cough that "hangs on" from winter to spring wears down the sufferer, leaving him or her in a weakened state unable to ward off sickness and disease.

FOR THE LAST TIME.

ATTORNEY NEWMAN in his communication against irrigation, says there are only two certain things in life, death and taxes. These, we fear, are no more certain than that a lawyer's "brief" is always longer than a Mohammedan's prayer.

We requested Mr. Newman to reduce his address somewhat, but he maintained every word was essential, and rather than have one removed he would pay the regular advertising rates. This was generous, but we agreed to give the dry farmers a hearing, and from all we can learn their legal expenses are sufficient without giving the press an extra dividend.

So here goes. And while going let us make this announcement: this ends the irrigation controversy as far as we are concerned. The place to try out the technical phases is not in the newspapers but in the courts. If any argument the opposition possesses, has not been offered in the space allowed, then we feel the responsibility rests with them not with us.

Disregarding Attorney Newman's 1400 pages of testimony, which as they did not convince the directors of the irrigation district, or on appeal from them, Judge Calkins of the Circuit Court, can not be expected to convince anyone else, we will answer as briefly as possible the main contentions.

These are first, that irrigation is not needed, because there is already an irrigation company operating which "has been unable to sell practically any of its water." The local irrigation company, on the contrary, is now selling more water than ever before, and is unable to supply water for all the farmers who want it.

The next statement is that this paper "hopelessly failed" in many respects to refute the arguments advanced by Mr. Conger. Modesty persuades us to leave the decision to those who read the two statements. There was one statement however, we admit was not refuted. This was to the effect that the Federal Farm loan board will make no more loans in the irrigation district if it is created.

Can "you cite a single instance in our own valley" inquires Mr. Newman, "where irrigated lands have sold for a better price than land of like character not irrigated?" We can. Three years ago Frank Loder sold ten acres, north of Medford for \$2,250, to E. D. Lundberg. This land had no water.

Mr. Lundberg secured water for only two and a half acres and sold the same tract to Mr. Nelson for \$4,000. Mr. Nelson who bought this land only agreed to do so when assured that he could get water for the entire acreage. This is not only "similar" land, it is the same land, and the sale was closed only a few days ago.

We have personal knowledge of at least two other sales of a similar nature, in spite of the fact that until very recently real estate has been dead.

And speaking of dead real estate the attorney for the opposition, gives this as an argument against irrigation. Because a district that wants irrigation and hasn't got it, shows no increase in land values. Mr. Newman takes this to be an argument against water. We admit we can't follow this sort of reasoning. Land values have increased where irrigation has been introduced as the above sample shows, and when sixty per cent instead of ten per cent of the land has water, land values will undoubtedly increase in that proportion.

Mr. Newman maintains a majority of the land owners are opposed to irrigation, but he fails to explain why they have voted for irrigation at every election.

Learned counsel declares he has demonstrated that irrigation here has not resulted in increased crops. Perhaps this explains why 400 farmers are buying water from the Rogue River Canal company. It may also explain the experience of Mr. Pankey of Central Point, who farmed the Cowgill tract of fifty acres without irrigation and declares he didn't get his seed out of it.

The high price of water in Mr. Hammatt's report is quoted. But Mr. Newman fails to state that this figure was based upon the extra cost of bringing water from the south fork of Rogue river which has since been eliminated.

Of course some individuals have had poor success with water. That is true everywhere. Water is no cure all. It must be mixed with brains. But to take the poor first crops of irrigated alfalfa on cold land, and compare them with good first crops of non-irrigated alfalfa on warm land, as a demonstration of the failure of irrigation, is to say the least, not convincing. Wait until the soil has warmed up and dried out, the hot summer sun has had her sway, and then compare the second and third cuttings. It is in the fall not the spring that water tells the story.

And so we might continue ad infinitum, but what's the use? Attorney Newman and his clients are no doubt as sincere in their opposition to irrigation, as we are sincere in our stand for it. They believe water will ruin the valley, we believe water will save it. We don't expect them to change their view, and until they present more convincing arguments, we don't expect to change ours.

Meanwhile, the main business before the community, to our mind, is to stop talking about irrigation, and concentrate all energies upon getting it.

Fly From Paris to Morocco. PARIS, May 24.—Lieutenant Roza, a French aviator, was ready this morning to begin a flight from Paris to Morocco.

COMMUNICATION.

More Regarding Irrigation To the editor: On May 15th you published an editorial entitled "Regarding Irrigation" and state in connection therewith "To our mind the facts supporting irrigation are literally overwhelming and a paper could be filled with convincing argument."

For about fifteen years the Rogue River Valley Canal company, and its predecessors in interest, have maintained here a private system of irrigation, which, when completed, will cover every foot of land, and more than can be covered by the proposed district system.

I have at this office nearly 1400 pages of testimony taken in the pending litigation against this bond issue, from an inspection of which you will see that almost without exception the witnesses examined concede that irrigation is not necessary here for grain crops, and even though irrigation should eventually be forced upon this unsuspecting public it would doubtless not be used in the production of grain crops.

I will also prove to you from the sworn testimony offered in these cases that our farmers on our best lands are producing as good yields of alfalfa and grain as are being produced on the best lands of the Applegate valley, and that irrigators from that valley have sworn at these hearings that we produce more and better yields here without water than they do there with ample water.

You attempt, in your editorial, to refute the argument of Mr. Conger published in connection with your editorial, but in many respects you have hopelessly failed to refute it. You seek to compare conditions here with conditions in Idaho and California, and especially in connection with enhanced land values.

As for the irrigated alfalfa mentioned, if you will go with me and compare this alfalfa with the crop on adjoining lands of like character, or on the lands of many of my clients on the west side of the valley I will pay you well for your time and trouble in the event that such inspection does not satisfy you that the irrigated crop will not compare favorably with other crops on non-irrigated land which I will show you.

You state in your editorial that "We have always maintained an open mind regarding irrigation" and that "unless a person is a practical farmer himself, he must base his opinion upon the evidence of others." And again, "We have yet to hear an argument against irrigation in Jackson county which has been convincing", etc., etc.

In this litigation now pending on appeal to the supreme court of this state I have the honor to represent about fifty of our best and most successful farmers, and they in turn are backed and supported by the owners of a majority of the lands in this district, my clients alone owning nearly four thousand acres.

John A. Perl, Undertaker, Phone M. 47 and 47-39, Automobile Hearse Service, Lady Assistant, 82 SOUTH BARTLETT, Auto Ambulance Service, Coronet.

ample water could be supplied at a cost far less than the price offered by the R. V. Canal company. And yet, it is now conceded that the Big Butte water will cost these farmers not less than seventy-five dollars per acre, and the chances are it will cost nearer \$125.00 per acre.

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JOHN A. PERL, Undertaker, Phone M. 47 and 47-39, Automobile Hearse Service, Lady Assistant, 82 SOUTH BARTLETT, Auto Ambulance Service, Coronet.

IT'S A BIG ONE GRAND SPRING FESTIVAL MEDFORD 5 DAYS STARTING TUESDAY MAY 27

SENSATIONAL FREE ACTS PLENTY OF GOOD MUSIC FUN FOR EVERYBODY FOLEY & BURK'S Two-Ring Trained Animal Hippodrome Menagerie and Aviary

MAMMOTH CIRCUS SIDE SHOW PICTURESQUE HAWAIIAN VILLAGE—MONKEY AUTO RACES Jazz Whirl, Bug House, Ferris Wheel and Merry-Go-Round

Fifty Distinct Amusement Features All Under Canvas. IF YOU DON'T TAKE HER THE OTHER FELLOW WILL

EAT Where the Eats Are Good Nice and Cool SALADS A SPECIALTY The Gusher Cafe

Holland Cafe A LA CARTE CHICKEN DINNER Served 5:30 to 8:00 p. m. It is a dinner well cooked and faultlessly served. You will like it.

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Ice Free! We are going to give away one 500 POUND ICE BOOK With each new Refrigerator. This will lessen the high cost of refrigerators. Every refrigerator is guaranteed or money refunded. Pooler Furniture Co.