

JACKSONVILLE SENTINEL

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CHARLES MESERVE EDITOR

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Friday, October 23, 1903

THE JACKSON CREEK ROAD.

There will be a meeting of the board of trade Monday evening to consider a number of matters that are of importance in the upbuilding of Jacksonville. The special committee having in hand the proposed improvement of the Jacksonville-Medford-Central Point road will be able to report their recommendations as to the most feasible manner in which this road can be made into a permanent highway. The committee have carefully considered the four proposed routes for this road and they have decided to recommend the one that is the extension of the Medford road direct west through the Karewski place and which would intersect the present road at the Pick place at the point in East Jacksonville where the road now used leaves the high ground and takes to the bed of Jackson creek. The committee find that this route will be the best and the cheapest in the end of all the routes, for it will shorten the distance nearly half a mile and put the Jacksonville Medford road on an airline thus making it one of the finest driveways in the Rogue River Valley.

The shorter distance to build and the less expense to keep the road in repair on this route the committee figure will more than make up for the right-of-way damages that will have to be paid. As to the injury that this route would be to the Karewski place, the committee claim that while the road would divide the place and make extra fencing necessary, yet changing the road from its present location would be such an advantage to the land that it would largely offset the damage the new route would entail. By giving up the present roadway as a channel for Jackson creek the adjoining land owners would be able to save their land from being buried under the tailings that each flood of the creek brings down. The flood of last winter put tons of rock on both the Bybee and the Karewski places and the millions of tons of tailings that are gradually working down Jackson creek will eventually bury these farms if not checked. Mr. Bybee last spring turned the creek off his land and he will build bulkheads and keep it off hereafter. The Karewski property will also have to be protected by bulkheads or 25 or 30 acres of fine alfalfa land will be ruined. But these bulkheads would be little protection to the adjoining land should a roadway be maintained on the present route for should a high embankment be thrown up for the road it would force the creek out into the adjoining fields.

The citizens of Jacksonville with few exceptions are anxious to have the road removed from Jackson creek and placed on a permanent route and they are willing to contribute their full share to this improvement which is of benefit to a very large part of Jackson county. Roads

have come to be considered by homeseekers one of the best criterions of a country's enterprise and Jacksonville does not propose to be longer handicapped by having its principal road traversing a creek bed.

The committee on rural telephone will be able to report on the data they have received relative to the cost of installing a telephone system to connect Jacksonville with the adjacent farming districts. The matter of securing a morning mail service from Medford will also be acted upon.

After more than a years work and the expenditure of a vast sum of money one of the biggest and most difficult feats of engineering yet accomplished in Southern Oregon was finished last Tuesday when the last work was done on the big Ray dam in Rogue river and the gate closed and the water turned over the dam. It took six hours for the pond to fill, which is now over a mile in length and in places a quarter of a mile in width, and Rogue river below the dam was almost dry stopping for several hours the electric light plants of at Gold Hill and Grants Pass. Work on the electric power station will now be begun and pushed with the greatest despatch. The machinery, which was ordered in the East several months ago, is on hand and is stored awaiting the completion of the building. The completion of this great power station will mark the beginning of the industrial development of Southern Oregon and the coming of an era of prosperity such as the valley has not previously had, for it will be the precursor of other power plants along Rogue river that will make this one of the great manufacturing districts of the Pacific. Along with this industrial development will come a greater agricultural prosperity to the valley that will double the farming population and be a factor in the building up of a half dozen fair sized cities.

The time honored custom held in many towns by those on mischief bent could be turned to good account here in Jacksonville if, instead of tearing down signs, carrying off gates, piling wood in doorways, placing vehicles on top of buildings and the hundreds of other malicious, useless pranks indulged in on Halloween, this annual visitation from Hoodlumdom could be utilized in the removal of some of the worst of the awnings along the business streets that are now on the verge of falling to the sidewalk. A number of delapidated sheds and fences that give an ancient, has-been appearance to the town could also be considered outside the pale of police protection. The numerous abandoned articles that now litter the streets would not be amiss to the Halloween prank that would spirit them away to a place where they would be less conspicuous. There is a fine chance, too, for Halloween to be redeemed from the ill repute that it is now under in Jacksonville and make it a time of pride to persons who believe in clean streets and a handsome town.

Hood River never misses a lick to advertise their valley and their fruit as the following from the Glacier shows: "G. M. McKinney, general immigration agent of the Harriman system of railroads, with headquarters at Chicago, spent Sunday in Hood River. Mr. McKinney took a drive through the valley to see Hood River's famous "big red apples." He says the half has not been told about our fame as a fruit growing section."

The Oregon Dairymen Association will meet in Corvallis on December 15 and 16. Leading dairymen from all parts of the state will be present and questions of interest to the trade presented. Dairying has proven to be one of the most profitable industries of this county and with the building of more creameries it will become one of the leading industries of Rogue River Valley.

The total destruction by fire of the McKenzie house proves how great is the need of a better water service for this city. The business part of town has a water service but it is so limited that it would be of little value in a big fire, while the residence sections have no fire protection at all. The fine new school house is totally without fire protection and it could be burned from near by dwelling houses should a high wind be blowing. The loss by one big fire in the business part of town or by several fires in the residence district would more than equal the interest on a bond issue sufficiently large to pay for the putting in of an adequate water service for the town.

The teachers of Jackson county will be in Jacksonville a hundred or more strong next week and to entertain them will be no small task in view of the fact that the hotel accommodations are limited and that so great is the transient patronage that there is scarcely a vacant room in town. Prof. Washburn and the other teachers of the school are making every effort to secure rooms at the hotels, boarding houses and residences and they feel certain that they will be able to accommodate all who may come. The institute bids fair to be the most successful ever held in Jackson county.

Jacksonville has the bad reputation of having the roughest, ill kept sidewalks of any towns in the Rogue River Valley, and it is said that the residents can be recognized when they visit other towns by their manner of walking, they being accustomed to step high to avoid stubbing their toes on the uneven sidewalks of their town.

LOCAL NOTES.

Workman & Gore will ship this week five carloads of cattle to San Francisco. Their stock shipments have been greatly restricted by inability to secure cars and they are fearful of a car famine for some time yet.

All the latest magazines and periodicals at the City Drug Store.

W. E. Finney and son will leave tomorrow for Steamboat to do assessment work for a week on a mine they have in that district. Ernest Nute of Roxyann will accompany them and enjoy a hunt-in trip.

District Attorney A. E. Reames returned Wednesday from Salem where he made an argument Tuesday before the supreme court in the case of Lake County against the bondsmen of ex-Sheriff A. J. Neilon of Lake county.

Street Commissioner Charles Dunford had a man remove the loose rocks from the Medford road to the Duncan place which is as far as his district extends. It put the road in good shape for teams but it will last only a short time as the heavy lumber wagons will roll more rocks to the surface in that section of the road that is on the gravel bars of Jackson creek.

The dwelling house on South Third street owned by Mrs. Rebekah McKenzie was totally destroyed by fire at 2 o'clock this afternoon. The fire originated from a defective fire and when discovered the roof was all ablaze. The firemen quickly responded to the alarm but as the house was beyond the reach of the water service they did not take out the engine and they could only make an effort to save some of the household effects but nothing could be saved as the fire was all over the house before the men arrived. The house was occupied by the family of R. G. Hart, an employe of the Iowa Lumber Co., who recently arrived in Jacksonville. Mrs. Hart was in the house at the time but having a young baby to look after she could do nothing toward saving their effects, they losing everything, even their extra clothing, which makes the loss very severe on them. Mrs. McKenzie lives in Klamath Falls and is a widow woman of limited means and the burning of her house is a severe loss to her and it is possible that she will not be able to rebuild. The house is one of the oldest in Jacksonville and Judge Day, who is Mrs. Kenzie's agent, recently had it fully repaired and a new roof put on it advancing the money himself expecting to get his money from the rent.

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Chicago Portland Special 9:20 p. m. via Huntington	Salt Lake, Denver, Ft. Worth, Omaha, Kansas City, St. Louis, Chicago and East.	4:30 p. m.
Atlantic Express 8:15 p. m. via Huntington	Salt Lake, Denver, Ft. Worth, Omaha, Kansas City, St. Louis, Chicago and East.	10:30 a. m.
St. Paul Fast Mail 6 p. m. via Spokane	Walla Walla, Lewiston, Spokane, Wallace, Pullman, Minneapolis, St. Paul, Duluth, Milwaukee, Chicago and East.	7:35 a. m.

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Tickets East via all rail, or boat and rail via Portland.

Ocean and River Schedule FROM PORTLAND.

8 p. m.	All sailing dates subject to change. For San Francisco sail every five days	4 p. m.
Daily ex. Sunday 8 p. m. Saturday 10 p. m.	COLUMBIA RIVER. To Astoria and waylandings	4 p. m. except Sunday

A. L. CRAIG, Gen. Pas. Agt., Portland, Oregon