

MEDFORD MAIL TRIBUNE

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER PUBLISHED EVERY AFTERNOON EXCEPT SUNDAY BY THE MEDFORD PRINTING CO.

The Democratic Times, The Medford Mail, The Medford Tribune, The Southern Oregonian, The Ashland Tribune, Office Mail Tribune Building, 23-27-29 North Fir street; phone, Main 3021.

GEORGE PUTNAM, Editor and Manager

Entered as second-class matter at Medford, Oregon, under the act of March 3, 1879.

Official Paper of the City of Medford, Official Paper of Jackson County.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES: One year, by mail, \$5.00; Per month, delivered by carrier in Medford, Jacksonville and Central Point, 50c; Saturday only, by mail, per year, 2.00; Weekly, per year, 1.50.

SWORN CIRCULATION: Daily average for eleven months ending November 30, 1911, 2741.

The Mail Tribune is on sale at the Perry News Stand, San Francisco, Portland Hotel News Stand, Portland, Portland News Co., Portland, Ore., W. O. Whitney, Seattle, Wash.

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MEDFORD, OREGON. Metropolitan of Southern Oregon and Northern California, and the fastest-growing city in Oregon.

Five hundred thousand dollar Gravity Water System completed, giving finest supply pure mountain water, and 17.5 miles of streets paved.

Postoffice receipts for year ending November 30, 1911, show increase of 12 per cent.

Banner fruit city in Oregon—Rogue River Spitzbergen apples won sweepstakes prize and title of "Apple King of the World" at the National Apple Show, Spokane, 1909, and a car of Newtowns won First Prize in 1910 at Canadian International Apple Show, Vancouver, B. C.

DEMAND SLOW IN CATTLE MARKET

PORTLAND, Feb. 10.—Receipts for the week have been: Cattle 824; calves 11; hogs 3532; sheep 5622; horses 106.

During the week the cattle market has been steady to a shade weaker. The bulk of steer offerings have been short of prime in quality and the few in this week's run were difficult to move at \$7.50 to \$7.75.

Demand is slow for all grades, but especially so for poorly finished stuff and small lots of cows sold from \$7.00 down to \$4.50 according to quality.

Light calves steady to strong at \$9.00. Bulls steady \$5.00 to \$6.00.

An improved tone featured the swine market. Prime hogs found ready buyers \$7.50 to \$7.55 and one ear at \$7.90, prices from five to ten cents higher than recent quotations.

Receipts totaled over 3500 head and the entire supply was cleaned up without delay.

The demand for prime wethers, yearlings and ewes was greater than receipts, the bulk of which were contract shipments. Yearlings 6.25 to \$6.35, wethers \$6.00 to \$6.15 and ewes \$5.15 to \$5.25 represent the bulk prices in the sheep house.

Lamb trade seemed firm as \$7.25 bids were easily coaxed if choice quality offered. The lamb supply has been small as the 1912 crop is nearly exhausted.

GLEE CLUB CONCERT ON WEDNESDAY EVENING

The Oregon Agricultural College Glee club will make its appearance at the high school auditorium on February 12 in songs, stunts, skits, readings and Scotch monologues.

Those optimistic friends of last year's organization who thought it had attained the acme of musical perfection will be agreeably surprised as the work of the present club exceeds the fondest hopes of the director.

The repertoire will surely please, it is arranged for a versatile audience, and while containing a few semi-classic numbers, the stunts, readings and Scotch monologues predominate, this being the most popular form of entertainment.

The readings of Joy Scudder, a former student of Oberlin university, is attracting unusual attention wherever the club appears. His impersonations of the "Dutch Butcher" and the "Canadian Skipper" are remarkable for their vividness.

H. W. Russell, the "wee bra' ladie," is in evidence again this year with Lauder songs. His "Every Lady Loves a Lassie" and "Rosamin' in the Gloamin'" produce an effect that is pleasing.

All in all, an evening of genuine enjoyment is assured those who attend.

Successful Root and Herb Remedy. The study of roots and herbs, their character and power over disease, was what led Lydia E. Pinkham of Lynn, Mass., to produce for woman's ills the most successful remedy the world has ever known, and while she passed to her reward some years ago, her work among suffering women is still carried on by trained assistants and many tons of roots and herbs are consumed annually in the manufacture of the now famous Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound, as originated by her.

BETTER MARKETS FOR APPLES IN GREAT BRITAIN

Dennis and Son issue the following market report dated London, Jan. 25: We are pleased to report that the situation on barrel apples has materially improved and prices show an appreciable increase, notably in red stock as far as London is concerned. Stocks of common storage apples apparently are being rapidly cleaned up and shipments to this side have been diminishing considerably during the past three weeks.

Seeing that cold storage stock is being held firmly for high prices in New York and elsewhere with a consequent further dirimination of shipments to England, there is every reason to suppose that we shall experience on this side an improving market hereafter.

Quantities of Oregon Newtowns have been heavier in both markets this week and prices are easier. London and Liverpool are about the same as far as medium and large size fruit is concerned, but London is considerably better on small fruit, roughly about 1-6 per box.

California Newtowns in both markets are going out slowly, with perhaps an exception in the case of 4 1/2 tiers in London. Prices are not remunerative and there seems no immediate prospect of a rise.

The first Australian steamer is due here about the 28th to 30th of March, so the English markets will remain open about 8 to 9 weeks for American apples.

We give below this week's prices: London—Oregon Newtowns 9s to 10s; Washington Newtowns 7s 6d to 8s; Oregon Spitzbergen 8s to 10s; Californian Newtowns four tiers 6s to 6 1/2d; 4 1/2 tiers 5s 6d.

Liverpool—Oregon Rogue River Newtowns, counts 88-165 7s 9d to 8s 6d; 175-185, 7s 9d, 190-210 6s 6d to 7s. Hood River Newtowns, 96-150 counts 10s to 10s 3d, 165 9s to 9s 3d; 175-185 8s 6d to 8s 9d, 72-88 counts 9s 6d; Washington Newtowns 6s to 7s; Californian Newtowns, four tiers, 5s to 6s 3d, 4 1/2 tiers 4s to 5s 3d.

Irrigation, Historical and Instructive Facts

By F. H. Walker, C. E.

We generally regard the work and necessity of irrigation as a hardship and a misfortune, and perhaps thoughtlessly wish that we had the abundance of rain that falls on the eastern shores of the United States.

That would be right and good, if we could but control the conditions under which this additional moisture would be furnished us. Unfortunately however, much additional rain during the summer months means liability of crop destruction by sudden violent storms, or by lack of sufficient sunshine, or failure of water supply, as sometimes results from dependence upon rainfall alone.

The necessity for irrigation therefore, and the ability to irrigate, as a matter of fact is really an advantage. It means an absolute control upon the water required to mature any crop, and this fact, considered with the warm dry climate, and lack of sudden and destructive storms, means a combination hard to beat and most desirable indeed.

The science of irrigation is as old as agriculture itself, and there still exist numerous remains of ancient tanks, dams and canals that date back over 2000 years B. C.

The Ancients used great skill and ingenuity in developing their extensive irrigation systems, and great sterile valleys were turned into the most fertile of fields.

Even in Mexico and Peru canals, hundreds of miles in length are known to have been built long before the time of Columbus.

On the island of Ceylon are to be found the remains of great dams from 5 to 15 miles in length. India now has 40 million acres under irrigation; the United States has about 10 million acres.

In India about 3 million acres are irrigated from wells dug from 10 feet to 90 feet deep; these wells are to a large extent operated by drawing the water from them by bucket fulls, and three men are thereby able to properly irrigate three acres per season.

The annual rainfall of a district or locality does not clearly mark the necessity, or lack of necessity of irrigation.

It is the precipitation during the summer or growing months that tells the story.

There are places where the annual precipitation is 40 inches per year, and yet irrigation is necessary, because most of the rainfall is in the winter months.

While speaking of rainfall, it may be interesting to state that the most tremendous fall of rain ever recorded was in Assam, India, where in 1861 there fell 805 inches of rain

TO RUSH ROAD WORK IN CRATER NATIONAL PARK

PORTLAND, Feb. 10.—With the object of making accessible the principal points of interest in the Crater Lake National Park by the summer of 1915, when the Panama exposition is under way at San Francisco, the United States engineers are planning to start the construction of roads and trails in that wonderland as soon as the weather conditions will permit.

Captain H. H. Robert, corps of engineers, U. S. A., in temporary charge of the first harbor and river district, says that \$47,000 is available for the project and he hopes that this will be increased by \$100,000 or more by the next congress.

Assistant United States Engineer Goodwin, who has been looking after the construction of The Dalles-Celilo boat canal, will have charge of road building in the park. He arrived from the Big Eddy yesterday to familiarize himself with the plans.

Active field operations will be started about April 1. It is the intention to utilize the Natron cutoff, built by the Southern Pacific from Klamath Falls to Kirk, a distance of about forty miles. From Kirk a temporary road will be built to the northern boundary of the park.

The engineers propose to do the work by hired labor instead of following the old method of awarding contracts. The project involves the construction of sixty miles of macadamized roads and 100 miles of trails, a task which will require four or five years.

By June 1 the engineer in charge expects to have a large number of teams, probably 100 head of horses, as a part of the outfit which will be employed in pushing the enterprise to completion. Experimental sections of roadways will be built on the start to determine just what sort of finishing material to use on the highways.

Nordica Promises to Be Record-Breaker



Lillian Nordica

That the Nordica concert Friday night bids fair to eclipse any other affair given in Medford, is shown by the immense advance sale of the opening day. People, anxious to obtain the choice seats were on hand long before the box office opened and their number was augmented as the sale of seats progressed. From indications, at least a thousand people will hear the great diva when she sings in Medford.

(Evening Telegram, February 6.) One of the richest vocal feasts that has been spread before Portlanders in many a day was partaken of by a large audience at the Heilig last night when Lillian Nordica and her assisting artists appeared under that theater's management.

From the greed for more manifested by the repeated and insistent recalls from the audience it was difficult to believe that they had been feasted only the night before by Sembrich—but, this was Nordica, our own American star, as regal and magnificent as ever, with a voice of wonderful amplitude, and even though the program was very long—containing twenty-two numbers in all—they clamored for more, and as a consequence eleven encores were given by the singer and her assistant, William Morse Rummel, violinist.

Although for so many years she has been accepted as the leading exponent of Wagnerian roles, by a request, the only Wagnerian number appearing on the program—Elizabeth's aria from "Tannhauser"—was supplanted by the aria in the second act from "Mme. Butterfly," given with exquisite beauty—a lyricism and pathos that wrought her hearers

into a wild demonstration of delight. As if to further complete her triumph, in response to this demand, gave the superb Brunnhilde "Battle Cry," heard here twice before in the last year, once when sung by Schumann-Helk and more recently by Galski. This number and the "Kri-King" were made the basis for comparative study by a large number of critical hearers in the audience.

Mme. Nordica gave an interpretation of the great Schubert song that was conspicuous for its dramatic fire subtle shadings, while her tonal beauty, particularly in the softer pianissimo passages, was pure delight.

The program was unique for the number of English songs which are ever grateful to an audience of English-speaking people, and particularly so when the enunciation of the artist was as superb as that of Mme. Nordica. Three of her encores were in English—Wagfield-Cadman's "The Land of the Sky-Blue Water," "Mighty Lak a Rose" and the familiar setting of the Browning poem, "The Years at the Spring." By a coincidence Aronsky's "But Lately in Dance," which Sembrich sang the previous night, was given also in the last group of songs by Mme. Nordica, with a fine appreciation of its beauty and pathos.

William Morse Rummel, violinist, made friends with his audience at once, playing brilliant Kreisler, Joachim, Sarasate and Zareycki numbers with vigor of style and much beauty of tone, with the result that many recalls were given him, to all of which he made generous response. Tomayne Simmons played the piano accompaniments with pleasing brilliancy.

Single Tax Only Cure for High Rents

To the Editor: Referring to the movement on the part of the socialists of our community to lower the rents for business houses, as reported in your issue of the 3rd inst., allow me to say that the method by which they propose to handle the landlord problem is like unto that of the man who tried to throw a bull by taking hold of his tail instead of grasping him by the horns.

If the socialists would look into the history of rent, taxes, tariffs, etc., they could easily find the proper solution of this problem. To try and persuade or force the landlords to accept \$100 rents when the supply and demand make these rentals worth \$200, would be like trying to persuade or force the farmers to accept fifty cents per bushel for wheat when the market value was one dollar, or to take \$8.00 per ton for their hay when the market value was \$16.00.

Only two things will bring the price down; the one is more stores, more wheat and more hay; the other is less users for the stores, the wheat or the hay.

As we cannot reduce the latter our attention must revert to the farmer and as store rents are the topic at hand I will confine my argument of that alone.

Now just for illustration: If there were but ten stores in our city and we had twelve merchants who wanted to conduct business here, the result naturally would be that twelve men bidding for those ten stores would raise the price of rents to the highest limit, which the trade of our

community would pay a profit on over and above the rent and other expenses of conducting the several kinds of business. The money invested in the buildings, or whether they were old or new, would not enter into the consideration of how much rent could be charged, assuming of course, that each was acceptable and well located.

But now just reverse those conditions and assume that there were twelve stores and only ten merchants wanting to conduct business here. In the first instance cited, the merchants are bidding for the stores; there are not enough stores to go around, and the rents rise to the highest level. In the second instance the landlords are bidding for the tenants, for there are not enough merchants to go around, and the rents would fall to the lowest level.

Now, the first instance is like unto the conditions which brought the price of store rent up to where it is in Medford today, and our problem now has resolved itself into the question: How are we to increase the supply of stores, thereby decreasing the cost of rentals? The solution is easy; adopt the single tax and if properly applied it will meet every requirement.

Under present system, if a man

John A. Perl Undertaker 28 S. BARTLETT Phones M. 471 and 478 Ambulance Service Deputy Coroner

builds a new store or improves an old one, along comes the assessor and fines (taxes) him. Isn't that discouraging the builder—discouraging industry—taking labor? Now, suppose we take off the tax on buildings and apply it to the site values (land)? If a man owns a business lot and knows that if he builds a store on it from which he will get a revenue, that he will not be taxed any more for the whole that he would be for the empty lot, won't he build and get the income, giving employment to industry instead of holding his lot out of use when the taxes are so high on it and no income to pay the taxes with?

To tax a thing is to make less of it. Tax dogs and you have less dogs. When in France they taxed windows they built with fewer windows or often with none at all. Tax a commodity high enough and you keep it out of the country and curtail its production; tax house (as we do now) and you have fewer and poorer houses; tax stores (as we do now) and you have fewer and poorer stores and higher rents, because the tenant pays the tax in his rent. But, now mark this well, tax land and you cannot make it less, nor poorer, nor less productive. Tax land values and the land must be utilized in order to pay the tax, thus giving employment to labor or else be thrown upon the market at such prices that labor could acquire enough land to employ itself.

I trust that this explanation is clear enough so that some may see the virtue of Henry George's theories thus applied.

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