

# THE POLK COUNTY POST

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(TWICE A WEEK)

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## THE "FLU" SITUATION IS MUCH IMPROVED

Independence has had its flu and is recovering. To be exactly accurate the city has had two flus; one some time ago and the other of more recent date.

The situation at one time with 75 cases looked alarming. Several of our best specimens of manhood succumbed to the disease. Our people became frightened and it came to the point where those recovering from an attack realized the seriousness of the disease and made an effort not to expose others and those who had not yet had it did not needlessly expose themselves. When the people reached the point where they became cautious, the flu commenced to wane. Verily, caution and care are a cure for all epidemics.

All homes where the disease made its unwelcome entrance will continue to be quarantined until the epidemic is over. Because the situation is better and the number of cases greatly reduced is no license to relax, become indifferent and to give the disease a chance to find more victims. It is believed, however, that in a very short while it will be safe to remove some restrictions.

Five weeks vacation out of a total of nine school weeks is not making very rapid progress toward the education of our boys and girls. All play and no work makes Jack a dull boy. It is a very deplorable condition as far as the schools are concerned. When once more they do get started the course of study will be so much disturbed as to give the teachers nervous prostration. The flu has certainly played havoc with the schools.

Perhaps then, too, our church members may be having a hard time to keep from falling from grace because the good pastor cannot show them with oratorical ability the true path way. Those persons who have been going to church every Sunday night for the past 57 years must they not feel lonesome? If in a thrill of indiscretion they steal away to the attic and there play dominoes and drink grape juice, we don't believe the Lord, considering the circumstances, is going to—is going to—let them catch the flu.

The Post has received a lengthy communication from a cheerful writing citizen who advances the idea that everybody will die with the flu; this being the method the Almighty is going to use to end the world. We at once called in several experts who pronounced the idea very erroneous, the one did admit that "we are living in the last days." If it the "last days" of the flu that will be sufficient for the time being.

## BANKS ELECT THEIR OFFICERS

The stockholders of the two Independence banks held their annual election of officers. The following were elected by the Independence National: H. Hirschberg, president; D. W. Sears, vice president; Ira D. Mix, cashier; W. H. Walker, I. A. Allen and Dr. O. D. Butler, directors. Those elected by the Farmers State were: C. W. Irvine, president; J. B. Parker, vice president; Chas. G. Irvine, cashier; Larry Fitzgerald, assistant cashier; J. B. Parker, C. J. DeArmond, Edward Rex, George E. Wells, C. W. Irvine and J. J. Fenton, directors.

## BLAIR COOK DIES IN LOS ANGELES

Blair Cook, a former resident of Independence, died in Los Angeles this week of influenza, leaving a wife and baby. He was the son of W. O. Cook, who was the proprietor of a furniture store in Independence several years and built and lived in the house on C St. now occupied by G. G. Walker. Mr. Cook, Sr., is a brother of Mrs. J. Dorn-sife. The Cook family were well liked here.

## RE-CONSTRUCTING

As announced in our last issue, The Post is to be enlarged and improved and during our period of re-construction it will be necessary to cut down on the quantity of local news in this issue, the next one and we hope not the third one.

## THE LEGISLATURE IS WITH AGAIN

The Oregon legislature began its forty days session Monday. About the first thing the ways and means committee of the house did was to cut to the quick the annual appropriation budget. If the legislature can keep down expenses and offer no bond issues it will be a glory instead of a hindrance.

## MATTHEW N. GRAHAM IS DEAD

Matthew H. Graham, age 71, died at his home near Monmouth last Thursday. He leaves a wife and two daughters.

## TRYING TO RETAIN AGRICULTURAL AGENT

It is reported that efforts will be made to pay an agricultural agent in Polk county by passing the hat. If the agricultural agent is so valuable to certain ones as they said he was when advocating his pay by the county, they should gladly contribute the amount required.

## A Few Moments

### With the Pioneers

Mrs. Jane Cooper, living in North Independence, is our pioneer resident. Tho not the oldest in years she is the oldest in residence. While there were a few here before her, they have moved away or passed beyond. Her sons and the sons of the late Henry Hill, those who were born before the coming of the Thorps, Hedges and Claggetts, follow her to the title of "The Pioneer." At one time Messrs. Hill and Thorpe must have divided the town between them for part of it is now Hill's Town and part of it is Thorp's town.

Mrs. Cooper is 88 years old, and tho in poor health for some months, is quite willing to talk pioneer days if she is confident it is of interest to the listeners.

Mrs. Thorp-Shelton is very vigorous for one of her age and when it comes to pioneer reminiscences is right at home. She is very clever, too. A few weeks back she suspected that someone was helping themselves to her wood, so she goes out and numbers each log. The next morning No. 9 and 10 were gone, thus confirming her suspicions.

Mr. and Mrs. I. Claggett remember that an Indian village once stood where their home stands today, that there were no trees in the valley which was covered with grass that in the summer time grew waist high. In the opinion of Mr. Claggett the climate of the Willamette has changed considerably in his time. The winters are colder than they used to be. Mr. Claggett was the first person to see H. Hirschberg when the latter arrived in Independence, but D. L. Hedges gave Mr. Hirschberg the nick-name of "Joe."

Indians in this immediate vicinity appeared to be peaceful, tho one "pioneer" tells this story:

"Bill and Jim and me stood off 3000 Indians for three days hereabouts. The redskins sailed into us one afternoon—it fairly rained Indians. We knew we couldn't hold out so Jim went out to get help. He afterwards told me that he crawled nine miles thru redskins before he lared rise. There were more Indians there than was ever gathered together at one time or since. Bill and me counted the Indians we killed and there was nigh two thousand a piece. How did we tell which ones we killed? Well, that's easy. Of course, you don't have to know, and so long's the Indians are not likely to trouble us again there's no use telling you now, for the information would not do you any good. But that wasn't the hardest fight I was ever in and we lost more men. The Indians came down on us by surprise and killed every durn one of us. Not a one escaped to tell the story."

## THE RHYMING SUMMARIST

From the accustomed haunts of men,  
We miss a lot of "fellas"  
And absent also we observe  
Are many Anns and Stellas;  
Now since Oregon is very much  
Prohi in its making,  
We release our clutch  
And wonder much  
What the bunch are taking.

Williams no longer receives his goods  
In carton or in flagon,  
He hires a train, a river boat  
Or a 200-horse power wagon;  
A league of nations Judge Butler wants  
To stop the more-war wooers,  
And Ross Nelson out  
Now about,  
Wants a league of fluers.

Doe Dunsmore's visits to Portland burg  
Arouse much noise contention,  
And John Bohannon's heart is sad  
Because of school's suspension;  
Elements move and winds do blow  
In a manner quite distressing,  
And girls in town  
If they go roun'  
Put on some ankle dressing.

Sadie fears when the boys come home  
Not one will bring some cooties,  
She has a lot in her head of hair  
But not the army beauties;  
For Spring again we daily yearn  
Our full amount of wishing,  
A flowery land  
Bird songs and—  
Then for Jay Ess fishing!

## ALL APPEARANCES MUCH FOR THE BETTER

Independence has commenced to come into its own. There has been a steady increase in population and empty houses are filling up. Real estate has commenced to move, sales, trades and leases becoming very frequent. It can be surmised that by March 1, there will not be a vacant residence in town. Several are intending to build but are delaying in the hope that the price of materials may drop.

With the return of the soldiers, the labor shortage will be relieved and under present conditions there will be a surplus of labor. Whether or not the Valley & Siletz company will build its proposed mill here this Spring cannot be ascertained, and in anticipation of the surplus of labor, it has been frequently suggested that a committee of five citizens go and interview the officials of the lumber company and secure or attempt to secure for them some information regarding their plans.

Efforts should be made right now to increase our Spring pay roll, more especially if it connected with an enterprise that requires any assured acreage. While many acres are already planted to wheat because of the government guarantee of price for this year, there is much land available for planting to anything that will yield a reasonable profit to the grower. There is a large building in Independence that can be utilized for most any purpose.

Every town in the state has commenced action to better itself—to increase its population and wealth—that only a pay roll can create. This is not the time for the watchman to be asleep at his post.

## HOMER LALIBERTE SUCCUMBS TO INFLUENZA

Homer Laliberte died at his home in North Independence on Monday of influenza after a ten days illness. Because of his age he did not particularly fear the disease and so assisted others who were afflicted and the exposure brought about his death.

Mr. Laliberte came to Independence about eleven years ago and at once became a highly respected citizen well liked by all. Tho outspoken and aggressive he maintained the friendship of those who disagreed with him. Taking a prominent part in city affairs he was suggested for mayor several times but always declined to make the race. During the greater part of his residence here, he was engaged in raising hops.

He was born in the city of Quebec, Canada, and was 65 years old at the time of his death. Mrs. Laliberte died in 1917. To this union was born seven children, six of whom survive their parents; two sons and a daughter in Canada and the three popular young ladies, Mrs. Grace Morgan of Vancouver, Wash., and the Misses Laura and Eva of Independence.

Brief services were held yesterday at the grave in the I. O. O. F. cemetery, Dr. H. C. Dunsmore speaking the few words in honor and memory of an esteemed fellow citizen who had passed into the greater life.

## MARSHALL SUVER, PIONEER, PASSES

Marshall Suver, Polk county pioneer, whose home was in Oregon City, died in Dallas Tuesday. He was born at Suver and was well known in this section and thruout the county. Two children, Fred, of Dallas, and Miss Norah, of Oregon City, survive him.

## ROAD OVERSEERS APPOINTED

The following road masters have been appointed by the county court: District No. 5, E. M. Mitty; 6, James W. Meyer; 8, P. O. Burbank; 9, J. E. Hubbard; 10, F. N. Stump; 11, Rex Womer; 12, J. W. Chitty; 13, J. H. Mulk-ey; 14, S. L. Stewart; 15, J. S. Bohannon; 16, J. J. Underwood.

## JUDGE ROBINSON TIES FREAK WEDDING KNOT

By the marriage on Wednesday of Rollie E. Brown and Leona Thomas, when Judge Robinson tied the nuptial knot, J. H. Brown of Salt Creek became the stepfather to his own son, the bride being the daughter of the former Mrs. Thomas, to whom Mr. Brown was wedded about a year ago.—Polk County Observer.

Albert Alderman and Miss Bessie Clark of Monmouth were married in Dallas Wednesday.

## NATIONAL PROHIBITION WITHIN A YEAR

National prohibition is now an assured fact within a year, more than the required thirty six states having ratified the constitutional amendment.

## RUNNING THE FLU INTO POLITICS

You never heard of a "flu" epidemic during a Republican administration.—Exchange. Sure not; it was grippe. And the Republicans lost their grip six years ago. Looks, though, like it might regain it next year.—Jefferson Review.

Roy Pitzer is home, having been released from the aviation service.

Oregon Historical Society  
Audit Room