

The Falls City News

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OFFICIAL DIRECTORY OF FALLS CITY

- H. J. Griffin, Mayor.
- R. M. Wonderly, Councilman-at-Large
- Philip Gottfried
- H. C. Brown,
- C. J. Bradley,
- I. G. Singleton,
- C. L. Hopkins,
- R. A. Titus,
- C. E. McPherrin, Auditor and Police Judge
- Walter L. Tooze Jr., City Attorney.
- Pat Murphy, Marshal and Water Dept.
- M. L. Thompson, Treasurer
- Dr. F. M. Hellwarth, Health Officer.

The Council meets in regular session on the first Monday night of each month, at 7:30 o'clock, in the office of the Falls City News.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 25, 1915

NEWS AND COMMENT

CONSCRIPTION

Independence, Or., Dec. 18.—To the Editor of The Journal—I see in The Journal of December 13 where Honorable George E. Chamberlain, senator of Oregon, has introduced, or is going to introduce a bill of conscription, forcing into service males from the age of 12 years to 23 years. I don't suppose the honorable senator from Oregon has any boys of his own eligible for service, to practice the "gentle" art of dodging bullets at \$15 a month; however, if he has, fortune has smiled upon him sufficiently to enable him to dig up the required sum of money which would keep his boy out of the trenches. Let us pause and consider the cause of the poor working man's son. They all would have to go, being unable to furnish the amount required to escape the disagreeable task of sending some other poor working-man's son into eternity, or else facing the iron storm of cannon and machine gun fire and dying upon the sodden slopes of some foreign battle field. If there isn't any danger of war, as the press favorable to the administration has constantly assured the people of, then why arm the young men of the nation with the weapons of murder and teach them the art of prowling around along ditches and fence corners with a view of killing in cold blood some unsuspecting young fellow who hasn't ever done him any harm in all the world? The steel trust heads, and also the manufacturers of all this paraphernalia of death should be herded at once for the trenches in Europe. Let them learn the real conditions of war. Push them forward to the flaming cannon's mouth, so that if they ever live to come back to the land of the free they will pause ere they lend themselves to the idea of arming our boys for the slaughter, so that our poor mothers must be brought to grief. Let the gunmakers, the powdermakers and the preachers who preach war be hurried into the war's reality. The son of the aristocrat should dig trenches alongside the son of the soil. Money should never be able to let him escape the conditions the money of his class is able to bring about in all countries. Beneath all wars is the greed for gain. In all wars the poor man is the loser every time, and yet through all wars of all time he has made the costliest sacrifice for his country.

C. L. COOPER.

"USELESS GRAMMAR"

According to a speaker who addressed the National Council of Teachers of English in Chicago recently, grammar is an almost useless study, and the time given to it in the public schools is almost wholly wasted.

"Grammar not only does not

teach correct speech, but often is a hinderance to it. When a man is thinking of syntax and trying to talk at the same time, he's doing too much. There is a collision that is fatal to either the syntax or the thought.

"It's a matter of common observation that the pupil who parses and diagrams with the greatest facility in the school room is as likely as not the one that uses the poorest English on the playground. It doesn't seem to occur to him that the grammatical rules have any application to his ordinary speech. Or if it does, he refuses to make the effort to speak correctly.

"People use language in the way that's natural to them. The child whose parents speak good English speaks good English himself. The child who is accustomed to bad English at home and among his playmates may arrive at a fairly correct manner of speech in the course of years, through a gradual dropping of his errors. But that reform is chiefly a matter of unconscious imitation. It is our environment that forms our speech. Only the very exceptional child, who is a precocious prig instead of an ordinary human being, reforms his speech by rules taken out of a book.

"The personal example of teachers has far more to do with shaping the speech of their pupils than the book of grammar they teach. And the grammatical rebel who shocked the English teachers at Chicago was probably right in saying that reading aloud does infinitely more good than formal instruction in grammar.

"A certain amount of grammatical instruction must be given, however. But educators seem to overdo it, and expect impossibilities of it.—Salem Statesman.

"HOW DRY I AM"

Dallas Citizens Prepares Against That Awful Day.

According to the Polk County Observer the citizens of Dallas, who feel the need of a little "good cheer" are providing for the emergencies of the coming year. "Lay not up treasures for yourselves on earth," but rather let tomorrow provide for itself. It is just possible that the drought will not be so great as is predicted. There are ways of getting booze that the unsophisticated Oregon prohi has never dreamed of.

COUNCIL MEETING

The city council met in adjourned session Monday night with R. M. Wonderly presiding in the absence of Mayor Griffin. The following councilmen were present; Henry Brown, R. A. Titus, C. J. Bradley, and I. G. Singleton, and Auditor McPherrin.

Attorney Tooze was absent but had instructed the council that it would be necessary to draw a warrant on the general fund to pay the purchase price of lots sold at Dallas, Tuesday December 14, on delinquent assessments and also to pay the recording fee for the deeds of the same, which was done.

The extension of the water line to Teal creek came up for discussion, and it was stated that Judge Teal had offered to grant the city the right to lay their pipeline over his land in consideration that the city exempt him from the payment of certain street assessments, approximately \$60, and an additional sum of \$50. It was suggested that the pipeline could be laid up the bed of the creek and save the expense.

The manager of the electric light company registered a kick on account of the light bill having been cut from \$85 to \$41 for the month of October on account of poor lights. The council refused to re-open the matter and laid it over until such a time as the Mayor could be present.

The council adjourned until Monday, December 27.

FOUR LEGGED GIRL DEAD.

Little Virginia McDonald of Virginia Had Four Arms Also.

Harrisonburg, Va.—Virginia McDonald, a little girl with four legs and four arms, who for four years has been exhibited at fairs and other public places all over the eastern part of the United States, died recently at the home of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Madison McDonald, near Lebanon church, Shenandoah county. The child was five years one month and nineteen days old. She was sick just two days with tonsillitis and membranous croup.

When several months old she was taken to Johns Hopkins hospital, Baltimore, where physicians and medical scientists examined her. They decided that it would be impossible to operate on the child without causing death. There have been other persons born with four legs and four arms, but they did not live as long as the little Shenandoah girl. They died either at birth or soon thereafter, according to reports.

She leaves her parents and three little brothers, and also a large sum of money. Her father is a farmer.

CONFUSED BY FINAL "E."

Notified Her Brother Joined Marine Corps, She Thought He Was Dead.

Portland, Ore.—Never having used the final "e" in her own spelling of the word "corpse," Mrs. Marcelline Germaine of Donaldson, Mich., was prostrated with grief upon receipt of an official communication announcing the fact that her brother, Joseph Ell Jollicouer, had joined the United States marine corps and had named her as next of kin to be notified in case of death.

"If my brother is a corpse of what did he die?" she wrote to Captain H. T. Swain, in charge of the local recruiting station of the United States marine corps, who had enlisted the man and was responsible for the notification.

The recruiting officer by return mail bade the sorrowing sister cease mourning and assured her that the "corps" to which her brother had lately attached himself was the "livest" kind of an organization.

ONCE BANKER, FULLER IS NOW DAY LABORER

When Bank Failed He Was Glad to Get Strenuous Job.

Winslow, Ill.—From a well dressed banker to a day laborer in overalls is the transition of J. Bradley Fuller, who, with his sisters owned and operated the private bank of Fuller & Son at Winslow. Necessity forced the former banker to obtain means of support.

The only occupation available was that of helping manufacture concrete blocks. He is paid \$2 a day for ten hours and is docked for every hour in which he is not occupied.

Upon the recent return of Fuller from the east, his departure taking place just one week prior to the failure of the bank, he was on the verge of nervous prostration. The sympathy of his friends assisted in restoring his nerves to their normal condition, and he announced his willingness to take any kind of work which afforded himself and his family a living.

After seeking in vain for some occupation more remunerative and with less physical labor involved, he went to work with the concrete firm and expects to remain there until something more inviting develops. His family take their reduced circumstances philosophically, all seeking employment in order to contribute to the common fund.

The report of the auditing board, of which D. F. Graham, president of the First National bank of Freeport is chairman, shows that the liabilities of the Winslow bank are \$168,647, while the assets are \$120,935. On this basis depositors will receive about 70 cents on the dollar. The auditor assumed that the assets credited to a furniture manufacturing company of Manitowoc, Wis., amounting to \$20,000, would not depreciate.

WIFE SAVED HIM.

Rode 300 Miles With Baby on Pony to Plead For Her Husband.

Salem, Ore.—The hardships of a 300 mile horseback trip made by Mrs. Walter Quick and baby of Lakeview over mountainous trails to plead for the release of her husband from the state prison were not without avail, the state parole board deciding to recommend to the government that Quick be paroled.

Quick will be confronted with the problem of reaching his home when Governor Withycombe orders his release. He has a homestead near Lakeview, 300 miles from Salem, and his only means of transportation is the pony on which his wife and baby made the long trip here.

Quick was sent to prison for the theft of a sack of oats and a box of shotgun shells.

Anti-girl Club Formed.

Kendallville, Ind.—Thirty-five young bachelors of this city have organized the Anti-girl club. To be caught taking a young woman to a theater, dance or other social function or home from church or even to make a social call will cost the member \$5. The "high cost of entertainment" is given as the cause for organizing.

Go Home For Christmas

THE holidays will soon be here. The time of happiness and cheer. Your friends will be expecting you to come home. So will mother, father, sister or brother.

Low Holiday Fares

Are available for the holidays. On sale between all Southern Pacific stations in Oregon Dec. 17, 18, 22, 23, 24, 25, 31 and Jan. 1. Return limit Jan. 4. From Oregon to California points on sale Dec. 22, 23, 24, 25, 30, 31, Jan. 1st. Return limit Jan. 3d.

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THERE IS FOOD FOR THOUGHT IN OUR ADVERTISING COLUMNS.

"DICK" MADISON DEAD.

D. A. Madison, who was in business in this city and Falls City a few years ago, died at Independence last Thursday, December 16th. He was buried there on Saturday. Mr. Madison was about 47 years old and is survived by his widow and a son, Harry, both living in Independence. His death was due to lung trouble, from which he had been a sufferer for some time.—Itemizer.

STORM DOES DAMAGE

Reports from various sections of the coast indicates that the storm the first of the week has done considerable damage. It is reported that landslides and fallen trees has blocked the logging roads in many places. The high water here swept away part of the electric light co.'s dam, but that was expected as the part washed out was only a temporary affair. The foot bridge on Third street was considered unsafe Tuesday night and danger signals were placed at each end of the bridge. The "wharf" in front of Brentners store was dislocated and an appeal to the "Bar and (Hand-spike) Harbor commission will be made.

The Rev. Irl R. Hicks 1916 Almanac.

The Rev. Irl R. Hicks 1916 Almanac is by far the finest, largest and best ever before printed. The Hicks storm and weather forecasts for 1915 again have proven their truth and value, and this splendid Almanac for 1916 should find its way straight into every home and office in America. The Rev. Irl R. Hicks Magazine, Word and Works, and his unique Almanac should always go together, both for only one dollar a year. The Almanac alone is 35c, prepaid. Send to Word and Works Publishing Company, 3401 Franklin Ave., St. Louis, Mo.

Attorney General Gregory has rendered an opinion that the organization of the Federal Reserve Bank districts is not reviewable. The law says it is not reviewable "except by the reserve board." Which is to govern? The law or Mr. Gregory's opinion?

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