

Polk County Observer

J. C. HAYTER,
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The way to build up Dallas is to patronize Dallas people.



DALLAS CAN LEAD

Dallas has more substantial public improvements than any town of like size on the Pacific Coast. The town has a plentiful supply of pure mountain water; it has excellent electric street lights, a good sewerage system, ample fire apparatus, and good sidewalks and crosswalks on every street, extending far into the suburbs. The only important feature now lacking is well-improved streets. The streets of Dallas, while far from impassable, are in many respects a disgrace to the town, and are far from what the people of the town could desire them to be. No particular blame can be attached either to the council or to the people for the existing condition of the streets, for the very good reason that the town has no material with which to build better thoroughfares. Thousands of dollars of the public money have been spent in the last fifteen or twenty years in an effort to build permanent streets with the gravel taken from the bed of the LaCreole river, but the money has been practically thrown away. The gravel is not hard enough to withstand the heavy traffic, and soon crumbles into dust or mud. Then follows the additional expense to the property-owner of scraping up this layer of dirt and hauling it away. Every former council has wrestled with this problem of trying to make permanent streets with gravel, and in every instance the effort has proved futile. The present council has met with the experience of its predecessors, and, at last tiring of forcing the property-owners to waste their money in temporary gravel improvements, has decided to submit the question of purchasing a rock-crusher to the voters at the coming city election.

The committee on streets is now investigating the cost of a crusher suitable to the needs of a town of this size, and is also looking into the matter of securing a sufficient supply of rock adapted to road purposes. Every feature of the work of building rock streets will be thoroughly and conscientiously investigated, and should the project be found practicable and within the reach of the town, it is highly probable that the whole matter will be submitted to the voters for their approval or disapproval at the election to be held three weeks from next Monday.

The importance to Dallas of clean, well-improved streets, and of good permanent roads leading into the country in every direction cannot be over estimated. Such improvements, if wisely planned and carried out, would establish Dallas' commercial supremacy for all time to come. With the lead that would be gained by such a movement, trade would be brought to the town that could never be diverted to other centers. If any citizen of Dallas thinks that the farmers would not welcome such a move by the town, let him ask the first farmer he meets for his opinion as to whether or not Dallas would gain trade by putting in a rock-crusher and assisting the country people in getting a first-class road over which to haul their produce to market, winter or summer. We believe he will find the answer so emphatic as to leave no room for doubt as to its earnestness. The writer has talked with hundreds of farmers on this subject in the last thirty days, and he has yet to find one who does not agree that Dallas could take no more important step than to inaugurate a genuine good-roads movement in Polk county by purchasing a crusher and beginning the work of building permanent roads.

We would not have it understood that the OBSERVER is in favor of

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Dallas undertaking to build county roads at her own expense. Such a move would be impracticable, and no one expects it of the town. The first thing to be done is to put the streets of Dallas in first-class condition, and when this work is accomplished it will be time to begin work on the roads leading into town. The city crusher can be rented to the road districts at a low rate, or even loaned free of any charge whatever, and crushed rock can be hauled and spread on the county roads instead of gravel. When the farmers once see the practical benefits of the use of crushed rock on the streets of the town, they will not be slow in joining in the improvement of the country roads, and no trouble will be encountered in securing a sufficient number of wagons and teams, without cost, to keep the crusher running to its capacity. The work will become mutual. The town will help the farmers, and the farmers will help the town, and, almost before we are aware of it, the county will have several miles of permanent roads. After the good work is once under way, it will never cease—the people will not permit it to cease—and even the County Court will at last be obliged to admit the "error of its way" and join in the movement by purchasing two or more crushers for general use in the county. But, as in all important enterprises, it is necessary for someone to take the lead, and the OBSERVER sincerely hopes that the people of Dallas will take this important honor upon themselves by voting to buy a rock-crusher without further delay.

INITIATIVE PROPER REMEDY.

Determined to stop the Normal School graft, even if they have to abolish the Normal Schools, and put other state institutions to great inconvenience, one body of citizens proposes to appeal to the referendum. Another body of citizens, who are not willing to punish all for the offenses of a few, proposes a less sweeping but not less effective measure, through the initiative. The Oregonian is sure that a bill can be framed under the initiative that will meet the situation. The general desire is to veto the Normal School appropriation. The referendum will not do it. It appears to be clear, from the attitude of the state authorities, that they will feel justified under the state law in issuing certificates of indebtedness for all the institutions benefited by the appropriation bill now sought to be attacked. To be sure, if the bill were to be voted down by the referendum, the public sense of outrage would be expressed, but that is all. The next Legislature might or might not heed it. But if, under the initiative, a measure is offered abolishing the Normal Schools, or, what is better, prohibiting the Legislature from creating more than one school, the desired end will be specifically accomplished. Let us, then, have the initiative, if we are to have anything. Let the public say what is to be done with the Normal Schools, and let the state Insane Asylum, Penitentiary, Reform School and the others be permitted to escape the general public wrath.—Oregonian.

As a successful indicter, there are no lies on Mr. Heney, of Washington, and other places. With the aid of his man Friday Burns and the Secretary of the Interior, Oregon's Congressman has been made out a terribly mean man and has been indicted again at Washington. Isn't it pretty near time for some of the trials to come off? The public is really becoming interested to see if the government has convincing proof in all these cases—Salem Statesman.

WIN ONE GAME EACH

Corvallis Defeats Dallas in Return Basketball Game by Score of 25 to 12.

The O. A. C. basketball team defeated the Dallas College team in Corvallis last Friday evening by a score of 25 to 12. Dallas defeated the Corvallis team on the home floor a few weeks ago by a decisive score, and, unless a third game is played, the state championship for 1904-5 will remain unsettled.

The Dallas players were in poor condition at Corvallis, and were clearly outplayed by their opponents. The game was fast and exciting, but Dallas was unable to score at critical moments, and Corvallis, having the advantage of being on its own floor, held the visitors down to a defensive game. Chester Gates, of the Dallas team, was painfully injured by a fall in the last half and was practically out of the playing until the final whistle blew.

A large crowd of Dallas people attended the game, leaving Dallas on a special motor in the afternoon and returning late Friday night.

The Corvallis Gazette, a paper that has always had kind words for the Dallas team, says: "After something more than two years O. A. C. has succeeded in defeating Dallas in a game of basketball. The game was fast and furious and some of our people can scarcely tell yet how we managed to defeat Dallas as we did. Dallas has a good team—there is no denying this fact—and played a rattling good game. Honors are now even and a decisive game is likely to be played in the near future. The Dallas boys and their friends accepted defeat gracefully, and their general demeanor was the subject of much favorable comment."

FOLEY'S HONEY AND TAR
Cures Croup Prevents Pneumonia

DISCOURAGED

The expression occurs so many times in letters from sick women to Dr. Pierce, "I was completely discouraged." And there is always a good reason for the discouragement. Years of suffering. Doctor after doctor tried in vain. Medicines doing no lasting good. It is no wonder that the woman feels discouraged.



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DISPLAY OF COLLEGE SPIRIT

It is Highly Developed Among the Students of the Oregon Agricultural College.

The Corvallis correspondent of the Evening Telegram sent the following dispatch to his paper Tuesday: "An amusing incident, and one that might have caused trouble during the O. A. C.-Dallas game, not heretofore reported, was the fact that the Dallas rooters brought with them to Corvallis an illuminated banner bearing the inscription, 'Dallas, Champions of Oregon.' It was evidently the intention to unfurl this banner at the conclusion of the game, as it was brought into the hall snugly wrapped up. But the unexpected result of the game spoiled this part of the programme, and a crowd of college boys, learning of the presence of such a banner, attempted to secure it. The cooler heads present, however, persuaded the boys to desist, and the banner returned to Dallas intact. Had Dallas won and then flaunted their banner in the face of the students, there certainly would have been something doing."

The writer of the foregoing paragraph, whoever he is, is just a plain, ordinary, every-day liar. He isn't even a skillful liar. The banner mentioned in his dispatch is a flag or pennant bearing the word "Dallas," and contains no other wording whatever. This crimson pennant is the Dallas student banner, and the basketball players have carried it with them on many trips, never thinking of flaunting it in the faces of the students of any college. No school but Corvallis has ever attempted to destroy it. It appears that the Oregon Agricultural College is the only school in Oregon where this "college spirit," as it is called, has been developed to the point of ruffianism, and both attempts to secure the Dallas pennant have been characterized by the most shameless actions. College spirit among healthy, active young men is well enough in its place, but when the term is used to cover up acts that would otherwise be punishable as misdemeanors or crimes against the law, it is time for this "spirit" to be subdued somewhat.

The OBSERVER cares little about this rivalry existing among college boys, but it has often wondered why the Dallas College team recognized the O. A. C. team at all in making up its schedule of games for this year, after the disgraceful scenes that occurred in Corvallis a year ago, after O. A. C. had been defeated by the Polk county players, when a large crowd of visitors from Dallas were attacked and pelted with stones and mud by a mob of students and town hoodlums just as the train was pulling out of town. There is no particular harm in a lot of college boys scrapping over the possession of a school flag, so long as they keep within the bounds of decency, but this does not justify a town in permitting a gang of hoodlums to assault peaceful visitors from a neighbor town and escape unpunished.

A repetition of these disgraceful actions was attempted this year, but "cooler heads," as the Corvallis correspondent says, "persuaded the boys to desist." The cooler heads, as it happened, were on the shoulders of one or two well-known business men of Dallas, who called in a Deputy Sheriff of Benton county, and it was a loaded revolver in the hands of this officer that served as a "persuader." Corvallis hoodlums have no particular use for a Sheriff with a loaded gun since the occurrence of a certain tragic event in that town a few months ago. The Corvallis basketball players have visited Dallas twice within the last two years, and on both occasions they were treated with every courtesy by the students of Dallas College, (among whom this "college spirit" is not quite so highly developed,) and by the citizens of the town. The visitors accompanying the team were accorded the treatment that is due from one neighbor to another, and every effort was put forth to make their brief stay in Dallas pleasant and enjoyable. In return, the Dallas visitors to Corvallis

FOLEY'S HONEY AND TAR
stops the cough and heals lungs

were taunted and jeered at every turn, and as the train pulled out from the station, a mob of O. A. C. students and town hoodlums, stooping to the moral level of sewer-rats, gathered up mud from the streets and threw it into the faces and on the clothing of passengers on the platforms who had not yet found seats in the crowded cars. No city officer was sent to quell the disturbance, and one Corvallis newspaper afterwards had the affront to uphold the rioters, saying in effect that "mud will brush off when it gets dry."

The tough element attempted to repeat these tactics last Friday night, but were promptly called down by one or two determined Dallas men and compelled to behave themselves until an armed officer arrived and took them in hand. Had this help not arrived promptly, Corvallis might have had a few more hoodlums to bury.

The OBSERVER regrets to recall these unpleasant facts, and would not mention them here but for the arrogant attempt of the Corvallis writer in the Telegram to place the people of Dallas in a false light. While he was telling the story of the incidents of the Dallas-Corvallis game, he should have told it all.

SKETCH OF JOHN M. SCOTT.

By J. L. COLLINS.

John M. Scott was born in Illinois in July, 1827. He was a son of Capt. Levi Scott and Eda Ennis Scott. His mother died when he was about fourteen years old. He was one of a family of thirteen children born to Capt. Scott and his wife between the time of their marriage in 1817, and the time of Mrs. Scott's death, which took place in 1842.

In 1844, at the age of sixteen, John M. Scott crossed the plains with his father, in company with A. F. Hedges, who settled at Canemah, just above the falls of the Willamette, and Capt. Charles Bennett, who settled at Salem, and was killed in the three days battle with the Indians, at Walla Walla, in the winter of 1855-6. While crossing the Cascade mountains, with horses, after having been compelled to abandon their wagon on the plains, John rode into the cold and rushing waters of Hood River to swim across on his horse, which was carried off by the current, and rolled over, with the boy clinging to the saddle. After floating down stream, over the boulders, for about a quarter of a mile, the horse landed safely on the western bank, with John still clinging to the rigging. In 1845, Capt. Scott took up a claim, about nine miles north of Corvallis, which he afterwards sold, and it was, I think, finally proved up on by a man named Cahoon. It lies just a little south of Wellsville, on the S. P. R. R., which runs across the east end of the claim.

In 1846, John went with his father, Jesse Applegate, and twelve others in search of a way by which wagons could be driven into the Willamette valley, which never yet had been accomplished. All the wagons, yet, brought to the Valley, had been brought down the Columbia, from the dalles of that river, on batteaux. They started in the Spring, early, and carefully examined the way across the Calapooya mountains, through the Umpqua valley, and the great Umpqua Canyon, across the Cow Creek mountains, through the Rogue River valley, across the Siskiyou mountains to the Klamath river, which they followed up to the Kamath lakes. They passed around the south end of that Lake, and of Goose Lake, and proceeded to the sink of the Humboldt River, near which they struck the California emigrant trail, which they followed to Fort Hall. This was one of the most important of the early explorations of this country. Its value was little understood, at the time; and it brought the explorers neither profit, nor thanks from the many who were ultimately benefited by it. But it opened a way for the immigrants to drive their wagons into the settlements; and helped and hastened the settlement of southern and southeastern Oregon.

When the Cayuse war broke out in 1847, John went with his father, who had been commissioned by Governor Abernethy Captain of a company of fifteen to carry dispatches to the Governor of California. They started in December. On reaching the Siskiyou mountains, in January, they found the snow about five feet deep, and so crusted over, that it would not bear the weight of a horse; and in attempting to go forward, it cut the legs of the horses so badly, that they soon found it impossible to cross the mountains with the animals. They decided to send part of the men back with the horses, and part of them should cross the mountain on foot and proceed to the Sacramento valley, carrying their blankets, arms and provisions on their backs. The horses were started back at once, as the men were anxious to get them to grass, for they had nothing but the twigs of bushes to eat now for three or four days. John Scott and seven men were sent back with the horses; while seven men attempted to cross the mountain on foot. The party that attempted to cross the mountain found it impossible, and were compelled to abandon the effort. The men with the horses traveled slowly, to rest the weary animals and allow them to graze, wherever they could find grass. The men on foot overtook them on the Umpqua river, just after passing through the Great Canyon of the

FOLEY'S KIDNEY CURE
Makes Kidneys and Bladder Right

Umpqua mountains. So, the effort to reach California failed, and they returned to the settlements the latter part of January.

In the summer of 1848, John Scott took a land claim on Elk Creek, at the foot of the Calapooya mountains, which he afterwards sold to Charles Applegate. In 1865, he purchased six hundred acres of land from John H. Lewis and wife, being the whole of their Donation Claim, except forty acres, given by them to help found the LaCreole Academy, at Dallas. In 1872, he sold this land, and bought the John Nichols Donation Claim, about a mile southwest of Dallas. He sold this place about ten years after, and lived in Dallas a year or two, when he moved to the Malheur valley in Eastern Oregon, where he died, February 22, 1905.

He was a man of but little education. He never had an opportunity to get much help in that line. But he was a man of good, broad, all-round intelligence. In all matters with which he had an opportunity to become acquainted, his judgment was good, and his knowledge unerring. His advice was often sought, and was always valuable. He was a man of modest and unassuming deportment; always kind and obliging; and scrupulously honest. He despised a mean or cowardly action. He was a firm believer in that fundamental principle of our Republic, self-government. He believed that every intelligent person knows what is right; and that every one has a right to do as he pleases, if he pleases to do right, and to wrong no other person. This was his idea of self-government. He was a diamond in the rough, a typical pioneer, a man of princely soul.

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