

Polk County Observer

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EDITOR AND PUBLISHER.

Published Weekly at \$1.50 per Year.
Strictly in Advance.

DALLAS, OREGON, SEPTEMBER 29, 1905

The way to build up Dallas is to patronize Dallas people.



MR. GEER HAS HIS SAY

SALEM, Or., Sept. 24.—(To the Editor)—In your editorial on the 22d inst., entitled "Will have to explain," you have three paragraphs which you appear to think come under that caption, as follows:

"Since Mr. Geer admits that the Governor's salary is \$5000 a year, it can safely be taken for granted that he got that much each year that he filled that office. Now that the Ex-Governor is loosening up on the salary subject it is to be hoped that he will go the whole length and tell the people exactly how much he did get."

Agreed. I received precisely the sum that was allowed by the laws of the state, regularly allowed by warrant from the Secretary of State, and not one cent more, directly or indirectly, and any man, no matter who he may be, who asserts to the contrary or who has ever so asserted is a cowardly calumniator. This plain language has no application to any truthful man, and is too mild for any other.

And I did not "admit" that the Governor's salary is \$5000 a year. In an interview on another subject it was incidentally stated that the Governor's salary, since the passage of the flat salary law last winter, is that sum. Your version that I "admitted" it is equivalent to saying that hitherto no one knew what his compensation is, and that my statement that it is \$5000 is the first intimation the people had that "this state law" existed, though there has been a public clamor for it for several years. It would naturally be supposed that the Observer would keep its readers better posted as to the work of the state's lawmakers.

And you say "the Geer influence elected Chamberlain Governor;" that "here in Polk county certain influential friends of Geer worked early and late for Chamberlain, with the result that the Republican majority was overcome and the county was carried for the Democratic candidate," and that "the number of Republican votes cast for Chamberlain in Polk county alone would have been sufficient to have elected Furnish had they been cast for him."

No doubt; but since no Republican in the state can be found who would in any manner endeavor to induce him to vote for Chamberlain or to not vote for Furnish, your effort to find some one to blame for the fiasco of a few bosses who temporarily had control of affairs, falls to the ground. Suppose these misguided Polk county men you have in mind were "friends of Geer?" They were also friends of Treasurer Moore and friends of Secretary Dunbar—at least they voted for them. I made as many speeches during that campaign as they did, though both were candidates for re-election, and if you know the men you speak of to be friends of mine, why not undertake to crucify Treasurer Moore and Secretary Dunbar, also, for the unpardonable sin of having such friends?

I was a candidate upon the same ticket with Mr. Furnish, my name being placed there by the Secretary of State according to the requirement of the law, and yet, so far as I ever heard, Mr. Furnish did not say one word in my favor in any speech he made. But I made no complaint and cheerfully forgave him then, and feel no grudge toward him at this time. If we are going to "get together" and have harmony, we cannot afford to cherish these disappointments from campaign to campaign. The love feast which is called for October 12 is not based upon this unforgiving spirit.

You say that enough Republican votes were cast for Chamberlain in Polk county alone to have elected Mr. Furnish if they had been cast for him. And you profess to think that it was through "the Geer influence," though I ask you to name the man whom I approached, even remotely, upon the subject. But what will you do with the vote of Senator Fulton's own county of Clatsop, which gave Treasurer Moore 606 majority and Furnish only 166? Was that due to "the Fulton influence?" There was a falling off in Clatsop of 500 from the normal majority. Suppose those Republicans had voted for Mr. Furnish, would he not have been elected? And will you not be sufficiently consistent to attribute it to the "Fulton influence?" was not nearer to Clatsop county during the campaign than Salem is, and had no communication with any citizen of it.

And Baker county gave Chamberlain 581 majority while Treasurer Moore carried it by 102. Was that the "Johns influence" getting in its work? If not, why not?

And bear in mind that all these men who were so false to party duty were friends of Mr. Dunbar and Moore and Ackerman and Fulton and others, as well as to myself, and that they were in communication with them during the campaign, while I was not. Besides, if you really want harmony in the Republican party of the state, you will bear in mind that

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you never undertook a more up-hill job than your endeavor to in any manner make me responsible for Mr. Furnish's defeat. What I did or did not do during that campaign was fully known to the people of Oregon on the day of election when they cast their vote for United States Senator, and I take this occasion to thank the people of Polk county for their majority of 361, though I was not in their midst during the canvass.

But this has all become threadbare. Let the party in Oregon forget its factional fights and henceforth stand for something higher than the mere struggle for spoils and satisfaction of personal revenge. Under the primary law, enacted by the people, the thumb screw of the party boss will become less effectual and the power of the people more nearly supreme. There should be more of principle and less of self. Let us all move in this direction. What do you say?
T. T. GEER.

It seems to us that the Ex-Governor doth protest too much. Nowhere has it even been intimated that he drew more compensation than the law allowed him. In his letter to the Oregonian, he says that the constitution of Oregon had been "superseded by the state law for 20 years." The Observer asked how much compensation he received under that state law; in other words, what was the actual compensation of the Governor of Oregon before the passage of the flat-salary bill? We all know that the constitutional salary was \$1500, and is yet; but how much more than this sum did the old state law enable the Governor to draw from the state treasury, when the constitution said plainly that he should receive \$1500 a year and no more? Certainly not an improper question, especially when asked by any taxpayer who had to help foot the bill.

Mr. Geer answers that he received "precisely the sum that was allowed by the laws of the state, regularly allowed by warrant from the Secretary of State." Doubtless true; but, as the Oregonian recently remarked, there was always "a great deal of doubt about just how much the State Executive actually did get when the salary was only \$1500." Certain unconstitutional state laws allowed him more than \$1500, but many taxpayers have often wondered just how much that extra amount was. Mr. Geer refers us to the Secretary of State's warrants; but all taxpayers don't live in Salem, and comparatively few people in Oregon have convenient access to the state's records. Mr. Geer knows what his salary was, and it is certainly no offense to ask him how much of the people's money was paid him for his services. Certainly no offense was intended when the question was asked, and as he had nothing to do with the passage of the unconstitutional laws in question, he ought to chirp right out and tell us what he got.

Commenting upon our statement that the Furnish defeat in Polk county was caused by the non-support of the Republican candidate by a large number of the Geer followers, we are asked if we believe that the light vote in Baker county was caused by the "Johns influence getting in its work?" No, Governor; we believe it was caused largely by certain Geer men "getting in their work," just the same as they did here in Polk county, and in Multnomah county, and in many other counties in Oregon. Let's be frank about it: Furnish was not a strong candidate, and ran behind his ticket in nearly every county in the state. He was a poor speaker, and had few of the qualities of a good "mixer;" added to these drawbacks was the fact that certain disgruntled Republicans in every community were fighting him; and yet, in the face of these handicaps, he was defeated by Chamberlain by something less than 300 votes in the entire state. If the Geer men had only stood pat, Furnish would have won in a walk. There's no use beating around the bush about it: Furnish was heeled, and it was the Geer crowd that heeled him.

Mr. Geer asks in effect why Frank Dunbar and Charlie Moore did not make speeches for Furnish during the campaign. Everybody knows that these men are not public speakers, and that Mr. Geer is. Besides, Dunbar and Moore were candidates for clerical offices, and no speeches were expected of them.

Geer tosses himself a bouquet by thanking the people of Polk county for the votes he received for Senator. He should be more specific and thank the Democrats for a big lot of these votes, as it was a standing joke among them on election day that they were voting for Geer to put the Republicans in a hole, knowing full well that the Republican members of the Legislature would not stand for him for Senator, and striving to create as much discord in the ranks of the enemy as possible. They didn't have a ghost of a show to elect their candidate Wood, and they knew it; so they voted for Geer, because they knew that he was not satisfactory to a large element in the Republican party.

Well, this will be about all. The Governor wants harmony. So does the Observer. But even for the sake of harmony, we should be sorry to see Mr. Geer nominated for Governor again, for the simple reason that we do not believe he would be strong enough in the state to defeat Governor Chamberlain. We haven't a thing on earth against the Ex-Governor personally, and would vote for him, were he again to receive the nomination. But should some other Republican be nominated and elected Governor, the Observer would try to bear up and look cheerful.

Mr. L. Gerlinger, president of the Dallas and Falls City railroad, writes the Observer that his company has nothing whatever to do with the latest

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Any woman may regain her health at home without offensive questionings or examinations by the use of Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription. Sick women may consult Dr. Pierce, by letter, free of charge. His letters are treated as sacredly confidential.

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survey of a line from Derry to Salem, now being made by County Surveyor VanOrsdel, and that most likely the survey is being made for some one that intends to get some right-of-way free, or at small cost, so as to have something to sell whenever a bona-fide corporation is ready to build the road.

ALL THREE FOUND GUILTY

After three trials, extending over three months, Congressman Williamson, Dr. Van Gesner and Marion R. Biggs have been found guilty of conspiracy to suborn perjury. The jury reached a verdict at 11 o'clock Wednesday night, after less than six hours' deliberation. The defendants have given notice of a motion for a new trial.

Another preliminary survey for a railroad between Dallas and Salem has been completed—making a total of six or seven surveys over the same route in as many years. The Salem Statesman is hilarious, and is predicting that nothing short of two railroads to Dallas will result from this latest move. It is now in order for the Statesman to begin building trolley lines to Silverton and Gervais and Stayton and every other town within a radius of a hundred miles of the Capitol City. The Observer believes that a road will be built between Dallas and Salem in the not distant future, but it can be secured only through intelligent, concentrated effort, and not by scattering around like an old, sawed-off shotgun.

Senator Fulton has gone to Washington to try to get the Roseburg Land Office opened, and to hasten the appointment of a Register and a Receiver. So far, B. L. Eddy, of Tillamook, is the only man recommended for Register. Senator Fulton has recommended a number of men for Receiver, among them being George L. Hawkins, of this city, and C. B. Hegard, of Astoria. It is not known whose appointment he will urge when he reaches Washington. He says he will not bother about the Judgeship appointment, unless the President or the Attorney-General shall bring up the matter to him. He will return to Oregon in time for the Republican love feast in Portland, October 12.

The Dallas Observer devotes much space in its last issue to a lecture to Republicans on their duty as to standing by party nominees. Carey Hayter advising Republicans how to vote. That's a big joke.—Independence West Side.

Yes, that is a rare joke. Pretty near as much of a joke as Lyon's foolish notion a year or two ago that he could come over into Polk county and run things to suit himself. Nearly as great a joke as his silly boast in Salem, just after the last election, that the Observer had virtually been put out of business in Polk county. During the last 15 years the writer has seen many of these West Side humorists who were going to put the Observer out of business, but somehow they never lasted long enough to do the work. In the words of the poet: "All are departed; all are gone, the old familiar faces." The West Side man will do well to look after his own paper and cease worrying about what the Observer is doing.

Z. F. Vaughn is Arrested.

Friday's Los Angeles Express says: Dr. Zenas F. Vaughn, an oculist, was arrested today on complaint of Mrs. Belle McWilliams, owner of the Hotel Lincoln, who charges him with petty larceny. Vaughn has been advertised recently as the man who rediscovered the process of tempering gold to the hardness of steel. Mrs. McWilliams alleges that Dr. Vaughn and wife conducted a rooming house for her, and that after they moved out of the house, certain household goods were missing. The task of finding the alleged stolen goods was put in the hands of detectives, and a gilded wall mirror and other household articles claimed by Mrs. McWilliams were found in Dr. Vaughn's present residence. The accused man has entered a plea of not guilty in Justice Austin's court and will be tried Monday.

The irrepressible Jim Finch is said to be a candidate for the lower house of the next legislature from Marion county. Rumor has it that Jim will be the father of "House Bill No. 104."

E. E. Lytle of Portland, who recently retired from the management of the Columbia Southern railroad, having disposed of his interest in the line, announces that he will build a railroad from Hillsboro to Tillamook and Nehalem. Mr. Lytle is a man of few words and lots of action, and the people of the long bottled-up Tillamook country may rest assured that they will soon have rail connection with the outside world.

BUSINESS LOCALS.

Dr. Hayter, Dentist, Office over Wilson's Drug Store, Dallas, Oregon.

Go and see those fine bath tubs, sinks and lavatories at Wagner Bros. A first-class plumber is in their employ, and will satisfactorily do your work.

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Good clean cheat seed for sale at 50 cents a sack. C. N. MCARTHUR, Rickreall, Oregon.

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Twenty-three or 42 acres of fertile land to rent on shares, or cash, for hay or hops.

FRANK BUTLER,

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Girl Wanted.

Wanted, girl for general household work. Apply to R. Jacobson & Company's store.

Found.

Found, a K. of P. emblem pin. Owner can have same by paying for this notice.

For Sale.

Two Lincoln buck lambs. J. J. LEVZER, Lewisville. Address: Mouth, Oregon.

Teams Wanted.

Wanted for scraper work by the Salem, Falls City & Western Railway Company. Apply at the grade two miles west of Falls City.

Notice.

Having disposed of my business in Dallas, I desire to thank all who have favored me with their patronage, and to assure them that the same was gratefully appreciated. Those who are indebted to me are requested to call and settle at their earliest convenience, as I desire to close my books as soon as possible.

Respectfully,

WALTER WILLIAMS.

Notice.

We, the undersigned, hereby notify all hunters that we will not allow any hunting or trespassing on our premises. Please do not ask it.

Dated this 27th day of September, 1905.

M. F. PERCIVAL,
N. P. RASMUSSEN,
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GEO. ROWCLIFFE,
WM. H. KRABER,
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Dallas, Oregon

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