

# POLK COUNTY OBSERVER

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**GUY BROS. & DALTON**  
THE BIG  
Furniture and  
Hardware store

Take pleasure in announcing that they are now ready to receive your esteemed patronage and in contemplation of the same have added a new and up-to-date line of Wall Paper, Carpets, Rugs and Household Furniture to their extensive line of Hardware and Tools, and will endeavor to give full satisfaction.

**GUY BROS. & DALTON,**  
Main St. Dallas, Ore.

**Jewelry**  
Cut Glassware  
Silverware  
Your friends are getting married; give them a handsome, high-grade present.  
Also a full line of  
**OPTICAL GOODS**  
C. H. MORRIS  
Jeweler  
One door west of Staffin Drug Co.

**The Dallas Harness Shop**

Is in shape to sell Harness and Horse Goods at lowest prices. Call and get prices and save money.

Plush Robes, Blankets, Whips, Etc.  
**F. SALFICKY**

**J. A. Lynch's Barber Shop**  
on  
Main Street

We have installed  
**FOUR CHAIRS**  
and are now prepared to  
**SHAVE YOU**  
in quicker time than ever before.

## POLK COUNTY Its Past, Present and Future.

[The following contribution is from the pen of one of Oregon's earliest pioneers, a resident of Dallas, who has been a keen observer of men and a close student of events. The Observer gladly gives it space, as it contains much that will be of interest not only to pioneers, but to the many people who have come to Polk county in recent years to make their homes.—ED.]  
EDITOR OBSERVER:—

Some psychological something has put your correspondent in a reminiscent mood, and thinking of the past has brought him to the present, and the present leads him to the future of Oregon, and especially to the future of Polk county, the gem of the Willamette Valley. The "golden key that unlocks the galleries of the past" opens wide the memories of too many things that rush the fountains of the soul for us to attempt anything like a history of the past in Polk county. Your space is valuable, and our attempt will be only to give the readers of the Observer a faint idea of this country as it appears to us from memory, take a look at it at present, and view it in our imagination in the future.

These reminiscences are not given for the entertainment of pioneers, but rather to give the "new comer" some idea of the exquisite loveliness and ravishing beauty of this land, when the "woodman's axe had scarcely marred a single tree;" when the contented red man looked on this beautiful scene of lofty mountains and deep green valleys, with mighty rivers flowing down to the sea, past hills and dales that were "never sear, but always green;" when the untutored savage was led to exclaim: "Sothille Tyee, Skookum momouk oeh-och close Ilihee!" (God did a great work when he made this good land). The red man, to whom the summits of the surrounding mountains was the end of the world, felt that the Creator of a land like this had, at least, showered on it more blessings than he, with all his egotism, was able to comprehend.

The Indian, though an egotist, and willing and anxious at all times to recount his valorous deeds, is yet a patriot and loves the land of his birth, the home of his squaw and papoose, and, when driven from it by the invasion of the white man and compelled to occupy an agency, invariably pines for his own country, no matter how forbidding it may be. The Modocs, when taken from the Lava Beds, longed to return, though nature could not conceive of a more desolate, God-forgotten country than was the home of Captain Jack and his valiant little band that defied all the power of Uncle Sam for months, and then only surrendered when starvation was before them. They fought to a finish for a country absolutely without a redeeming feature—nothing but sage plains, rim-rock, and caves filled with rattlesnakes and lava. But the tribes occupying the Willamette Valley surely had a justifiable pride in their country, for

"Nature in primeval beauty lay all around him,  
And gave freedom to the brown savage there;  
No plow of the white man had ever marred the plain;  
He was monarch of all, and owned everywhere!"

His wickyp and sweat-house were built or pitched in the shade of the great trees that skirted the crystal streams crossing the valley at intervals from the source of the Willamette to its mouth.

Then came the immigration period, and with it the white man, known as the "Boston tlicum" by the Indians, because the first white men ever seen by them came into the mouth of the Columbia river with Captain Gray from Boston. The time had come when the peaceful occupation by a savage race alone must cease and the land be occupied by the dominant white race.

The first intimation, we imagine, of the coming of the Bostonians in a body was the discovery by the natives of the long trains of wagons dragging serpent-like their weary lengths across the valleys and mountains of two thousand miles of inhospitable waste between the Missouri and Columbia rivers, the sight of which inspired the savage of the plains to resist the coming tide and prevent if possible the occupation of this lovely land of milk and honey by the white people. To this end, hordes of bloodthirsty demons, bent on murder and plunder, hung on their flanks and harassed, killed and plundered at every opportunity. Beset on every hand not only by their savage foes but by the ravages

of disease in their ranks, these intrepid Argonauts, without a Jason, pushed on toward the West, though no Golden Fleece was then expected as a reward for this, the most hazardous and most stupendous emigration ever recorded in the history of the world. The fleece came later on, when a generous Government gave to every man and his wife 640 broad acres in this land of golden sunshine.

After six months of battle with savages and disease, the weary, patient, toiling ox teams brought their masters to The Dalles, where the plunder and families were piled into the primitive boats of the Hudson Bay Company and the float down the Columbia to Linnton below Portland was made. Linnton was there in the form of a bare bank landing for canoes, but the Rose City, the pride of the Northwest, was not in evidence. They arrived a depleted; yet determined band—a proof of the law of the survival of the fittest—who had left the bones of friends and relatives to bleach under the laurence of the pitiless Sahara of the West.

Broken in numbers, but dauntless in spirit, they again took up the line of march and spread out over the ever-green valley of the Willamette. This picture was repeated from year to year until the valley soon had a population of several thousand and the cabin of the settler was to be found in the green wood on every lateral as well as main stream of the valley. Civilization in Oregon had commenced in earnest. And what is the result? (To be continued.)

## COURT HOUSE NOTES.

### PROBATE.

Guardianship of Otto G. Jarvis, a minor—petition to purchase dwelling property at a cost not to exceed \$1000 granted, subject to approval of court.

Estate of M. L. Robbins, deceased—final account approved.

Estate of John W. Keas, deceased—bond filed and approved.

Estate of Alsea Bill, deceased—final account approved.

Estate of Morris Jones, deceased—report of sale of real estate confirmed.

### REAL ESTATE.

United States to Julius N Hart, 160 acres, T 9 S, R 8 W, patent.

Julius N Hart and wife to R E Williams, 160 acres, T 9 S, R 8 W, \$1.

John Ritner to Frank Ritner, land in T 10 S, R 6 W, \$1000.

Alice Milligan and hd to Wm Ellis and wife, land in T 8 S, R 6 W, \$1200.

J T Ford, Sheriff, to Wm Herren, Sheriff's deed 1 acre T 8 S, R 5 W, \$1.28.

Clarence Aikman and wife to R E Williams, 160 acres, T 9 S, R 8 W, \$2500.

Thos Hollowell and wife to Edwin Lipton, lot in Falls City, \$600.

Sarah E Clodfelter to Dora A and H E Guthrie, lot in Monmouth, \$775.

E Hayter, guardian, to Albert Teal et al, land in T 9 S, R 6 W, \$1725.

M Michelbrook and wife to A T Rogers, land in T 6 S, R 6 W, \$2850.

I N Woods and wife to Conrad Staffin, lots in Dallas, \$700.

E C Kirkpatrick and wife to R E Williams, land in T 6 S, R 8 W, \$1.

R E Williams to E C Kirkpatrick, 1/2 int in lot in Falls City, \$1.

Geo T Hale to Yaquina Timber Co., 160 acres, T 8 S, R 8 W, \$3500.

E Bogert to E D Ressler et al, lot in Monmouth, \$150.

United States to C E Heyn, 60 acres, T 6 S, R 8 W, patent.

V P Molson and hd to Molson Hop Farm Co., 285 acres, T 7 S, R 4 W, \$30,300.

Bell Winters and hd to Felix Comegy, lots in Ballston, \$300.

### Poultrymen's Meeting.

There will be held in the County Court room in Dallas, February 2, a meeting of the poultry breeders of Polk county. The meeting will be held for the purpose of organizing an association to hold a high-class poultry show annually. Everyone interested in poultry should attend this meeting.

It's the highest standard of quality, a natural tonic, cleanses your system, reddens the cheeks, brightens the eyes, gives flavor to all you eat. Hollister's Rocky Mountain Tea will do this for you. 35 cents, Tea or Tablets. Belt & Cherrington.

Fred Hall, a former Polk county boy, died in Stockton, California, last Saturday, after a lingering illness of consumption. He was 29 years old. He was married to Miss Rose Lenger in Corvallis, December 29, 1898. His remains were brought to Corvallis for burial.

## ALFALFA IN THE VALLEY

H. E. Lounsbury Tells of the Experiments That Are Being Made With This Forage Plant.

PORTLAND, Or., January 26—(To the Editor.)—Alfalfa growing in the Willamette Valley is still in an experimental stage so far as the possibility of producing it as a commercial crop is concerned. The same could be said of clover ten years ago, but it is now one of the principal forage crops raised throughout the entire valley. A few years later when vetch was introduced, it grew so luxuriantly as to obtain popular favor and at once became a valuable and common crop. It cannot be said, however, that clover was altogether successful at the first, and many failures occurred in various sections of the valley, causing a feeling generally that the valley lands were not adapted to the growing of clover.

About this time the Oregon State Agricultural College people advanced the practice of inoculating the soil by taking soil from a field where clover had successfully grown and spreading it over the new land at the time of seeding, which plan was considerably followed and resulted in solving the problem of inoculation. Now it is considered that the soil of the Willamette Valley has become thoroughly inoculated with the germs requisite for the production of clover and that a good crop can be raised without difficulty in every section of the valley.

It is confidently expected that what has already been accomplished with respect to clover can also be done with alfalfa. In the past few years enough successful experiments have been made by individual farmers to justify the Industrial Department of the Southern Pacific Company in concluding a year ago to give it a thorough and complete trial, under improved methods of seed and soil inoculation.

A plan was therefore adopted of arranging to put in at least 20 experimental tracts of five acres each, distributed in different parts of the Willamette Valley. The Railroad Company offered to furnish the alfalfa seed and land plaster and transport inoculated soil from the State Agricultural Farm at Corvallis free of charge. Under these conditions it was an easy matter to find farmers who were willing to co-operate to the extent of putting in the seed, furnishing the land and continuing the experiment for a period of at least two years.

The movement was given as much publicity as possible through the medium of the press and otherwise. The U. S. Department of Agriculture learning of it, came forward with an offer to furnish sufficient inoculated seed for planting 40 acres in alfalfa, also inoculating material for an additional 60 acres. The offer was accepted and the movement was thereby proportionally increased. Numerous requests for seed were received from parties wishing to put in one, two or three acre tracts, and instead of confining the experiment to twenty tracts of five acres each, seed was supplied for 40 tracts ranging in size from one to ten acres, a total of 142 acres.

Of the inoculated seed furnished by the U. S. Department of Agriculture, 500 pounds was from Montana, 200 pounds from Utah, 40 pounds from Turkistan and 40 pounds from Argentina. The seed supplied by the S. P. Co. was from Utah.

All this seed was planted a year ago last spring and the experiment has covered one-half of the period with promise of great success.

In connection with the movement, invitations were extended to those interested to send their names and addresses for pamphlets, bulletins and other literature that may be issued from time to time. The mailing list contains over 400 names.

A pamphlet entitled "Alfalfa in the Willamette Valley" was written by Hon. W. W. Cotton, General Attorney for the Harriman Lines, who has made a careful study of the subject from a practical standpoint, having successfully grown alfalfa on his Gresham farm.

Another pamphlet is now in the course of preparation which will contain letters from the persons conducting the experiments, giving particulars as to when the seed was sown, preparation of the soil, progress of the plant, how treated and its present condition. It is expected that this pamphlet will be ready for distribution early this Spring for the information of anyone who may contemplate putting in alfalfa this season. It will be sent to those whose names are on the mailing list and anyone

else who desires can obtain a copy upon application therefor.

H. E. LOUNSBURY, D. F. A.,  
Southern Pacific Company.

## ENJOY THEIR VACATION

Mr. and Mrs. F. K. Hubbard Are Visiting Principal Places of Interest in California.

FRESNO, Cal., Jan. 27—(To The Editor.)—According to promise, I will send you a few lines for the Observer. Five weeks ago today, Mrs. Hubbard and I left Dallas for California. Our first stop was at Sisson, where we stayed one week. This is one of the places where the natural scenery is certainly grand. On the east rise, Mt. Shasta, 14,450 feet high and looks to be not more than two miles away; on the west is Mt. Eddy, not so high as Shasta; to the north is Black Butte, which is almost solid rock. They tell me that since the earthquake this mountain has changed. Always before this winter the top of this peak was the first place the snow would melt, but this winter it does not melt. Just at the foot of this mountain rises the Sacramento river. It gushes forth a stream as large as the Luckiamute, of ice cold water, as clear as crystal. You can see thousands of the finny tribe that make you wish for a rod and line. The California fish and game law is quite rigidly enforced, however.

One mile down the Sacramento river is the state fish hatchery. Everything there is nicely arranged with beautiful grounds. There are 42 different ponds, and every one alive with fish. They have every species of fish known in the United States. They employ 20 men, and count on hatching 150 million fish each year. All the streams in the state are stocked from this hatchery.

Our next stop was at Wheatland, 200 miles down the Sacramento valley. This brought us to the wheat belt of the state. While the yield is small—from four to six sacks per acre—they claim a fair margin of profit on their wheat crop. The farming is done on a large scale—from 1000 to 3000 acres in one farm. Here also is the main hop industry of the state. The Horst yards are here, also the Durst brothers.

From Wheatland we went to Sacramento, arriving there the day the Governor was inaugurated. From Sacramento, we went to Fresno, which certainly is an ideal little city of 20,000 inhabitants, situated in the heart of the San Joaquin valley. You can go out in the country and look until the sky and earth meet—it is all one vast vineyard. They also raise some oranges, lemons, peaches and walnuts, but they can't raise good apples. You can get plenty of Oregon apples however, at two for five cents. The entire distance from Sacramento to this place is one continuous stretch of level land, and to my mind is the best part of California that I have seen. We expect to leave here on the 28th for Southern California.

While the weather is much warmer than you have been having in Oregon, they tell us it is the coldest they have had for years. Fuel is very high, and having to keep up their reputation for a warm climate, they don't keep good fires. Well, Mr. Editor, if you think this will do, I may send you another letter later on.

F. K. HUBBARD.

### Trapped An Otter.

An otter, an animal now very scarce in this part of the state, was trapped recently in the Calapooia River, two miles above Albany, by Charles Barry. The animal was a splendid specimen, measuring four feet, eight inches from tip to tip. It's pelt is believed to be worth \$20. About two weeks ago Sanford Archibald, an Albany boy, shot a young otter on the Calapooia.

A tissue builder, reconstructer, builds up waste force, makes strong nerves and muscle. You will realize after taking Hollister's Rocky Mountain Tea what a wonderful benefit it will be to you. 35 cents, Tea or Tablets. Belt & Cherrington.

### Week's Basketball Scores.

Salem Y. M. C. A., 31; Monmouth, 8. Willamette, 29; Monmouth, 22. Dallas, 23; Portland Y. M. C. A., 10. Multnomah, 19; Dallas, 8.

When you want printing that is right, come to the OBSERVER office.

The Salem Journal makes the sweeping assertion that the only appropriation before the legislature today that is calculated to benefit the producer is the Jones bill for free locks and canal at Oregon City. All the rest are to burden the producer.

## NOT PARTISAN MEASURE

Father of Reciprocal Demurrage Law Says Framers Looked Only to General Good.

Representative Chapin, of Multnomah County, states his position on the criticism which has been made that the reciprocal demurrage bill he has introduced is a political measure. He says:

"I take issue with the contentions raised against the commission bill introduced by me and drawn by the transportation committee of the Chamber of Commerce of Portland. I find that practically all the opposition so far found to the measure arises from strictly party grounds. I discover from talk with those who have so far discussed the bill that the only objection found with it arises from the provision that Governor Chamberlain is given the appointive power in the creation of the commission after the enactment of the bill. The great fear is that it will be used as a means to increase Democratic patronage. It is said by the partisan press that the intent of the bill is political and that it has been drawn to this end, and I take exception to this statement.

"I am as good a Republican," continued Mr. Chapin, "as can be found in the Oregon Legislature. I take issue with the statement that the bill is a creation of J. N. Teal, builded in the interest of himself or of Governor Chamberlain. That cry has been raised in interested quarters to befog the issue, knowing the prejudice which a Republican Legislature would certainly have against any measure intended for Democratic gain. It is not a Democratic measure and is not intended for Democratic gain. It was not drawn by Mr. Teal in his interest or in the interest of Governor Chamberlain or any patronage. The bill is not a creation of Mr. Teal, but is a compilation of the Wisconsin and the Iowa laws which have been operative and effective for some time and which were therefore valuable standards and foundations for the formation of the Oregon draft.

"No one can make the charge that L. A. Lewis, Henry Hahn, T. D. Honeyman, H. Wittenberg, A. F. Biles, F. A. Nitchev, I. Lang, Ben Albers, E. Ehrman, A. H. Devers, Sol Blumauer, W. H. Beharrel, S. M. Mears, W. B. Glafke, or W. A. Mears are Democrats. These are the members of the transportation committee, or most of them, who sanctioned the present form of the bill.

"It was thought that one man, the chief executive of the State, could be held closer to duty, if he had full and complete power over its selection than if the office were elective or in the hands of several men. To further balance it, not more than two men from one party may be on the commission.

"There will not always be a Democrat in the Governor's chair, and the sponsors for the bill are not looking to the immediate creation of the commission, but to its ultimate task. They are looking ahead with a broad view to the future good of the State, not introspectively at the immediate present."

## LUMBER TRADE IS BRISK

Supply of Cars for California Shipments is Far Short of Demand.

Replying to an inquiry of the Oregon Timberman as to trade conditions and the outlook for the lumber business in the Dallas district, George T. Gerlinger, secretary and general manager of the Willamette Valley Lumber Company writes as follows:  
Dallas, Ore., January 10, 1907.

The Timberman: Replying to your letter of January 2, we consider that the lumber business for the year 1906 has been very good. We have, however, been greatly disappointed and lost many thousand dollars through the inability of the railroad companies to supply us equipment for California business. Regarding the prospect for 1907, we feel that the year will be even better than 1906, but we cannot feel at all optimistic regarding the car situation for Southern shipment. In fact we believe that the same bad condition will exist throughout the year.

Yours truly,  
WILLAMETTE VALLEY LBR. CO.

Printing, the kind that pays, at the OBSERVER office.

It's a good old world after all; If you have no friends or money, In the river you can fall; Marriages are quite common and, More people there would be, Provided you take Rocky Mountain Tea. Belt & Cherrington.