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MANY LICENSES ISSUED

Privilege of Hunting in Polk County Has Been Granted to 157 Men Since January 1.

The records in the office of E. M. Smith, County Clerk of Polk county, show that since January 1, hunting licenses have been issued to 157 men. More than half of these have been issued since July 1, to hunters who were preparing for the opening of the deer season, while during the time between the last day of January and the first day of July, a total of only 29 licenses were issued, considerably less than the number issued during any one of the other three months.

The month of August heads the list with a record of 48 licenses issued, July scores 43, January, 37, April stands at the bottom of the list with only 3 licenses to her credit, two of which were issued on April 1. It is not known whether this "hoodoo" date had any effect upon the hunting fortunes of the two Nimrods who had the temerity to secure their licenses at that time. During September at the opening of the elk season and pheasant season approaches, the number of licenses issued will be increased even more.

Dr. C. A. Mook and Professor Floyd E. Fisher returned last week from a two week's outing in the Alsea country, where they have been on a fishing trip, and incidentally have been working with good success for the interest of Dallas College among the residents of that locality.

George Nessling returned to his work at Black Rock this morning after a short visit in Dallas.

INTEREST INCREASES

School Children Are Busy Preparing Exhibits For the Industrial Fair.

Only a few weeks remain until the time for the annual Industrial Fair of the school children of Polk county, and County Superintendent H. C. Seymour says that communications coming daily from the various school districts in the county, indicate that the preparations for the Fair have been more thorough and extensive than at any previous time.

It is a significant fact that the school children themselves throughout Polk county seem to be taking an even more active interest in the Fair than the parents and teachers themselves, and on this fact may be based the belief that the coming Fair will achieve a greater success even than the preceding ones, since it is mainly upon the efforts of the school children that its success depends.

In addition to the fine exhibits that have been prepared and are being prepared for the Fair, the committee is endeavoring to secure as fine programs as possible for the occasion, and is sparing no effort to make the Fair the best in every respect that has ever been held in Dallas. In their work they are enthusiastically seconded by the majority of parents and teachers in the county and by the mass of school children, and in view of this they feel justified in anticipating complete success.

Harry Byers returned to Dallas last night after an extended stay in the vicinity of Grants Pass, where he has been working on a timber cruise in company with J. P. VanOrsdel.

WORK ON RIFLE RANGE

Men of Company H Make Active Preparations For Installing Targets.

A number of the young men of Company H spent Sunday forenoon on the rifle range near Ellendale, measuring off the grounds, building the butts and digging the rifle pits.

They left the armory at about 8 o'clock, taking with them picks and shovels and plenty of carpenter tools, and for several hours after they reached the range it presented a scene of almost as great activity as a large and populous ant's nest. Everybody "got busy," to use an expressive colloquialism, and the work progressed rapidly. At 12:30 they stopped work, loaded their equipments in the wagon once more and drove back to town in plenty of time for dinner.

The survey of the range gives a good thousand yards of almost level ground, backed by a hillside, which will serve as a buffer for the bullets during rifle practice. The men will advance across the level ground toward the targets precisely as they would advance upon the enemy in battle, and the practice they will gain in shooting with speed and accuracy from various distances and in various positions, will prove invaluable in case they may sometime be called upon to take part in a regular engagement.

The work on the range was not quite completed Sunday and Captain Chorpining will call out the men again next Sunday for a few hours, so that the work can be finished and everything put in readiness for installing the targets. When completed, the range will be one of the finest in the state, and the members are in hopes of being able to secure the state rifle contest for Dallas next year.

Polk Will Be Represented.

Inquiry has reached the state fair secretary from Mrs. F. A. Wolfe, of Falls City, Polk county, regarding the matter of obtaining space in the main pavilion of the Oregon state fair for making an agricultural exhibit at the coming fair. She indicates that old Polk may be numbered among the contestants for the rich cash premiums offered to the eight counties that will make the best displays of agricultural and horticultural products. This is pleasing news for the fair management, as it was thought that Polk county would not participate in the contest this year. Mrs. Wolfe has taken considerable interest in past fairs in this respect and holds a blue ribbon as a winner of the special farm exhibits premium at a previous exhibition.—Salem Statesman.

Heavily Laden Plum Tree.

J. J. Williams brought into the Observer office last Friday, a branch from a green gage plum tree, which although less than a foot in length, had 60 plums on it. In spite of the fact that they were crowded so closely upon the twigs, the plums were fully as large and well formed as the average plum. The tree from which this remarkable specimen was taken grows on Mr. Williams' residence property on Church street. The branch brought to this office is a good type of the whole tree, whose branches are so heavily laden that Mr. Williams has found it necessary to beat off several bushels of the green fruit to prevent the tree from breaking under its enormous burden.

Fit Up New Theater.

Messrs. Whiteside and Cooper began clearing out the room in the Riley building on Main and Washington streets adjoining the rooms occupied by the Dallas Furniture Company, yesterday morning, preparatory to fitting it up for their moving picture theater. The walls will be plastered, the front altered into a regular theater lobby, and the floor given the approved forward slope to insure a clear view of the canvas from any portion of the room. The management will have the work rushed as fast as possible and expects to have the building ready for use within two weeks.

Oregon Peaches to the Front.

There is probably nothing in all the fruits of the world that surpasses the big yellow peaches that from the hundreds of orchards of Oregon are now finding their way to market. Nothing finer at least ever came to Portland from anywhere, and the crop this year is as big as the fruit is fine. Every train and every boat that comes in from the east or south brings in its offering of this superb fruit. The Oregon peach, as the Oregon apple has already done, bids fair to be known hereafter as the standard.—Telegram.

Professor D. M. Metzger returned to Dallas yesterday. He was dismissed this week from the isolation hospital in Portland, where he has been quarantined for three weeks with a light attack of smallpox. His illness was at no time of a serious nature, and he is now as well and healthy as ever.

Cleveland Sears and John Van Skike returned yesterday from Eastern Oregon where they have been employed in the harvest fields for some time.

LUMBER CUT WAS LARGE

Year of 1907 Makes Record in this Industry in Spite of Adverse Circumstances.

The lumber cut for 1907 in the United States proved to be greater than that of any of the preceding years in spite of the depressing influence of the short financial panic during the Fall of that year.

This is explained by some authorities to be due to the fact that prices of lumber and other building materials reached a lower stage during and immediately after the financial flurry, than they may be reasonably expected ever to reach again, and that the increased demands for lumber from those who desired to build and at the same time to grasp the opportunity for securing their materials at the most favorable rates, caused the demand to rise above the average, resulting in a marked increase in the total lumber cut and in the sale of lumber for that year.

The increase in building activity seems to gather momentum as time goes on, and although the subsidence of the panic wave and the rapid return of the country to prosperity was naturally followed by an upward impulse in prices of lumber and other building materials, it seems probable that the demand for lumber during the present year will be even greater than in 1907, since builders apparently realize that the advancing prices will probably never fall back to as favorable a level as they hold at the present time.

Commenting on the remarkable record made by the lumber industry last year in the face of adverse circumstances, the Oregonian gives the following interesting statistics:

"Figures of the lumber cut in 1907 compiled by the bureau of the Census and the Forest Service showed the largest total ever reported in the United States, exceeding by over seven per cent the cut reported for 1906, until then the record year. This does not necessarily show a larger actual cut than in 1906, for the returns obtained last year were more complete than ever before. The figures themselves disclose some interesting facts.

"In 1907, 28,850 mills made returns, and their production was over 40,000,000,000 feet of lumber. This is believed to include 95 per cent of the actual cut. In 1906, 23,368 mills reported about 37,500,000,000 feet. Since according to these figures nearly 19 per cent more mills reported last year than the year before, while the increase in production was only a little over seven per cent, it might be thought that the amount actually manufactured must have been greater in the earlier year. This, however, would be a too hasty inference, for it is almost wholly among mills of small output that the gain in the number of establishments reporting has been made.

"The figures of production show that during 1907 Washington fell off very decidedly from its huge cut of 1906, while Oregon, is credited with a slight increase in its total. In the early part of the year Washington suffered from a car shortage, and at the end the combined effects of business disturbance and higher freight rates had brought the industry almost to paralysis. Oregon kept up its cut because of its larger proportion of coastwise and foreign trade. These two states together produced more lumber than any other two states in the Union.

"It is a striking fact that though lumber prices have been steadily going up during the last half century, the per capita consumption of lumber has also been going up. In 1880, according to the best figures obtainable, the average consumption to each person in the country was 250 feet, in 1900, 480 feet, and in 1907, 480 feet. This illustrates what has been found true the world over—that with industrial progress the demand for wood becomes greater and greater."

Notice to Contractors.

Notice is hereby given, that sealed bids will be received by the County Clerk up to and including the 2nd day of September 1908, at 10 o'clock a. m. for hauling and spreading gravel upon the following named fills. At Independence bridge, Flannery bridge and Ash Swale bridge. Bids will also be received at same time for furnishing Oak or Cedar posts and railing and for setting same and putting on railing and hub board all complete. Bids will be opened at 10 o'clock a. m. of said 2nd day of September 1908, reserving the right to reject any or all bids.

By order of the County Court. August 29th 1908. Specifications are on file with the County Clerk. (Seal) E. M. SMITH County Clerk.

The wooden sidewalk in front of the Williams and McCallion property on Main street between Mill and Oak, will be replaced with a concrete walk. The portion of the new walk in front of Caldwell's pool room lies over the mill race and a concrete arch is being built there, similar to the one that the city has put over the race where it crosses the street.

Wesley Atchison was a business visitor in Black Rock yesterday.

READY FOR HOP PICKING

Season Will Be Almost as Busy Throughout Polk County as Ever Before.

The approaching hop picking season in Polk county will be one of almost as great activity as ever in all districts except that lying about Bridgeport, where the majority of the yards that have this year been withdrawn from the hop acreage of Polk county, are located.

In the vicinity of Independence, the largest hop center of Oregon, practically everything is cultivated though a trifle less thoroughly than in previous years, and almost as large an army of pickers will be required to take care of the hops in that locality this season as has been required during previous years.

Dallas will see almost as active a hop picking season as usual, since in the widespread crusade for the reduction of Oregon's hop acreage last year, only four of the yards in this vicinity were plowed up and put out of cultivation. These are the Rowell, Kirkpatrick, Hagood and Grant yards, all lying in the outskirts of the city.

Polk county's hops are almost entirely free from lice and mildew and it is anticipated that the 1908 output will be composed of an exceptionally fine quality of hops.

Pear Canning Commences.

Operations at the Salem cannery, which since the close of the cherry and strawberry season had been quite slow, opened again with renewed energy Monday morning when pear canning was begun. Although the price this year is far below the usual market price, pears are coming in quite fast and from present indications there will be fully as many cases of this commodity put up by the cannery this year as last. This is only true of pears, however, other fruits showing a decided falling off, and it is not likely that the total pack this year will exceed over two-thirds of the amount put up a year ago. With a large yield of pears throughout the country generally, and no demand in outside markets, the cannery is filling up fast with the fruit and the amount that will be handled by the company will largely depend on the amount of help that can be obtained. While a considerable force will be put on tomorrow and additions will be made through the week, yet it is feared that when the hop and prune season opens there will be a scarcity of help and much of the fruit will go unhandled.—Salem Statesman.

Train Collides With Wagon.

The morning train between Portland and Dallas collided with the wagon of a Mr. McCrumm near Newberg, Friday, overturning it and killing two horses that were tied to the rear end. The occupants of the wagon were uninjured. Mr. McCrumm was driving from Portland to the coast with his family. His wagon was covered with canvas after the manner of the old "Prairie Schooners" and it is supposed that he failed to see the train until it was close at hand. He then whipped up his team and endeavored to hurry across the track, but was unable to do so before the train was upon him. It is generally conceded that the blame for the unfortunate occurrence attaches upon the driver of the wagon for attempting to cross the track without taking the precaution to see that all was clear.

Meetings Will Close Sunday.

The tent meetings held by Rev. W. F. Martin and G. W. Pettit in the Gospel Tent on Mill and Shelton streets will be closed next Sunday. The attendance has been large at every meeting and the subjects handled by Elder Martin have been of great interest to all who heard him. The subject for tonight's address will be "Spiritualism: Are There Such Things as Ghosts?" Tomorrow night Elder Martin will speak on "Religious Liberty or the Tendency of the United States Toward Union of Church and State." Elder Martin intends to remain in Dallas for a time after the close of the meetings.

Dance Was Successful.

The dance given at the Colosseum rink Saturday night was most successful, the attendance being far greater than the management had anticipated when the affair was announced. The big rink proved an ideal dance hall, and the guests were insistent in their demand that another dance be given next Saturday night. Encouraged by the liberal patronage they have received, Messrs. Kerlake & White have decided to give a dance every Saturday night during September, until the time when the rink will be re-opened for skating.

Work on the new Williams building on Court street is being carried forward rapidly. The foundations are all laid, a quantity of the brick is on the grounds and the walls will probably be well advanced in construction by the end of this week.

J. B. Nunn went to Portland this morning on a business visit.

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