

Polk County Observer
COURT HOUSE NOTES

County Items, Real Estate Transfers, and Other News Briefly Told.

PROBATE.
Estate of Andrew J. Newman, deceased—final account set for hearing March 7, at 10 a. m.
Estate of Joseph L. McTimmonds, deceased—final discharge entered.
Estate of Isaac Dyck, deceased—final account set for hearing March 7, at 10 a. m.
Estate of D. Peters, appointed administrator—bond filed and approved.
Estate of Henri Alexander, deceased—bond filed and approved; M. W. Carrigan, P. C. Sears and S. W. Gage appointed appraisers.
Estate of Jacob Brown, deceased—final account set for hearing March 7, at 10 a. m.

REAL ESTATE.
John C. Pratt to James L. Marven, 1.8 acres, T. 8, R. 4 W., \$4500.
Samuel A. Smith to Marcus Peterson, land in T. 5 and S. 8, R. 8 W., \$350.
George T. Gerlinger to Louis Gerlinger, one-half int. 160 acres, T. 8, R. 6 W., \$1.
Thomas Holman et ux to A. N. Gilbert et al, 5 acres, T. 7 S., R. 4 W., \$1.
Emery A. Cook to William Dawes, land in Independence, \$40.
Edna Quirk to W. O. Sims et al, one-third int. 147.94 acres, T. 8, R. 6 W., \$4200.
A. C. and R. C. Thomas to Edwin and Nellie A. Hughes, 168.50 acres, T. 8, R. 5 W., \$10.
M. E. Church, South, to Trustees of Episcopal Church, 1 acre in Lewisville, \$100.
Della A. Finn and hd to John W. Finn, 50 acres, T. 6 S., R. 4 W., \$1.
J. D. Brown, Abstractor; Notary. Legal blanks for sale at this office.
Oscar Hayter, lawyer, Rooms 5 and 6, Uptown Building.
Dr. E. E. Nevel, Veterinary Surgeon, Mutual Phone 1177, Dallas, Or.

The Farmer's Fire Relief Association of Hutterville, Oregon; J. D. Winn, agent, Buena Vista, Oregon.
Have your printing done the Observer way—the linotype way.
Have you seen the new Stump Pullers at the Dallas Iron Works?
The Observer wants the printing on its particular about.
Dr. L. A. Bollman reports the birth of his daughter to Mr. and Mrs. Holt Erickson, of East Dallas, formerly of Sheridan, on Saturday, January 29.
Vaudeville, Star Theater, Friday and Saturday.
Genuine March weather—smiles and tears—with a little snow and frost thrown in for good measure.
It is hardly necessary to call attention to the big clearance sale announcement of the Uptown Clothing House printed elsewhere in this paper for the advertisement speaks for itself. The sale will commence Saturday morning at 9 o'clock and continue for seven days only.
Have you seen the new Stump Pullers at the Dallas Iron Works?
Announcement.
John H. McNary and Charles L. McNary announce that on and after February 1, 1910, they will remove from their present quarters and establish their law office at rooms 305-306-307-308 United States Bank Building at corner of State and Commercial Streets, Salem, Oregon.

Don't Need a Crutch.
When editor J. P. Sossman, of Corvallis, N. C., bruised his leg badly, it started an ugly sore. Many salves and ointments proved worthless. Then Bucklen's Arnica Salve healed it thoroughly. Nothing is so prompt and sure for Ulcers, Boils, Burns, Bruises, Cuts, Corns, Sores, Pimples, Eczema, or Piles. 25c at all druggists.

Principals' Meeting Postponed.
The meeting of the Polk County Principals' Club, which was to have been held next Saturday, has been postponed until Saturday, February 12, at which time Doctor Sheldon, of the Department of Education at the University of Oregon will be present and deliver an address. The meeting will be held in the Courthouse.

Baby Hands
will get into mischief—often it means a burn or cut or scald. Apply Ballard's Snow Liniment just as soon as the accident happens, and the pain will be relieved while the wound will heal quickly and nicely. A sure cure for sprains, rheumatism and all pains. Price 25c, 50c and \$1 a bottle. Sold by Conrad Staffin.

Farmer Killed by Train.
Burr C. Holcomb was run over and killed on the Southern Pacific main line, near his home, just north of Albany, some time last night. His badly mangled body was found this morning. How or when the accident happened is unknown. Holcomb was drinking heavily last night, and indications are he was walking home along the track and did not notice the approach of the train. The body was rolled 100 yards. Holcomb was 59 years of age, and an old railroad engineer, who ran out of Omaha on the Union Pacific for many years. He came to Linn County four years ago, and had lived on a small ranch just to the north of Albany.

Hermann on Stand.
Flat denials of testimony adduced by the Government were made yesterday not only by Elmer Hermann, who took the stand on his own behalf, but by others, including two women. Probably the most telling testimony brought out was that given by a former messenger under Hermann at Washington, who said he had worked in on Hermann and had seen in the Commissioner's office and heard Hermann say in wrath, "darn, you, damn, don't you come here and make such a proposition to me."
Hermann was self-poisoned. He responded to questions firmly and at times was dramatic in asserting the jury his assertions were true.—Oregonian.

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WHAT DOES IT MEAN?

Portland Capitalists Buy Large Tracts Near Dallas.
Can anyone tell the meaning of all this real estate activity in the Guthrie neighborhood south of Dallas? Portland capitalists have been buying land in large tracts in the last few weeks, and are trying to buy more. Recent sales reported are those of the Gilson farm, the David Guthrie ranch, and the Mosier and Grazer farms—comprising in all of about 1500 acres. It will take about \$50,000 to close this deal.
It is reported that other parties have been securing paid options on numerous tracts of lands in the Oakland district, including the Ben Thompson, Cephas Nelson and James Murphy farms. Rumor has it that the man securing these options gives out the information that it is his purpose to establish a large horse ranch, but as to this being his real object, the "wise ones" have their doubts. One thing is certain, the demand for land around Dallas and Falls City is greater than ever before, and it is believed that the present activity means big things for the two towns in the near future.

FOR BETTER SPELLING

Thirty-Eight Rural Schools Take Part in First Contest.
Owing to a delay on the part of some of the teachers in sending in their reports of the Rural School Spelling contests, held January 24, it has been impossible to ascertain the results in the several districts until the present time. The winners have been found to be as follows:
Fourth Grade—Concord, 100 per cent; first; Etina, 99.5 per cent, second; Mistletow, 97 per cent, third.
Fifth Grade—Parker, 100 per cent, first; Mistletow, 98 per cent, second; Concord, 97.5 per cent, third.
Sixth Grade—Eola and Parker (tie) 100 per cent, first; Etina, 99.2-4 per cent, second; Spring Valley, 99 per cent, third.
Seventh Grade—Highland, 94 per cent, first; Concord, 92 per cent, second; Gosenneck, 82 per cent, third.
Eighth Grade—Parker, Mistletow and Etina (tie) 100 per cent, first; Butler, 98 per cent, second; Eola, 95 per cent, third.
Thirty-eight of the 82 rural schools in the county took part in the work. Every school in the county should have taken part, as the spelling in all schools must be improved and this is one of the best possible ways to cause the children to take an interest in the work. All teachers who have taken up the spelling much more interest in the study of spelling since these contests were begun and that all are improving in their spelling.
The next test will be given February 18. It is hoped every school will take part in this contest. Each of the winning schools will be sent a small flag, until the reports from the next contest have been sent in. In the event that the same school should win twice in succession, it will be given the flag permanently.
Teachers, parents and children, if we all get together in this work, we can soon show such improvement that the children will not have any cause to be ashamed of their spelling and the business men will no longer have reason to complain of the boys and girls who enter their employ. They are dissatisfied at the present time, and they have a just right to complain. We must improve this line of school work. Yours for better spelling.
H. C. SEYMOUR,
County School Superintendent.

SOCIETY ENTERTAINS

Pleasant Afternoon in Parlors of Presbyterian Church.
The Ladies' Aid Society of the Presbyterian Church entertained forty-five ladies in the new church parlors Friday afternoon. The rooms were decorated with flowers and Oregon grape and presented a charming appearance. The hostesses were Mrs. B. H. Pillar, Mrs. M. M. Ellis and Mrs. Elbert Parish. They were assisted in receiving the guests by Mrs. U. S. Loughary and Mrs. J. G. VanOradel.
An interesting program had been prepared and an enjoyable afternoon was spent. Mrs. C. G. Coad sang, and readings were given by Mrs. H. B. Cooper and Mrs. Harry Woods. Favorable reports of the society, favoring the guests with a talk, and Mrs. M. M. Ellis gave a review of the work of the society for the last twenty years. Luncheon was served from three tables, which were beautifully decorated with pink carnations, smilax and violets. The pioneer Miss Emma, who presided at one table, they were Mrs. Lydia D'Lashmutt, Mrs. H. Holman, Mrs. Mary Martin, Mrs. A. B. Muir, Mrs. C. G. Coad, Mrs. H. B. Cooper and Mrs. M. M. Ellis.

Back From Illinois.
Cass Riggs, of Crowley, was in Dallas on a business visit and greeting his many friends Saturday. Mr. Riggs only recently returned home from Illinois, where, in company with his brother Seth and sister Miss Emma, he attended the sixtieth wedding anniversary of an uncle and aunt. He says he greatly enjoyed his visit, but that the people of his old home state are welcome to all they have as far as he is concerned. The weather was bitterly cold during his entire stay, and he declares he never saw the ground from the time he left Portland until the day he got back. Mr. Riggs says, however, that the farmers of Illinois are prosperous. Through rotation of crops and careful cultivation, they are restoring the old farms to great fertility and a yield of from 50 to 60 bushels of grain to the acre is not uncommon.

Merrymakers Coming.
The McKenzie Merrymakers will open an engagement at Woodman Hall tomorrow night. They are at present in Independence, where they are playing to crowded houses. The company consists of twelve people and has its own band and orchestra. A street parade is given each day. The Merrymakers present such well-known plays as "In Wyoming," "Forgiveness" and "The Girl from the Goldmine West." Special scenery for these plays is carried by the company, thus insuring a pleasing and correct stage setting. The Merrymakers have been playing in Southern Oregon, and judging from the flattering press notices given them by the newspapers of Ashland, Medford and Grants Pass, their performances rank with those of the very best road companies.

Alfred Campbell, a prosperous young farmer of Ballston, was a Dallas visitor Friday.
Miss Madge Gage and Miss Bertha Foster are visiting at the home of Miss Foster's parents near Bridgeport.

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WIN TWO; LOSE ONE

Dallas College Basketball Players Return Home.
The Dallas basketball team went down to defeat before the Corvallis Club in Corvallis by a score of 26 to 23. The defeat of the home team can simply be ascribed to hard luck. At the end of the first half, the score stood 14 to 9 in favor of Dallas, and a good lead was maintained until the last five minutes of the play, when Swann got busy and began throwing baskets in a manner too rapid for even the live Dallas boys to overcome. When the final whistle blew, Corvallis was eight points ahead. The Dallas team is greatly pleased with the kindly and courteous treatment accorded them by the members of the Corvallis team and the people of Corvallis. Patton informs the Observer, was one of the best that has been played in Oregon this year. The teams were well matched and the score was in doubt until the last 10 minutes of the play. The final score was 46 to 26 in favor of Dallas. A large crowd witnessed this contest.
Dallas went to Salem, Saturday night, and defeated the Capital Business College, by a score of 71 to 11. The game which was to have been played with Whitman in Dallas has been called off, the Washington manager having notified the Dallas boys that his team would play no more games in Oregon this year.
The next game on the Dallas floor will be played on Thursday evening of this week, when Philomath and Ashland will contest for supremacy. The Ashland team is coached by Ned Shaw, who also plays center. This is Ashland's first year, but so far not a game has been lost, and they do say that "Old Tebeau" hugs the notion that his team is invincible. The Ashland five is made up of the largest players in Oregon. Two of the men stand 6 feet 2 1/2 inches in their stocking feet, and every man on the team is able to stand on the floor and reach the basket. Just what will happen to the swift Philomath team when it meets this aggregation of giants remains to be seen, and present indications are that standing room will be a premium when the two teams line up in Dallas on Thursday night. The sale of reserved seats will open at the Fuller Pharmacy tomorrow morning.

Will Tour the World.
Mr. and Mrs. A. J. Rhodes arrived in Dallas from Seattle, Friday, and visited at the home of Mrs. Rhodes' father, J. J. Williams, until Sunday afternoon. Mr. and Mrs. Rhodes will leave San Francisco this week with a large excursion party for a trip around the world. They will visit Hong Kong, Yokohama, Manila, Bombay, and other Asiatic ports, and then go to Cairo and the Mediterranean. Three months will be spent in Europe and the party will probably reach New York on the homeward trip about August 1.

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PERSONAL MENTION

Judge J. E. Sibley is a visitor in Salem today.
Robert Ankeny, of Hinkley, was a visitor in Dallas this morning.
John Wiener, of Airlee, was a business visitor in Dallas, Monday.
Mr. and Mrs. E. C. Kirkpatrick visited in Portland, Saturday and Sunday.

John Hubbard, of McMinnville, is visiting at the home of his brother, C. L. Hubbard.
Mr. and Mrs. F. R. Rich, of Black Rock, visited friends in Dallas the last of the week.
Miss Maude Temple, of Portland, is visiting at the home of her sister, Mrs. L. J. Ramey.
Mrs. Amanda Key and daughter, Miss Fannie, of Perrydale, are visiting relatives in Dallas.
Mr. and Mrs. J. P. VanOradel are up from Portland for a few days' stay in Dallas and Falls City.

Mr. and Mrs. E. Jacobson and Mrs. L. N. Woods went to Portland, Friday, for an over Sunday visit.
Mr. and Mrs. Reuben Morris, of Oklahoma, are visiting at the home of Mrs. Morris' brother, S. M. Ray.
Fred Caldwell, local agent of the Wells-Fargo Express Company, spent Sunday with friends in Portland.
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A. M. Hewitt and family have moved from Yamhill County to Dallas and are occupying a residence in the Ellis addition. Mr. Hewitt is a brother of D. M. Hewitt, of Monmouth, and Judge H. H. Hewitt, of Albany.
Mr. and Mrs. C. L. Crider arrived home yesterday from a month's visit at the home of Mr. Crider's parents in San Jose. Mr. Crider is in his store again today greeting friends and customers at his home in California, but that Dallas looks good to him.
Casius E. Sibley arrived Saturday from San Bernardino, California, for an indefinite stay in Dallas. He traveled by water from Los Angeles to Seattle and reports a stormy voyage. Mr. Sibley has many acquaintances in Dallas, having visited here last fall, and all are glad to welcome him back, with the hope that he may decide to make his home among us. He is at present visiting at the home of his brother, Judge J. E. Sibley.

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