

**Polk County Observer**

Published Semi-Weekly at Dallas, Oregon, by the OBSERVER PRINTING COMPANY

EUGENE FOSTER.  
W. H. TOTEN.

Subscription Rates:  
One Year .....\$1.50  
Six Months ..... .75  
Three Months ..... .40  
Strictly in advance.

Entered as second-class matter March 1, 1907, at the post office at Dallas, Oregon, under the Act of Congress of March 3, 1879.



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

Affection is a greater enemy to the face than small-pox.

—St. Evremond.

**JAPANESE STRATEGY.**

The seemingly humanitarian motive of Japan in seeking to "protect foreign interests" in China may be actuated by the purest of sentiments and again, it may not. A careful reading of the war news from the Far East has so far failed to reveal a trace of any desecration of foreign property on the part of the victorious revolutionists, nor has there been a single instance noted where the lives of American citizens, or those of other nations, have been endangered. It appears that the revolutionists have the situation well in hand and, so far, the rebellion has been carried on with strict regard to the advanced rules of warfare.

Why, then, this sudden activity on the part of Japan? It cannot be denied that the Mikado's government is vitally interested in China. It has long been looked upon as a special field for the development of the commercial importance of the Nipponese, and it is not improbable that the present uprising is viewed with alarm by the Tokio government. The establishment of a strong and important Chinese republic, or even a mild form of monarchy, which would embrace modern methods and stand as one of the world powers might have the effect of forcing Japan into trade competition with other countries, which might result disastrously to her commercial interests.

Viewed from another angle, it is possible that the Mikado doesn't take kindly to the success of the revolutionists, fearful that, should they succeed, a well-governed China might, in a few years, become too strong a neighbor to have so close. A mighty Chinese army, well managed, and commanded by competent military strategists, and a powerful navy, managed by men thoroughly familiar with modern methods would prove a menace to Japan right at her doors, which she does not now have to contend with.

The action of Japan in landing troops upon Chinese soil under the plea of protection to foreign interests does not ring exactly true, and the future actions of the Tokio government will be watched with interest by the balance of the powers. It merely serves to show that the little yellow men are crafty, and not in the habit of overlooking any opportunity to promote their own interests, both strategically and commercially.

Well, it isn't this country's fight, and it is improbable that this government will take a hand in the settlement of difficulties arising as the result of Japan's recent move. At any rate it has served, for the time being at least, to remove the alleged menace of the "yellow peril" to more remote fields.

**THE HAND OF THE RAILROAD.**

Railroad influence has already been felt in a movement to establish an independent line of steamers from coast to coast via the Panama canal, and the result will probably be that the proposed line will be abandoned. This hostile move on the part of the great railway interests of the country, coming as it does, two years or more before the probable completion of the canal, shows that the great corporations do not propose to submit willingly to a condition which may possibly mean a lowering in

freight rates for the long haul across the continent, or a loss of a great volume of business.

The project for the steamer line originated among Eastern capitalists months ago but only recently came to the surface. The idea was to secure Federal support for the line without which, it was declared, the plan would be a failure. Accordingly a movement was begun to interest Congress in the proposal and for a time it seemed that success was bright. But right here was where hostile interests appeared and it is now averred that there is but little prospect of success.

It has undoubtedly been the intention of the great transportation companies to control the shipping business through the Panama canal through the medium of allied corporations, if not openly and, as the prime movers of the new shipping line clearly stated that their object was to give the people an entirely independent corporation which could only mean freedom from railway control, opposing capital was not slow to act.

Much has been expected from the canal. Commercial interests on the Pacific Coast are awaiting with much interest its completion and following use, because, as has been urged, a cheaper means of transportation to and from the great markets of the East to the Coast would follow. Now, to have the railroads so soon show their hand and their opposition, is calculated to cause the people generally to arise up and do things to their representatives in Congress who, by any declaration, no matter how emphatic and reasonable it may appear (to them) will not support the proposed new steamer line.

It remains to be seen whether the 96,000,000 people who compose the population of the United States are going to sit still and see their avenues of transportation bottled up by four or five hundred capitalists who represent the railroad interests of the country.

**BRINGS QUICK RESULTS.**

That the communities which took advantage of the opportunity to make an exhibit of their products at the recent land show at Omaha will reap abundant profit therefrom, is shown by the following, which appeared in last week's issue of the Benton County Republican, printed at Corvallis:

There are in the Commercial club rooms two or three photographs of the Willamette Valley exhibit at the Omaha Land show. From the photographs one can see that it was a very creditable exhibit and with the knowledge that something like 150,000 people saw it in the two weeks it was an exhibition, Benton county and the other three counties of the Willamette valley that contributed to the expense of the same will receive returns worth several times the cost. Already several requests for information have come to the Corvallis Commercial club from people who, from their inquiries, evidently saw this exhibit at Omaha. It is only too bad that more counties of the valley could not have accepted the invitation to be included in the list of counties advertised. A similar exhibit should be sent East next year, not only to the Omaha Land show, but also to all the other big Eastern Land shows. Let every county in the whole Willamette join in making the next exhibit. The advertising is as good for one county as for another, and it's good enough for all counties to share.

Dallas is in need of a suitable theater in which creditable dramatic productions may be given. By this, we mean such attractions as visit other cities and are of national note. This is one of the best show towns in the country, and even the smaller companies that occasionally appear here play to standing room only. With a modern theater building, fully equipped with stage and scenery, there is no question but what many of the larger companies would visit this city and find ample returns for their trouble. It is but a short distance from Salem to Dallas and many of the companies that now stop in the capital city, on their way from Portland to San Francisco could easily run over to Dallas for a performance with but little extra expense to them. This need is one of the live matters that might be considered by the Commercial club.

There is nothing to be gained by finding fault with the method of making awards at the annual apple shows, in that Hood River growers always capture the prizes. Of course they do, and they attain this result because they know how to do things in the Hood River district. The grow-

ers there are alive, progressive and untiring in their efforts to produce the best apples in the world. The thing for growers elsewhere to do is to emulate their example and show them that other communities in Oregon can produce as perfect fruit as that which claims fabulous prices in the New York market. This result can never be attained by kicking because the county fruit inspector insists upon putting the ban on the sale of wormy apples.

Dallas people are proud of the new armory of the Oregon National Guard, which is now nearing completion in this city. It is one of the most commodious and well-appointed buildings of the kind in the entire state, and will stand as a monument to the enterprise and untiring work of Captain Walter L. Tooze, Jr., of Dallas, largely through whose instrumentality the building was secured.

Actual operations have begun on the construction of the Southern Pacific's Coos Bay extension from Eugene, says the news dispatches. So far, so good. But building operations begun once before on a Coos Bay line, and the people of Marshfield probably won't feel sanguine over their new road until they hear the "toot" of the engine.

The optimistic aviator correspondent declares Rogers flew from coast to coast in less than four days, beating the record of the fastest express train. "True," says the pessimist, "but it took him more than a month to do it."—Moro Observer.

That young couple who were married in Sublimity, and will live in Amity, ought to have a rosy time of it, unless, perchance, the Missus should show too much independence.

It is not unlawful to apply the word "scab" to a fellow, if you do it in a gentlemanly manner, according to a recent ruling of a Portland judge. That ought to help some.

**WILL CUT DOWN COST IN ELECTION EXPENSE**

Secretary of State to Economize In Printing of Information Pamphlets.

SALEM, Nov. 21.—The secretary of state is busy getting together information on the general election next year. He is seeking to improve upon the methods of getting this information before the public, not only in the way of putting it in concise form, but principally in the way of economizing on the printing and distribution.

State Printing Expert Harris has been working on figures in the general cost of placing election information before the people, and the pamphlets which will be printed this year will doubtless be at much less expense than at any time before. It is planned to cut down expenses in the mailing of the pamphlets, as with the large number that are to be sent out, the mailing item is no small cost. From the figures already compiled, it is believed that \$1847.50 will cover the cost this year. Last year the item of printing and mailing came to more than \$3000.

**RURAL HOME IN COOPER HOLLOW CATCHES FIRE**

Mrs. W. H. Mack Saves Residence From Destruction by Strenuous Work Alone.

The country residence of W. H. Mack, in Cooper Hollow, five miles from Dallas, was damaged by fire, which originated in the kitchen last Friday. The only person at home at the time was Mrs. Mack, who was out of doors when her attention was attracted by flames bursting forth from the kitchen. Hastily grabbing a bucket, she worked so hard and so successfully, that she succeeded in saving the home, although the kitchen and dining room were in flames. The walls of both rooms were badly scorched, but she kept the fire from spreading to the other portions of the house. The damage was covered by insurance.

**Prompt Settlement.**

I wish to state that on the 17th day of November a fire occurred in my house in Cooper Hollow, upon which I carried insurance in the Oregon Fire Relief Association, of McMinnville, of which A. V. R. Snyder, of Dallas, is agent, and that on the 20th my loss was fully and satisfactorily adjusted. I can cheerfully recommend this association to all persons desiring insurance.

W. H. MACK.

Order Thanksgiving turkeys now at Union Meat Market.

**CLOSING SALE**

We Are Now Going To Close Out Our Season's

**Ladies' and Children's Suits and Coats**

A Ladies' Long Black Coat for \$3  
A Misses Suit for - - \$6

Come and See Our Prices. Many Many Real Bargains to Close Out

*Dallas Mercantile Co.*

**CRAVEN BROTHERS' SPECIAL SALE**



Is Attracting Buyers From Large Territory

Vacuum Carpet Cleaners reduced from \$10 to \$7.50.

We save you from 10 to 30 per Cent on your cash purchases in nearly every line of Hardware and Implements.

Sale Continues Until Nov. 25

We will Help You with Your Ads

**Just Phone to The Observer**

And we'll send a man. No trouble to you. We'll write your ads--just say the word and we'll do the rest. Ad writing is our business.

LET US HELP YOU SELL GOODS--WE'RE ANXIOUS TO TRY

Notice to Garbage Haulers. I desire to call the attention of all persons who haul garbage and dump the same in the County roads, that

it is unlawful, and any persons guilty of doing so will be prosecuted therefor.

Trespass notices, weather proof for sale at the Observer Job Office.

ED. F. COAD, County Judge.

Legal blanks for sale at this office.