

**Polk County Observer**

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EUGENE FOSTER, W. H. TOTTEN.

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

**DAN MATTHEWS—QUITTER.**

"Dan Matthews was a quitter. He was looking for some excuse to get out of the ministry."—Rev. Edgar W. Miles in a sermon on "The Calling of Dan Matthews" at Presbyterian church Sunday night.

The world hates a quitter. A local literary critic, who is not a churchman, in conversation with Rev. Miles last week, voiced the opinion that "Dan Matthews had a big yellow streak in him."

That's the popular view of a quitter—quitters and yellow streaks are inseparable. There is no excuse for the quitter.

The Observer doesn't propose at this time to attempt any criticism of Harold Bell Wright's entrancing story, nor it will deny or affirm the right of Dan Matthews to give up the ministry, once he had entered upon it. Taking the broader position that Dan Matthews, having entered the ministry, found customs and things inside the church not to his liking, things which he could not condone or excuse, he had, we suppose, a perfect right to quit. But the world doesn't expect a clergyman to give up his calling under such a plea. If he finds manners and customs in his church which are not in accord with his ideas of religious work, it is his business to institute reforms even though his congregation, firmly entrenched in the usages of long years of habit, shall look unfavorably upon his methods.

The Observer does not believe that a quitter ever scored a success in this world. But how many of this species we see in our every day life. Men who have adopted some calling or profession and who are anxious to get out of it by their zeal to quit they exaggerate every possible flaw and transform it into an excuse for leaving the profession. They see difficulties ahead but, rather than face them like men, and overcome them by strength of their characters, they side step the issue and become quitters. They are cowards. They fail to meet the test and their yellow streaks are seen at a glance.

Friends of Harold Bell Wright's here declare that there was nothing else for Dan Matthews to do. He could not successfully represent the Master in that village in the Ozark hills, nor teach his Word to the people when his heart was not in sympathy with the customs and manners that surrounded him. The writer must frankly confess that he hasn't read this celebrated book and hence cannot speak from his own knowledge, but it appears that if the clergyman really loved his work, and was mindful of the good that he might do, his proper course would have been to overcome the difficulties he found in his pathway. Speaking of the difficulties that surrounded Thomas Nelson's Page's hero in "John Marvel, Assistant." But John wasn't a quitter. He faced innumerable obstacles and saw all the hypocrisy and the littleness of life both inside and outside the church, yet he persevered, and surmounted every obstacle and, through a life consecrated to the Master's work, he grew stronger day by day and did much to overthrow the objectionable features which he found in his religious life. He was enthused with his calling and, mindful of the good that he might do, and of the opportunities which surrounded him John Marvel steadfastly adhered to his ideals and made the world brighter and better for his having lived in it.

The moral we find in this story or in the position which we take thereto, is, do not be a quitter. Stick to whatever you undertake and if difficulties appear, overcome them. You can be true to yourself and your manhood in no other way.

Remember, the world hates a quitter.

**CHARACTERISTIC OF THE MAN.**

Senator LaFollette is "in bad" with Eastern newspaper men. At a banquet of newspaper men in Philadelphia on Friday night, the Wisconsin presidential aspirant, showed his innate indelicacy by declaring that there were but "few honest newspapers," but that the most of them were under the control of their advertisers, referring to them as the "kept press." He spoke for over two hours and,

during the latter portion of his speech he was interrupted many times by hisses. At the conclusion of his address he was jeered to the echo. When LaFollette had finished, Don Seitz, of the New York World, who acted as toastmaster, said:

"I shall not attempt, nor have I the time, to come to the defense of the newspapers of this country which have been so foolishly, wickedly and untruthfully assailed."

Following his experience at the press dinner, Senator LaFollette broke down completely and was compelled to go to a hospital. Later orders were issued cancelling all his dates for three weeks. It is said that the nervous break-down from which he is suffering was greatly augmented by the "baiting" he received Friday night.

This latest stunt from LaFollette should occasion no surprise, and, "if the Eastern newspaper men have been insulted and untruthfully and wickedly assailed," it is their own fault. There is no question but that the utterances of the Wisconsin senator contained much truth, however distasteful it may appear to the newspaper men themselves. But to declare that practically every large newspaper of the country is dominated completely by its advertisers is to overstate the truth. Some of them are, to a certain extent, but the more self-respecting publisher is doing his best to separate the business office from the editorial room and many of them have succeeded. The indelicacy exhibited by LaFollette in delivering himself of his tirade, since it was aimed especially at his hosts, is typical of the man but is not a bright and shining endorsement of his "horse sense."

**TO PROTECT SETTLERS.**

Representative William C. Hawley has recently introduced a bill in congress, officially known as "House Roll No. 18235," which seeks to protect the rights of settlers on public lands and miners entitled to patents. In a letter to The Observer, Mr. Hawley declares: "Since becoming a member of the House of Representatives my services have always been given freely and gladly to the bona-fide settler and miner whose patent was withheld. While obtaining patents in many cases, my experience has not altogether been satisfactory and, after a careful consideration of the conditions as at present prevailing, I have introduced the bill and will press it for passage during the present session of Congress."

The Observer believes that Mr. Hawley has stood as the steadfast friend of the bona-fide settler, as he says, and that he has rendered them much valuable service in the past unquestioned. The bill which he has introduced will, if it becomes a law, protect the entryman and prevent fraud. Settlement on public lands involves many hardships and those who make such settlement have a right to adequate protection under law. "Oregon needs settlers," says Mr. Hawley, "and, to secure them, I believe all public lands suitable to agriculture throughout the state should be thrown open to entry under our homestead laws and thus made available to the people seeking homes within the border of our state."

The position taken by Mr. Hawley in this regard is absolutely correct and The Observer hopes that his new bill will be passed and placed on the statute books.

The made in Oregon, campaign which will be launched in Dallas at the open meeting of the Commercial club tomorrow night, is deserving of the united support of Dallas people and it is to be hoped that there will be a good attendance. Capable speakers will address the meeting and explain fully the plan of the Oregon Development league under the provisions of which the state-wide movement has been launched. Oregon produces nearly everything necessary that people eat and wear and it is only helping ourselves to buy home made articles. In connection with the state movement a campaign, the object of which is to patronize Dallas merchants, and buy Dallas made products as much as possible will be a feature of the meeting that certainly should appeal to the people of this city. The Commercial club did a wise thing when it arranged for this meeting and Dallas people can show their appreciation in no better way than by attending and thus materially aid in the movement.

The faculty of the Washington State university made a good move when it placed an embargo on Muckraker Connolly and refused to permit him to lecture under the auspices of the institution. People are daily learning to have less to do with this sort of gentry and they are gradually being exposed in their true colors. One Lincoln Steffens, the pioneer of the bunch, who makes a living by means of the doubtful muck-rake, was one of the first to fall and now he must needs force himself upon the attention of the public.

The offer of the Dallas band to provide music for tomorrow night's booster meeting is appreciated by the Commercial club. It is in line with progress and shows that the members of the organization are thoroughly in sympathy with the idea.

There are some things which they do in Salem worthy of emulation. The city has a live commercial organization the good effects of which have already been felt in that city

in substantial improvements and in advertising the city elsewhere. The board of trade has adopted the custom of giving a dinner to farmers and fruit raisers living near the city which are largely attended, and which have done much to secure the good will of the agriculturists.

Portland police were quick to discover the murderer of a Chinese, or at least it appears that they have succeeded, following the crime which was committed December 21, but they have been unable to fathom the mystery of the atrocious Hill murders committed last June in Ardenwald. It seems that the Rose City detectives are specialists in Celestial disturbances.

Col. Watterson may be growing older, but, like a certain other Kentucky product, which shall be nameless here, he appears to improve with age.

**TODISCUSS PROHIBITION**

Eugene W. Chafin, Former Candidate For President, Will Be At Armory Next Saturday.

Eugene W. Chafin, prohibition candidate for president in 1908, who is touring Oregon in the interest of the "Out-to-Win" campaign inaugurated by the Prohibition State committee, will speak in the Armory at Dallas, Oregon, Saturday, February 10, at 2 and 8 o'clock p. m. He is said to be one of the most entertaining speakers, and is termed by many the greatest historian and most advanced



EUGENE W. CHAFIN.

thinker on the Prohibition lecture platform today.

John Temple Graves, of Atlanta, Georgia, says: "Mr. Chafin is one of the most magnetic and charming men I have ever listened to on the platform."

The press speak of him as follows: "Portland Oregonian: Repeatedly he was interrupted by outbursts of applause, and the drollery of his humor, mingled with optimism as well as epigram and satire kept the audience in constant attention."

The lecture is free, but an offering will be taken at the close of the lecture. Music will be furnished by Thorne's Dallas orchestra.

**HIGH SCHOOL LEAGUE DEBATES**

Various County Teams Contest Next Friday.

The first of the series of debates of the Polk county high school debating league for the present year will be held at 8 p. m. next Friday night at different parts of the county. The question for discussion is: "Resolved, that direct legislation should be more generally adopted." The negative teams in each case will travel. The following contests will take place: Dallas versus Falls City, at High school auditorium in Dallas.

Monmouth versus Dallas, at Monmouth.

Independence versus Monmouth, at Independence.

Falls City versus Independence, at Falls City.

At the contest held at Bethel last Friday night between the Bethel affirmative team and the Ballston negative team, the latter won by unanimous decision of the judges. On the same night the Ballston affirmative team at Ballston won unanimously over the negative from Bethel.

**TO CONSIDER IMMIGRATION**

Early Opening of Panama Canal Decried Western States.

Tacoma, Feb. 8.—A convention to consider the question immigration, as it will affect the Pacific coast following the opening of the Panama canal, has been called to meet in this city February 21-22. The governors of California, Oregon, Idaho and Washington, also, the lieutenant governor of Canada have been invited. It is hoped to secure the endorsement of the bill introduced by United States Senator Brown to create a division of information, under the direction of the Department of Commerce and Labor, the function of which shall be to gather from all available sources, useful information regarding the resources, products and characteristics of each state, publish such information in the different languages and distribute it among the admitted aliens.

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**ENDEAVORERS ELECT OFFICERS**

Keystone League Monthly Business and Social Meeting.

The K. L. C. E. of the United Evangelical church held its monthly business meeting and social Friday evening at the home of Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Griffin. The following officers were elected to serve the next six months: President, Margaret Evans; vice president, Gladys Wilson; secretary, Marie Griffin; treasurer, Will Boydston. After the business meeting a very pleasant evening was spent in a social way.

Those present were: Rev. and Mrs. C. P. Gates, Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Griffin, Misses Bertha Magnus, Florence Barton, Edna Reusses, Edna Shore, Merle Hall, Inez Ridgway, Gladys Wilson, Maud Stennett, Elizabeth Friesen, Margaret and Carrie Evans, Addie Boydston, Marie Griffin, Cora Rossiter, Lena Smith, Merle Withrow, Azlea Hastings, Mable Poling, Helen Gurney, Mr. Henry Walkerbarth, Lester Barnhart, Lois Larson, Roscoe and Lew Ballantyne, Roland Holman, Will Boydston, Claud and Foster Willings, Fred Stennett, Will Woods, Pete Friesen, Professor D. M. Metzger, George Steglitz.

**COMMISSIONER STARTS WORK**

Finds Much Interest in Agriculture Among School Children.

Portland, Feb. 6.—Calvin S. Thomason, who has been employed by the Oregon Bankers association and the Oregon Agricultural college to carry out plans for the encouragement of agriculture among the school children of the state, started his mission this week by visiting Tillamook, Lincoln, Yamhill and Benton counties. Preparations were made for his reception by the county superintendents and meetings of the commercial organizations held at the points at which he stopped gave him an opportunity to explain his mission. He announces that prizes will be offered for displays by school children in agriculture, wood-working, sewing, cooking and poultry and hog raising.

**OLD SETTLER IS CALLED**

John W. Gay Dies at His Home Near Crowley at Advanced Age.

Funeral Services over the remains of John W. Gay were held at the home near Crowley Saturday afternoon at 1 o'clock conducted by Rev. Pewther and Rev. Osborn. Interment took place in Aetna cemetery near the Aetna church. Mr. Gay had lived near Crowley for 25 years and was aged 78 years. He leaves a wife and two children, a son and a daughter.

Walter L. Toone, Jr., Lawyer, New Bank Building.

**Free Lecture.**

Mrs. Scovill, a traveling lecturer, will deliver a lecture in the Christian church next Thursday evening at 7:30 in the interests of the young people's department of the W. C. T. U. No admission fee will be charged, and all are invited to attend.

**Bids Wanted.**

Scaled bids will be received for the sale of the old Guthrie school house at two o'clock p. m., February 10, 1912; the board reserving the right to reject any or all bids.

**A Cough**

Is a danger signal and should not be neglected. Take Dr. Bell's Pine-Tar Honey at once. It allays inflammation, stops the cough and heals the membranes. For sale by Conrad Stafrin.

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**LODGE DIRECTORY**

REBEKAHS—Aimira Lodge No. 28 meets first and third Wednesday of each month at Odd Fellows' Hall.

NOLA COAD, Noble Grand. ORA COSPER, Secretary.

WOODMEN OF THE WORLD—Dallas Camp No. 209 meets in W. O. W. Hall on Tuesday evening of each week.

TRACY STAATS, Consul Com. W. G. VASSAL, Clerk.

WOMEN OF WOODCRAFT—Mistletoe Circle, No. 32, Women of Woodcraft, meets in Woodman Hall second and fourth Wednesday nights in each month.

MARY STARR, Guardian Neighbor. SADIE LYNN, Clerk.

A. F. & A. M.—Jennings Lodge, No. 3, meets second and fourth Fridays of each month, in Masonic hall on Main street. Visiting brethren welcome.

W. L. SOEHNEN, W. M. WALTER S. MUIR, Secretary.

UNITED ARTISANS—Dallas Assembly, No. 46, meets on first and third Mondays of each month at Woodman hall. Visiting members made welcome.

F. G. WING, M. A. WILLIS SIMONTON, Secretary.

**BETTER THAN EVER**

**The Worlds' Almanac For 1912**

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