

### Polk County Observer

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

#### TAFT OR ROOSEVELT?

If it proves true that Senator LaFollette is out of the race for president we shall favor the nomination of President Taft as against the candidacy of Theodore Roosevelt. \* \* \* In the first place we are opposed to the third term idea and therefore are opposed to Roosevelt's nomination. Secondly, we are opposed to the methods pursued by Roosevelt and his friends in undermining Senator LaFollette in his candidacy. Roosevelt's progressive ideas are very little in advance of W. H. Taft's so we might better continue Taft's administration than to accept Roosevelt's.

The above is taken from the Grand Rapids (Wis.) Post, a "progressive" LaFollette newspaper and shows conclusively two things. It is evident from this authority, that the LaFollette boom has collapsed and it is certain that Roosevelt is charged with its destruction. Nobody can question the self-evident truths of these two positions. The LaFollette men are thus facing a dilemma—they are between the devil and the deep blue sea. They must either throw their strength to the man who was instrumental in defeating the hopes of their candidate, or they must turn to President Taft as the "lesser of two evils."

The Post, in the above editorial, truthfully remarks that "Roosevelt's progressive ideas are very little in advance of W. H. Taft's, so we might better continue Taft's administration than accept Roosevelt's." This advice, coming from a strongly pro-LaFollette newspaper, published in the heart of his own camp, is significant. It can only mean that a very great portion of the LaFollette following will go to Taft when defeat for their own candidate is shown to be certain. They will support Taft because they believe that his "progressive ideas" are fully as advanced as Roosevelt's and, in addition, they will cast their ballots that way because they cannot endorse the sage of Oyster Bay and his third term proclivities.

The radicals in the Republican party are sorely put to it, just now. With LaFollette out of the race, their only hope lies in Roosevelt, and his silence is causing no end of heart-burnings and speculation. While all this is going on in the camp of the "enemy," President Taft's strength is growing daily and we believe will continue to increase until his nomination at the Chicago convention shall be but a matter of counting the ballots. With all his boasted popularity, we do not believe that Roosevelt can stampede the Chicago convention nor claim the support among the Republicans of the country that once was his. Of course, some of the LaFollette newspapers are clamoring for his candidacy, but they are merely "whistling to keep up their courage" and they cannot hope to carry the conscientious LaFollette men with them.

If Roosevelt should come out, and declares himself a candidate for the nomination, he would at once arouse a storm of protest and plunge himself and his friends in a bitter fight which would, in all probability, result in his overthrow, in his repudiation by the Republican party of the nation. The great rank and file of the people love fair play. They admire a man who will stick to his convictions, who means what he says, and who has the courage to say it. Roosevelt has already declared, in no uncertain language, that "under no circumstances" would he accept a nomination for a third term. For him to endeavor to evade all that that statement implies by subterfuge, and by explanations that it applied to some other period, or some other condition, will not be endorsed by the people generally, although some of the more radical "progressives" may accept it as a gospel. He has said it, now let him stick to it. He may be "sticking to it" for all the country knows to the contrary but, if he should "renege" on that proposition, we believe that he would stir up a fight that could only result in his defeat. He may realize this and is thus keeping silence, hoping that the call for him will become so insistent that he cannot evade the responsibility that he has already said all that is necessary and if the radical "progressives" shall continue to butt their

heads against the stone wall why, it's no affair of his.

The Observer does not believe that Roosevelt will become an avowed candidate nor does it believe, even, that he will accept the nomination if tendered him by the Chicago convention. Such a course would be utterly at variance with all former characteristics of the man. Heretofore the public has never been at loss to know where the former president stood upon all questions, especially those affecting his own personal ideas or ambitions. He has generally "spoken out in meetings" and his silence in the present instance is, we believe, in line with the thought that has already made his position regarding a third term for himself sufficiently plain.

"If it proves that Senator LaFollette is out of the race for president, we shall favor the nomination of President Taft as against the candidacy of Theodore Roosevelt" declares the LaFollette newspaper and we believe that that sentiment sounds the keynote among the great majority of the Wisconsin man's supporters throughout the nation.

Oregon needs more farmers. It needs more men from the Eastern and Middle Western states to come and make homes for themselves on a 20, or even a 10-acre tract which, in portions of the great Willamette valley, is sufficient upon which to make a good living and even to lay up a competence. The large farms of several hundred acres should be sub-divided and sold in small tracts to the hundreds of homeseekers who are looking toward the West as opportunity for relief from undesirable climatic conditions and high land values. If the holders of the large farms of the Willamette valley, utilized for years only for the growing of grain crops, would consent to their sale in small tracts, and at reasonable prices, they would, in a short time, establish their financial independence and, at the same time, contribute greatly to the growth, the wealth and land values of every acre in the valley. That fruit can be successfully cultivated in the Willamette valley has been conclusively proven and it is no longer an experiment. And when this is possible, when farms may be converted into fruitful orchards, the land becomes too valuable to be longer used for grain acreage simply because more liberal returns may be secured by fruit cultivation, hence the desirability of orchardizing becomes at once apparent. If every commercial organization in the valley would inaugurate a campaign looking to the sale of the large farms in small tracts, they would not only prove material assistance in promoting the prosperity of the present owners, but they would also contribute greatly to the growth and wealth of the Western portion of the state.

While condemning the state university referendum, the editor of the Weaton Leader takes occasion to whack the Monmouth Normal in a misleading statement declaring that "the single state school has but 100 students and is costing the state more for maintenance than all three former schools combined." The Leader forgets that the Monmouth normal is only beginning its labors after being closed for several years, and that \$50,000 of the last appropriation was for the erection of the new dormitory. While it is probably true that the school has not at present a large number of students, it has made a remarkable showing in this regard considering that it has only been opened since September 18, 1911, and that its enrollment will be substantially increased another year, is unquestioned. The Leader's further complaint that "it (the Monmouth normal) has a \$3600-a-year president and a high priced faculty, when no normal school president in Oregon ever before received more than \$1800 per year" is really too foolish to demand attention. The simple fact that former normal presidents were poorly paid is the best argument that could be advanced in favor of one good school with a competent faculty, rather than three mediocre institutions with underpaid and incompetent instructors.

It is the privilege and the duty of every citizen of Dallas to attend the concert by the Dallas band which will be held at the new armory auditorium on the night of Wednesday, February 28. This city has one of the best musical organizations in the entire state, the members of which have spent many hours in perfecting themselves under the direction of Director U. S. Grant, and that they have attained their present high degree of efficiency is a tribute, not only to the competence and ability of their director, but also to the desire of the band members to make their organization second to none. The possession of a good band is a valuable asset to any community. Dallas has such an organization and here is an opportunity for every loyal citizen to show their appreciation in a substantial manner. The Observer predicts that the big auditorium will be crowded to capacity Wednesday night of next week.

Independence is threatened with a "blue law crusade." A petition has been circulated there by an overzealous reformer, asking that the postoffice be closed all day Sunday. The Enterprise, in commenting on the idea suggests that all places of business, including the drug stores and the hotels be also made to feel the pressure of the sanctimonious

lid. Reform is one thing, observance of the Christian Sabbath is another, but good, common, horse sense, is also a praiseworthy asset which has many good qualities to commend it. The opening of a postoffice on Sunday is a convenience to many people and any attempt to prevent this convenience to suit the whims of a self-constituted coterie of fanatics, is silly.

War messages from China during the "late unpleasantness" state that many of the officers were "shot in bombardment." Thus we see that the cruelties of war are in no whit abated by modern agitation. But, then, the Chinese have always had an unenviable reputation for cruelty.

A legless man, in Milwaukee, was given a divorce the other day, in spite of the fact that he had made no kick against his wife.

#### WILLIAMS INSISTS ON SILETZ RULING AT ONCE

Asks President to Intervene on Behalf of Interior Department in Favor of Settlers.

Washington, Feb. 20.—Ralph E. Williams, of Dallas, Or., National Republican committeeman, after two weeks in New York, has returned to Washington and today held a long conference with President Taft regarding the enforcement of Representative Hawley's Siletz settlers bill, which is being virtually nullified by the Interior Department, as the department refuses to issue patents thereunder. Mr. Williams urged the President to intervene on behalf of the settlers and require rulings in conformity with the law.

If there has been no favorable ruling by the Interior Department on the Siletz cases by that time, Mr. Williams will return to Washington and remain until the Department actually accepts and enforces the terms of the Hawley law.

In the course of their stay in New York, Mr. and Mrs. Williams attended a dinner to President Taft at the Waldorf-Astoria.

#### CHRISTIAN CHURCH WILL GIVE "COLONIAL" SOCIAL

Uncle Sam and Aunt Columbia to Receive Distinguished Revolution. Guests in Costume.

In honor of Washington's Birthday, a "colonial" social is to be held in the basement of the Church of Christ next Thursday evening to which a warm welcome is extended to all. In keeping with the character of the day, the affair will have an atmosphere suggestive of the early days of the country, and prominent personages whose names are written large in the chapters of history devoted to that time will be conspicuous. The guests of honor will be George Washington and Martha Washington and they are to be received by Uncle Sam and Aunt Columbia. The event is to be entirely informal and is to be devoted to having a good time. The guests are invited to appear in appropriate costume, but the absence of an assumed one will not bar any one.

The hour of beginning has been set at 8 o'clock, and there will be no admission fee or charge of any kind.

"Good Bye Grant." The editor of an exchange, who has been following the printing business for a good many years, has the following to say, "The head of Lincoln will probably appear on the new silver dollar. A bust of Cleveland on the new ten dollar gold certificate and that of Grant on the fifty dollar one. We hope we will get a sight of Lincoln now and then, and may occasionally scrape acquaintance with Cleveland, but good bye, Grant, and God bless you."

Bridgeport Sectional Meeting. The next of the sectional meetings for the benefit of the school patrons of the county is to be held at Guthrie next Saturday, beginning at 10 a. m. Mrs. W. H. Mack will be chairman of the meeting, and the following districts will be represented: Bridgeport, Liberty, Oakdale, Oakhurst, Powell's Camp, Rock Creek and Guthrie.

Shoe Repairing. Dallas shoe repair shop, first class work, repairing at moderate prices; sewed soles a specialty, no extra charges. All work guaranteed. Call on John Hammer, practical shoemaker, 311 Main street, the old stand.

Novel Window Display. A novel window display that is attracting much attention is shown at the Fuller Pharmacy where about 20 hustling, scratching little black Plymouth Rock chicks keep busy all day long much to the amusement of the many who stop to admire them. They were hatched on the Robbins Poultry Farm at Eola.

Legal blanks for sale at this office.

VIOLIN PERFORMANCE LIKED Dallas Audience Appreciated Musical Performance. A goodly sized audience thoroughly appreciated the performance of Zamora, the violinist, at the High school auditorium last Thursday evening, and his selections were well greeted with applause. In the finer tones his execution was artistic and

# JUST IN

## FIRST SHIPMENT OF

# HART, SCHAFFNER & MARX

## SPRING SUITS

**NO BETTER SUITS MADE AT ANY PRICE**

### Dallas Mercantile Co.

Home of Hart Schaffner & Marx Clothes, Packard Shoes for Men, American Lady Shoes for Women, Buster Brown Shoes for Children.

were characterized by charming delicacy.

**Married Saturday Night.**  
Harry Marshall, well known harness dealer here, was married at his residence on the corner of Court and Shelton streets, last Saturday night to Mrs. Mae Curtis. The ceremony was performed by County Judge Ed F. Coad in the presence of A. Byerly and L. A. Tender.

See Those

## New Jackson Corsets

Reducing

At The

### DALLAS VARIETY STORE

MRS. CHARLES GREGORY, Prop.

## "We Consider This Form Of Advertising THE MOST ECONOMICAL"

This is the belief concerning electric advertising of Alfred Stabel & Sons, Inc., proprietors of a large crockery store in San Diego, California.

This progressive firm says, over its signature:

"We are fully convinced that electric sign advertising is of greater benefit than most merchants appreciate.

"We consider this form of advertising the most economical and positively feel that we get the most for our money."

The temporary removal of this firm's sign gave it an opportunity for a comparison of values.

Do you know of our very liberal two-year-to-pay sign proposition? A representative will call and explain at your request.

### Oregon Power Company

J. L. WHITE, Local Manager

Telephone 24

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**THE SEAT OF HONOR** is naturally given to the honored guest. That's why "Oregon's Best" flour occupies such a high place in the houses of people who want and will have the best. Try a sack of "Oregon's Best" today and it will hereafter occupy a welcome place in your household. Better and bigger bakings will be its passports to your good will.

### SWEENEY BROS.,

DALLAS, OREGON

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**Kopiah Coal.**  
First class Kopiah soft coal, in any quantity, delivered to any part of the city promptly on telephone call. Leave orders with S. M. Ray & Company, phone 21. W. L. Barber, dealer in coal.

**Sight Too Valuable**  
To be neglected. Sutherland's Eagle Eye Salve will cure any case of sore eyes, granulated lids, ophthalmia or any inflamed condition of the eyes. Painless and harmless. 25c a tube at Conrad Stiffin's.