

Polk County Observer

SEMI-WEEKLY

DALLAS, OREGON, FRIDAY, MAY 24, 1912

NO. 25

ANY PUPILS PASS EIGHTH GRADE

SCHOOL ATTENDANCE WILL BE LARGE NEXT YEAR.

Who Failed in Recent Examinations Will Be Given Chance to Retest Themselves in June.

Forty-five pupils were successful in the 176 that took the eighth-grade examination in Polk county two weeks ago. Sixty-eight others failed in one or two subjects and they will have another opportunity in the re-examination. Thirty-three pupils failed in more than two subjects, and also may take another examination in June.

The highest average in the county was 84 per cent, made by Miss Lillian Miles, of the Elkins school, with Mary Ewing teacher. Members of the county examination are W. I. Ford, Dallas; Charles Wesley, Independence; J. E. Phillips, Hills City; W. A. Johnston, Astoria.

Names will be presented at the school picnic to all pupils who failed at the recent examination, also to those who are successful in the June examination.

List of Graduates.
 Those who were successful in the examination held May 9 and 10 are:
 Lillian Holland.
 Forest Martin, Eliza Helga Hoatvedt, Stewart Helen Casey, Gertrude Wilcox, VasMoss, Eola L. Brown, Phyllis Miles, Jennie Sherman Dennis.
 Eola Trent, Earl Ferguson, Edyth Gardner.
 Ralph Fuqua, Lois Os-

Clifton Martin, Viola Carleton Shanks, Elona Martha Ratzloff.
 Hazel Cook, Elmer Cook.
 Golda Wheeler, Francisberry, Helen Scott, Stacia Albin Frederickson, Oscar Peter Voth.
 Raymond Boyer.
 Herschel Lewis.
 Harry Behm.
 Ibbey Green, Erica Moore, Laura Beebe.
 Kenneth Lucas.
 Grace Moore.
 Lenore Miles.
 Lois Hewett, Shalor Vivian Whiteaker, Grace Eola Roy, Hazel Collins, Paul Ernest Hartman, Fred Knox, Emma Montgomery, Jessie Foster.
 Raymond Rex.
 Samuel Muller.
 Althea Bissell.
 Etta Edgar, Nettie Gay, Dora Schulson.
 Ernest Ingram.
 Mamie Peterson.
 Hazel Yost.
 Winniefield Johnston, Estella Reynolds, Nettie Hunter, James George Curtis, Nettie Murray, Albert Schindler, Leo Drake.
 Hugh Flannery.

Raymond Williams of Portland, was in Newberg during the week.

Theodore Roosevelt, Jr., and Mrs. Roosevelt, Nee Alexander



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THERE is no sign that Theodore Roosevelt, Jr., wishes to shine by the reflected glory of his famous father. On the contrary, this young man has always evinced a disposition to go about the serious business of life as if he were the son of any other American citizen. After his marriage to Miss Eleanor B. Alexander of New York two years ago he went to San Francisco as manager for a carpet company and has recently returned to become a bond salesman for a Wall street house. While he is not so mighty a hunter as his father, Theodore junior is fond of shooting and during his stay in California went into the mountains in pursuit of the puma and other wild animals. Stewart Edward White, the novelist, accompanied him on one of these trips. Young Mrs. Roosevelt enjoys roughing it in the woods and accompanied her husband among the mountains.

PROGRAM TO BE AT ARMORY

REVEREND CHESTER P. GATES WILL DELIVER ADDRESS.

Dallas City Band and Students of College and High School Will Take Part in Parade.

Memorial Day exercises will be held in the new armory, Mayor Craven will preside, and the Rev. Chester P. Gates will deliver the address. Rev. H. John Vine will officiate as chaplain. "Lincoln's Address" will be recited by John Randolph Mills, of Salem. H. L. Fenton will act as Grand Marshal.

Captain W. L. Toose, Jr., will command Company H, Oregon National Guard, and will also have charge of the decoration of the armory. He will be assisted in this work by Comrade A. J. Martin. Members of the music committee will be Willis Simonson, Fred Zeller, M. D. Ellis and the Rev. Edgar W. Miles. John E. Miller will direct the Dallas City band.

PAVEMENT LAID AT A MODERATE COST

Portland Property Owners Save 40 Per Cent by Using Old Macadam Base.

City Engineer T. M. Hurlburt, of Portland, believes that he has at last arrived at a solution of how to give property owners durable pavements at a moderate cost. Such a pavement has just been laid on Kearney street in that city and property owners who fought every effort to pave that street on account of what they deemed the excessive prices asked by the standard paving companies have expressed themselves as being entirely satisfied with the work.

The pavement mentioned is the well-known bitulithic. The Kearney street pavement is declared by the city engineer to be as good as any ever laid in Portland, and it has been put down at a saving of nearly 40 per cent, when the fact that there was no charge for excavation is considered.

The explanation of the reduced cost is that the old macadam base of the street has been used as a foundation for the bitulithic. Heretofore, standard bitulithic has been laid on a base of crushed rock and in case where the streets were covered with old macadam, the property owners had to pay for the removal of the macadam and also for the new crushed rock base.

Circuit Court Notes.
 E. O. Snuffer and A. M. Fanning vs. M. J. Carter et al., action for money; R. L. Cooner and W. O. Sims for plaintiffs; McCain and Vinton, Francis Gallflower and Oscar Hayter for defendants. Jury trial; nonsuit on motion of defendants.
 Jacob Lecher vs. Joseph A. Corneil, action for money; Oscar Hayter for plaintiff; W. C. Winslow for defendant. Jury trial; verdict for plaintiff in sum of \$28.25.

GOVERNOR WILL BE CHIEF SPEAKER

WILL DELIVER PRINCIPAL ADDRESS AT ARTISANS' PICNIC.

Dallas Assembly Prepares to Entertain Record-Breaking Crowd of Visitors on Saturday, June 1.

Governor West will be the principal speaker at the big Artisan picnic, to be held in Dallas a week from next Saturday. The committee in charge of the morning program has been anxious to secure the Governor for an address on that occasion and was greatly pleased when, on Tuesday morning, assurance was received from Oregon's chief executive that the wish would be granted.

Other speakers who will take part in the morning exercises are: J. R. Craven, Mayor of Dallas; J. W. Mills, supreme treasurer of the United Artisans, and Doctor J. B. Olmstead, of Portland.

U. S. Grant's Dallas band will be one of the big features of the picnic. Everyone will be anxious to hear the great band, which, although organized only two years ago, stands without a peer for efficiency and size of membership among the musical organizations of Oregon.

The band will furnish music throughout the day, and in the evening will give a concert in the court house plaza. This will be the first of a series of Saturday evening concerts, to be given during the summer months, under the auspices of the Dallas Commercial club.

Great Parade Planned.
 The committee on street parade is making good progress and promises one of the most attractive and magnificent processions ever seen in Polk county on a public day. No money is being spared in the effort to add to the size and beauty of this great showing of floats, trade features, decorated automobiles and horse-drawn vehicles.

Cash prizes of \$5 will be awarded to the best decorated automobile, the best horse-drawn vehicle, and the best decorated trade float or feature. One of the attractive features of the morning program in the city park will be the chorus of 60 voices under the direction of Mrs. D. M. Metzger.

Many Games in Afternoon.
 The entire afternoon will be given over to the program of sports and games. The athletic events will begin at 2 o'clock and will consist of motorcycle races, horse races, foot races, pillow fights, hose races and obstacle races. The crowning event will be a tug-of-war by the Dallas and Airlie assemblies. A baseball game is being arranged between two strong teams, and an exciting contest is promised.

The Artisans are giving their picnic wide publicity and a record-breaking crowd of visitors to Dallas on that day is assured. Members of the popular order will be here in large numbers from Salem, Airlie, Rickreall and other assemblies, and the Polk county towns and farming districts will turn out the usual large crowds of people who never miss an Artisan picnic.

Seeks to Condemn Land.
 In the docket of the May term of circuit court for Douglas county appear two cases in which the Oswego, Dallas & Roseburg Railway company is plaintiff. One action is against Douglas county and the other against W. L. Cobb and others. Oscar Hayter, of Dallas, and R. W. Marsters are the attorneys for the railway company. District Attorney George M. Brown will appear for Douglas county; E. L. Eddy will represent the other defendants. Both actions are for the condemnation of land for a right-of-way.

Re-Elects Grand Secretary.
 Mrs. H. B. Cosper was yesterday re-elected grand secretary of the Rebekah Assembly of Oregon. Mrs. Cosper has served the Assembly in this capacity for more than ten years, and so satisfactorily has her work been performed that no opposition has ever developed for the position.

A meeting of the Woman's club will be held today, at the home of Mrs. Gilbert MacGregor, at the usual time. All members must be present, as important business will be transacted. Friday, May 31, will be the last meeting of the year.

Memorial Day Proclamation.

Our country has two great holidays. The birth of our nation and Memorial day. No memory day is more fitting or worthy of observance than Memorial day, in which we show grateful memory to those who laid down their lives that the nation might live and prosper. Therefore I desire that the people of our city reverently observe May 30, the day set apart in which we do honor in grateful memory to the comrades and loved ones gone, and I would request that all business houses be closed during the forenoon of May 30, so that all who wish may have an opportunity to observe the day.
 (Signed) J. R. CRAVEN, Mayor.

POPULAR SCHOOL TEACHER WOULD REPRESENT DALLAS

Miss Gertrude Pollow Is Candidate for Eastern Trip to Be Given by "Pacific Northwest."

Miss Gertrude Pollow, a popular teacher in the Dallas public schools, is a candidate for the honor of representing Dallas and Polk county in the excursion to the Atlantic states, to be given to ten young women of Oregon by the well-known farm journal, The Pacific Northwest, of which Philip S. Bates, of Portland, is the editor and publisher.

The plan upon which this excursion is being arranged has the hearty endorsement of the Dallas Commercial club. Miss Pollow is receiving liberal and enthusiastic support from the business men and residents generally of Dallas, all appreciating the faithful manner in which she has performed her duties as a teacher in the city schools, and knowing that she would represent Polk county gracefully and intelligently on the long trip through the Eastern states, where it is certain that the Oregon girls will be the recipients of a continuous round of social and sight-seeing entertainment.

The excursion will leave Portland early in June and will last about three weeks, in which time the young women will visit Chicago, New York, Washington and other large cities of the Eastern states. A large amount of literature advertising Oregon, will be carried by the excursionists and will be distributed at every stopping place.

CONVICTS ESCAPE AT NIGHT.

Three Honor Men Employed at Asylum Make Sudden Get Away.

Stealing away under the cover of night, three honor men who were employed at the asylum farm, made their escape on Sunday night. Their absence was not noted until Monday morning.

The men are: Claud Franklin, from Umatilla county; received April 27, 1911, on sentence of two years for receiving stolen property. Andrew Kendall, from Union county; received March 16, 1911, for five years for burglary. H. Raymond, from Union county; received October 18, 1911, for seven years for larceny.—Salem Statesman.

Dr. Starbuck Loses Barn.

Fire totally destroyed the barn on Dr. A. R. Starbuck's farm in the Eola hills Wednesday. The burning of a brush pile nearly a week before led to the destruction of the building. Flames from the brush pile set fire to an old fence, and, unnoticed by the occupants of the farm, burned their way slowly but steadily to the barn. The loss is estimated at \$400, with no insurance. Two hundred bushels of oats which Uncle Breeze Gibson had stored in the barn, with the intention of selling them later to his doctor nephew at a good, strong, spring price, were also destroyed. The burning of Uncle Breeze's oats seems to fully console the Doctor for the loss of his barn.

EXISTENCE OF OIL LONG KNOWN

PETROLEUM DISCOVERED ON WHITEAKER FARM IN 1848.

Primitive Drilling Outfit of Pioneer Days Developed Strong Artesian Flow of Salt Water.

Late developments at the Whiteaker oil prospect, three miles east of Dallas, have aroused much interest and the promising prospect of oil or gas being found in paying quantities is the chief topic of conversation in Dallas this week. Indications of success were never more favorable than at the present time and every report of progress at the well is eagerly received and as eagerly discussed in the business houses, clubs and homes of the city.

Although no attempt was made until a few years ago to develop the oil prospect on the Whiteaker farm, old residents of Polk county have known of the existence of oil indications on the premises for over half a century. As early as 1848, B. J. Whiteaker, the owner of the farm, discovered traces of salt in the water of a small creek flowing through the place. He also noticed that his cattle were often found licking the dirt from the banks of this stream. This discovery led to a primitive investigation by Mr. Whiteaker, who conceived the idea of drilling a well for the purpose of obtaining salt for domestic purposes. With the aid of a spring-pole and a chisel drill, he soon succeeded in starting an artesian flow of salt water, which it is said yielded nearly a pound of salt to every two gallons of water.

A later cause of speculation among the pioneer residents was the appearance of an oily substance in many of the wells of the neighborhood, which rendered the water unfit for drinking purposes. This oily deposit was also noticed occasionally on the surface of the water in the streams flowing through the Whiteaker farm. With the discovery of the great oil deposits in the Eastern states, where it was found that salt water and petroleum were closely associated, the significance of the peculiar conditions on the Whiteaker ranch began to dawn upon the people of the neighborhood. It was not until about ten years ago, however, that any attempt was made to develop this prospect for commercial purposes.

The first drilling operations on the Whiteaker farm were financed by H. Hirschberg, the well-known Independence banker. This well was sunk about a quarter of a mile from the old salt well. At a depth of 962 feet, a heavy flow of natural gas and a number of associated products of oil were encountered. Numerous sea shells and other fossils almost invariably found in petroleum districts, were also brought to the surface, but at this depth the drilling machinery was found to be insufficient to penetrate further, and operations abandoned.

No further attempt was made to sink a well until three years ago, when a local stock company, composed chiefly of Dallas business men, and headed by George Emery, a Portland capitalist, secured a drilling outfit much heavier and stronger than the one that had been used by Mr. Hirschberg and began work on a prospect a short distance from the abandoned well. The new company encountered many obstacles and discouragements in the way of unskilled workmen, broken casings and an unprecedented flow of salt water. Notwithstanding these handicaps, the promoters of the enterprise kept bravely on with the development work, and it was not until a well over 2200 feet in depth had been sunk that the project was finally given up.

This failure did not discourage the explorers in the least, but rather encouraged them to increase their efforts, as sufficient indications of oil and gas had been found in the old well to convince them that they had been working in oil territory. After having perfected plans for another start, and determined to profit by past mistakes in carrying on the new search, work on the present well was begun in the early spring of this year. The officers of the company announce that the development work will be prosecuted without delay until it is definitely known, once for all, whether oil or gas exists in paying quantities beneath the Whiteaker hills in Polk county.

Fred Daniels, of Sheridan, was a Dallas visitor the last of the week.