

Polk County Observer

SEMI-WEEKLY

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NO. 81

Contest Over Assessor's Office Occupies Court's Attention; Ballots Ordered Recounted

MEYERS WINS ASSESSORSHIP CONTEST BY A NARROW MARGIN OF TWO VOTES.

ALLEN IS GAME TO FINISH

A Two-Day Struggle Before Judge Kelly Ends at Five O'Clock This Afternoon, in Favor of Democratic Candidate; Majority Decreased But One Vote.

Just as The Observer goes to press this afternoon at 5 o'clock, the election of Frank Meyers as Assessor of Polk County, is determined. Seven contested precincts decreased the majority of Meyers at the regular election by one vote. The only count called for by Meyers, in Northeast Dallas, swung the vote from a tie to a victory for Meyers.

Allen Gets Recount.

The battle for a recount on the amended complaint was hard fought yesterday forenoon, the contestant winning, and at 2 o'clock in the afternoon the attorneys and court officers took up the count in the precincts of South, North and South Monmouth, South Dallas and Salt Lake. Attorney McNary, of Salem, assisted by Attorney Toole, represented Mr. Allen, and Attorneys Hayter and Belt were looking after the interests of Mr. Meyers.

Evidence was introduced from the contested precincts showing the strain under which the members of the election boards had been put in canvassing the vote, all intended to establish the fact that judges and clerks were overworked and not in fit condition for an accurate count. There were no allegations of fraud, and the opposing attorneys agreed to eliminate any question as to the matter of tampering with the seals upon certain ballot boxes to be being delivered to the county clerk. It was shown that in some cases these boxes remained in private homes over night, and that the county clerk had found it necessary to break the seals upon certain ballot boxes to obtain the tally sheets, which had been placed with the ballots. This had been regularly done however, and the election board and other witnesses called when the seals were broken.

Ballots the Best Evidence.

The ruling of Judge Kelly that he considered the word of the supreme court mandatory in the fight to prevent a recount, and that the ballots themselves were the best evidence, practically settled the matter, and was considered a victory for Mr. Allen, contestant. The judge seemingly was anxious to have the case pushed along with little waste of time, and the evidence tending to show the conditions which surrounded the count was made as brief as possible.

Defendant's Motions Sustained.

When the case was called for Friday morning in Circuit Court, plaintiff was represented by Walter L. Toole Jr., and defendant by Oscar Hayter, C. L. McNary, who had charge of the case in its preliminary stages. Plaintiff, Allen, was detained in Salem. The court, in deciding the motion and the demurrer interposed by defendant, sustained both, and leave was given plaintiff to file an amended complaint. The objections to the complaint were declared that, while it was asserted that votes were thrown out in several precincts and not counted, it had not been alleged that these votes had been cast for plaintiff, and the allegation that members of election boards who overcome with sleep and that such condition tended to result in error in tabulating the vote, was but a conclusion and not an alleged fact and hence had no standing in court.

Rockwell Says Guilty

Arraigned Before Judge Kelly Yesterday Morning; Pleads Guilty to Charge.

Q. A. Rockwell, accused of defrauding a Monmouth bank, returned from Lewiston, Idaho, by Sheriff Grant, was arraigned yesterday morning before Judge Kelly, was given until this morning to plead. Attorney Toole being chosen by the court as defendant's attorney. Rockwell appeared this morning and entered a plea of guilty, and the court set time for sentence for 1:30 tonight, when plea of attorney will also be heard and sentence passed.

Rockwell is a married man, with a family of three, has no appearance of a criminal, but rather shows by his features an inclination toward a weakness of nature. It is understood that the claim for leniency will be on account of the fact that the defendant at the time he wrote the checks upon the Monmouth bank expected that that money had been placed there to his credit by those indebted to him.

Mrs. R. D. Jennings and little daughter are visiting in the city, with Mrs. Jennings' parents, Mr. and Mrs. H. P. Shriver.

DALLAS HIGH EASY CHAMPIONS

SALEM COLLEGE PLAYERS ARE OUTCLASSED.

Basket Ball Season Opens With Good Attendance; Dallas College Loses Two Games; Lebanon High Coming.

A lively mixture of wrestling, pretty throws, indiscriminate guarding, fumbling and "booting" of the ball, even hugging at times, on Saturday evening, characterized the battle between the Capital City Commercial College, of Salem, and Dallas High, at the Armory, Dallas winning easily with the score 23 to 18. The event marked the second victory for Dallas High against the Salem team. Both victories were decisive, proving the inferiority of the Salem players as against the school boys of Dallas.

First Half Decisive.

The score at the end of the first half—22 to 4—gives a real idea of the comparative strength of the teams. During the second half the Dallas bunch seemingly endeavored to favor the idea of giving Guard Matheny a chance for the basket. The others all having made baskets. "Math" had been working hard during the whole game and his associates for a few moments endeavored to give him a chance. This plan resulted in a scattering of guards, and the visitors were not slow in taking advantage of the gaps, and in a short time piled up a score that was threatening, when the home team calmly settled down to real business and ended the agony by keeping the ball hovering about their opponents' basket, making the victory a grand finale.

Audience Appreciative.

Four fouls were recorded, two against each team, and two long throws from the center of the field, one being made by each team, kept the large audience in a state of intense excitement. The audience was liberal in its bestowal of applause, giving good plays on each side merited attention.

Lebanon High Next Saturday.

The receipts were encouraging, as well as the result, and the boys anxious to see the coming of Lebanon High on next Saturday night. The Lebanon High is a stranger to Dallas, but the fact that they are traveling through the state is an intimation that they will be able to give the home team a race worth while. The Dallas line-up will be the same.

Dallas College Drops Two.

The Dallas College team met two defeats during the week, being their first game of the season, losing one to the Chemawa Indians Friday, at Chemawa by a score of 13 to 18, and the other by a score of 21 to 7, against Mt. Angel College at the home of the latter. "Pabo" accompanied the home team on the trip, but was unable to coach them to victory. The college boys arrived home Sunday.

BAZAAR IS A GRAND SUCCESS

Methodist Sunday School Clears \$95 at Saturday Bazaar. The Methodist Sunday school bazaar held at the Guy Bros' store on Saturday, December 7, was considered a grand success by the pastor, Rev. D. Lester Fields, and others who were instrumental in the preparation and execution of the event.

Rev. Fields says that much credit is due Mrs. F. H. Moran, superintendent of the Sunday school, who not only provided the enthusiasm but directed the work. Needlework, poultry, cabbage, potatoes, dolls, super kraut, home-made candy and baking, home-dressed dolls, beads, carrots and cream made a great "menu" for the occasion, but the goods found eager purchasers.

Rev. Fields Informs The Observer

that the following articles were left at the bazaar by the owners, who may have them by calling at Miss McCullon's millinery store: Topsy-turvy doll, corset cover, lady's waist, two misses' waists, a little white apron, singlet and a small towel. The Sunday school board decided to make this an annual affair and the public will need to expect to see the proper announcement about this season next year.

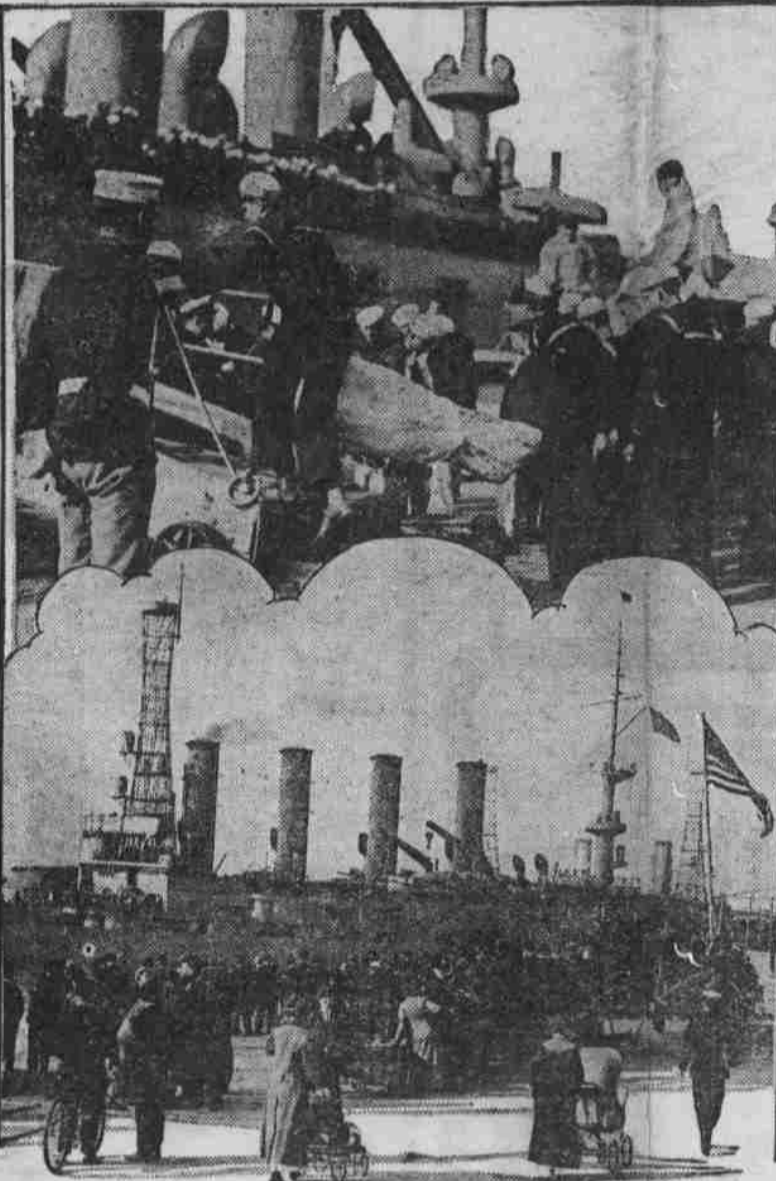
The school expressed their appreciation for the success of the affair to those who aided individually, and to the press also.

Returns From Trip Abroad.

Evan Evans returned on Sunday evening from his three-months' journey across the United States and through England, where he met relatives and friends at his birthplace, after an absence of 29 years. Mr. Evans shows a remarkable gain of flesh as a result of his vacation, is feeling in the best of health, and is full of interesting facts gleaned from the journey. He has promised The Observer an account of his trip and observations for a future issue. Mr. Evans arrived in New York on Monday, December 2, on the Germania, arriving in Dallas on the 8th.

Miss Hallie Hart, of McMinnville, has been the guest of relatives in this vicinity during the week. The lady is a grand-daughter of Mrs. Alice Dempsey, of Lyle street.

Cruiser Tennessee Just Before Start For Constantinople



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These scenes show the bustle and bustle at the Philadelphia navy yard just before the armored cruiser Tennessee sailed for Constantinople to protect American interests. At the top the sailors are loading the cruiser with extra provisions, 5,000 barrels of flour and 15,000 bushels of potatoes being stowed away for the use of possible refugees. At the bottom the ship is just about to sail, carrying 700 sailors and a company of marines.

4 MORE SCHOOLS SCHOOL OFFICERS' ARE STANDARD CONVENTION

SIX SCHOOLS NOW ON ACCREDITED LIST.

Lincoln, Red Prairie, Orchard and Guthrie Schools Secure Coveted Number of Points.

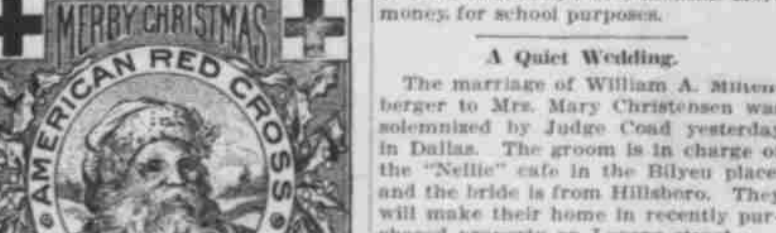
Four more Polk county schools were standardized during the week, according to the records at the county superintendent's office, the fortunate ones being the schools at Lincoln, Red Prairie, Orchard and Guthrie. This makes six on the accredited list.

The Lincoln school is taught by Mrs. W. H. Crawford; Jas S. Lake, J. M. Spong and D. E. Bradford are directors, and J. H. Wright clerk. Red Prairie is taught by Miss Marian Blyden, the directors are George Conner, E. P. Farmer, and W. A. Craft; Miss Anna Conner, clerk. Orchard school, taught by Miss Clara Montgomery, has F. H. Fawk, A. May and Henry Voth as directors, and A. W. Fink, clerk. Mrs. Ethel Lucas Stone is teacher at the Guthrie school, the directors are W. H. Mack, H. Fern and S. E. Guthrie; R. R. Riggs, clerk.

CLUB TO SELL STAMPS

Red Cross Christmas Seals to Be Offered for Sale in Dallas by Woman's Club; in Aid of Tubercular Fight.

The Woman's club of Dallas will again take charge of the holiday sale of the Red Cross seals. Miss Pauline Van Orsdel is chairman of the committee having this to manage, and her assistants are Mrs. D. M. Metzgar, Mrs. J. R. Craven, Misses Hallie Coad, Bobbie McCullon, Bertha Serr, Helen Casey, Loree O'Connell, Alice Grant, Ava Coad, Jennie Muscott, and Nada Scott. These seals sell for one cent each, and the amount running into the thousands each year) from their sale goes to aid in the fight against tuberculosis. Dallas has always responded generously at the sales of these bright holiday seals, and the Woman's club hopes to sell here at least twenty dollars' worth.



The Oregon Almanac, the booklet being published by the State Immigration Commission, will be out this week and will be distributed widely. It contains accurate statistics and reading matter about Oregon's resources and products. Indeed, never before has there been such an exhaustive report on what this state has to offer to the settler. An edition of 250,000 will be printed.

Miss Helga Talbot returned to her home in Portland this week, after a ten-day visit with her friend, Mrs. Anna Coad.

50,000 NEW PRUNE TREES, RECORD FOR YEAR

\$7,500 SPENT IN DALLAS AND VICINITY IN GREATLY INCREASED ORCHARD ACREAGE.

400 ACRES OF NEW TREES

Dallas to Cinch Her Title as "Prune City;" Oak-clad Hill-sides and Grain Farms to Give Way to Fruitful Orchards; List of New Tracts and Additions.

More than 50,000 prune trees, representing an expenditure of approximately \$7,500 by the people of Dallas and vicinity, have been received in this city during the last two weeks, according to the statement of those in a position to know. One entire carload was received at the Soehren warehouse last week, and three or four carloads have arrived, the contents of which have been consigned to different people, during the period above stated. Practically all of these trees have come from nurseries in the state and this great shipment indicates that Dallas is destined in the near future to even more prominent claims as the prune center of Oregon than heretofore.

400 Acres of New Trees.

This invoice of fruit trees indicates that the acreage of that variety of fruit will be greatly increased, and it is estimated that more than 400 acres will be set out to prunes in the vicinity of Dallas during the coming few months. Work of planting the trees has already begun, and it will be carried on in full blast during the next few weeks. There have also been a few receipts of other varieties of fruit, but Italian prunes comprised the major portion of the incoming shipments. It is believed that more prune trees will be planted in the vicinity of Dallas this winter than in all the balance of the state combined. Such is the declaration of the big nursery companies, who should be in a position to know.

In every direction tracts of land are being prepared for prune orchards which, in a few years, will transform the country into one vast orchard. Oak-clad hill-sides are being grubbed and planted to prunes, the lower lands are receiving their quota of loganberries and other fruit, and a general movement appears to be in progress to abandon the idea of making a specialty of grain and gradually adopt fruit as a medium of income from the fertile acres of Polk county.

Among those of the Dallas business men who will branch out into the prune growing industry are

W. L. Soehren and N. L. Guy, who recently purchased 30 acres of the Williams tract south of the city. They will plant 20 acres to prunes this winter and 10 acres to loganberries. W. Wynn Johnson, proprietor of Sidney Orchards, south of town, one of the finest prune tracts in this vicinity, will add 15 acres to his already large orchard. Fred and Wesley Elliott and Dr. L. A. Bollman will also plant large orchards south of town, the latter utilizing a portion of the Williams tract which he recently purchased from J. P. North and northwest of the city there will also be seen several new prune orchards and additions to old ones. Horatio Morrison, who recently purchased 15 acres of the Guy estate, will plant the entire tract to prunes, actual operations on this work beginning this week. Lott D. Brown will set out a new 23-acre orchard east of the city; Frank Brown will plant 10 acres, and George Brown a like amount. Henry Voth, Isvid Nictigal and Peter Neufeldt are among the residents of the Salt Creek district who will set out: prune orchards. E. C. Kirkpatrick is making arrangements to plant 20 acres on his farm at Polk Station, Henry Clifford will plant 2000 trees, and Ray Craven will add a five-acre orchard to his tract near the city.

"Dallas, the Prune City."

In the light of this greatly increased acreage, added to that already in bearing, there should be no question regarding a slogan for the city, and it is now more than ever entitled to the designation of "the Prune City." Fruit steady and certain profit realized from the cultivation of this fruit has influenced the farmers and others in planting new orchards and that still others will follow their example is certain.

All this is gratifying to the managers of the J. K. Armsby company. This company was induced to locate their packing plant in Dallas owing to the large acreage of prunes in this vicinity, and the addition of 400 acres of the first year in new orchards, induces them to believe that they have made no mistake. The business of the local packing plant this year has been a success from every standpoint, according to Manager Peterson, who declares that the output will be more than double what was expected. At the beginning of the season Mr. Peterson believed that about 15 cars would comprise the pack, but he now says that the company will ship at least 35 cars from the local plant alone, and being the result in a year when the crop is short, points to an exceedingly busy season when the yield is normal.

Poultry Show Next Week to Be Best Ever Held in This Section of Willamette Valley

SECRETARY BRADEN PREPARING NECESSARY COOPS FOR RECEPTION OF 500 CROWERS AND CACKLERS.

BIG EXHIBIT IS EXPECTED

Show Opens in Armory Tuesday Morning, December 17, and Will Continue For Four Days; Large Number of Fancy Fowls to Be on Exhibition; Much Interest Shown.

Preparations for the sixth annual exhibition of the Polk County Poultry association, to be held in Dallas, December 17 to 20, indicate an increase of interest among poultry breeders. The secretary, Mrs. Winnie Braden, says that the interest shown by those who will participate in the contest this year is such that it is found necessary to construct at least 20 new coops at the Armory, to accommodate those who have expressed an intention to take part in the exhibition. Mrs. Braden expects that at least 500 birds will be on exhibition.

According to the rules the birds must be in the show room by the evening of the sixteenth. This rule was made for the benefit of the exhibitors. Spectators would then have the opportunity to see the winners during the entire meeting and the scheme will meet with general approval and bring out a full display of the birds at the beginning, it is thought. Interest will center upon the visit of Prof. Land, of the Agricultural College, Wednesday, the 19th. He will give a demonstration of canning and preparing for the market in the afternoon, and in the evening will give an illustrated lecture that will be highly interesting to poultry raisers.

ISSUE SILETZ PATENTS

Seventeen Entry-men Secure Full Title to Land, While Five Await Reports of Agents.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 9.—Notwithstanding the determination of certain officials of the Interior Department to prevent the patenting of any more lands on the Siletz Reservation, the Hawle act has finally become operative to a limited extent, and patents have been issued to the following homestead entry-men: John D. Murphy, Jacob L. Condon, George R. Lewis, Lewis Jones, Richard Paul, Wellington Wright, Arthur R. Lawton, William I. Wells, William Schroeder, George C. Whitehorn, Peter A. Finckh, Frank L. Priest, Niels Anderson, Dennis Casack, William F. Allen, Chester V. Haro and Signe Hanson. The entries of Christopher J. Franklin, Lee Smith and Eva C. Smith are now awaiting reports from the special agents sent to examine them, and the entries of William A. May and C. F. Smith are held up awaiting reports from the Register and Receiver of the Portland Land Office. Instructions have been sent out directing these officers to hasten their reports, and as soon as they are received the fate of these five entry-men will be determined. Seventeen of the Siletz entries coming within the scope of the Hawley act have been held for cancellation. They are the entries of Amelia Wagner, Lyman M. Lee, Levi M. Gilbert, Benjamin P. Courtney, Albert M. Southwick, Edith G. Hailey (Southwick), William E. Coates, Bert Fredrick, Joseph Kowald, W. H. Ellis, Conrad W. Boschen, Ahlah Williams, Earl Hocum, Bert Blauvelt, Thomas Holverson, Willis E. Morse and Ferris A. Lucas.

PROMINENT EDUCATOR

"Home Credit" Worker of Rockefellers Institute of Chicago, Visiting Polk County Schools.

Today State Superintendent Alderman, Dr. Butterick of the Rockefeller Institute, Chicago, and County Superintendent Seymour, are visiting the schools in Dallas vicinity in the interests of the "Home Credit Work," instituted by the famous Chicago institution. Superintendent Seymour thought the party would be able to visit five or six schools today. The visit is considered one of great importance and much interest is evidenced throughout the county in the visit of so prominent workers in educational lines.

To Improve Line.

Harriman railroad directors have authorized the expenditure of \$1,000,000 for improvements to the O.-W. R. & N. line between Portland and Spokane. These betterments will be made during the coming year, and after the 400 acres of new orchards begin bearing.

Many people have found employment at the Armsby plant during the past two or three months. While the work in the packing room is slow for those unfamiliar with it, those who have persevered have found that, as they became more adept, their wages have increased until their income is encouraging.

PROMINENT CITIZEN DIES SATURDAY

DEATH COMES SUDDENLY TO HENRY M. BROWN.

Has Been a Resident of Dallas Nearly All His Life; Funeral Services Held Monday Afternoon.

Henry M. Brown, a native son of Dallas and Polk county, passed away suddenly at his Jefferson street home on Saturday afternoon, at 6:40 o'clock, death being caused by heart failure. Mr. Brown's illness was of but a few weeks' duration, and his last attack continued less than twenty minutes. The last struggle ended in the same room where he first saw the light of day, the old home built by his father in 1857. Mr. Brown's illness dates back for some time, but he had been able during his last day on earth to attend to his work in the country, where he made almost daily visits, and just as he was about to enjoy his evening meal the end came, with but a brief warning. Having been about his regular work and frequently about town, the report of his death came as a general surprise. He was a robust man, made little complaint of illness, and news of his sudden taking off seemed hardly credible for a time.

A Resident All His Life.

With the exception of four years, deceased has made Dallas his home ever since his birth. He was a well-known character throughout the county, as well as the town, being owner of the large estate of 300 acres adjoining Dallas, and a portion of North Dallas. The immediate survivors are a wife and three sons, Frank B. Lott D., and George, all of Dallas. Two brothers and a sister are other near relatives, being John G. and Joe L. Brown and Mrs. William Kersey, all of Dallas.

Biography.

Henry M. Brown was born in Dallas, Oregon, April 18, 1859; died December 7, 1912, aged 53 years, 7 months and 19 days. He was married in 1880 to Florence Plummer, who died in 1902. The surviving children mentioned were born of this union. In 1907 deceased was united in marriage to Mary E. Bailey. Mr. Brown was never engaged to any great extent in business in Dallas. Several years ago he was interested in the livery business, and again in the butcher business; and a portion of four years he owned and operated a livery business at Salem, but of late years his time was taken up with looking after the estate left him by his father, the late W. C. Brown, a pioneer of 1847, and whose early day history is well known. Deceased was a member of the firm of Brown & Bird, real estate agents, at the time of his death.

Last Rest Impressive.

The funeral yesterday was one of the largest held in Dallas for many months, and was held from the home, the body being taken to the Brown cemetery north of town by train, three coaches being filled by mourners, pall-bearers and friends of the deceased. The pall-bearers were selected from members of the B. P. O. E., of which order Mr. Brown was a member, he belonging to No. 334, of Salem. The services, which were brief, were in charge of Rev. C. C. Curtis, pastor of the Christian church.

Temperature Reaches Low Mark.

The temperature of the week past has shown a remarkable tendency downward as the chart on the first page will show, reaching the low mercurial point on Saturday night, when the thermometer went as low as 22 degrees above zero. Our Eastern friends would enjoy this sort of weather as a treat at this time of year, but the Oregonians insist that it is a mighty "crispy." The days have been clear and the sun has contributed its genial rays of gladness but "it is real darn crispy, just the same," say the natives.

Knights Elect Officers.

Marmion Lodge No. 95, Knights of Pythias, elected the following officers for the term beginning January 1, 1913, at its regular meeting on Friday night: Vern H. Compton, C. C.; H. H. Belt, V. C.; H. G. Black, P. C.; C. D. Forrester, M. of A. T. A. Magers, M. of W.; D. P. Patterson, M. of E.; J. T. Ford, K. of R. and S., and M. of F.; Ed Lohman, I. G.; F. M. Bethel, O. G. These officers will be installed on the first meeting night in January.

Big Onion Yield.

Louis Rivers, who has an onion farm in the Rogue river valley, grew onions from one to three pounds each in weight. He had less than one acre in onions this year, but produced almost 50,000 pounds, selling the crop at two cents a pound. This makes the income from this small tract at least \$1000.

Poultry Show Time.

This is a time of poultry shows. Albany and Astoria have just held very successful exhibits of aristocratic feathered fowl and Portland is next. Oregon people, believing that chicken raising is a means of grace, held their first show last Friday in the basement of a church.