

**CHOICE OFFERINGS
LURE HOLIDAY
SHOPPERS**

**CHRISTMAS SPIRIT IN DALLAS
STORES ATTRACTS BUYERS
AND LOCAL STORES ARE
CROWDED.**

**WINDOW SHOWS EFFECTIVE
City Merchants Vie With Each Other
In Arrangement of Typical Holiday
Displays; "Cotton Snow" Predomi-
nates, and Creditable Efforts Are
Noted; Holiday Trade Is Good.**

That the Christmas spirit is in the air, and that the people of Dallas and surrounding territory are properly imbued with it, has been amply proven during the past week in noting the crowds of shoppers that thronged the streets of the city and filled the stores where specialties are made of holiday displays. Dallas merchants have apparently been more lavish this season than ever before in the purchase of holiday goods and everywhere there is a wonderful display of choice presents for old and young. The quality of the goods, too, appears to be above the ordinary, and the wide range of offerings, and the reasonable price schedules asked for them impress one with the fact that it isn't necessary to go elsewhere to make selections for the holiday trade.

Merchants in practically all lines report that their holiday business so far has reached their highest expectations, and they are looking for a busy time from now until Christmas. It is believed that tomorrow will prove the banner shopping day of the entire season and, if the weather continues favorable, it is probable that a large number of country people will be in the city and that the home people will be out in force.

Attractive Window Displays. Dallas merchants have vied with each other this year, as never before, in arranging suitable and attractive holiday displays in their windows and the work of the decorator has been, of course, confined entirely to the arrangement of scenes typical of the season, and some really beautiful creations have resulted. Prominent among the stores that have Christmas scenes depicted in their show windows are the Bee Hive, William Herzog, the Dallas Mercantile company, A. S. Campbell, Uglow Colthing company, and Crider's store. The Bee Hive has always made a specialty of Christmas window displays, but this year Mr. Finest has outdone all former efforts. "Cotton snow" is not taboo in Dallas, as in many other places, and this decoration has been largely used in arranging the displays. The Bee Hive windows show a typical snow scene with Finest's "log cabin on the claim," covered with snow and surrounded by choice articles for Christmas presents flanking it on all sides.

A. S. Campbell also shows a winter scene in his north window. The ground covered with glistening snow borders an ice-covered stream, crossed by a rustic bridge resting on concrete abutments. Many suggestions for Christmas selections are also on display.

Santa Claus at the Mercantile. The big north display window at the Dallas Mercantile company's store is another place resplendent with a genuine winter scene, in which a Christmas tree and a life-sized Santa Claus are the central figures. Here

(Continued on Page 5.)

**REMOVE CASING AT
OIL WELL**

**WORK OF PULLING 1100 FEET OF
SIX-INCH TUBING BEGINS.**

Bottom Section Must Be Repaired Before Drilling May Proceed; May Not Resume Drilling for Some Time

**Keen Competition Is
Result of Entries at
Polk Poultry Show**

**Work of Judge Laborious; Excellence of Many Exhibits Makes
Scoring Difficult; Full List of Prize Winners
and Exhibitors.**

**Most Successful Poultry Show in
History of Polk County Association
Now Drawing to a Close; Many
New Exhibitors Compete For
Prizes; Mrs. Braden and President
Woods Liberal Winners of Big
Prizes; Cups Awarded.**

The various emotions of satisfaction and joy that told the story as to winners and losers, the chuckle of pretty "biddy," the mortgage-lifter, the proud, pealing challenge of proud king cock, and the poultry-yarn aroma that permeated the brilliant blue "etherial" were the things that opened the eyes of visitors to the sixth annual exhibition of the Polk County Poultry Breeders' association at the Armory for the past four days, closing this afternoon. The attendance, like the interest of the exhibitors, was far ahead of any former effort. No admission having been charged, a record of the attendance could not be obtained.

Today the officers and promoters are congratulating themselves upon their remarkable success and are already planning for a more successful meeting in 1913. A large number of the prize winners, and the other birds as well, were disposed of during the exhibition at fancy prices, and this afternoon the Armory is a busy place, purchasers, exhibitors and demonstrators being busy with the work of clearing the building for use soon for other purposes.

Prize Winners. Following is a complete list of the winners of prizes, and the varieties of birds. All winners are entered from Dallas, unless otherwise shown:

S. C. Brown Leghorns—W. J. Showers, second on cock; J. M. Card, first on pullet, second on cockerel, second on hen, F. F. Friesen, first on cock, second on pullet, first on hen, Henry Voith, first and second on hen, A. G. Robinson, first on cock, first on pullet, third on cockerel, R. H. Greer, Hillsboro, third on cock, third on hen, A. L. Jenkins, Rex, third on pullet.

S. C. Anonas—C. Dornhecker, second on pullet, H. A. Woods, second on cock, first on cockerel, first on pullet, first on hen, Charles E. Kurze, Independence, third on cockerel, G. E. Robinson, third on pullet.

White Orpingtons—Dilla B. Viers, first on cockerel, first and third on hen, Harry D. Viers, third on pullet. S. C. White Leghorns—J. P. Hall, Newberg, third on cock, second on hen, first and second on pullet, first on cockerel, first on cock, first on pullet, first on hen, R. H. Greer, Hillsboro, first and second on cock, Roy Warfield, Alesia, third on pullet, first on hen, third on hen.

White Indian Runner Ducks—C. A. Evans, Newberg, second on young drake, first and third on old duck, second on young duck. First on pen, prize berry bowl by Fidler's Cash Store. Geo. T. Graves, Black Rock, first on young drake, third on young duck. G. W. Gibson, Salem, first on old drake, second on old duck.

Black Breasted Red Games—Tom Bowman, Rickreall, first and second on cockerel, first, second and third on pullet. Fawn and Indian Runner Ducks—R. H. Greer, Hillsboro, first on young duck, first on young drake.

Barred Plymouth Rocks—A. S. Wilson, Monmouth, second on hen, third on cockerel, second on hen, Mrs. Winnie Lechner—Ed Loop, first on pullet, second on pen, T. E. Barclay, Alesia, third on hen, third on pen, E. N. Keeney, second on cock, second on hen, first, second and third on cockerel, second and third on pullet, first on pullet.

Columbian Wyandottes—C. A. Hodson, Newberg, second on hen, first on pullet. Silver Laced Wyandottes—C. A. Hodson, Newberg, third on cockerel, first on hen, second and third on pullet, third on pen.

Dark Cornish Games—J. Stingley, first on cockerel, first and third on pullet. White Plymouth Rocks—Mrs. Winnie Braden, first and second on cockerel, first and second on hen, first, second and third on pullet, first on pen.

White Brazilian Ducks—Homer Calkins, first on duck, first on drake. White Cochins Bantams—J. B. Stump, Jr., first, second and third on hen, second on pullet. J. S. Macomber, first and third on pullet.

Light Brahmas—T. A. Hatcliff, Salem, third on pullet, third on cockerel, second on hen. Silver Gray Dorkings—Mrs. C. D. Nairn, Amity, third on hen. Mammoth Pekin Ducks—S. W. Jackson, Monmouth, first on drake, first and second on duck. S. C. White Leghorns—J. F. Klever, first on cockerel, first, second and third on pullet.

**LOSS IS SHOWN IN
COUNTY SCHOOL
CENSUS**

**EIGHTY-EIGHT LESS CHILDREN
OF SCHOOL AGE IN COUNTY
THAN IN 1911, ACCORDING
TO RETURNS.**

**REASON IS NOT APPARANT
School Authorities Can Offer No Ex-
planation of Decline; Dallas, Inde-
pendence and Falls City Show Fall-
ing Off; Teachers' Examination Now
On at Court House.**

Showing a loss of 88 children in the entire county, and with 34 districts showing a loss, 30 small gains, and five districts stationary, the annual school census taken last month, has been compiled by County Superintendent H. C. Seymour, and the figures are now on file in his office. Of the larger districts in the county show a loss, with the exception of Monmouth, which has the same number as returned last year—230. No explanation is offered for this falling off in the number of children of school age in the county, and the decrease appears to be confined to no one section, but extends to all portions of the county. Among the few districts which show gains, is North Dallas, which has a substantial increase to its credit.

The total children of school age in the county are as follows: Boys, 2483; girls, 3320, a total of 4803. In 1911 there were 2555 boys and 2306 girls, a total of 4861. In 1910 there were 2340 boys and 2119 girls, or a total of 4459.

Dallas District Loses. There are in the district of Dallas, 457 boys and 422 girls, total 879, against 447 boys and 443 girls, totaling 890 in 1911.

In Independence there are 587 children of school age—310 boys and 277 girls. In Falls City there are 201 boys and 194 girls, or a total of 395, which is a few less than last year. Monmouth holds her own, and has a total school population of 230—109 boys and 121 girls, and is the only district among the four larger ones where the girls outnumber the boys.

Teachers' Examinations. Regular county teachers' examination is now being held at the court house, and will continue until and including Saturday. Thirty-five pedagogues from all portions of the county are present and taking part in the work.

BRIDGE READY BY MARCH 1. Good Progress Made on New Structure at West Salem.

SALEM, Dec. 19.—By the first of March there will be trains crossing the new Dallas, Falls City & Western railroad bridge over the Willamette at the foot of Union street. The last span is now in place, and the noisy riveters are speedily welding the monster pieces together. The lift, which will be located between the Marion county side, will be harnessed to the hoisting machinery before long. At present the heavy affair is being kept upon temporary trestle work in order that the steamers may pass under.

The trestle work on the west side has been completed, and the grade on the east side will be completed within the next month. A large crew of steel workers were busy yesterday, and about 1500 spectators seemed interested in watching the husky men gambol on the high structure, while a strong wind was blowing down the river, that made their movements seem pretty risky.

"KIRK" HATER MARSHALSHIP Local Man Is Aspirant for Appointment to Federal Position.

Accouncement from Portland, E. C. Kirkpatrick, of Dallas, is a candidate for the appointment to the deputy United States marshalship, with mighty good prospects of success. Ralph Williams is now in Washington, and it is believed that the principal object of his trip to the National capital was to arrange for a disposition of the numerous federal files unfiled in this state. "Kirk" and Williams have long been close personal friends and associated in a business way, and it is extremely probable that he can have the job, if he wants it.

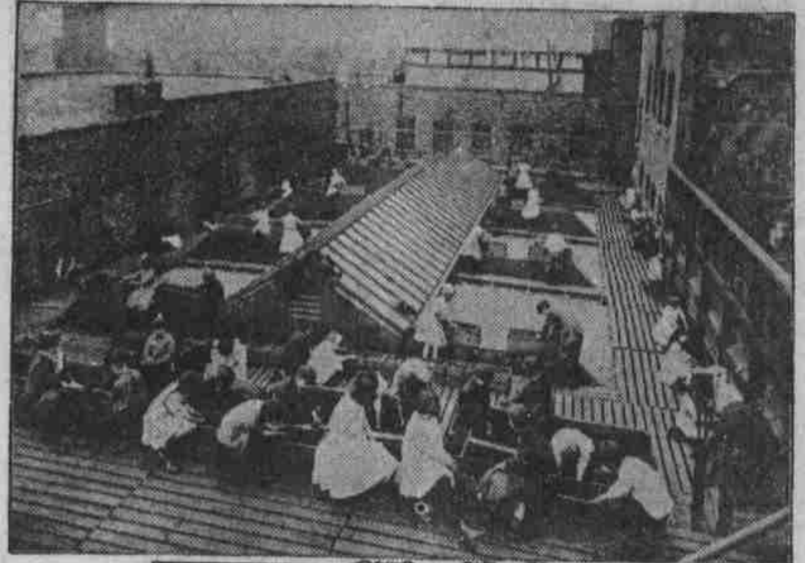
REGULAR COURT TERM MONDAY Judge Galloway to Hold Session Beginning at 10 O'clock.

Regular term of department No. 2, of the Polk county circuit court will open Monday morning, December 24, at 10 o'clock Judge Galloway presiding. The list of cases on his docket have already been printed in these columns.

CHECKING UP COUNTY OFFICERS Biennial Experting of Records and Books at Court House Under Way.

The biennial checking up of the accounts of the county officers is now under way at the court house, by direction of the county court, the firm of Crandall & Roberts, of Portland, having charge of the work. It is expected that the job will require until January 1 to complete.

**Preventing and Fighting
The Country's Worst Scourge**



THESE pictures show just how the white plague is being fought by the National Association for the Study and Prevention of Tuberculosis. At the top is shown a roof garden school for gardening in Chicago, where children who are suspected of being susceptible to the dread scourge are taught practice things in the pure air and sunlight, so that when they grow older they may live in the open as tillers of the soil, retaining health and happiness. At the bottom may be seen tuberculosis patients being cared for on a ferryboat, where they get the air and sun

Three Big Games in Sight

**ASHLAND TO PLAY FAST CONTEST FOR
DALLAS HIGH SATURDAY**

MANAGER CADLE CLOSES DEAL FOR TWO BIG GAMES.

Basket Ball Team From Southern Oregon to Be Here Dec. 28 and 30; Interest Grows in Game.

What will probably prove to be one of the most exciting and closely contested games of the basket ball season will take place at the Armory in Dallas on Saturday night, December 28, and Monday night, December 30, when the fast basket ball team from the Ashland High School will meet the Dallas High. Dates for this game have been arranged by Manager Cadle and it is stated that the Ashland five will surely be here. Morton is one of the best men in the business, and was one of the team that made the Eastern circuit with the celebrated Dallas bunch a few years ago. In addition to Morton there will be "Peebo" Shaw, Boydston, Ballantyne and Gates, and it is not necessary for The Observer to sound that music here—Dallas fans are familiar with the ability.

Amicus Team Strong. The Amicus team is a far different organization from that which appeared here last season. Morton, who played with Sweeney and Hartman of the Amicus five in 1910 and 1911, when they were members of the Y. M. C. A. and Spartan fives in Portland, declares that they are exceptionally fast men in every department of the game.

Game will be called at 9 o'clock on Saturday night, the late hour being settled upon in order to give merchants and others an opportunity to attend to the regular Saturday night trade before going to the Armory. Admission will be 25 cents, with reserved seats selling for 35 cents, on sale at the Fuller Pharmacy. Reservations are now being made and all who intend to witness the game are urged to make their selections immediately.

Buy's Fruit Tract. Rev. Edgar W. Miles closed a deal Wednesday for the purchase of a 16-acre fruit tract (it wouldn't be called to call it a "ranch," since a preacher has bought it) from Edwin Jacobson, located northwest of the city, adjoining the property of John E. Miller. He will plant a portion of the tract to loganberries, and also embark in the poultry raising business in a small way.

Births. To Mr. and Mrs. C. B. Friesen, of Dallas, December 18, a son.

**LATE POLK COUNTY
NEWS TOLD IN
BRIEFS**

**HAPPENINGS OF INTEREST IN
VARIOUS NEIGHBORHOODS
RELATED IN ENTERTAIN-
ING MANNER.**

OBSERVER SPECIAL SERVICE

Observer Representatives Keep in Touch With All Matters of Importance in Their Part of the Famous "Blue Ribbon" District of State of Oregon.

FALLS CITY

W. L. Toose, of Salem, attended to business in this town Friday. Prof. H. E. Barnhart spent the week with his brother, Lester, at the University of Oregon. Born—To Mr. and Mrs. W. T. Grier, a boy, December 11. C. F. Vick and George Tice went to Dallas Saturday, to attend the County School Officers' convention.

Mr. and Mrs. Clarence O'Brien are visiting at the J. S. E. Powell home for a few days. Mrs. Bert Dennis went to Portland Saturday to visit relatives. Mr. and Mrs. J. R. Moyer left Wednesday for an extended visit with friends and relatives in Portland and Clackamas. They expect to be gone about a week.

J. W. Wagner was a Dallas caller Saturday. Dr. C. S. White, secretary of the State Board of Health, investigated conditions in Falls City Monday, and found things well in hand. Every thing will be opened up again in a few days. Mr. and Mrs. T. M. Thrasher are the proud parents of a boy, born Dec. 12.

Miss Lois Ohmart spent the weekend with her parents in Salem. Ira Hooker, of Independence, visited at the home of his son, T. B. Hooker, this week. Miss Mary Hammond was a passenger to Salem, Saturday.

Mr. and Mrs. M. C. Munson and daughter expect to leave soon for Astoria, California, where they will spend the holidays with Mr. Munson's mother. A. J. Vick visited friends in Dallas Saturday.

Austin Titus returned home Saturday on a trip to Eastern Oregon. Mrs. A. E. Seymour went to Salem Saturday to spend the day with her daughter, Edna.

J. B. Toal intends to build him a house in town in the spring and move to the city. Mrs. H. S. Montgomery visited in Dallas Saturday.

Mrs. Frank Heydon returned from Portland Tuesday, where she has been visiting for the past week. Lloyd Ellis took in the sights at Dallas Saturday.

Darkness prevailed throughout the town for a short time Tuesday night, owing to a mishap at the electric light plant. The old oil lamps were dug out and given a chance to shine once more.

Several of our citizens have been sick for a few days of late, owing to vaccination. Vaccination seems to be worse than the real article.

BUELL

D. C. Walker was in Dallas Saturday. Thomas Merrick butchered hogs Monday.

Elmer Blanchard is moving a sawmill up on Frank Brown's place. E. V. D. Paul was in Portland last week. Charles Ridgeway helped Thomas Merrick butcher, Monday.

Miss Effie Guyer went to Portland last week and is going to spend Christmas there. The lumber company moved another donkey engine up the creek last week.

Clarence Walker was in Sheridan last week. Mrs. D. C. Walker visited with Mrs. George Coffey Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Sweeney visited Mr. and Mrs. George Coffey Sunday. Rain has stopped plowing, and all farmers are praying for sunshine.

Mrs. G. A. White was in Dallas Saturday on business. D. C. Walker sold a fine cow last week.

Miss Banks visited Miss Knight last week. D. C. Walker butchered a fine hog the first of the week.

D. C. Walker was in Dallas attending the county school meeting on Saturday. G. A. White, of Gooseneck, made a business trip to Dallas last week.

Dave Giger is up from Hubbard to survey his place upon Gooseneck this week. Supervisor Parsons was out calling on the schools in this neck of the woods this week.

BALSTON

Mrs. F. W. Newbill went to Lafayette Friday evening on account of her mother's illness, and returned Sunday night, bringing her father and mother, both of whom are in very poor health. Mrs. J. R. Bowman has been laid up for the past week with a severe attack of neuralgia.

(Continued on page 5.)