

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.

THE STATE PRINTER LAW.

There is no occasion for subterfuge or evasion over the state printing proposition. The people, at the recent election, expressed in no uncertain terms their opinion of the law rushed through the legislature in the closing days of the 1911 session, and if the legislative assembly of 1913 shall take their cue from the recent election and repeal the law, which becomes operative in 1915, they will have rendered a signal service to the state. There is no reason why the state of Oregon cannot handle its printing as does a private individual. If the present method is unsatisfactory, and The Observer will admit that it is in some respects, the remedy lies in a thorough revision of the old law and a re-arrangement of the scale of prices. The state printer would welcome such a change. He does not deny that, in some of the items, the old scale allows him too large a profit, while in others, he must do the work at a certain loss.

What is needed is an intelligent revision of the scale, and systematic handling of the office afterward. If this shall be done, The Observer does not hesitate to say that in the future the state will get its printing for a reasonable figure, and the state printer will make a legitimate profit on the work. The bill which will go into force in 1915 provides that the state must go into the printing business. It appropriates a certain sum for the purchase of a plant and hires a state printer to operate it. In addition to this, it creates the office of "inspector" or "secretary," who also will draw a fat salary, and the main duty which he is to discharge appears to be to watch the state printer. We should go still further and create another office with another fat salary, in order to provide somebody to watch the secretary. The purchase of paper stock and the thousand and one details now handled by the state printer, as he would and does manage his other privately owned business, would be left to the state, and the tender mercies of this "secretary." Now this official might be honest, and influenced wholly with the idea of doing what is best for the state—and again he might not. The opportunities for graft in such a position would be multitudinous. Other states which have had plants managed upon such methods have had abundant opportunity to observe the shortcomings in the law and they have paid dearly for their experiment. The printing business is essentially technical, and none but those familiar with it can successfully fathom its many ramifications. With Oregon owning a printing plant at an expenditure of \$20,000 or even more, the taxpayers would be completely at the mercy of the state printing secretary, and compelled to take his word for it. By the use of a few technical terms and profuse "explanations," he would be able to leave all inquirers entirely in the dark, and while they might not be convinced, they would still be incapable of concerted opposition. Year after year the graft might go on and not until an honest official gained the office would it be discovered.

Why face this possibility? All that is necessary is a state printing law which does not contemplate the owning of a plant, but which contracts with a state printer, elected by the people, to do the work, at the same time regulating his charges by statute. Then all responsibility is removed from the state and left with the printer. He must furnish his own shop and manage it in his own way. If he can make no profit from the work, that is his business—the state is not interested. But he is entitled to a profit, and the revision of price schedules should be left so that any well-managed printing plant shall return a revenue to its owner, consistent with sound business principles. Any man who invests \$20,000 or more in a printing plant, merely to do the work of the state, is entitled to a reasonable profit on his investment; there is no reason why he should do the work for the state at a cheaper rate than he would charge a private individual, when the same volume of business is considered. It is hoped that the coming legislature will repeal a measure which has been shown so unpopular, and employ sound business sense in dealing with the printing problem, even if such course shall permanently divorce some of the pap-suckers from the state payroll.

When Dallas people pass through McMinnville and gaze on the fine new modern station building which the Southern Pacific is finishing at that place, and then remember the shack that does duty in Dallas for the same purpose; and when, in addition to that, the thought comes that Dallas provides more freight for the same railroad than any other station in the state of Oregon, outside of Portland, one is apt to believe that competition is a good thing. But, he'd! Dallas is going to have a new station, and when it does come, it will be a dandy and well worth waiting for. We have the promise of one of the highest officials of the road. There is much in store for Dallas in the way of railroad development during the next two years, and the building of a new station is only one of the many good things in sight. So let us possess our souls in peace and await, as patiently as possible, the dawn of better railway facilities.

AFTER THE PICNIC.

One of the first speeches made by Mr. Wilson after his nomination last summer was at a rural gathering in New Jersey, says the St. Louis Globe-Democrat. "Here we are at a farmers' picnic," he said, "and on this day I suppose we might say that the farmers occupy the center of the stage in our politics. I have seen the interests of a great many classes specially regarded in legislation, but I must frankly say that I have seldom seen the interests of the farmer regarded in legislation." As governor of New Jersey, the state of monumental favors to inflated corporations, the farmer may seem a small figure in business. But there are forty-seven other states, chiefly much larger in area. They know more than Mr. Wilson seems to know about the homestead law passed by the Republican party early in its history, about many other laws to promote agriculture, irrigation, rural free delivery, protection and development of native production, crops doubled in a decade, and other accomplished facts of the same sort.

Starting with the fancy that American farmers have been overlooked in national politics, Mr. Wilson draws further upon his imagination by adding: "And one of the greatest impositions upon the farmers of this country that has ever been devised is the present tariff legislation of the United States." Mr. Wilson is an academic free trader, and now in a special position to urge upon Congress the passage of a free-trade law. He has already told the farmers that a protective tariff is one of the greatest impositions that has afflicted them, and that they have been crowded away from the center of the stage to their loss and neglect. Look out now for a great farm uplift from this professor lately emerged from the class shades of a college where political economy is taught in books and the woes of the downtrodden farmers are learned by instinct. Mr. Wilson is about to put his horny-handed vigor to the plow and drive his furrows straight and deep. It will be another farmers' picnic and undoubtedly a novel, if not enjoyable, season.

One of the brightest little dailies that comes to The Observer's exchange table is the Albany Evening Herald, and we are pleased to note it. Editor C. Clinton Page has demonstrated that he is a thorough newspaper man and a competent business manager. We have watched the career of the Herald for a year and a half, and we have seen it grow from a six-column folio with a meagre patronage until today a seven-column newspaper with six and even eight pages of advertising and choice news matter, is by no means uncommon. The Herald is well edited, well printed, and a credit to Albany, as it would be in a city of three times the size.

The prospect of the passage of a compulsory drainage law by the next legislature has resulted in creating activity in several places relative to the establishment of tile-manufacturing plants. The movement for this law originated at Albany, and already a movement is on foot there for the establishment of a tile plant in anticipation of the demand for tile throughout the valley, following the enactment of the law. Dallas now has a tile-manufacturing plant and the firm will undoubtedly be in a position to handle a large share of this business should the law pass. Local tile is in use in many places throughout the county, but the demand is limited. The enactment of a compulsory drainage statute will increase the market for the product and those plants already in operation will reap a large share of the benefits.

The Pig Leaf Age. Little girl, you look so small. Don't you wear no clothes at all? Don't you wear no shimmy shirt. Don't you wear no petty skirt? Just your corset and your hose— Are those all your underclothes? Little girl, when on the street You appear to be all feet. With your dress so very tight You are an awful sight. Nothing on to keep you warm; Crazy just to show your form. Little girl, you won't live long. Just because you dress all wrong. Can't you wear more underclothes Than your corset and your hose? After while, I do believe, You will dress like Mother Eve. — Aberdeen World.

Book Cases For Sale. The Public Library will soon be moving from its old quarters in the city hall to its handsome new home in the Carnegie building. In the new building, the bookcases are all built in, so the old cases are for sale. These cases were all carefully made by local firms and are in excellent condition. There are nine cases in all, and the cost price is set exactly in half for this sale. Schools, churches, lawyers, offices, etc., will probably provide a home for each of them. There are three cases priced at \$5.00 each, four at \$2.00 each and two at \$1.00 each. Intending purchasers are urged to make their selections early.

Morris' Store Open Evenings. Until 8:30 until after the holidays.

White Sweaters Dry Cleaned. At Phil Begin's, 514 Mill street.

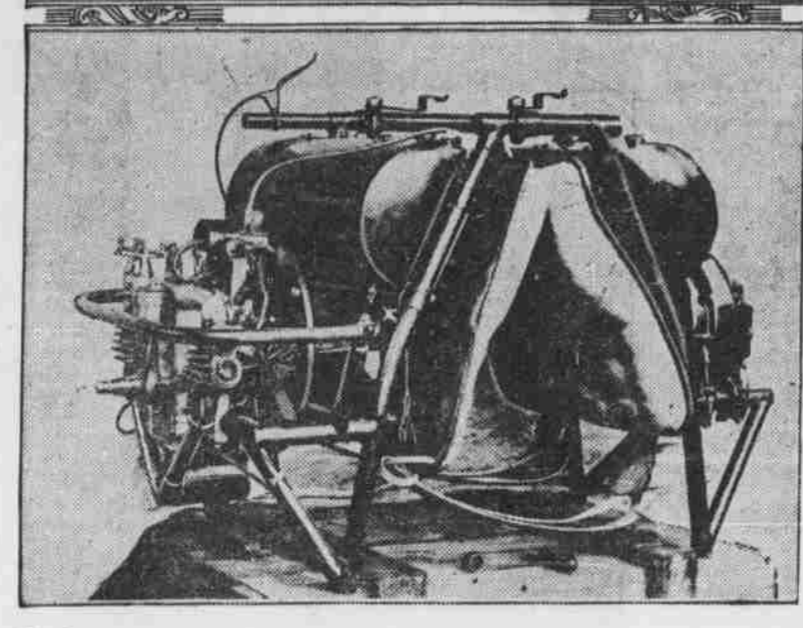
For Christmas presents don't forget those diamonds, cameos, index-structure mesh bags, cuff links, rings, chains, charms, watches, bracelets, brooches, scarf pins, tie clasps, silverware, cut glass, clocks, sterling silver, etc., etc., and the reduction in silver hollow ware and cut glass, all make excellent Christmas presents. Shepherd's Jewelry Store, open evenings.

Program at Rickreall. A Christmas program will be given at the Rickreall public school Friday evening, December 20, at 7:30 o'clock. Everybody invited to come and have a good time. Admission free.

I have ring mountings 14-karat in the Tiffany or tooth styles, can furnish any stone you may desire; they would make beautiful Christmas presents, and if you want any article that I haven't in stock, I will send get it for you and guarantee it to be here before Christmas. Shepherd's Jewelry Store, open evenings.

Dr. Wm. Sadler, author of "The Cause and Cure of Colds," says that common colds should be taken seriously, especially when they "hang on." Foley's Honey and Tar Compound is a reliable household medicine for coughs and colds, equally effective for children and grown persons. Take it when you feel a cold coming on. It will avert danger of serious results and cure quickly. No harmful drugs. Sold by Conrad Stafirin.

War Wireless on Horseback; Turks Flee, Bag and Baggage



Photos by American Press Association.

WIRELESS played an important part in the Balkan war. The Bulgarians transported their apparatus in an ingenious manner, fitting them on large saddles, which were placed on the backs of the horses. An arrangement of this kind is shown in the lower picture. In the upper view may be seen frightened Turks in a wild scramble on the quays of Stamboul waiting to be taken by ferry, bag and baggage, back to Asia Minor, whence they originally came.

1912 A PROSPEROUS YEAR.

Crops Abundant, Business Good; Prospects Bright for 1913. Nineteen hundred and twelve has been a prosperous year; crops were abundant, industry active, every condition tends to foreshadow the year 1913 equally as good. As the old year draws to a close, it brings us to the time we take our annual invoice of stock and accounts, to see just where we stand. We earnestly solicit from those indebted to us, kindly make settlement of their accounts. We will thereby be able to render better service the coming year, both in price and accommodation. We are Dallas men, and we help make Dallas what she is today. Thanking all who aided us during the past years, we ask your patronage for the year 1913. STERLING FURNITURE CO., Dallas, Oregon. The Pioneer Furniture Store of Dallas.

CLUB DUES ARE NOW PAYABLE. Desirability of "Squaring Up" With the Organization Shown. Dues to the Dallas Woman's club are now payable, and must be paid by the first of the year. They may be paid to Miss Muscott at the Library, or to the secretary, Mrs. J. R. Craven. It is especially desirable that every one should pay at once, for only paid-up members will be eligible for the honor of serving as hostesses at the big New Year evening reception planned by the club, as fitting opening of the Public Library.

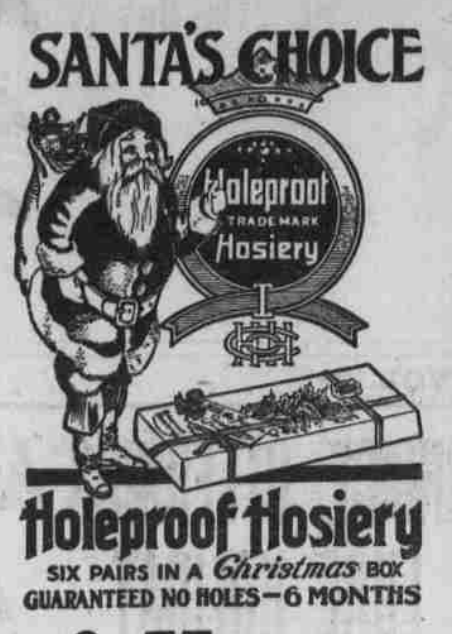
Mrs. George Gerlinger is planning a large party for the Young Ladies' section of the club, soon after the holidays. Only paid-up members and the young men they ask to have invited will be on the invitation list. When you have a bilious attack give Chamberlain's Tablets a trial. They are excellent. For sale by all dealers. Bought Too Many Pipes. Nice line in cases for Xmas. Others ranging in price from 25c to \$25. What's nicer than a pipe for a Christmas gift to your husband or husband-to-be? Boots' confectionery. 12-10-1f Satisfaction of Mortgage. The Observer has added Satisfaction of Mortgage to its stock of legal blanks. Notaries and Attorneys may now secure them in any quantity desired. Phone orders for legal blanks given prompt attention. If you are troubled with chronic constipation, the mild and gentle effect of Chamberlain's Tablets makes them especially suited to your case. For sale by all dealers. Legal blanks for sale at this office.

Notice of Final Settlement. Notice is hereby given that the undivided interest of Marshall W. Simpson, executor of the estate of Isaac M. Simpson, Senior, deceased, has filed his final account in the County Court of the State of Oregon for Polk County, and that Saturday, the 28th day of December, 1912, at the hour of ten o'clock in the forenoon of said day, at the Court Room of said County Court in the City of Dallas, Oregon, has been appointed by said Court, the time and place for the hearing of objections to the said final account and the settlement thereof. Dated and first published November 29, 1912. 11-29-12-27 OSCAR HAYTER, Attorney.

Advertisement for Ballard's SNOW LINIMENT. A Barbed Wire Cut, Collar or Saddle Gait not properly held leaves a disfiguring scar. Ballard's SNOW LINIMENT is the Right Remedy for All Abrasions of the Flesh. The liniment applied promptly, the healing process begins at once and the wound heals from the inside outwardly, thus preventing a serious scar. If the wound heals on the outside too quickly, it forms under the surface and breaks out into a running sore that is hard to cure and inevitably leaves a bad scar. Owners of blooded stock prefer this liniment to all others for these reasons, and they use it not only on the animals, but on human flesh, as it does its work quickly and thoroughly. Price 25c, 50c and \$1.00. James F. Ballard, Prop., St. Louis, Mo. Stephens Eye Salve is a healing ointment for Sore Eyes. Sold and Recommended by CONRAD STAFIRIN.

Christmas..

Buy your Christmas Presents this week. Everybody is doing it now. Next week will be too late to get just what you want. If undecided get them a



Box of Holeproof Hose

Silk or Cotton--all colors--\$1.50 to \$3.00. Raincoats or Umbrellas are mighty good Christmas presents this kind of weather. Raincoats \$4.50 and up. Silk Umbrellas, \$3.50 to \$6.00. Silk and Cotton Umbrellas with Detachable Handles \$1.50 to \$5. Extra Handles, Gold and Pearl, Silver, Fancy Carved Wood, 50c up to \$6.00.

Sweaters - Toques - Caps

All good serviceable presents. Ladies' Silk Hose—50c to \$2.00. Ladies' Silk Gloves—50c to \$1.50. Ladies' and Children's Kid Gloves—\$1.00 to \$3.50. No better present for the Ladies than a pair of Kid Gloves or Silk Hose.

Look out for the Boys. They need a good Suit of Clothes, with plenty of good solid pockets, to hold the Jack knife, Marbles, Tops, etc., that Santy will bring them. Special low prices this week. We want all the Boys to have a New Suit before Christmas. Prices about One-third Less than regular. We have a fine line of up-to-date Christmas Handkerchiefs 15c to 50c. Special prices to Teachers or any one that needs a doz. or more.

DOLLS --- One-half Price

A nice dressed "Sleeping" Doll, 10c. Leather Hand Bags At greatly reduced prices.

Silver and Gold Mesh Purses

50c up to \$3.50. Don't pay fancy prices for Mesh Bags. Our prices are right.

We have the new Beaded Purses, but we can't mention but a small part of the nice things we have, suitable for Christmas Presents.

Come Early and See What We Have

Dallas Mercantile Co. W. R. HOWE, Manager