

Polk County Observer

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NO. 6

OUR NEW BRIDGES TO BE BUILT BY COURT

REDED SPANS IN DIFFERENT PARTS OF COUNTY TO BE FINISHED DURING COMING SUMMER.

WOOD, STEEL OR CONCRETE

Nature of Construction Yet Undecided; Savage Bridge Near Williams Biggest Job; New Bridge to Span LaCroze East of City and New Road to Be Opened.

Construction of four bridges in different parts of the county which, it is claimed, are badly needed, forms one of the more important contracts which will soon be awarded by the Polk county court. County Commissioners Petre and Wells have spent the past few days making a thorough study of the county inspecting and conditions and ascertaining for themselves the true condition of affairs in order to be enabled to handle matters more intelligently. The bridge contracts will be among the most important jobs to be awarded by the court during the present year.

Of these bridges the most important and longest will be the Savage bridge over the Yamhill river near Williams. The bridge now in use here is declared to be unfit for further use and must be replaced. This bridge will be about 100 or more feet in length. Another new bridge must be built in Kings Valley over the Big creek to replace the Grant bridge which has outlived its usefulness. Another bridge will be built over Falls City over the Little creek to replace the Ellis bridge which it is said caved in last winter under a heavy weight of snow.

One across LaCroze. The fourth bridge will be an entirely new one and will span the LaCroze at Bowersville east of the city. For several years there has been a demand from the people living in that vicinity for the opening of a new road to connect the Salem road with the Monmouth road on the south side of the LaCroze but their petitions have invariably been turned down. The building of the road will necessitate the construction of a short bridge and, although the exact location has not been decided on it will be somewhere near the Bowersville station on the Salem, Falls City & Western railway.

Method of Construction Uncertain. The type of bridge to be built in

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Rowell Tract to Be Site For New County Fair Ground

COMMERCIAL CLUB COMMITTEE DECIDES UPON LAND HANDY TO BUSINESS CENTER OF CITY.

Option For 30 Days Secured and Arrangements to Finance Plan Now Is Under Way; Club Urged to Assist in Farm Development Work; Band to Go to McMinnville.

The Polk county fair association will be offered a portion of the Rowell tract of 16 acres in the western part of town for exhibition grounds, according to action taken at Wednesday night's meeting of the Dallas Commercial club. This tract consists of 16 acres and an option was recently secured on it for a period of 30 days, at what is declared to be a very reasonable price. While the entire tract is not needed by the fair association, the general sentiment appearing to be that 10 acres will be sufficient for this purpose, it is nevertheless proposed to purchase all of the land and set part so much of it as may be necessary for fair purposes. The matter of financing the proposition and furnishing it to the fair association was left with the fair committee of the club to take such action as they may deem necessary. The committee which has in charge the selection of a suitable tract for the fair have spent much time in the work and have considered several available locations finally deciding that, all things considered, the Rowell holdings offered the best inducements. It is located east of the Boydston property and south of the street leading to the city reservoir and is handy to the business center.

Co-operation Is Urged. A communication from Secretary Chapman, of the Oregon Development league, was read urging the co-operation of the club in the furtherance of the promotion of agriculture plans as contemplated by Senate Bill 72 passed by the recent legislature. This bill provides for expenditure of money by any county that sees fit to take up the work, the state agreeing to expend a like amount in the employment of an expert from the Oregon Agricultural college whose duty it will be to assist the farmers by suggestion and otherwise, in the solution of the many problems of proper cultivation of the soil and the care of crops, which appear from time to time. It is believed that this plan will appeal to farmers throughout the state and already there is a well-defined demand for the extension work in the different counties. There is to be no expense to the farmer and the expert will personally supervise all experiments coming under his direction.

Band to McMinnville. It was unanimously voted to send the Dallas band to McMinnville upon the occasion of the coming excursion to that city to witness the basketball game between Silverton and Dallas which will take place on the night of Saturday, March 29. A special train will be run on this occasion and it is believed that a large number of Dallas bugs will take advantage of the opportunity to visit the Yamhill county metropolis and boost for the home bunch and watch them win the basketball championship of the state.

Farmers Would Join. J. R. Craven stated that he had been approached by some of the farmers living near Dallas who stated that they would like to become members of the club if it could be arranged and he thought that this might be advisable. He would welcome such members and he thought it would help the work and assist in extending the influence of the organization. Other members expressed themselves along this line and an amendment to the constitution of the club will undoubtedly be arranged to permit such additions to the membership.

Chairman W. L. Soehren, of the amusement committee submitted a report regarding the recent banquet of the club which was received and placed on file.

It was decided that membership by the club in the National Chamber of Commerce association would be advisable and the secretary was instructed to remit the necessary membership fee to the officials of the association.

Go After Field Day. It was decided that the designation of Dallas as the place for holding the proposed field day athletic contests by Polk county schools would be advisable and the club endorsed the project. President Fuller announced that he would appoint a committee to look after the matter of financing the affair. It is agreed that these contests, which will be held on May 19, will bring a large number of people to the city and that the business men should respond by guaranteeing a sufficient sum to pay all expenses.

ROCK QUARRY TO BE SCALPED

Preparations Now Being Made For Road Improvement. The committee in charge of the rock quarry decided this week to flush the dirt from the rock quarry preparatory to beginning road work at the earliest possible moment. It is expected that G. D. Stewart, who has so successfully managed the work at the quarry for the past three years, will be employed to supervise the work for another year. During the period of Mr. Stewart's employment no accidents have been charged to him.

TAXPAYERS SETTLE PROMPTLY

VOLUME OF BUSINESS AT SHERIFF'S OFFICE INCREASES.

Three-Fourths of County Taxes Paid During Rebate Period; O. & C. Railway Company Pays Big Sum.

Although the force of deputies in the sheriff's office is still up to their ears in work, and cannot tell, with any degree of certainty, just where they are, they are nevertheless certain in the statement that never before in the history of the county, have the people been more prompt in the payment of taxes and that the close of the rebate period, on March 15, found more than three-fourths of the total tax paid. They arrive at this conclusion by comparing the receipts written, with last year, and they say that this year the number is much greater. There have also been an unusually large number of half payments, but the bulk of the taxpayers, especially the heaviest landholders, have taken advantage of the rebate and have contributed their mite to the strong box of the county.

Railroad Pays Up. Among those who took advantage of the rebate was the Oregon & California Railroad company, otherwise known as the Southern Pacific, which enriched the county treasury to the extent of \$21,974.63 on rolling stock, road bed, station grounds, tools, etc. This company has 55.28 miles of road within the confines of Polk county divided among three divisions as follows: West Side division, 21.61; Yamhill division, 29.68; Sheridan division, 4.09. The former is valued at \$22,900 per mile; the Yamhill division and the Sheridan division at \$19,000 per mile. The total rebate on the taxes amounted to \$678.79.

Among other heavy taxpayers who have made their annual donation is the Spaulding company which contributed a total of \$6,806.23 on its timber holdings and improvements, and W. W. Mitchell, trustee who

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EASTERN COMPANY TO OPEN STORE

"GOLDEN RULE" DRY GOODS STORE TO START HERE.

J. C. Penney Company of New York and Salt Lake Includes Dallas in List; Lease Taken on Gail Annex.

Opening and operation in Dallas of a general dry goods store by the J. C. Penney company is the plan now under contemplation by the concern, all arrangements having been completed. A lease has been taken on the big store room in the Gail Hotel annex now occupied by the Polk Mercantile company, and the company expects to open for business soon after April 1.

The J. C. Penney company owns and operates a string of stores in Utah, Wyoming, Idaho, Washington, and Oregon, and has nearly 50 establishments in these states and is constantly adding to the list. Dallas was selected by Mr. Penney only after an investigation of the Williams valley towns. The company already has stores at Roseburg, Albany, and other towns in the state. The headquarters of the company are in New York with general offices in Salt Lake. The stores are all established under the name "The Golden Rule." Fred Hartley who will manage the Dallas store is already in the city and will remain permanently.

TIMBER BROKERS MISREPRESENT NEW LAW

SEEK TO STIMULATE SALE OF TIMBER LANDS BY CIRCULATION OF FALSE REPORTS IN CHARGE NOW MADE.

PATROL COST IS NOT HIGH

New Law Will Work No Hardship On Owners Is Belief; Expense of Protecting Timber May Be Easily Managed; No Reason to Sell Holdings.

Salem, Oregon, March 20.—It has been brought to the attention of the State Forester that some unscrupulous timber brokers are misrepresenting the provisions of the compulsory patrol law which was enacted by the recent legislative assembly and becomes effective June 2. Owners of timber claims have been told that under this law it will be necessary for them to keep a patrolman on their own expense, and this has been urged as a reason for sacrifice sales. Statements of this kind are made purely for the purpose of stimulating the sale of timberlands, thus increasing the business and incidentally the commissions of timber brokers.

The law provides that every timberland owner in the state, not residing within one and one-half miles of his property, shall furnish a sufficient patrol therefor during the dry season, and that in case he fails to do so the State Forester shall provide the same at a cost not to exceed five cents per acre per annum. Any amount so paid by the state shall be a lien upon the land and shall be collected with the next taxes.

Expense Not High. It is obvious that the maximum expense to the owner of a quarter-section of timberland can not exceed \$8.00 per year, an amount that should scare no owner into disposing of his timber claim at a sacrifice.

One of the best ways for timberland owners to comply with the law is to join county fire patrol associations that have been organized in most of the timbered counties of the state. It is expected that every timbered county will have such an organization before the fire season arrives. The experience of these associations some of which have been in existence for four years, proves that adequate patrol can be secured at a cost of from one and one-half to three and one-half cents an acre, and if all of the timberland owners join, the acreage cost will be materially decreased. Protection from fire at a cost of \$3.00 or \$4.00 per quarter-section should be welcomed by all timberland owners, and it is hoped that no one will be induced to sell their holdings through misrepresentations made by unreliable timber brokers for the selfish purpose of increasing commissions.

SECTION FOREMAN IS INJURED

Southern Pacific Employee May Lose Foot as Result of Accident. Bones in his ankle were broken and other injuries inflicted upon R. L. Warthen, section foreman for the Southern Pacific for the Perrydale district when he was pinched by a freight car recently. He was brought to this city and later sent to the railroad hospital in Portland by Dr. Starback, company physician. It is feared that amputation may be necessary.

TEACHERS TO MEET HERE

Polk Pedagogues to Assemble in Dallas on Saturday; Interesting Program Promised.

With an attendance which it is expected will reach between 75 and 100, the next meeting of the Polk county teachers will be held in the high school building in this city on Saturday beginning at 10:30 a. m. and continuing through the afternoon. At this time the following program will be followed:

- 10:30—Music, High school orchestra.
- 10:45—Address, E. S. Evenden, Monmouth Normal.
- 11:15—Address, E. F. Carleton, Asst. State Supt.
- Lunch.
- 1:30—Music, High school orchestra.
- 1:45—Program by Dallas school.
- 2:15—Address, Miss Mary Campbell, Portland.
- 2:45—Recitation, Reading and Arithmetic, Miss Jessie Todd, Oregon Normal school.
- 3:15—Address, K. C. Marie, Field Worker Industrial Pairs.

STANDARD PICTURES FOR COUNTY SCHOOLS

Polk Made Bricks of Early Days Show Good Material

Made in 1868, Brick From Chimney in Old House, Still as Good as Ever; Made on Salt Creek.

Two bricks from an old-time chimney torn down by John Diehm recently, unfold a story of possibilities, under proper treatment and management, of the brick and tile business in this portion of Oregon. From all appearances the chimney reached the average age of manhood and the material was in good condition, the mortar having washed away. Two of these specimens were left at The Observer office by Mr. Diehm. One bears the letters "W D" and the other carries the date "1868." Inquiry develops the fact that in 1868 William Dodson, on the Salt Creek road, conducted a brick business, furnishing the material from his own place, business of course being on a small scale. It is certain one of these specimens came from his place. The other, it is thought by those who are well able to glance backward to the embryo days of the state's struggle for existence, believe that it was made at the foot of Mt. Pisgah, whose base meets the city's limits.

The material is red in color, unlike the famous white brick made at Williams, which, it is claimed, are the best in the world. Those who have examined the 45 year-old specimens and who have in the past sent the shale to the American Clay Working Machinery company at Bucyrus, Ohio, a recognized authority, made favorable markings, one specimen grading No. 2 and the other No. 1.

Factory Near Rickreall. In speaking of the manufacture of brick in the early days, Mr. T. J. Hayter, whose memory is one of the

MAY RUN TRAINS TO SILVERTON SOON

TO EXTEND SERVICE TO MARION COUNTY TOWN.

Early Morning Train From Falls City Is Promise For Near Future; Salem Bridge Now Completed.

That trains will soon be in operation from Dallas to Silverton over the new Williams river bridge in Salem and thence by the new line from that city is the report in circulation among railroad men. It is probable that the gasoline car that now makes three round trips daily over the road from Black Rock and Falls City to Salem, will be operated to Silverton as soon as arrangements now under way are completed. It is also reported that a schedule will be adopted which will give Falls City an early morning train out of that place, thus permitting people from there to make the round trip to Portland in a day. It is thought that the Silverton service will be inaugurated at the same time that the additional accommodation for Falls City is undertaken.

Car Is Curiosity. Since the new bridge has been completed at Salem, and the gasoline car has been operated through that city to the main line Southern Pacific station, it has been the source of considerable wonder by the people and is invariably followed by many curious glances. While it is laying at the Salem station it always attracts the attention of the loungers who inspect it with much interest.

The new bridge is now practically completed and the machinery for raising the lift has been connected and found to work satisfactorily. The first few times the bridge was opened to permit the passage of boats, the work had to be done by hand which was a slow proceeding and required much time. The lift is so evenly balanced with counterweights that it requires but a small amount of power to raise it. An electric dynamo is used to handle the lift.

WOULD SPARE MAPLE TREES

Rickreall Residents Object to Court Order to Cut Them Down. Rickreall, March 20.—(Special)—The residents of this place are up in arms over a recent order of the county court directing that the large maple trees in front of the old school house be cut down. These trees were set out many years ago, by the old pioneers and their children have played in their shade. There is considerable sentiment attached to the trees and it is hoped that the order will be modified and the trees spared.

OBSERVER OFFERS BIG FREE PRIZE DISTRIBUTION

PLANS FOR PREMIUM OFFER TO SCHOOLS OF COUNTY OUTLINED; NO CONTEST OR GUESS WORK.

Clubbing Offer to Help Schools in Standardization Plans; Desire to Assist in Laudable Work is Aim of Observer in Present Distribution Scheme Presented.

Today The Observer inaugurates one of the most novel and original prize distribution events in the history of Polk county, the ultimate aim of which is to assist the schools in their work of standardization, by furnishing one of the requirements needed in that connection. This will be undertaken by this paper under conditions which will make it possible for every school in the county, and every grade or room in the graded and high schools, any college or normal school, religious organization, and even private individuals, to secure a high grade picture absolutely free. While this offer extends as above related to other organizations than the schools, it is primarily intended for their benefit and we believe will prove advantageous for them.

Plan is Outlined. All that is necessary to secure one of these fine pictures, which are not by any means cheap, but which comprise copies from some of the most noted art studies the world has known, is to secure a club of new subscribers for this newspaper, or to secure renewals from old subscribers. The idea is for each school in the county to select the quality of picture it wants and then make an effort, on the part of the pupils, to secure the necessary number of subscribers to get the picture. Nor is this all. While the pupils are securing the subscriptions they will, at the same time, be earning money of their own. For The Observer will give a commission of 15 per cent on each dollar paid on new subscriptions and 20 per cent on every dollar paid on back subscription or renewals. Thus the school children of the county, while helping to get a picture to adorn their room and make it standard, will be making money for themselves.

No Chance to Lose. This is not a contest and there is no guess work or "life nor lands" about it. You get the subscribers—we furnish the picture and we will guarantee as many pictures as there

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HOSPITAL TO RISE DURING YEAR

DALLAS ASSOCIATION HOPES TO SUPPLY CITY'S NEED.

Annual Meeting For Monday Night to Elect Officers and Discuss Plans; Present Hospital Inadequate.

For the purpose of electing officers for the ensuing year, to hear reports of the work done during the past year, and for the transaction of other important business, the Dallas Hospital association will meet Monday night, March 24, at the county court room in the court house and a full attendance of stockholders is earnestly requested. Plans for carrying on the work for the coming year which include the erection of a hospital building will be discussed. The association is declared to be in satisfactory condition, financially and it is hoped that arrangements to build can be definitely made.

The present hospital is much too small for the demands made upon it and every available foot of space is being utilized and still it cannot supply accommodations for all who apply. It is absolutely essential that some means be taken for patients to be provided and those in charge of the hospital matters hope that the new building planned last summer will become a reality before many months.

HOME IN HANNIBAL DIDN'T SUIT

HUSBAND WOULD LIVE THERE BUT WIFE WOULDN'T AGREE.

Ground Jefferson More Attractive; Missouri Couple to Air Troubles in Polk Diverse Court.

Disregarding the solemnity of marriage vows, abandonment willfully performed without cause or reason, and against the will and consent of plaintiff are reasons alleged in a complaint of Robert Armstrong in an action in department two of the circuit court of Polk county against Marie Armstrong. Both parties are from Missouri.

According to the allegations the couple were united in wedlock in 1902. Later the plaintiff and defendant, it is stated, disagreed as to whether they would reside in Jefferson or Hannibal, Missouri. Father of defendant, it is stated in the petition, appeared on the scene and was given improper treatment by defendant. The plaintiff, it is further stated, was compelled to sleep away from the family, upstairs, for some time, and, in a general way the coldness of the household became colder, the defendant became angry and impatient and took on an insulting aspect. The defendant went back to Jefferson, Missouri, and plaintiff, it seems, desired to effect a reconciliation without avail. It is asserted in the petition that plaintiff's health has been impaired by reason of the neglect of his wife. Helzel & Helzel, of Salem, are appearing for the plaintiff.