

Polk County Observer

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The way to build up Dallas is to patronize Dallas people.

LOOKING FOR "A WAY."

The writer believes a way will be found to have a Salem chautauqua next year. It is an institution that will grow in favor and benefits.—Salem Statesman.

The above is typical of Salem. It is acknowledged that possibly some way, some how, in some mysterious and unheard of manner, Salem will have a chautauqua session next summer. This over-grown country village of mossbacks and tightwads will now lay awake nights trying to figure out a way to raise a guarantee of \$1500 for the 1914 assembly. Gee, but it is a hefty problem for Salem. Hefty because the saloons don't figure much in chautauqua movements. Now, if it was a question of pulling off some stunt where beer guzzling might prove a prominent part in the proceedings, Salem would be right there. If it was a "Cherry Fair" made up of an exhibit of cherries from Polk county, and labeled "Salem Fruit" why the tightwads of the Capital City would be Johnny-on-the-spot in a minute. But the Chautauqua idea—that's different.

What does Salem want with a Chautauqua anyway? The records of the Chautauqua people show that the attendance in that city, during the recent assembly there, was only about two-thirds what it has been in Dallas—no wonder that the Statesman editor only "believes" that a "way may be found."

Dallas found a "way." And in finding it there was emphatically demonstrated the difference between the manner of doing things in the two communities. Dallas found the way because her enterprising citizens unhesitatingly declared that they wanted the assembly for 1914, and they said so in black and white. Along about next May Salem may probably awaken, and suddenly discover that she wants the Chautauqua, and a cherry fair and a Fourth of July celebration, especially if several of the surrounding towns decide to have a little "doings" of their own about that time.

WHAT'S GOVERNMENT BETWEEN FRIENDS.

Mr Bryan has always had the fine quality of sticking fast to his friends. There have been times in his experience when this virtue has been carried almost to the point of being a vice, as when his influence long shielded, inside of his party, men who were abusing the powers of the Ways and Means committee organized outside the National Democratic committee to solicit funds to prevent the use of money in politics, asserts the St. Louis Globe-Democrat. He yielded then, only when both the proof and the pressure had become overwhelming. It is entirely natural for him to become the defender of Attorney General McReynolds when the attorney general is assailed as the friend of the elder Caminetti of California, who has long been the staunch friend and supporter of Mr. Bryan. Nothing less would be expected of Mr. Bryan by anybody familiar with times in Democratic party history when his prestige was long used to shield the unworthiness of some of his friends.

There is a vital difference, however, between party and public administration. It was a Tammany Democrat who once sought to overcome some constitutional scruples of Grover Cleveland by asking: "What's the constitution between friends?" No constitutional question is raised in the California cases. But there is a very vital question of whether the administration of justice should be delayed, threatening defeat of the ends of justice, for the reason that the accused may have friends near the throne powerful enough to abstract the course of prosecution. The government was ready for trial and District Attorney McNab had, as fuller information now discloses, been urging upon Attorney General McReynolds the urgent necessity of proceeding at once, in order to avoid the imminent dangers of subornation or sequestration of witnesses. The attorney general pleads his forgetfulness of these urgent advices in ordering the postponement which brought about District Attorney McNab's resignation, but adds that Secretary of Labor Wilson, desiring to keep the elder Caminetti at his post as commissioner of immigration, had asked him to set forward the date of trial to a time when the elder Cam-

inetti could leave Washington and go to California to aid in his son's defense.

It is apparent that the latter of the assigned reasons was the real one behind the attorney general's action in the case. It is not likely that the head of the Department of Justice had forgotten the urgent representations of the district attorney in the case. Much more likely is it that, probably against his better judgment, and his sense of duty, he yielded to the pressure brought to bear upon him at Washington for ordering the trials postponed. And now, since Mr. Bryan appears as the attorney general's defender against a demand for his resignation, made by Democratic newspapers, it is proper to inquire if Secretary Wilson is alone responsible for the pressure upon the attorney general. Might not Secretary Bryan have contributed something to that pressure, for the purpose of accommodating his old tried and true friend, the elder Caminetti? None of them foresaw the resignation of the district attorney, to be followed by his revelations of some parts of the official correspondence in the case. Confronted with this new and unlooked for situation, the administration at Washington ordered an immediate trial of the cases by special counsel. After such a sudden change of front, Mr. Bryan's present argument to justify the continuance is a reflection on the administration of which he is a part. It is creditable in him to defend the attorney general against attack for an act which Mr. Bryan may have urged him to do. That, we take it, is the explanation of Mr. Bryan's rally around him. But the only defense it is possible for the secretary of state to offer was destroyed when the administration, after McNab's resignation, ordered an immediate trial. This reduces the premier to the necessity of defending the attorney general in a very weak way, and only out of a sense of loyalty to him for having accommodated one of his friends. "What's the constitution between friends?" may yet become a more meaning question under this Democratic administration than it was under the last preceding one.

Now the constitutionality of the Day bill calling a special election in November to vote upon all referendum measures passed by the recent legislature, has been attacked and the supreme court will be asked to pass upon it. It is a noticeable fact that the men behind the attack on the Day bill, are the same bunch of patriots who have been trying to hold up legislation which injured certain private interests—notably the workmen's compensation act, which has been vigorously fought by the casualty companies. It is to be hoped that the court will sustain the constitutionality of the bill, as the best interests of the people of Oregon demand that the laws held up by private interests should either be sustained or repudiated without unnecessary delay.

Individual members of the Chautauqua program who have been with the system since the first session opened in California early in June, are all loud in their praise of the Willamette valley and its incomparable climate. They speak in glowing terms of Oregon in contrast to the heat and the drought and the frost-wasted section of California.

It is declared by those employed to check over the names on the petition for the application of the referendum to the workmen's compensation act, that many frauds have been perpetrated and that the whole petition may be annulled. This causes no stir anywhere, for the reason that frauds on referendum petitions have become so common that a thoroughly honest and straight demand for the application of it would cause commotion.

The legislative and the administrative departments of a certain eastern city are struggling with the question, "Is the pretzel food" and it seems they are no nearer its solution than months ago. There ought to be no misunderstanding about this. The pretzel is not food. It's a beer chaser.

Had the Gettysburg reunion taken place during T. R.'s incumbency, it's a safe bet that the veterans wouldn't have had to wait long for the president's appearance. He would not have overlooked the bet that Wilson did.

Now that the Fourth of July has come and gone, and the days are growing shorter, people are hereby warned to do their Christmas shopping early.

The fellow who begins to explain his mistakes won't have much time left to make any more.

Better stick to one thing—it's the man of many parts that sometimes goes all to pieces.

In these days of easy divorce, it's a wise child that knows his own stepfather.

If men are made of clay, the baker didn't complete the job on some of 'em.

Actual Training. The leading forest schools of the country not only have their own forest tracts for continuous experiments, but give their students actual experience in the woods by having them take part in big lumbering operations.

Editorials of the People.

Significant communications will be printed under this head from responsible parties, but their publication does not necessarily imply that they express the sentiments of the editor.

IMPROVE YOUR OWN MARKETS

A Personal Message to All Who Desire a Better Method.

My Farmer Friends: Now that open season for farm work has come again, and you think you are too busy to do anything but plow and plant, let me ask if you have forgotten that the bumper crops of last year sold for less in total than the moderate crops of previous years? One of our Michigan organizers writes: I must wait awhile as farmers are too busy now to say "hello" let alone to attend meetings. This is a mistake. Don't forget that all work and no business system caused fine crops of vegetables and fruits to be fed to hogs last season for lack of profitable market. Yet millions of human beings exist without them.

This is all wrong, particularly since farmers are working less for themselves than for those who do the business of marketing. For each forty-cent bushel of your produce on your farm, they charge you fifty-four cents to handle it. In many instances the producer gets nothing at all.

A Texas man recently declared that Texas growers received only 12 or 13 cents of the dollar the consumer paid for 1912 crops.

A discerning man once said: There is this difference between the man who works all the time and the man who does not work gets the profits on the work the other does.

When farmers take the time necessary to build and operate their own marketing system, they will find they were better paid for time so spent than for many times that much time spent in the field. We have repeatedly shown how farmers can build their own marketing machine and run it, establish their own marketing system and use it with so small an expenditure of time and money it would never be noticed. We intend to keep on showing, teaching and preaching until not a doubting Thomas is left. The very independence of our farmers hangs in a balance. It can be done by a very simple, inexpensive plan of organization, and without organization it is and will always be impossible for farmers to secure a fair return for their labor.

Therefore, you are asked to consider again the kind of co-operative machine that will permit you to demand a fair price and obtain it. Agriculture must have a business system at its marketing end, or conditions will go from bad to much worse, everything is tending that way, and now is the time to establish it.

Remember, your troubles will never end and the benefits will never be realized unless you each do your part. Remember, results will not come through promulgation of a plan as a guide. You will not be saved by what you want done but by what you do. Prayer and trusting in Providence will never build the Farmers' Society of Equity. I want to say to the farmers, you must organize. By the unalterable rule of right and the eternal fitness of things you must change your system. Organize a local union in each school district, a county union in each county, a state union in each state, and the National union. Thus your machine will soon be built and your good ship Equity will soon reach the harbor forever safe from shifting winds and changing currents that have tossed and imperilled it in the past.

America will lead in this move-

ment as she has led in all others for the betterment of humanity. Through the Farmers Society of Equity and by the new power, all social, industrial and political bondsmen will be made free.

A. I. PETTY, County Organizer. Watch for date of meeting in your district.

Books From Unexpected Places.

Not only art, but literature, has been produced in unexpected places. There was, for instance, Robert Bloodfield, who produced his "Farmer's Boy" while working so hard as a shoemaker (in a garret with five or six others) that he frequently had to carry a hundred lines in his head through lack of leisure to write them down. James Hogg, too, "the Ettrick Shepherd," wrote his earliest verses while tending his sheep in the Perthshire highlands. And Taylor, "the Water Poet," combined the very different offices of literary man and Thames waterman.—London Chronicle.

The Third Hand.

How often the little things in life make impressions that linger in our memories long after the larger events are forgotten! Several years ago I was making a visit in a family where there were several daughters. One of the girls brought a hat into the sewing room one morning and prepared to trim it. Before doing anything else she took a hatpin and pinned the hat firmly to her skirts at the knees, so that she had both hands free and held the ribbon and flowers in place with her left hand while she sewed them with her right.—Philadelphia North American.

It's Easy to Learn.

Alexander Graham Bell, the inventor of the telephone, hit on his marvelous discovery while studying and while teaching the deaf.

Professor Bell once said, apropos of this fact: "Yes, we can learn valuable secrets from the most unlikely sources. A Persian poet, famed for his wisdom, was once asked by his king where he had learned his philosophy.

"From the blind, sire," the poet replied—"from the blind, who never abandoned a step until they have tried the ground."—New York Tribune.

A Dampier.

Marion—I showed papa those verses you wrote me, and he seemed pleased. Harry—He did? Marion—Yes. He said he was so glad to see you were not a poet.

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STATEMENT

Of the condition of Polk County Finances for the six months ending July 1, 1913, showing the money in the different road funds:

Table with columns for GENERAL FUND, DISBURSEMENTS, GENERAL ROAD FUND, and SPECIAL ROAD FUND, listing various financial items and their amounts.

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