

Polk County Observer

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The way to build up Dallas is to fortify the Dallas people.

AN APPRECIATION OF EUGENE FOSTER

(By J. C. Hayter.)

It is with sorrowful pen that I write a few words of appreciation of one who in life was my friend—nay, more, of one whom, in the few brief months I had known him, I had learned to love as a brother. It is with a saddened heart and, I trust, a chastened spirit, that I pay this humble tribute to the memory of one to whom a more eloquent eulogy is richly due.

My acquaintance with Eugene Foster began two years ago, at the time he came from Aberdeen, Washington, and purchased an interest in the Polk County Observer. During the few brief months intervening, I had enjoyed many pleasant hours in his company and had come to admire him for his brilliant mental qualities and for his sterling integrity and worth as a man. This acquaintance soon ripened into a friendship which I had fondly hoped might be vouchsafed to us to continue until the end of my days. It is hard to realize that this binding link has been severed forever and that I shall see this gentle friend no more.

Here at his desk, from which he took his leave on the first day of last August never to return, are his writing pads, his inkwell, his typewriter—all mute reminders of busy, well-spent hours in which he wrought faithfully and effectively for the welfare of his community, the dissemination of truth, and the uplifting of mankind. On the walls are the pictures and mottoes evidencing his love of the good and the beautiful and reflecting his love of culture and refinement in art. Even the very atmosphere is eloquent of the presence of the beloved employer who used to walk briskly into his office each morning, greet the boys with a cheerful word, and then settle himself in his chair for a busy day's work. Amid such surroundings, it is difficult to speak of him calmly and to realize that the work must go on without him.

Eugene Foster was an editor of far more than average ability. In addition to his talent as a trained news writer, he possessed a rare fund of humor, which occasionally found vent in a topical poem or a short prose sketch—veritable gems that added much to the popularity of his newspaper. With the same artistic touch, he could turn to the serious side of life and draw a pen picture that would turn all thoughts to a higher and nobler plane. With a brain trained to rapid thinking, he wrote readily on any subject, whether of local, state or national importance. In his editorial columns, he was tolerant of those whose opinions differed from his own, but steadfast in his advocacy of the right and his denunciation of that which he believed to be wrong. His ideals were high and he sought to conduct his newspaper along dignified and useful lines.

When he took up newspaper work as his life's profession, the stage lost a natural-born actor—one whose voice, presence and gift of mimicry would have won him fame and fortune across the footlights. He was a lover of poetry and was especially fond of the works of James Whitcomb Riley. Among his legion of readers, it is doubtful if the gentle Hoosier poet had a more sincere and appreciative admirer than the friend whose death we mourn. To hear Foster read a Riley dialect poem was a never-to-be-forgotten treat—his drawing speech, comical gestures and peculiar facial expressions being well-nigh inimitable.

Coming to Polk County a stranger, he entered heart and soul into the work of advancing its industrial and commercial welfare. It is pleasing to reflect that this loyal energy was not unappreciated by the public and that before he had lived here seven months he was unanimously elected president of the Dallas Commercial Club. He was active in his advocacy of hard surface paving for Dallas and in helping to secure new industries for the city. The people of Polk County will remember with gratitude his efficient work, both personally and with his pen, to promote the interest of the county and school children's fairs. He had an abiding faith in the county and city of his adoption and was ever ready and willing to contribute his time talents and money to assist any deserving cause.

I think I have never known a more optimistic man than Eugene Foster. He believed that mankind should look up, not down; that whatever is, is for the best; that every dark cloud has its silver lining; that there is some good in the worst of men; that the world is growing better every day, and that to him that hath faith, all

things will be right in the end. He lived close to the great heart of nature, and we can easily believe that to him, "who held communion with her visible forms," she spoke "a various language." He loved the songs of birds, the happy laughter of childhood, the murmur of the brook, the roar of the winter storm, the sighing of the wind in the pine trees. He saw in the rising sun the miracle of the new birth of the soul, and in the solemn hush of twilight he caught the good-night benediction of the Giver of all Good.

During his brief stay among us, we had taken him into our affections as one of our own. His death is that of a useful citizen whose place will be hard to fill, and whose place in our hearts can never be filled. Sunny, big-hearted Gene Foster—he had "A smile for all, a tear for all. He never caused one to fall. Save when he bowed his head and died."

CLUB PASSES RESOLUTIONS.

Meeting for the purpose of passing resolutions to the memory of Eugene Foster, his late president, the Dallas Commercial Club at its session Wednesday night took no action on the routine business of regular session. The club passed the following resolutions:

The members of the Dallas Commercial Club of Dallas, Oregon, are deeply grieved to learn of the untimely death of Eugene Foster, which occurred at his home in Dallas on Monday, September 1, 1913.

Mr. Foster was an editor and newspaperman of unusual ability. Having a keen perceptive sense and a ready and forceful pen, his editorials were read with appreciation and were a positive force in moulding public thought and sentiment throughout the state. He was brave, strong and tender-hearted, and the beauty of his thoughts as expressed in his writings has rarely been surpassed.

In the community he was a most loyal, devoted and useful citizen. No appeal for any movement which would advance or better the condition of his city was ever made to him in vain, but at all times, without thought of loss of time or personal inconvenience, he worked for his community with enthusiasm and ability, and in almost every instance he saw his labors crowned with success.

His death is a distinct loss. We shall miss him in the Commercial Club where, as president and as a worker in the ranks, his counsel and initiative and active labors were invaluable. We shall miss him in social and fraternal circles, where his unfailing tact, courtesy and warm-hearted affection made him universally beloved.

RESOLVED, That we tender our sincerest sympathy to his surviving wife; that these resolutions be recorded in the minutes of the Club, and that a copy be furnished to the local press.

Adopted at regular meeting September 3, 1913. Of respect to memory of Mr. Foster, the meeting adjourned without transacting any business.

WALTER L. TOOZE, Jr., Secretary.

A WORD OF THANKS.

The Observer readers will readily appreciate the efforts of the members of the editorial staff as well as the mechanical department in issuing the two papers proceeding the death of Mr. Eugene Foster. Words fail utterly to express the general sorrow which enshrouded the office during the past four days, yet to know that it would have been his wish that the publication be continued uninterrupted, spurred us to the sense of duty to so fulfill that unspoken desire.

In issuing today's paper under extremely trying circumstances, the Observer wishes to extend its thanks to the many kind and generous residents of Dallas who have offered not only words of encouragement but extended little acts of kindness. They have cheered us wonderfully, and the only reciprocation offered in exchange will be to follow as near as possible the wishes and desires of Eugene Foster.

WHAT'S THE ANSWER?

What is the motive which causes women, good women, women who would grieve deeply if accused of immodesty, to bedeck themselves in dress which throws into bold prominence their physical charms—styles of dress which cause the average man to gasp and stare and sometimes to make remarks which they wouldn't like other men to make about their sisters, daughters or wives?

What is the explanation of this growing sex appeal? Remembering that no man ever thoroughly understood a woman, we asked these questions of a well-informed elderly woman, a wife and mother of married children. She said: "No, women, that is, good women, don't wear slit skirts and tight-fitting waists, cut low, to allure men. You men are conceited when you think they do. Women wear those immodest modes because they are the modes. They wear them to please other women and to escape the criticism which other women pass on the woman whose dress isn't up to the minute in style. As for who makes the styles, you men are responsible. When you want modesty in dress to become fashionable again just bring pressure to bear on the merchants who hire and steer dress designers."

Clear, is it not? If Harry K. Thaw killed Stanford White while insane, he is a dangerous man and should be confined in a place of safety. If he murdered the man while possessing his right mind, he should pay the murderer's penalty. Clear, is it not?

Yes, the millions of dollars which found him "insane" are today protecting his worthless hide across the line. If the good people of the States were only sure that the horrible story of the tower would not be repeated, they certainly would be willing to let Thaw go the route of Jack Johnson and retain no special grievance for Helen's midnight cut-up in "Woodville."

Col. Watterson says the people of New York are incapable of self-government. The colonel should confine his comment to Democratic periods. At other times New York lives up to its high position.

Tom Lawson's appearance in the political arena in New York will at least add frenzy to the situation. Lawson proposes not only to hold Gov. Sulzer's hat, but to act as his master of exchequer.

It is said that the corn crop in the United States will be only 2,700,000,000 bushels. This is more than the rest of the world can raise and will serve to maintain the reputation of American farmers.

A ship will pass through the Panama Canal in October. One of the best ways to celebrate would be to take up the improvement of our internal waterways more vigorously and systematically.

COURT HOUSE PICK-UPS

Court Items, Real Estate Transfers, Farm Names Filed and Other News Briefly Told.

Real Estate Transfers.

Emma G. Yeom et al to E. H. Lockyear et ux, 1/2 interest in 71 1/2 acres in 6-6, \$10.
 Emma G. Yeom et ux to Geo. L. Baker et al, 1/2 interest in 71 1/2 acres in 6-6, \$1.

Archibald J. Lyon to Laura E. Grayum, lots 5, 6 and 7, block E, first add. to Falls City, \$10.

S. P. Kimball et ux to R. P. Riggs, lots 12 to 21 inc., Llabmick orchards, \$10.

R. E. Williams et ux to Dallas City Bank, land in original Dallas, \$10.

C. H. Templeman et ux to J. B. Smith, 8.58 acres in 7-3, \$10.

C. H. Templeman et ux to J. B. Smith, 10 acres in 7-3, \$10.

Eleanor F. Butler to Falls City Lumber Co., land for right of way, in 8-6, \$204.

John F. Schrum et ux to Chas. O. McClair et ux, 28 1/2 acres in 9-4, \$10.

Frank L. Neville et ux to Diantha E. West, 37.80 acres in 9-4, \$10.

D. S. Bentley et ux to J. H. Fitzgerald, lot in townsite of Bentley, \$10.

D. S. Bentley et ux to Portland & West Coast R. R. and Nav. Co., land in 6-8, \$81.

Dallas City Bank to Security Savings & Trust Co., lots 1, 2, 11 and 12 in Millerst, \$600.

C. W. Matthews et al to Falls City Lumber Co., lots in Golden West add. to Falls City, \$10.

Dallas City Bank to M. C. Kellon, 2.50 acres in 7-4, \$10.

M. H. Boell et ux to Falls City Lumber Co., land for R. R. purposes, in 6-8, \$150.

Henry J. Blair et ux to Falls City Lumber Co., land for R. R. purposes in Falls City, \$200.

Peter Cook et ux to M. C. Kellon et ux, 3.30 acres and right of way in 7-4 and 5, \$10.

R. A. Hastings et ux to Valley & Siletz R. R. Co., land for R. R. purposes in 9-6, \$800.

Alex Christ et ux to Falls City Lumber Co., land for R. R. purposes, in 8-6, \$150.

Kingwood Park Co. to Gertrude J. M. Page, tracts in Kingwood Terraces, \$10.

Empire Investment Co. to C. W. Borders, lots in Sheridan View acres, (50a) \$10.

S. C. Wilson et ux to Valley & Siletz R. R. Co., land for R. R. purposes in 9-6, \$150.

Loit D. Brown et ux to Frank V. Brown, 2.74 acres in 7-5, \$10.

H. C. McKamey to Philip Cave, lot 4, block 32, Thorp's Independence, \$10.

James A. Hayes et ux to M. D. Wilson, land in 7-5, \$800.

J. S. Ashbaugh to T. C. Swartz et ux, W. 1/2 lot 6, block 2, Fairview add. to Dallas, \$10.

Jessie C. Westover (executrix) to Robert B. Lazouby, 2.27 acres in Dallas, \$1950.

New Cases in Circuit Court.
 Violet E. Stone versus Lester E. Stone, divorce.

R. L. Sablin versus Mrs. O. M. Mair, suit for money.

B. A. Klinker versus Alma Gladys Dines, suit for money.

Dallas Iron Works versus Simpson Logging Company.

Forest Notes.

It has been discovered that the waste from dogwood shuttle-blocks can profitably be made into handles for steel knives and forks.

Contrary to popular belief, forest fires seldom travel more than 2 or 3 miles an hour. Even in extreme cases it is questionable whether they burn at a rate of more than 6 to 10 miles an hour.

Uncle Sam's forest rangers require that permanent camp sites within the forests shall be kept in sanitary condition. The ubiquitous tin can must be buried, and waste paper burned when a camp is left.

More than 3,000 small logging operators now buy national forest timber; at least 25,000 persons, settlers, miners, stockmen and others obtain timber from Uncle Sam's big wood lot for their own use free of charge.

The forests of Corsica, the little island upon which Napoleon was born are managed by the French government. They produce lumber, firewood and turpentine, and all parts of the tree are far more closely utilized than in America.

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FIFTY-SECOND ANNUAL Oregon State Fair SALEM, SEPT. 29--OCT. 4

A whole week of pleasure and profit. \$20,000 offered in premiums on Agricultural, Livestock, Poultry, Textile and other exhibits.

Horse Races, Shooting Tournament, Fireworks, Band Concerts