

# Polk County Observer

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NO. 56

## POLK COUNTY IS FIRST AS USUAL

Encouraging Words Come From Superintendent Plummer

### BIG PRIZES AWAIT BABIES

County's Indebtedness Cut \$37,558.45 Since Beginning of Term of Present Commissioners.

Another big boost for Polk county and one in which County Superintendent of Schools H. C. Seymour figures pre-eminently, was again demonstrated yesterday by the receipt of a letter from O. M. Plummer, superintendent of State Eugenic, and known as one of the best educators along this line in the Northwest.

No better explanation of the high regards in which Polk county is held from an educational standpoint can be given than by publishing the following extract from the letter addressed to Superintendent Seymour: "I have yours of the 5th inst., in which you give me the good news that the county fair board has authorized a department of Eugenic. I think in no way can a county gain so much well deserved recognition as through its well developed children.

**Polk Is First.** "Your county was the first to take the initiative in all of the welfare work which has grown to such a tremendous extent during the last year or so. I look for the children of Polk County to be well up among the prize winners at the Oregon State fair this fall. Over \$1,000 in prizes are to be given for the Better Babies at this time. The Grand Champion of the state to receive approximately \$200 in prizes. The Woman's Home Companion is awarding \$100 to the county baby and \$100 to the city baby.

"I am sending you 25 score cards, besides a letter from Dr. Madigan, chairman of our Eugenic section, giving directions as to contestants. Undoubtedly the physicians in your surrounding country will be glad to officiate.

"The directors of the fair should surely see that the winning babies and their parents are sent over to the State Fair contest. Many of the fairs in the state are doing this."

In speaking of the Eugenic department of the Polk county fair, Superintendent Seymour says that special effort will be made to attract interest throughout the county, and that he is certain Polk will send a delegation of youngsters to the state exposition that all may be proud of.

## ROAD LEVY BLOCKED

Law Error Gives Taxpayers Lever—Over Assessments Is Bulwark of Success Court.

The following decision in the supreme court in Salem the other day is of interest to taxpayers of Polk county. While the decision was made in a case in Coos county a similar case was called to attention in both Marion and this county several years ago. As the result of the fatal error of the last legislature, according to the court any taxpayer may prevent the levying of special taxes for road purposes.

The decision was against ETAO. The decision was in the case of Menasha Woodware company against Road District No. 8, of Coos county, and the county officials.

The plaintiff sought to have declared illegal a special road tax of 5 mills, the verdict being against him in the Circuit Court. Attention is called by the Supreme court to a case involving a special tax issue for roads in Lane county, in which it was held that section 621, providing for the issuing of a tax, was "void for uncertainty" and that the contention of the plaintiff in the present case is correct unless the defect in the act was cured by an enactment of the last legislature. The court says the legislature evidently intended to amend the act, but because of an error in numbering chapters it was not done.

### IS NOW UP TO TREASURER

Officer After First of Year Will Handle Tax Rolls.

Beginning January 1, 1914, for the first time in the history of Oregon, the county treasurer of each county in the state will take over from the county sheriff's hands the work of collecting taxes, and according to Treasurer Tracy Staats, the treasurer's office will hereafter "amount to something."

Beginning on or about the first of the year, the treasurer will send out his corps of workers. All of the delinquent taxes, however, will be collected by the sheriff and his deputies.

## Mrs. Becker Smiles Hopefully on Way to See Her Slayer Husband



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IT'S an old saying that a woman never despairs—like most bits of wisdom, it's not strictly true. In the case of Mrs. Charles A. Becker, however, the adage seems to apply. Mrs. Becker is the wife of former Police Lieutenant Becker, who is in Sing Sing prison awaiting death for the murder of Herman Rosenthal, the New York gambler. Mrs. Becker is an interesting figure just now. Everybody has heard about the Rosenthal case, but not everybody knows that Mrs. Becker visits her condemned husband as often as the rules permit and that she believes implicitly that he will be freed. She is shown here smiling her confidence on her way to Sing Sing, accompanied by her husband's brother, John Becker.

## YIELD AT AIRLIE FAIR, IS REPORT

"CONDITIONS ABOVE AVERAGE," SAYS AIRLIE MAN

Hop Picking in Fall Blast and Pickers Are Plentiful—Much Late Grain Yet Uncut.

While not boasting of a bumper crop the grain yield in the Airlie vicinity comes well up to the standard, and that section of the county will join according to a prominent Airlie resident.

According to T. P. Shewey, the Airlie correspondent of the Observer, "The grain crop in this district, is I believe a little better than the average," writes Mr. Shewey. "Wheat is running about 20 bushels to the acre and oats about 40. Threshing is about half done. Hop picking is now in full blast and the crop will be an average one, but the quality is exceptionally good. Some mould has been reported in a few places, but I think this is light. Hop pickers are plentiful, and there is no scarcity in the line of help."

There is a large acreage of very late grain this year which has to be threshed yet.

Reports from the Buena Vista district are encouraging, the farmers in that vicinity having nearly completed their harvesting.

### HEAP BIG BAND IS COMING

Teabo With Famous Indian Musicians Is Fair Attraction.

Some surprises await the fair visitors who love music from the big brass horns, the sweet, soft tones of the clarinet and piccolo, the rat-a-tat and b-o-o-n crash of the drums. As a feature the fair management has planned the giving of the visitors a taste of music a la Indian. The Grand Ronde Indian band will be given special assignments during the three days. The band consists of sixteen pieces, each member being not only an Indian but an artist in his particular role. Half of these boys are graduates of the Chemawa school. In speaking of the successful efforts of the association in making a contract with the Indian band, Secretary Miles said: "The Perrydals, the Bickswells and the Palefacos from Chemawa are scheduled for three great days of 'windjamming' will need to look to their laurels. Teabo, the leader of the Grand Ronde organization, is a musician, it is said, that will cause the Caldwelles, Orms and Downeyes to sit up and take notice."

## CANNERY URGED BY DALLAS MEN

COUNTY FRUIT ASSOCIATION WILL TAKE ACTION.

Armsby People Must Give Direct Answer—Co-operative Plan Is Still Under Consideration.

Unanimously voting in favor of providing either by co-operative plan or through the interests of the J. K. Armsby company of California, a modern fruit cannery for Dallas, the executive committee of the Polk County Fruit Growers Association have at last taken definite steps in the direction of securing one of the real commercial necessities of the city.

Some time ago the proposition of securing a cannery for the city was taken up and at that time a representative of the Armsby people said that he would visit Dallas and tributary country to see what was needed. Nothing has been heard from the company since that time, and therefore Secretary Ewing was requested to secure a definite answer from the Armsby interests. Should the company fail to reply favorably to the proposition, the association will immediately consider the erection of a co-operative plant. It is the intention of that body to secure a plant and have it in working order to take care of the berries and other small spring fruit.

### Sudden Death.

In apparent good health up to Saturday night, Floyd Blake was taken to the Emergency Hospital Sunday evening suffering from heart trouble and hemorrhage of the lungs and expired Monday shortly before noon. The unfortunate young man was well known here and had a host of friends. Besides a wife he is survived by two young children who are living with their mother and numerous other relatives. The deceased was the son of George Blake, nephew of Henry Blake and grandson of pioneer Greenwell Blake, all residents of this city. He has two brothers living in Idaho and a sister living in Salt Lake City. His mother who resides at Dallas, Polk county, this state is expected to arrive this evening in time to attend the funeral which will be held tomorrow.

Floyd Blake was born at Pedee valley, Polk county, Oregon, on October 31, 1882, and was at the time of his death 30 years and 10 months of age.

—Bendall Surf.

Mrs. Belle Blake, mother of the deceased, was in attendance at the funeral, returning Tuesday from Randow where the funeral services were held. Deceased was also a grandson of A. Hyerly of Dallas.

## GUTHRIE ACRES TO HAVE DAIRY

Portland Man Purchases Holman Plant Near Dallas

### MODEL DAIRY FARM IS IDEA

W. A. Woods Closes Deal with P. A. Taylor Yesterday—Latest Sanitary Buildings Planned—Will Supply Dallas and Surrounding Country—Ready for Operations.

Purchasing the J. F. Holman dairy of Dallas for the purpose of establishing a dairy industry at Guthrie Acres with capacity sufficient to supply the needs of Dallas and vicinity without securing milk elsewhere, Mr. W. A. Woods, an experienced dairyman of Portland is making preliminary arrangements for his new venture this week. He expects to take charge of the business October 1.

While it was impossible yesterday afternoon to confirm the report, the Observer has it in good authority that Mr. Woods has purchased 12 acres of Guthrie's rich soil at \$200 an acre.

"It is the purpose of Mr. Woods to give Dallas that which has long been needed—a model dairy farm," said P. A. Taylor, Dallas representative of the Guthrie tracts. "He has informed me that he will keep at least 50 good, milk cows, and he believes this number will be sufficient to supply the present needs of the city. Everything about the plant will be model and modern throughout and the latest sanitary buildings will be installed and the best modern methods practiced. The Guthrie Acres provides an ideal location for the dairy and it can truthfully be claimed as a Dallas enterprise."

Owing to the increase in business and the limited facilities, together with his poor health, Mr. Holman reluctantly agreed to sell his business, but has made known his intention to remain Dallas. While conducting the local dairy business, Mr. Holman has won the esteem and high regard of those with whom he was associated in both a business and social way.

During the next two weeks, Mr. Woods intends to begin improvements on his newly purchased land and it is probable that the dairy will be in operation within a short time.

## BIG BAND FOR DALLAS

Efforts Being Made to Boost Membership to 50—Concerts to Be Discontinued Soon.

With the end in view of increasing the membership of the Dallas band to 50 pieces, Director B. A. Downey has begun his first campaign and according to a statement made by him yesterday it is expected that he is meeting with the desired success.

"I hope to have at least 50 instruments in the Dallas band when the spring concert season opens," said Mr. Downey. "As soon as the outdoor concert season ceases, many new recruits will be added. During the winter months the beginners will be given an excellent opportunity to get in shape for the work next year, and it is my ambition to produce an organized band of musicians that will be prize winners. There is plenty of material right here in Dallas, and I am encouraged by the enthusiasm now being shown."

The annual band concert will be given shortly after the holiday season, and already arrangements are being made for the big event. New music is arriving every week.

The fact that Director Downey has made decidedly good in Dallas is evidenced by the fact that he has been retained another year at an increase in salary, and it is now possible for him to devote practically his entire time in the work of perfecting the band.

### JUDGE J. R. TEAL IS HONORED

Is Appointed Oregon Delegate to Attend Good Roads Convention.

Judge John B. Teal has been appointed by Governor Oswald West as representative from this state to the Good Roads Convention to be held in St. Louis, November 13-15. The latter assured the judge of the pleasure on the part of the governor in making the appointment and intimates that much good will result in the matter of good roads in Polk county should Mr. Teal avail himself of the opportunity to attend the convention.

"In all probability, I shall attend the convention," said the Judge yesterday. "I am most certainly interested in the movement which the entire nation is now giving to good roads. It will also be a pleasant trip East, and I am just hankering to eat Thanksgiving turkey with relatives in Illinois. Yes, I guess I will go."

### Library Board Meets.

As the result of a meeting of the library board Wednesday evening, the following officers were elected: Tracy Staats, president; Mrs. G. T. Gerlinger, secretary; A. P. Risser, treasurer; building committee, Conrad S. Stafrin, A. P. Risser; library committee, Mrs. George Gerlinger and Mrs. F. H. Morrison; finance committee, J. C. Hayter and Tracy Staats. The officers were elected for one year.

### School Principal Visits City.

R. G. Dykstra, school teacher at Buena Vista, was a pleasant caller at the Observer office Wednesday. Mr. Dykstra has just returned from the Normal at Monmouth and is preparing for the coming term of school at Buena Vista.

## Polk's Finances In Good Shape

Reducing the county indebtedness from \$36,953.17 from the first of the year to \$495,72, representing the amount of outstanding warrants, the board of county commissioners feel that the present financial condition of the county is in excellent shape. This excellent showing is made in the face of the fact that many costly improvements including roadbuilding and bridge building have been made since the first of the year.

While the county has everdrawn \$3,367.14 in the road fund of this district, there still remains a surplus of \$5,445.25 in the general road fund, leaving a balance of \$2,078.11, and a balance in the general fund September 2, of \$17,568.48.

"The present outstanding warrants will be cleared up within a short time and the county will be practically out of debt," remarked Judge John B. Teal yesterday. "There has been no skimping in providing what the board thinks is just, but it has been our aim to reduce the general expenses wherever possible. This showing I consider unusually good in view of the fact that we have been to the expense of a number of needed improvements. We have a good, round balance to keep the county going the remaining four months of the year."

## FRUIT EXHIBITORS TO BE ASSISTED

POLK COUNTY FRUIT ASSOCIATION TO HELP PAIR

Boxes and Packers Will Be Furnished Free to Those Wishing to Display Product.

For the purpose of arranging for the fruit exhibits for the Polk county fair to be held in Dallas, September 23, 24 and 25, the executive committee of the Polk County Fruit association met in the city Wednesday afternoon.

The arrangements of the fruit exhibits this year will be something unusual, as every effort will be made to have the display in proper form. Last year many plate exhibits were offered, but the box exhibits were sadly lacking. In order to conform with the exhibits of other county fairs arrangements were made to induce the exhibitors to display their fruits in boxes, and to this end the committee decided to engage a packer and has offered to furnish the boxes and necessary paper for the work.

The committee appointed to take charge of the fruit display at the fair was named as follows: H. C. Eakin, N. L. Guy and R. M. Ewing.

Speaking of the exhibits, Mr. Ewing said: "Polk county's exhibits this year should certainly prove a pleasing surprise, as there will be no pains spared to give the ranchers an opportunity to show Dallas people just what kind of fruit can be grown. The idea of helping the rancher to exhibit his exhibits is a good one, as it now means that he will not be forced to go to any expense in packing and arranging his fruit for exhibit."

The committee has been requested to get a complete list of the exhibitors as soon as possible, and all those wishing to place fruit on display at the fair should notify at least one member of the committee before September 20.

\*\*\*\*\* Boosters for Independence. \*\*\*\*\*

Just one more running booster meeting, the last of the long series of "get-together" affairs, which have marked the efforts of the loyal Dallas citizens in promoting the interests of the Polk County Fair, will be held Tuesday night at Independence. The Ross-Nelson hall has been engaged for the occasion, and the large delegation from Dallas will undoubtedly be accompanied by the Dallas band.

"We expect a big crowd from Dallas to attend the Independence meeting," said Secretary Miles yesterday. "We feel that Independence being second to the largest town in the county, will help all in its power to make the fair this year an unqualified success."

\*\*\*\*\* Chosen on Rifle Team. \*\*\*\*\*

Word has been received here by Captain Conrad Stafrin of Company G, O. N. G., of the appointment of Lindsey Dennis of this city as a member of the picked rifle team of Oregon to match with a Canadian team. The match will be held at Vancouver, B. C., and Dennis has been notified to report at the Clackamas rifle range next week to begin practice work.

## PRUNE HARVEST TO BEGIN SOON

PICKERS TO INVADE BIG FRUIT FIELDS NEXT WEEK

Harvest, Say Many, to Be Biggest in History of County; Prices Good; Hop Picking Nears End.

With the conclusion of hop picking which is expected to be practically ended by the first of next week, prune picking and packing in the big orchards of Polk county will begin and for at least two weeks the pickers will be kept busy.

The yield in Polk county this year will be at least triple the yield of last year, and will, many say, the largest crop ever harvested in the county. The crop last year was small, but the present season finds thousands of matured trees bearing this year for the first time.

On the Dr. M. Hayter ranch, the owner estimates a yield of at least 5,000 boxes from about 35 acres of trees, and the quality, he says is excellent. On the Chapman ranch, the yield will also be heavy, and the grade of prunes extra good.

Contrary to published reports that the prices will be higher this year than at any time in the past 16 years, prune growers say that prices of 6 cents for 45-50 and 6 1-3 cents for 30-35 sizes will prevail.

A number of local hop growers have finished their picking and others are taking advantage of the exceptional fine weather and rushing the work as rapidly as possible. Picking is ended on the Yeakum and Hugh Smith yards and the yields are reported to be far above the average and the quality of hops exceptionally good.

In Portland yesterday offers of 19 cents were made by two dealers. These offers were made on 200 bales, and refusals on 500 bales were asked for.

It is estimated that the crop this year will be 40 per cent higher than last year.

## BOLD HUNTERS RETURN

Dallas Sportsmen Bring Back Good Catch of Flea-Bites and Several Huge Appetites.

"The best hot cakes I ever tasted," was the verdict of Dr. Cherrington yesterday in speaking of his deer and bear hunt at the head of the LaCreole. "There was always plenty on the table at the Dave Riley cabin," he coquettishly added. In the company were Filmaster Patterson and Ole Fuller of the Fuller Pharmacy, the latter acting as guide and deer hound. Dr. Butler and J. H. Belt did the best work while in the wilds, giving first relief to the wounded P. A. Finseth of the Bee Hive Store suffered the loss of shoe heels which had been carefully "pegged" for climbing purposes. "Bob," the faithful companion of Dr. Cherrington, so the doctor states, was able to cross the LaCreole three times. Venison and trout and bear meat were among the unmentionables yesterday as a reporter endeavored to question the different members of the party between the scratching of flea-bites. The party left on Monday by train, going to Black Rock, thence six miles over the trail of "the lonesome pine."

### Provides for Extensive Work.

The laws of 1913 provide for counties appropriating \$2000 to \$4000 for agricultural extension, the state appropriating the same amount, and some question having arisen as to the manner in which it should be paid out Attorney-General Crawford, this morning gave out an opinion to the effect that the counties did not have to send the money to the state treasurer, but that it could be paid out by the county court, the same as any other county bills are paid. He suggested that in making out the reports to send to the state treasurer that they should show that one-half was paid by the county and the other half by the state.—Salem Statesman.

## NEWS OF COUNTY TOLD IN BRIEFS

Items of Interest in Country Districts Interestingly Told

### OBSERVER SPECIAL SERVICE

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

### FALLS CITY

A. J. Viek and Willis Montgomery are taking their annual fishing and hunting trip in the Siletz this week. Prof. Lester Barnhart will leave the last of the week for Cottage Grove where he will teach in the High School the coming year.

Sam Kimmel one of the Siletz homesteaders, was in for supplies the first of the week.

Walter Williams and E. C. Kirkpatrick were looking over Falls City interests the last of the week.

C. W. Matthews, Roy McMurphy, N. A. Lund and Ross Picklin were fishing on the Siletz Sunday and report a good catch.

Francis Fugitt returned from the hop yard Sunday to work in the local telephone office on account of Miss Jennie Elkins taking her vacation.

C. Eastman, of the Silverton Blow Pipe Co., is here installing the new heating plant for the school.

J. C. Talbot and M. L. Thompson returned from a short business trip to Portland the last of the week.

While in Portland last week Miss Viola Selig had an attack of appendicitis, but was able to return home Saturday and is now slightly improved.

C. J. Pugh, the "Movie" man, is giving the "Gem" a general overhauling and adding a new shingle roof.

Mrs. Walter Sears left Monday for a visit with her brother, J. R. Ford, of Eugene.

Frank Wagner and family of Portland motored to Falls City Saturday afternoon and spent Sunday with relatives here.

The Falls City Lumber Co. has purchased three new "Donkeys" for the railroad work here and the new camp on Teal Creek.

Mrs. W. F. Nichols returned Wednesday from a visit with relatives in Corvallis and Lebanon.

E. S. Rich, manager of the Falls City Mercantile Co., has moved into the Tollar house recently vacated by W. A. Persey.

Miss Jennie Elkins left Sunday for Marshfield where she will visit her brother Otto during her vacation.

John Chappell returned from the beach Monday.

E. E. Lee finished picking his hops Tuesday and reports a good yield.

### MONMOUTH

C. E. Horven finished picking his crop of fine hops Tuesday. They were free of mould and fine red spider. His yield was good.

The grain around Monmouth averaged between 20 and 30 bushels per acre; wheat and oats from 30 to 70 bushels per acre. The farmers are all well pleased with their crops.

Mr. and Mrs. Grove A. Peterson and daughter, of Suver, were in town the latter part of last week. Mr. Peterson reports his grain turning out fine and far beyond his expectations.

M. K. Boatman, of Corvallis, was in town Friday on business.

Mr. and Mrs. Joe Craven returned from Newport, Wednesday, of last week.

Mrs. Nettie Boshe went to Portland Saturday, returning home Monday.

Howard Blah, of Airlie, was in town last week on business and reported things lively in his town on account of the new railroad.

Mr. and Mrs. George Cramer, of Grants Pass, were visiting relatives in town this week. Mr. Cramer is in the employ of the Southern Pacific.

A. N. Poole has the contract to build a concrete garage, 35x55 feet for Graham & Son.

The Normal will open for the fall term, the 15th of this month, and the prospects are good for a large attendance. President Ackerman has been hard at work for the Normal all summer.

Dr. Bowersox returned home from Newport Monday and reports having a good time.

Wanted—A cheap horse or two, address A. N. Hallack, Monmouth.

Uncle George Elbert is improving slowly.

Robert Stiles, of Suver, was in town Wednesday on business.

The work on the Malheur brick is progressing nicely.

### AIRLIE

I. C. Turner and family have returned from Pilemouth.

Work on the new railroad is moving right along. Fine grading crews.

(Continued on Page Three)