

Polk County Observer

THE HOME PAPER

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The way to build up Dallas is to put more Dallas people.

SUGGESTION

With this week, Christmas of 1913 becomes a relic of the past and we hope that you have spent such a merry Christmas that you are thinking of the new resolutions you are going to put in force the coming year which is close at hand.

We will give a suggestion of what we would like and what we think you can do the same.

Remember the other fellow and give him an opportunity to think, work, act, and do a few things to suit himself, taking it for granted that we all intend to strive to make the world brighter and better. This giving and taking of opinions is what makes an educated country. If only one person was allowed to do the thinking first handed and all others were compelled to take it second-handed, even if you should be guided by the wisest, this would soon become a very narrow world.

The newspaper is a great educator for the reason that it is constantly giving you its opinions. It does not necessarily follow that you must agree with what the paper says, to the contrary, if the paper causes you to form opinions of your own, even if they do differ, the newspaper has done something for you. So we trust that among your new resolutions there will be one which will be to read as well as hear opinions of others, and then quietly use your own mental power and think just as you like, but don't get mad about it for the newspaper editor does not wish to undertake to do your thinking for you, he simply presents things as he sees them and you are privileged to either agree or disagree with him.

In other words, we would have you use a little Christmas charity throughout the full year.

Bell Telephone Gives Up.
The surrender of the Bell Telephone Company is a victory for the administration. All monopolies must in the end come to terms.

Roosevelt organized the army of public opinion and started the fight. Taft continued the attack and now Wilson is continuing the fight with some of the fruit. It is only a matter of time when other monopolies will also surrender.

The Bell Company will now connect other lines with theirs for long distances.

The democratic administration seems to favor government ownership of the telegraph and telephone lines of the country. The government should control these systems of communication and thereby care for the interest of the public. This has been the policy of the past two national administrations and has been to a certain extent by the present, but now the head of the postoffice department is asking the privilege of taking over completely those properties. There are many dangers to a democratic form of government to be found in government ownership of public utilities. One of the greatest is the combined voting power of government employees.

President Wilson requests that Secretaries Garrison and Daniels serve "a very serious reprimand" to those of the army and navy military order of Caribbea for the program rendered a recent dinner. The president failed to see any fun in songs and other amusements given on this occasion. The officers of the army and navy do doubt have their ideals, and as many of them have done service in the Philippines, they need not worry over the reprimand. The Caribbeans have the comfort of knowing the President is a schoolmaster who never played ball with his boys at recess.

The Chicago Tribune Seattle whole-sale corruption and incompetence of Chicago and Illinois officials, and calls upon Republicans and Progressives to unite against the Democratic spoilsman. Here is another evidence of returning sanity among those who turned over the Government to the Democracy—Oregonians.

There are other states besides Illinois where the same kind of work is needed, and present resolutions point toward a united party at the next election.

The Currency Bill passes and the dollar at Ad's store. Spec. President Wilson's pet measure: no gold prices until January 1st.



Democracy—It's off home for the holidays. I know there is something else waiting for me there.

Fellow Travelers—I envy you your good fortune. My Christmas present will have to wait for me.

Errors—Just in time for Christmas (John). Please take a week off to examine your present.

Tex Citizens—Oh, papa, mamma! get some Christmas for you up stairs. Go up and see them.

The pleasant Christmas surprise the December 26th had at home for him.

POSTOFFICE DEPARTMENT NOW SELF SUPPORTING

Barlow Says Government Should Own Telegraph and Telephone Lines.

A sweeping declaration in favor of the principle of Government ownership of telegraph and telephone lines and an assertion that the Postal Service now is self-supporting for the first time since 1883, are features of the annual report of Postmaster-General Barlow, transmitted last week to Congress.

Concerning the acquisition of telegraph and telephone lines, Postmaster-General Barlow says that the Government has demonstrated its capacity to conduct public utilities and from his present information, he is inclined clearly to the taking over by the Postoffice Department of the telegraph lines and, possibly also of the telephone lines. Discussing the Postmaster-General says:

"A study of the constitutional purposes of the postal establishment leads to the conviction that the Postoffice Department should have control over all means of the communication of intelligence. The first telegraph line in this country was maintained and operated as a part of the postal service, and it is to be regretted that Congress saw fit to relinquish this facility to private enterprise. The monopolistic nature of the telegraph business makes it of vital importance to the people that it be conducted by unselfish interests, and this can be accomplished only through Government ownership."

County Principals' Club Meets.

The fourth regular meeting of the Polk County Principals' Club was held Saturday evening, December 26, in the banquet hall of the Gail hotel, Dallas. After supper was served the meeting was called to order by President W. A. Johnson. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved. The report of the committee on debate was received and adopted. The date for the next regular meeting of the club was changed from the 17th to the 24th of January. The subject of athletics for this year was introduced by Mr. Hayes, and upon motion made and seconded, a committee of five was appointed to make arrangements and report to the club at a later date. Those appointed on the committee were W. I. Ford, of Dallas; E. L. Kessel, of Monmouth; C. F. Walman, of Independence; H. E. Barnhart, of Falls City; and E. M. Haley, of Albion.

Reports of visitors chosen by the high school students were given by

the different principals for their respective schools.

Following this interesting and instructive addresses were given by Superintendent J. A. Churchill, State Superintendent; M. S. Pitman, of the Extension Department of the Oregon Normal; President A. H. Ackerman of the Oregon Normal; and Professor H. M. Metzger of Dallas College. These addresses were followed by Round Table discussion, in line of the subject of the addresses, "Preparation for Life's Vocation." At the close of the evening's meeting, President Johnson extended in behalf of the club, an expression of appreciation to Superintendent Churchill, Mr. Pitman, and President Ackerman, for the efforts that they have put forth for the club, and for the messages of the evening.

Upon motion the club adjourned to meet at Independence, January 24th, 1914.

Those present were—W. A. Johnson, of Bethel; President A. H. Ackerman of Monmouth; W. I. Ford, of Dallas; H. C. Seymour; L. Y. Mackin; L. P. Gilmore; Professor D. M. Metzger; State Superintendent J. A. Churchill; E. M. Haley; E. L. Kessel; M. S. Pitman; E. L. Kessel; O. C. Bous; E. E. Basile; G. W. Montgomery; and H. E. Barnhart.

W. A. Johnson, President; H. E. Barnhart, Secretary.

Polk County Wins Again.

Several of the poultry breeders of this county participated in the Salem poultry show last week and all returned with premiums.

The following awards were secured by Polk County men:

Brown Leghorn.
Frank Friesen, Dallas, 1st. Cook.
Henry Yoth, Dallas, 1st. Cook, 2nd. Cookers.

J. M. Carl, Dallas, 1st. Cockerel, 1st. Hen, 1st. Pullet, 2nd. Pullet, 1st. Pie.

Buff Leghorn.
A. V. Oliver, Bismarck, 1st. Cockerel, 1st. Hen, 1st. Pullet.

J. M. Carl also won the special prize of 12 fruit trees for the best exhibit of Brown Leghorns. Those who attended both the shows here and at Salem are unanimous in their opinion that the Dallas Show was superior.

Royal Arch Masons Elect.

At the last regular meeting of Alsworth Chapter No. 17, Royal Arch Masons, the following officers were elected for the ensuing Masonic year—H. P. Mark Hayter, King; W. J. Koerth, Scribe; A. B. Blair, Treasurer; Ed. Bidula, Secretary; U. S. Grant, C. of H.; Oscar Hayter, P. S.; Conrad Stratton.

—Treasurer's notice, weather proof, see also at Observer Job office.

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Picture of First Water Let Into Culebra Cut, Now Fully Flooded



Photo copyright 1914 by American Press Association.

THIS picture is one of the best views of part of the Culebra cut before it was flooded. The engineers had just started to let the first lot of water in when the photograph was taken. It had been planned to complete the flooding of the cut by damming the Culebra dam, thus letting water in from Gailan lake, but the cut was really flooded and the channel having been closed by debris from the slides. The Culebra cut has been the one main obstacle in the way of getting the bottom of the Culebra in two. Since Uncle Sam took up the job it has given him a lot of trouble because of the slides. As fast as the cut was dug out a slide would occur and undo much of the work.

The new bridge over the Willamette has been officially accepted, and the claim is being made that the people are already receiving dividends.

The supreme court of the U. S. have decided that neither the owner of a patent nor a copyright have the right to fix a price of their goods as sold by the retailer.

Airline School Notes.

Professor Haley was in Dallas Friday attending the Principals' Club meeting. He reported a fine supper. Miss Snodder was in Dallas last week for teachers examinations. Miss Edna Conn substituted as primary teacher the three days Miss Snodder was away.

Mr. J. T. Ulrich attended the District meeting in Dallas Friday. Mr. Louis Campbell accompanied him. Miss Lillian Lewis has been quite ill with pleurisy keeping her from school several days.

The high school is preparing with great zeal for the general review which the high school teachers are planning on Wednesday.

The eighth grade have just finished some attractive history booklets. The Airline High School manual training class have made a great change in things at the school house. They have built three large tables, which are considered very nice. They have finished drawing a gate model in which they hope to finish, making the model of fine wood and be able to show people what they are doing at the next County Fair at Dallas.

The pupils of the high school appreciate very much the new laboratory apparatus which the district has provided for them. It includes apparatus for chemistry, physics and agriculture experiments.

If you need a piano, better see the Currier Bill pass and the dollar at Ad's store. Spec. President Wilson's pet measure: no gold prices until January 1st.