

Polk County Observer

Published Each Tuesday and Friday.

BY LEW CATES

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HOME BUYING HELPS.

An educational campaign on mail order methods of buying would do more toward stimulating home buying in Dallas than any other one thing, and it would be profitable to all concerned were it undertaken. The merchants of Dallas buy only standard goods and get the quality they order. The mail order concern dictates its own purchasing price. It is a fact that buyers for mail-order houses approach the manufacturer of an article and tell him they must have the goods at a certain figure. It is ever a question of price and not quality. The manufacturer gives the mail-order concern an article which he has cheapened until he can make a margin of profit in spite of price stipulation. If it happens to be an article made of metal, then an inferior grade is used, or paint is used instead of enamel, or some other method employed to force the cost of manufacturing down to meet the mail-order buyer's price. Of course, the outward appearance of the article may be the same as the one carried by the merchant in this town, but—

The merchant paid more, but he got more for his money. If you buy of him you will too. Then again a mail-order house will sell an article at a loss to attract attention. These "leaders" are a bait. The catalogue buyer compares this with the price he would have to pay here and, noting the difference, jumps at the conclusion that every thing in the mail-order house must be less expensive. Paradoxical as it may be, the mail-order goods are cheaper but no less expensive.

If these arguments are logically sound there is still the social, moral and religious view to be considered. The retail merchant is the backbone of the country town. The mail-order house is his worst enemy. The farmers need the town and the town needs the farmers. If the persons in this town who buy of mail-order houses can be brought to realize that buying inferior goods at low prices is not always a saving of money, a big step would be taken toward eliminating the mail-order evil.

LET 'ER SIZZ.

We are reminded by the rapid approach of the soft-drinks season, and the preparations making by Dallas vendors, that these beverages have reached one of the very highest notches alongside hops, prunes, batter and automobiles in the scale of life's necessities. The ice-cream soda has been placed up on a marble pedestal and we are all bowed down in worship—old men, summery girls, middle aged ladies, and preachers. Every day we gleefully shove our nickle over the ba—slab and murmur humbly that a destiny would be unfulfilled unless we had a "raspberry phosphate" or a "pistachio royal snodge" with green trimmings. And all this means things in cold, comparative figures that stick in your brain and make you think of economy and the increased price of living.

Some mathematically inclined individual says that ten billions of nickles are spent every year at soda fountains in this country, and as there are only a billion nickles in circulation, it is plain to be seen that each one of them would have to make ten trips to the soda fountain if only nickles were used; that the nation's expenditure for soda water and carbonated drinks this year is estimated at \$500,000,000. It makes it all the more appalling when you think that it is half a billion dollars, which would buy hard-surfaced roads for every county in Oregon, and is over twice the value of the yearly output of automobiles and would pay the debts of all the American churches four times over and would defray the university expenses of half a million students and is more than double the combined yearly cost of the army and navy. The amount of soda water consumed yearly is estimated at

479,062,500 gallons. And in these days the soda fountain is sizzling summer and winter. From year's end to year's end the hiss and jingle of the soda fountain in Uncle Sam's domain never ceases. The time was when for half the year the fountain was about as idle as the straw hat and the parasol. Public fancy has changed all that, and now the dispenser of sizzling sweetness works nearly as hard in January as in the dog days. Soda fountain drinks tickle the palates of the countless numbers the year round, and thus it happens that the disher—the handy little tool that soda fountain attendants have for scooping up the cream—never gets a vacation.

FLY A MENACE.

Although "swatting flies" has furnished the humorists of the country with new material for their jokes the anti-fly campaign is not a joke by any means. Even these sad-faced, long-haired humorists appreciate the importance of it. Their bright, sharp way of turning a laugh out of this very important work, is in itself the best indication of its importance. Until anything is important enough to find its way into the joke column, it is not important enough to attract National attention.

The anti-fly campaign has done both. The scientists have demonstrated beyond the slightest shade of doubt that flies breed disease. If flies confined their attention solely to the sugar bowl and the custard pie; if they were born, lived and died at the garbage can, there would be no serious objection to them. They would then be merely pests, rather than plagues. But since flies are born in filth, fatten on filth, and make only side excursions to the sugar bowl, with early morning trips to the slumber couches of perfectly healthy people, they are a menace. Upon their tiny feet are carried the germs of innumerable diseases. The only good fly is the dead fly. It is impossible always to keep out of the home the flies that seek admittance. Be the windows and doors screened to the limit, there will still be flies on the inside. But it is possible to eliminate to a large extent the fly nuisance. We should not treat the anti-fly campaign as a joke. It is a serious matter and every precaution should be taken to eliminate this daily peril.

GOOD SIDEWALKS.

Dallas is getting a good many concrete sidewalks, and these walks are a valuable asset to the city, not only because they are substantial, but because they are permanent and slightly as well as safe. Then, added to this, they bring about conditions of improvement which otherwise cannot be had. When the concrete walk has been placed it is permanent and the yard can be graded and the grounds leveled to correspond with the walk as the owner has something established to build from, and work is carried ahead with the assurance that there will be no change. This cannot be done where only temporary walks are in use. Good walks become a stimulus to help in the building of nice yards and nice yards suggest well kept homes, which in turn indicates prosperous and refined people and all have their tendency for the upward life of humanity.

Taking this view we sometimes wonder why various persons are loath to put a few dollars into a permanent sidewalk when the value of their property will be increased more than the cost of construction, but then we are reminded of "Huckleberry Fin and his old barrel." We are too apt to get into a state of inactivity from which only the power of energy can move us and too often that energy must be applied from outside forces. Man has the opportunity and the ability, when using his God-given privileges, to rise to an intelligence surmounted only by his creator, but in order to reach the condition outlined he must move out in the right direction and strive with that energy which knows no abatement, to fill out the measure of his creation and be what his maker intended him to be. This attitude can be reached only by progressive action, and as the spiritual and temporal laws are closely allied so also are the spiritual and temporal needs and inaction or lack of energy is but a clog in the progress of the individual.

The cordial reception accorded The Observer by the citizens of Dallas and Polk county is, indeed, gratifying to the management of the publication. Words of commendation to

a newspaper are an encouragement and stimulus, and the editor who does not push forward under such circumstances is certainly unappreciative of good will and well wishes. It is The Observer's aim to be a newspaper in the truest sense of the word; a medium of publicity second to none in the state; a credit to Dallas, and one that will herald its name and fame abroad throughout the land. And in the accomplishment of these objects we hope to enjoy the hearty co-operation of the people.

BROWN IS QUALIFIED.

The Oregonian sees in George M. Brown qualifications for the office of attorney-general that are not to be overlooked. It says editorially: "Mr. Brown has had a long and wide experience as a prosecuting attorney in one of the most important judicial districts of Oregon and has served the state zealously and exclusively for eighteen years. He has tried many cases involving liberty and life, with great benefit to the impartial and correct administration of justice, and he has besides had in charge a great variety of important general matters, involving public interests, in the several counties of his district. All who have had direct dealings with Mr. Brown testify to his unusual legal ability and single-minded zeal and industry; and his reputation generally throughout the state as a true example of the devoted and useful public servant is most enviable."

"Mr. Brown's fitness for the office of attorney-general is not questioned anywhere. The state has an opportunity by his nomination and election to reward faithful public service and, far more important to secure as its attorney-general a man who is admirably fitted for the place. It is an opportunity for the state. On that ground chiefly the Oregonian commends him to the voters."

OCCUPATIONS OF WOMEN.

Out of the 305 gainful occupations of the United States there are only eight in which women do not appear. In all the other 297 there are accredited representatives of the coming sex to the number of 6,000,000. The eight occupations in which women do not appear fall into two classes. In the first of these classes the absence of women is due to the tyranny of men. There are no women soldiers in the United States army. There are no women sailors in the United States navy. There are no women marines in the navy. And there are no women firemen in the municipal fire departments of American cities. All this is simply because women have been ruled out. With different regulations there might be different results. In Sweden there is a fire department in which women are frequently enrolled. And the fighting done by the women at the siege of Saragossa in Spain during the Napoleonic wars has always stood as a spectacular and sufficient proof of feminine valor. In the remaining four of the eight womanless occupations in this country the absence of woman cannot be so readily explained away. It must be simply due to feminine neglect that at the time of the last census there were no women apprentices and helpers to roofers and slaters, no women helpers to brass-workers, and no women street car drivers. The next census will probably repair this defect. There is no reason why women should not enter these four trades. Already they can be found in trades which are similar but more difficult. Only four occupations, therefore, are today beyond the reach of women in the United States. They can not be federal soldiers, federal sailors, federal marines, or municipal firemen. Every where else they have knocked and have been admitted.

PUBLIC DEBT OF OREGON.

In a bulletin issued by the census bureau of the Department of Commerce it is said that in the 27 years last passed the public indebtedness of the state has decreased materially; for each \$1000 owing in 1890 there was but \$653 owing in 1913. The debt of the state was at no time large and shows a marked decrease during the period, while the population more than quadrupled; these two causes resulted in a very small per capita debt. In 1880 the total debt of Oregon at the close of the year was \$511,000; in 1890 it fell to \$2,000, but in 1912 amounted to \$31,000. The population of the state increased from 175,000 in 1880 to 731,000 in 1912. In 1880 the per capita debt was \$2.93; in 1890 it fell

to \$0.01; reaching the maximum, \$0.68, in 1900; and subsequently declining to \$0.04 in 1912.

In contrast with the state of Oregon taking the entire debt of 48 states per capita debt according to the latest report is \$3.52, or \$3.48 more than the per capita debt of Oregon. Comparing the decrease in the per capita debt of Oregon and the 48 states for the period, we find that \$5.48 fell to \$3.52 in the average for the 48 states, and \$2.93 to \$0.04 in Oregon.

At the present time about 0.8 per cent of the total population of the United States will be found in the state of Oregon, and less than one-tenth of 1 per cent of the total debt is attributed to this state.

PIONEER DAY.

Believing that those sturdy pioneers who blazed the first trails and made it possible for others to follow into the "Oregon Country" should be honored whenever opportunity offers, the Dallas Chautauqua association has invited the early settlers of Polk county to be its guests on the opening day. It is but fitting that we who today are enjoying a multiplicity of privileges through the efforts of these brave and heroic men and women who came among savages to establish homes and develop a territory second to none upon the hemisphere, should display an interest in those still with us, remembering the departed ones with sincere gratitude. It is largely due to the pluck, energy and hardihood of the courageous pioneer who first beat the paths of this grand country that such broad and magnificent acres are now beheld on every side, and we should not only take unlimited pleasure but deem it an obligation to inject sunshine into their declining years whenever possible. Let us join in making pioneer day, on June 27, an event that will long be remembered as having been thoroughly enjoyed by both guest and host.

Twenty million baseballs are made annually in this country. Somebody must hit 'em out of the lot occasionally.

The Observer libeled County Clerk Robinson when it stated in Friday's issue that the list of registrations would not be completed for a day or two. He finished the work Friday afternoon, and the complete registration by precincts is given elsewhere in this issue.

Marriage always changes people, but unfortunately it doesn't always alter them for the better.

Every republican in Polk county should go to the polls next Friday and express a choice of candidates for the various offices.

Isn't it about time for our esteemed and honored friend, the governor, to stop another fight.

Wait a minute! Teddy is enroute home.

Those people who are continually predicting Secretary Bryan's resignation should bear in mind that this is the first office William Jennings has held in twenty-five years of almost continuous effort.

A 6,000,000 egg shipment from China adds the promise of a foreign yolk to the yellow peril.

The republicans of Polk county should be gratified over the result of the registration.

The list of Americans killed and wounded in Mexico continues to grow while we are "watchfully waiting."

The Independence Monitor has spruced up considerably of late, and may now be classed among real newspapers.

A number of republican candidates for public office have declined the endorsement of the prohibition party, evidently preferring to win or lose flying their own colors.

Some people are satisfied to take what they can get, and others get what they can take.

Women imitate the men in many things, but you never hear of a girl chewing tobacco.

Knowing a good thing isn't enough; you've got to know a bad thing when you see it.

Some genius may yet be able to make breakfast food of wild oats.

Some men drop out of sight of their own free will. Others marry prima donnas.

Editor Observer: I was talking to a grocer the other day. There come times in the lives of all men when they must talk to grocers. I might go so far as to say that there are some grocers to whom I am very proud to talk. And there is one to whom I am very anxious to talk each month immediately after his active and enthusiastic assistant has slipped that annoying little statement of accounts through the mail slot in my door. In anticipation of the never-ending demand for another month's groceries I always go to the corner and slip a check to the said groceryman and he, in his exuberance over receiving it, invites me to take a smoke with him. It is not a real smoke, just a dried vegetable that never would have been saleable in its natural fresh state and was, in consequence, kept in storage until it decayed sufficiently to assume the color of real tobacco. But the smiling good will that goes with it always persuades me to accept and I sit on a condensed cream box while my food-producing friend pours out the dregs of trouble from his ever-agitated heart.

"I don't know what the grocery business is coming to," he wailed last Saturday, after he had bowed over the customary presentation of the quoniam cabbage. As the fumes floated above my head when I had set fire to the parched salad he continued: "Nowadays folks insist on their butter being fresh and their eggs being newly laid. They must have seedless raisins and boneless chicken. Crackers are put up in sealed wax-paper boxes, vinegar is bottled and molasses comes in tins instead of bulk. It costs me more and it costs them a little more. It is not the high cost of living that is the matter with this country—it is the cost of high living. Long and loudly he raved while I fumigated myself with my facial bonfire. He spluttered of "the good old days" when the grocery business was a real business. I suppose he was thinking of the times when a cat slept in the box of crackers if it happened to be in a sunny spot. Of the vanished days when the molasses dripped out onto the floor and offered to the casual visitor an excellent opportunity to do a spectacular neck fall.

The fault that this man possesses is that he is blind to the things of the present—he is living in the past. And his condition is very much like that of a lot of other people. They look backwards and dream of the good qualities or other times without remembering the bad ones. There never were such good groceries as there are right now. Business was never better, as a whole. Grocers are better off than they have been in the history of the world. There is not an item that can be mentioned that is not an improvement over its predecessor in the past. The groceryman that sobs for a return of the days when he sold oysters out of an open barrel that sat in the street and served as a landmark for the village dogs is still more retrogressive than the actor that sighs for the narrow gauge period when the janitor filled the footlights with coal oil and the only steam heat noticeable came from the pot-bellied stove upon which those in the front row expertly expectorated. Keep your "good old days" stuff for serap-book musings—these days are all right if you keep up with them. OPTOMISTIC.

Wants Correction.

P. J. Hale, of Mouth, sends The Observer the following, with a request to correct a wrong impression given out last Tuesday:

Mouth, May 9.—In regard to the collision of an automobile and motorcycle as per your account in paper of this week.

You state that the automobile was on the wrong side of the street where the accident occurred which is a mistake. Also the motorcycleist's name I understand is Frank Mueller instead of Walter, as you have it.

Now after the accident quite a crowd collected and they were going to hold me until some one in authority could get my name and number of car, but after pointing out the wheel tracks and seeing where the motorcycle hit the machine they agreed the cyclist was to blame.

I also asked Mr. Mueller if he wanted my name or number of machine and he said no; that he was in the wrong and consequently it was his fault.

Talk is cheap, which may explain why we are given so much gratuitous advice.

BEAUTIFUL HAIR--A CLEAN, COOL SCALP

Use Parisian Sage. It Makes the Hair Fluffy and Abundant.

It is needless for you to have hair that is anything short of perfect. If it is falling out, losing color, splitting, or if the scalp burns and itches, immediately get from Conrad Staffin or any drug counter a 50-cent bottle of Parisian Sage—use it frequently—the first application removes dandruff, invigorates the scalp, and beautifies the hair until it is gloriously radiant.

Parisian Sage supplies hair needs—is perfectly harmless. It contains the exact elements required to make the hair soft, wavy, glossy and to make it grow thick and beautiful.

You will surely like Parisian Sage. It is one of the best and most delightful hair tonics known.

BULLETIN

WANTED—An old mare in good condition, apply to L. G. Miller, phone, Black 1551. 19-4t.

FOR SALE—Property on south-east corner of Uglov and Miller Avenues. Might trade. Barton Z. Riggs. 17-4t.

FOR RENT—Furnished house, 808 Jefferson street. Vacant June 1. 20-4t.

FOR SALE—Chest hay, baled. U. S. Grant, Dallas, Oreon. 18-4t.

FOR SALE—Re-cleaned red clover seed 10 1/2 cents per pound. No. 1 grey oats. Telephone 24155. C. S. Calkins, Airlie, Oregon. 18-4t.

JUST RECEIVED—A car of cedar fence posts. Sohren Warehouse. 18-4t.

LOST—Purse containing \$15.00 gold. Return to this office and receive reward. 18-2t.

FOR SALE—All the lumber from a 30 x 30 barn, taken down and piled; \$15 takes the pile. Must be sold not later than Saturday night. J. S. Macomber. Phone Black 25.

FOR RENT—Why pay out your cash for rent when you know that your bill never get a cent of it back. Mr. renter, why not live in the house and pay a small rental every month and in a very short time your monthly payments will cease and the home is yours, no more rent. Also vacant lots, same plan, build a home to suit your own ideas. Phone 544. 16-4t W. M. McQueen

FOR SALE—Land plaster at the L. A. Westcott Warehouse, Rieckreall. Phone Lucas & Price. 9-4t.

TO TRADE—Twenty acres, with good new bungalow, barn, wagon sheds, chicken house, and outbuildings; some prunes, loganberries, family orchard, water-piped to house and barn from mountain spring, ten or more acres may be irrigated from branch on the place, two miles from Willamette town of 3,000. Three saw mills less than a mile away, land hog fenced. An ideal small ranch. Will trade for Dallas property. Enquire at The Observer office. 21-4t.

WELL DRILLING

Having purchased a Standard Well-drilling machine I am prepared to contract for this class of work, at

REGULAR PRICES

I can drill a six-inch hole to a depth of 900 feet. Give me a call and let me figure with you.

G. G. KESSLER

One mile north of Dallas. 19-4t.

Hills Bros.



TEA and COFFEE
 FOR SALE AT
Loughary Grocery
 DALLAS, OREGON

LODGE DIRECTORY

UNITED ARTISANS—Dallas Assembly, No. 46, meets on first and third Mondays of each month at Woodman hall. Visiting members made welcome.

W. J. WHITE, M. A.
 WILLIS SIMONTON, Secretary.

WOODMEN OF THE WORLD—Dallas Camp No. 209 meets in W. O. W. Hall on Tuesday evening of each week. J. F. Driscoll, Consul Com. F. J. Craven, Clerk.

A. F. & A. M.—Jennings Lodge, No. 8, meets second and fourth Fridays of each month, in Masonic hall on Main street. Visiting brethren welcome.

W. R. ELLIS, W. M.
 WALTER S. MUIR, Secretary.

Get your butter wrappers at the Observer office.