

# The Polk County Observer

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(TWICE-A-WEEK)

NO. 29.

## PLAN HAS MERIT

Representative Fruit Growers of Polk Listen to Addresses.

MAY JOIN DISTRIBUTORS UNION

Delegates to General Meeting in Portland for Organization of Sub-Central Association Chosen.

The greatest central selling organization in the civilized world is the North Pacific Fruit Distributors' association, which is now effecting a sub-central in the Willamette Valley and in which Polk county will become an important factor. Mr. H. C. Sampson, treasurer of the organization, spoke to a small gathering of fruit growers and business men at the courthouse Wednesday morning, comprehensively explaining the aims and objects of the distributors' union, and forcefully illustrating the necessity of centralization in placing upon the markets of the world the fruit products of the Pacific Northwest. The keynote of his remarks was that greater prosperity and success of this country may be found in farmers managing their own business in their own way and in their own interests. Affiliation would mean that all fruits grown in Polk county would be handled through one head office at Spokane, and in this way sales could be effected more advantageously and at better prices. The headquarters of the association is in touch, through its ten general and sixty-seven exclusive agencies, with the entire civilized world, and receives accurate information every hour during the season from all sections, thus knowing exact conditions. The business is taken out of the hands of commission men and put under the management of a combination of brains and experienced men who have been engaged in fruit growing from twenty to thirty years.

Mr. Sampson, who occupied two full hours in presenting facts and figures to his audience, was preceded by Mark Woodruff, who is interested in the formation of the Willamette sub-central organization from a shipping point of view, he representing the railroad interests. He wanted to see the fruit industry prosper, for its failure spells ruin to the railroads. During his remarks he said \$600,000 was now being spent by the railroads in the Willamette Valley, and \$12,000,000 in the construction of a road to Coos Bay.

Following these talks Messrs. Harry Wood, president of the local Fruit Growers' association; H. G. Campbell, R. M. Ewing, secretary and assistant secretary, respectively, of the same organization; N. L. Guy, vice-president of the Commercial club, and H. C. Eakin, were appointed a committee to attend the meeting of all the Willamette towns interested, to be held in Portland on Saturday, June 20.

### A Bit of History.

Just one year ago the fruitgrowers of the Pacific northwest went into business on a business basis and the North Pacific Fruit Distributors came into existence. On May 31, 1913, final organization of the growers into one great central marketing agency was formally completed.

A desperate situation, severely impressed by the previous year's disastrous selling experience, had confronted the growers. Thousands of ears of apples had been sold for less than the actual cost of growing, packing and shipping, and all because there was supposed to have been an oversupply, the crop in full in 1912, however, amounting to only about 15,000 ears. Thousands of boxes had been dumped into gulches or fed to hogs. The life of the fruit industry of the northwest was at stake.

Within the four states of Washington, Oregon, Idaho and Montana horticulturists had estimated that over 500,000 acres had been planted to apple trees and about 75,000 acres to other varieties of fruit, only a small part of which had come into bearing in 1912. In the face of this condition the question in the mind of every grower was whether 1912 was an over-supply year, or whether something was wrong with marketing methods. And what was to be done with the crop when it should reach 25,000, 50,000 and on up to 100,000 ears became a problem requiring immediate solution.

Fruitgrowers who gathered in Spokane to attend the National Apple show in the fall of 1912 were agitated, but a few had been brewing plans for protecting the industry against a recurrence of the 1912 "failure" and for placing it on a permanently substantial basis.

A conference previously had been called and the result of six days of meetings was the selection of Chairman Robert E. Straborn and Secretary H. C. Sampson of the apple show as

the chairman and secretary, respectively, of a temporary organization and the appointment of a committee to present a concrete marketing scheme. Hitherto the distribution of the fruit throughout the markets of the world had been absolutely haphazard. The growers had suffered because of both improper distribution and under distribution. Some markets had been congested and other left barren.

The fruit business of the northwest was in a chaotic state when the growers decided to go into business for themselves on a business basis, following that conference. Today they have an organization which not only dominates the industry in the northwest, but has sufficient size and prestige to exercise a measure of orderly control over the markets in this and other countries.

A few days ago at the annual meeting of the trustees from the affiliated district organizations throughout the northwest General Manager J. H. Robbins reported that the price which had been realized for the growers who had marketed through the North Pacific Fruit Distributors during its initial year aggregated \$3,069,935. The satisfaction of the growers has been general. Not an affiliated organization has availed itself of its right to withdraw and many new ones have been added. The distributors, by its eminently successful first year's experience, has won the right to be considered a permanent institution which ranks with the most important in the United States.

**Review of Year's Work.**  
In reviewing the brief history of the distributors in his annual report to the trustees, General Manager Robbins said: "With the hopeful expectations of thousands of fruit growers throughout the northwest and the eyes of the fruit world on us we opened our present offices for actual business June 10. Since that date the North Pacific Fruit Distributors has, we believe, justly earned an enviable record for achievement not heretofore paralleled in the fruit history of the world. We have in the most thorough manner planted the true spirit of cooperation in every fruit district of any consequence within the four states of Washington, Oregon, Idaho and Montana. We have within that vast territory, through the standardization of grade, pack and practices and through certain well defined policies and well established principles of marketing; substantially transformed the fruit industry of the northwest from a position of doubt and uncertainty to one of hopefulness and permanency."

"To have successfully organized (Continued on Page Two)

### TOOZE MAKES PREDICTION.

Polk County Will Be Conspicuous in Republican Column.

Walter L. Tooze, Jr., committeeman from Polk county, attended a meeting of the Republican State Central committee in Portland on Tuesday, when twenty-three of the thirty-four counties of the state were represented. From every section of the state, says Mr. Tooze, comes enthusiastic reports for success in the fall election. A systematic campaign will be launched within a short time, with headquarters at the metropolis. Mr. Tooze addressed the meeting, and told his political colleagues that Polk county would be conspicuous in the republican column this fall.

Charles B. Moores, of Multnomah county, who had been state chairman for two years, was unanimously re-elected, as was also Edward D. Baldwin, of Wasco county, as secretary, and Harvey Wells, of Multnomah county, as treasurer.

### MONEY FOR SOLDIERS.

Needy Veterans Have Fund With County for Their Care.

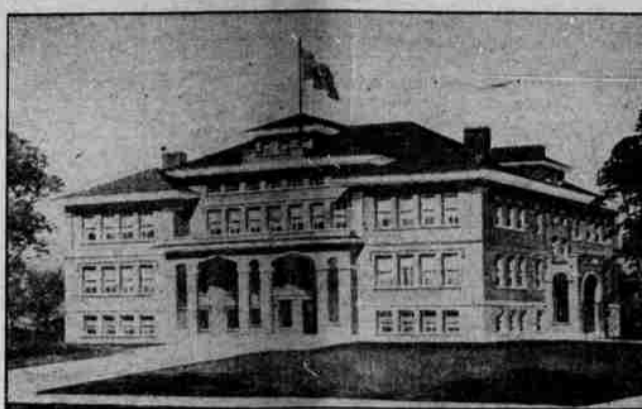
The old soldiers of Dallas are jubilant over the fact that they now have ample funds with which to care for needy comrades. Each year the county votes a small millage to a soldiers' pension fund, but this was not available in the past because Dallas has had no Grand Army of the Republic organization. The county treasury now contains something over \$600, raised for the purpose indicated, and on Tuesday Commander Greenwood of U. S. Grant post signed the documents that makes the cash available.

### School Election Monday.

While we are rejoicing over the results of Wednesday's election we should not forget that another important election will be held on Monday, when three school directors are to be elected. There are two women candidates, both capable of performing the duties devolving upon them, and it is likely that both will be elected. There will be three members to elect, making a board of five.

### Hops Are Looking Well.

Mr. Walt Williams, who is interested in a considerable acreage of hops near Dallas, says he expects to harvest a larger crop than last year. The hops are looking exceptionally well, and there the fewer-missing hills than last season.



High School, Where Commencement Exercises Are Held.

## MORE BURGLARS FOUND HE BUMPS THE BUMPS

HILLIGAS BROTHERS CHARGED WITH ROBBERY.

Merchandise of Varied Character Found in Their Possession by Sheriff John Grant.

The wave of robberies that has been going on at Falls City during the past year was brought to a sudden termination on Tuesday when Sheriff Grant arrested Floyd and Ray Hilligas at that place on suspicion, and found stolen goods in their possession. Within the past few months the store of the Falls City Mercantile company, that of the Falls City Lumber company, the home of T. P. Bevens and other residences have been systematically robbed, and the sheriff set about to apprehend the guilty parties. Through the cooperation of the marshal and others these men, who live in a tent within the city, were placed under arrest and incarcerated in jail awaiting an examination. Quantities of the goods taken were identified by the owners when found packed away in the tent-home of the perpetrators of the several crimes.

Floyd Hilligas had been cutting wood for a Mr. Allen, near Falls City, and afterwards went to work for I. L. Smith and T. P. Bevens. At the latter place the sheriff requested Mr. Bevens to keep a watchful eye upon Hilligas, and he attempted to do so, but while acting in the roll of detective he was, in the language of the sheriff, stolen blind. In addition to the other crimes charged to the Hilligas brothers, Mr. Stevens' home was entered and a quantity of movable articles taken, but none of these were found.

The hearing will be held before Justice Strayer of Falls City, and County Attorney Sibley will represent the state. While awaiting a hearing the prisoners were held at the city by the falls.

### Carnival Opens Tuesday.

The Pollock & McClallan Carnival will arrive in Dallas from Corvallis on Monday, in a special train of three cars. The shows are much the same as all carnival companies, except as to the variation of detail, and consist of merry-go-round; ferris wheel, electrically illuminated; African jungle show; Pittsburgh glass works; Amaza, including Pharaoh's daughter, and the woman who turns to stone; scientific palmist; musical comedy company; nigger baby baseball alley; midget show.

## Cherrians Come With Music and Well Wishes

The Cherrians were with us yesterday afternoon for a brief period while enroute to Portland by special train. Their coming was appreciated; their stay was too short. The exhibition drill given on the public thoroughfares of Dallas by this booster band was one of the finest ever witnessed by our people, here or elsewhere, and if Dallas were permitted to award the prize at the Rose show the Capital City boys would have no fear of not carrying off the honors. Dressed in white, with hats and shoes to match, they presented an attractive appearance as they paraded to the music of the excellent music provided by themselves.

With the Cherrians came several hundred people from Salem, all going to Portland to witness the festivities. The big booster organization brought its best wishes for the West Side in a publication advertising the Cherry Fair, which contained the following: "Salem, through its Cherrians, extends its greetings and best wishes to its sister cities in the West Side of the Willamette Valley. Dallas, the Prune City of the World; McMinnville, lying in the center of one of the most beautiful and prosperous stretches of country in the world, and the adjacent towns, are extended

## HE BUMPS THE BUMPS

OR HOW A FLY CAMPAIGNER GOT A TRAP.

Candidates for Political Office Generally Get the Worst of It, But Not Here.

When Secretary Miles, manager of the fly elimination campaign, was soliciting orders for fly traps, he approached Mr. Harry Belt with an argument for the sale of a receptacle for the disease-breeding buzzer. Now the secretary is a wise one, and Mr. Belt being a candidate before the people for circuit judge, he realized that he had what is commonly termed a cinch.

"Of course you want a fly trap?" said the secretary with one of those characteristic smiles that eventually bursts forth into a laughter that makes the welkin ring.

"To be sure," responded the other, and speaking of flies reminds me of a fellow at the Insane asylum over at Salem. He labors under the hallucination that he is a disciple of the great Edison on an inventive viewpoint, and to prove his genius he exhibited for our edification and approval a model of a fly trap conceived by him. It had an entrance, of course, the fly going into a small compartment, from which it escaped by means of a ladder into another compartment higher up." The candidate here stopped the explanation long enough to conceal a smile, for he was coming to the funny part. "You see the fly was high from the trap floor, it couldn't back down the ladder, and must proceed even at its peril. This compartment had a ladder with a broken rung, and when in the descent this was reached the fly fell and broke its neck."

"Ha-ha-ha-haw," reeled off the pest manager, "Certainly a good one, by Jove; but how about a trap of my invention. To be or not to be, that's the question before the house."

"A fly trap? Of course, put one up to me, and remember there are to be no Progressives in the fall election," and a significant expression on his countenance indicated that the incident was closed.

Two weeks have elapsed. Enters Mr. Harry Belt from left wing. Cautiously peeping through the proscenium arch he discovers what at first appears to be the leavings of night riders of the Klu-Klux-Klan. With beaming stride the object is approached, and finally sufficient courage is mustered to make a critical exami-

nation of the huge wooden contrivance. Still mystery.

"What in thunder is that blooming thing, Brown?" he inquired of Lot, one of his law partners. But Lot simply frowned and shifted his pedal extremities to the detriment of the polish on his mahogany desk. Mr. Brown ran his digits reminiscently through his raven locks for less than three-quarters of a second when his eyes fastened themselves upon a lone fly within the confines of the contraption. "The trap! The trap! The trap!" he shouted in stentorian tones, and Miles, a block away, rushed for ice to soothe his torrid ears.

Chapter three deals with the hero and the villain, but which is which must be left to a committee of arbitration.

"Give me \$1.50 for the fly trap delivered to you a while back, Mr. Belt," said the secretary in his most persuasive manner. And being proficient in the sign language he jingled a few coins of the lesser denominations in further explanation of his meaning.

"I'll give you a dollar in lawful money of the United States if you will take that thing from my sight," retorted the self-inflated one. "I thought you were joking, Miles, about selling me a fly trap. We have no flies except the one you sent to us in the trap, and furthermore our office is not of sufficient proportions or of proper interior design to house a truck of that character." Mr. Belt put on his most artistic injured look as he glared at the vender of traps, but a manager of a fly elimination campaign is not subject to rebuff, even when that rebuff is hurled from a learned disciple of Blackstone.

"But my dear sir, that trap is not intended for your palatial legal department," urged the salesman. "Its rightful place is in the alley; that's where it is designed to go."

"There can be no warrant of law that will permit me to block a public alley in the city of Dallas, or in any other municipality of this great and growing commonwealth with that tormented fly-catcher. Now, Mr. Fly Man, be a good fellow; take this cartwheel and fly trap and make your getaway. And long may your cause flourish."

Mr. Miles contributed the additional fifty cents, took a bill of sale of the trap, and is now the sole possessor of that instrument of death.

### TAMPER WITH THE MAILS.

Letters Opened and Contents Strawn Upon Ground on Route One.

Mr. E. N. Keeney, a resident of the Smithfield district, complains that his mail is being tampered with by unknown parties, the latest interference having taken place a few days since when a letter was opened and the contents of the envelope strawn upon the ground near the mail box. Mr. Keeney's mail is delivered on route one out of Dallas. And this is not the first offense, says the complainant. Last fall letters and papers were taken, but the culprits were apprehended without the aid of the authorities, and after threatening to report the matter to Uncle Sam if the unlawful act was not discontinued, the offenders were permitted to go their way without prosecution. Patience has now ceased to be a virtue in this instance, and the postal inspector at Portland has been notified.

### ANNUAL SCHOOL REPORT.

Balance on Hand Shows Increase Over That of Last Year.

The annual report of the Board of Education, published in detail elsewhere in The Observer, makes a very gratifying showing, the balance on hand being somewhat larger than one year ago. This is made necessary for the liquidation of the \$7,500 outstanding bonds, issued for a public school building. The balance on hand on June 16, 1913, was \$5,857.90, while the balance on June 12, 1914, was \$9,398.05. All who are interested in the public schools should read the report.

### UNION MAY COME HERE.

Representative of Big Oil Company Views Dallas Field.

The Observer is informed upon what appears to be reliable authority that the Union Oil company of California will enter the oil and gasoline business at this point in opposition to the Standard Oil company, whose station here has just been completed. A representative of the former corporation was in Dallas on Wednesday "viewing the lay of the land," and while nothing definite has been done it is understood that action will be taken in the matter in the not very distant future.

### Druggists to Meet.

D. O. Woodworth, chairman of the entertainment committee, has announced that the twenty-fifth annual convention of the Oregon State Pharmaceutical association will be held at Newport from July 14 to 19.

## TWO OF THREE WIN

City Votes Bonds for Fair Site and Building of Septic Tank

STREET MEASURE LOSES OUT.

Dallas Citizens Declare Favorably on Proposition to Make County Fair Permanent Fixture.

The booster spirit prevailed in Dallas on Wednesday, when the people voted to issue bonds for a septic tank for the disposal of the sewage now being dumped into the La Creole river, and \$5,000 for the purchase of a permanent site for the county fair, the latter measure carrying by a majority of nearly four to one. The proposed amendment to section 66 of the charter lost, the general impression being that its adoption meant the charging of street intersection improvements to abutting property, whereas it referred only to curbs and parking. The total vote on this measure was 511, of which number 215 were for and 295 against its adoption. The vote by wards was: For, first ward, 55; second ward, 74; third ward, 86. Against, first ward, 121; second ward, 128; third ward, 47.

The measure authorizing and empowering the issuing and sale of bonds in the sum of \$5,000, to bear interest not to exceed 6 per cent, and to run not more than ten years, for the purpose of purchasing real estate for a permanent county fair site, or for park purposes, was adopted by a vote of 409 for to 125 against, the vote by wards being: First ward for, 149; second ward, 171; third ward, 89. Against: First ward, 54; second ward, 50; third ward, 21.

The proposed amendment to the charter authorizing the issuing of bonds in the sum of \$7500 for the construction of a septic tank, was adopted by a vote of 366 for and 141 against. The vote by wards: For, first ward, 126; second ward, 162; third ward, 78. Against, first ward, 66; second ward, 50; third ward, 25.

At its regular semi-monthly meeting next Monday night the council will arrange for carrying out the will of the people.

### THE BAND BOYS' CARNIVAL.

Foley & Burk to Appear Here Under Its Auspices.

Among the attractions of the Foley & Burk Amusement company which is to appear in Dallas late in July under the auspices of the Dallas band, is a little lady, thirty inches high and weighing twenty-seven pounds, known as "Elizabeth, the Living Doll." Elizabeth is perfectly formed and is one of the best known performers in American vaudeville. She is twenty-one years of age and accomplished in many ways. She readily speaks six different languages and it is seldom that anyone is found in her audience who cannot understand her. The carnival company has many other attractions, and is highly endorsed by the various commercial and civic bodies of the cities of California. Clean attractions and meritorious entertainments are the constant endeavor of the management.

Of course a Ferris wheel and merry-go-round are to be expected. The youngsters would not think it was a carnival without these time honored amusement features. The huge wheel is all of steel and cantilevered and as safe as any sitting room rocking chair. The merry-go-round is a distinct novelty. Not one of the whip and jerk, gasoline engine and track affairs with stationary horses, but a regular "Old Country" style galloping horse carousel with life sized steeds which gallop in a realistic manner on a safe platform, swung from a mighty axle which stands vertically in the center, rendering a perfectly smooth gliding motion and free from the freaks and whims of a gas engine.

### Snyder Will Sing Tonight.

Mr. Frank Snyder, son of Mr. and Mrs. A. V. R. Snyder of this city, will sing at the High school commencement exercises this evening. Mr. Snyder, who has been in San Francisco during the past six months, has a rich baritone voice, and is making a decided hit wherever he appears. Next week he will enter upon an engagement at the Globe in Salem.

### Soldiers Are in Portland.

Company L, Oregon National Guard, left this morning at 6:30 o'clock by special train for Portland, where it will participate in the big parade today. The soldier boys will leave for home at 11 o'clock tonight, arriving here at a late hour. They will go via Salem and return direct.

Plastering at the hospital has been finished.