

The Standard of Polk County

Through the untiring efforts of Superintendent H. C. Seymour to advance education Polk county has been given national recognition. In an article in the March number of The World's Work, Mr. E. F. Carlton, assistant state superintendent of education, has the following interesting article on the "Standard of Polk County," which will bear republication:

Not long ago the county school superintendent of Polk county, Oregon, conceived the idea of establishing a standard for the rural schools of his county. After talking over the plan with his state superintendent, he worked out fifteen requirements which must be fulfilled by the district before it can claim the distinction of having a standard school. These were printed on a large card, and one was hung on the front wall of each rural school. The type was large, so that the card could be read easily from any place in the room.

The standard requirements were that the American flag must be flying in good weather; the schoolhouse must be properly lighted and ventilated, and the schoolroom attractive; that there must be one good picture added each year unless four good ones are already in the room; that there must be either a fountain or tank with individual cups; that the out-buildings must always be kept sanitary; that the grounds must be drained and kept in order; and that there must be flowers on the grounds or in the rooms.

The standard also required a library with a case for books, with lock and key, and that the books be in good condition and catalogued; that every pupil must be entered in the spelling contests, and the average attendance must be 95 per cent. for the year; and that the teacher's monthly reports must show at least one hour's visit by one or more members of the school board every month. Moreover, the teacher is required to attend at least 50 per cent. of teachers' institutes, and to subscribe to at least one educational paper.

A gold star was fastened opposite each point to which the school was entitled. Then came the work of the county superintendent. He began in one of the best districts and, with the co-operation of the teacher, he held a meeting of the patrons. By dint of much urging and many personal invitations, he secured the attendance of nearly every father and mother in the district. Twenty questions typewritten on slips of paper were distributed among the farmers, and the chairman of the board of directors was requested to preside over the meeting. The questions were all on local conditions, such as, "How can we change the lighting of this building so that the light will be on the left side of the children?" "Is it a good plan to hire a different teacher each term, or would it be better to pay a little more and have the same teacher year after year, provided we can find one who is entirely satisfactory?" Each in turn would answer his question, and then there would be a discussion.

At this first meeting, it required effort on the part of those directing the meeting to bring out many expressions of opinion, but that was four years ago. The plan of holding this kind of meeting has now been extended to every district in the county. They are held at regular intervals, and everyone has learned to talk.

The result of this first meeting was that the people decided to levy a local district tax and to have the honor of being the first district in the county to have a standard school. With the money raised, the directors employed carpenters to take out all the windows on the right-hand side of the building, and to build as many more on the left. They drained the playgrounds, built cement walks to the outbuildings, provided for janitor service, and instructed the teacher to see that the outbuildings were supplied with disinfectants recommended by the state board of health. In the place of the old stove which was in the center of the room, they purchased a modern heating plant equipped with a ventilating system. The schoolhouse was painted inside and out, and a beautiful, though not expensive, reprint of one of the old masters was purchased and hung in the school room.

Picture study, by the way, is an important adjunct of the language lessons in the rural schools of Oregon. A Sunday school teacher from the city was helping to conduct a Sunday school. In her class were the first grade pupils, and the story was about Ruth and Naomi. She had not been able to secure a copy of "The Gleaners," which she wished to use in teaching the story, so she took with her a similar picture, thinking the country children would not know the difference. At once the little boys and girls said, "That is not 'The Gleaners,'" and then described to

some person residing in another state who might be interested in Polk county that they may send them out where they will do the most good. The issue contains a two-page writeup of the county, giving its resources, advantages and future possibilities.

SPRING LINES NOW DISPLAYED.

The Bee Hive Store Calls Attention to Special Features.

The Bee Hive, one of the oldest and best-known mercantile establishments in Polk county, has a conspicuous announcement in The Observer today, to which the attention of the reader is directed. Mr. Finseth has selected a large stock of spring goods with the expectation of an increased trade with improved business conditions, every department being complete in its every detail, and it will doubtless be to the advantage of the economical buyer to inspect this early display and make purchases before the several lines are broken.

Mr. Finseth calls special attention to women's and misses' suits and coats for spring, in styles not only advanced but so well chosen as to be wearable throughout the season. The La Vogue makes eliminate any extensive need for alterations, only slight adjustments, rather than alterations, being necessary in any case. This season's styles are absolutely correct in the La Vogue, and, comprising variety for all figures, should attract considerable attention from up-to-the-moment dressers.

LOCAL NEWS.

Mr. Frank Barrett, bookkeeper for the Oregon Power company, went to Albany yesterday.

Mr. A. B. Muir was a Portland visitor on Saturday.

The Woman's club meets at the library building this afternoon.

Rev. Geo. F. Hopkins, a former pastor of the Methodist, will return to Portland this afternoon, after having been in Dallas since Saturday.

Tom Bennett, one of Coos county's leading attorneys, spent last night in Dallas.

Mr. and Mrs. E. G. White and son Ronald of Falls City spent Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. A. M. Vassall.

Mr. William Reetz of Perrydale was a Dallas visitor yesterday. The monthly meeting of the Polk County Fruit Growers' association will be held in this city next Saturday.

It's time to get those seeds started in pots and window boxes. Spring is on the road.

Have you taken advantage of that special price on land plaster yet? See Soehren, 103-21.

All White Clover Butter is now put out with coupons, and if consumers will carefully save them, the coupons will assist them in securing a beautiful set of dishes. A sample of these dishes may be seen and further information obtained by calling at the T. S. Townsend Creamery Company's office, 102-4t.

Call on The Polk County Observer for printing of any kind. There's nothing too large, and nothing too small for it to turn out in the latest approved manner. We print everything. And prices are guaranteed to be satisfactory. Let us give you an estimate on your next job of printing.

Order your cabbage plants from W. R. Tapscott, phone Dallas 1143, 92-4t. Farm loans; five years time with optional payments at current rates of interest. Write for information, Oregon Title & Land Credit Co., 209 U. S. National Bank building, Salem, Ore. Gail's famous meals.

Hop Growers, Attention.—Let us furnish you top supplies. Rock bottom prices. Barham's warehouse, west of public school, Ash street. 95-1t. Dallas has a sawmill cutting over 15,000,000 feet per annum, and furnishing steady employment to 175 workmen.

Jno. R. Sibley, Lawyer, 610 Mill street. 94-1t. Gail's famous meals.

Stop those leaks with Wonder cement. Barham Warehouse Co. 79-1t. When you want insurance or surety bonds, call on Prichard.

Or. C. L. Foster, dentist, City Bank building, Dallas. 73-F. Dr. Rempel, Chiropractor, 513 Church street. See Barham Manufacturing Co. for prune trays and boxes. 79-1t.

The Dallas Wood company is ready to furnish you with mill wood. Good loads and good service. All wood cash on delivery. Phone 492. 103-1t. Dr. Stone's Heave Drops cures heaves. Price \$1, for sale by all druggists.—Adv. 79-1t.

Our Abstract plant is posted to date every morning from Polk County records. Brown-Sibley Abstract Co., Jno. R. Sibley, manager. 94-1t.

Eye Specialist. Wednesday, March 10, Dr. Freeze, the well known Portland eye specialist, will be at Stafrin's all day. Consultations free. Hardest cases invited to call.

LOCAL CHURCHES

The revival services at the Christian church, which are to be led by H. A. Van Winkle, pastor of the Christian church at Tillamook, have already successfully begun. The pastor, C. C. Curtis, opened the series Sunday morning with a searching sermon to the church, preaching from the text, Gal. 5:7, "Ye were running well, who hath hindered you?" He strongly commended the church for its efficiency and co-operation of the past, but suggested that there were indications of self satisfaction and therefore a cessation of the intense activity of the past. The pastor said: "While there is a high degree of efficiency in every department there is not that same enthusiasm for greater attainments that once impelled you forward, something hath hindered you."

The dominant note of the service was that, in reality, nothing could hinder a christian's progress but self. There was a strong admonition for a renewal of the "Christian race," of that "welling running," of which the apostle spoke in the text. A renewal of their missionary zeal was strongly urged upon the church as an essential to a successful evangelistic campaign.

The second service of the campaign at 7:30 Sunday evening was a prophecy of what is in store for the people during the weeks of this special effort. The large auditorium was filled with attentive and enthusiastic listeners as the pastor developed his sermon, based upon Zech. 2:4, "Go speak to that young man," largely addressed to christian people, urging them to greater evangelistic effort, but he impressed upon those present who were not christians the greatness of the call and the fact that when christian workers spoke to them, as urged by the words of the text, they were paying them the highest possible compliment and proving themselves friends indeed. At the close of the service when the invitation was extended to those who would accept the call, two strong men, heads of families, came forward and gave the pastor their hands in a pledge to begin the better life, led by Him in whom they confessed their faith, in response to the questions of the pastor. A young man also took fellowship with the congregation at this place. The music, under the direction of Mr. U. S. Grant, was inspiring. The little Smith sisters, whose songs are to be a feature of the meeting, sang a prayer song which touched the hearts of the hearers.

H. A. Van Winkle, who is to lead in the meeting, is pastor of one of the most efficient churches in the state, and superintendent of a Sunday school of 400 members with a limited field from which to draw. He has been uniformly successful as pastor and evangelist and is decidedly of the evangelistic temperament. He is a young man of great zeal and force in the pulpit, and will, with the co-operation of this strong church, lead the community in a great revival. Mr. Curtis and his people urge the Dallas public to co-operate in this work for a better and purer Dallas. The services will begin each evening promptly at 7:30 o'clock with a rousing song service.

Rev. Herbert F. Jones, who has been pastor of the Christian church at Monmouth, has accepted a call to the pastorate of the Christian church of St. Johns, and will enter on his work there May 1. Rev. Mr. Jones has had 15 years of active work in the ministry, about half that time having been passed in evangelistic work. For four years he worked in Seattle, Wash., under the Christian Women's Board of Missions, where one mission church was developed. Rev. Mr. Jones worked in Portland under the direction of the American Christian Missionary society and the City Board of Christian Churches as city evangelist. He went to Monmouth from Portland, where a new church had been completed and dedicated free of debt. A public library and reading room were installed as part of the work of the Monmouth church.

Rev. Geo. F. Hopkins, former pastor of the Methodist church, delivered two most excellent sermons Sunday. He is at present in charge of the movement to raise one hundred thousand dollars for an endowment fund, for the support of retired ministers in the Oregon conference.

The Home Missionary society of the Methodist church very appropriately observed the day of prayer last Thursday at the church parlors. Mrs. Morrison very ably conducted the lesson, which was about the red man and the government. The ladies brought lunch and at 6 o'clock dinner was enjoyed by the ladies and their husbands. In the evening all attended prayer meeting.

The music at the Presbyterian church Sunday was of a high order enjoyed by all who heard it. The

choir has been augmented by several good voices and the musical outlook for the future is good. The pastor, Rev. Mitchell, preached two helpful sermons.

The social given for the members and friends of the Presbyterian church on the evening of Washington's birthday was enjoyed by all who were there. There were several musical numbers and addresses appropriate to the occasion. Many expressed the wish that another could be given soon.

OVER \$1,600 IN GIFTS

(Continued from page one.) In this county are subscribers to The Observer and if they are not they should be. Every subscriber to the paper will help you with their votes if you only ask them before someone else gets their support. To prove to yourself how easy it is to get votes phone or call on one of your friends and ask them if they will not help you tell them that you are going into the contest and we will warrant that four out of every five will promise you their help.

Remember that organization is the keynote to success in a contest. The one that organizes the best campaign is the one that will win the player piano on the last day of the contest. Phone, write or call on all of your friends that you cannot see personally and ask them to save their subscriptions and vote coupons for you and that you will call for them later. Get your friends lined up in a boosting campaign for you, have them tell all of their friends that you are in the contest and that they want to see you win the first prize. A voting contest is all the world like an election, everybody has their favorite candidate that they want to see win and they will help them all that they possibly can. The one that commends the most support is the one that is the most active in soliciting support.

Make your start today by organizing your campaign. We will warrant that if you enter the contest in real earnest that you will not regret it on the last day of the contest when the prizes will be awarded to you and the rest of the winners. Never before have you had the chance to enter a contest where you are sure to get a prize. Note the special offer made in the page announcement to help you get a start. Try and make at least one of these clubs, they are easy to secure if you only start.

Candidates in the outlying districts have the same opportunity to win as the Dallas candidates. Note that a duplicate of prizes will be given for each district.

Dallas has a \$15,000 armory, large and well equipped.

Special dinner for farmers at the Imperial hotel, 25 cents. Try it once, and you'll be a regular customer. 104-1t.

Too Late to Classify.

TO TRADE—Equity of \$180 in a \$450 Reed piano, mahogany finish and a splendid instrument. Mrs. Moore, Imperial hotel. 104-1t.

FOR SALE—JERSEY 3 years old, sound and gentle. Sire dame gives 614 pounds in 323 days, her dame gives 469 pounds in 300 days. W. P. McBea, Dallas. 104-2t-x

NOTICE.

Notice is hereby given that on March 1, 1915, F. J. Craven, executor of the estate of George M. Gooch, deceased, filed in the County Court of the State of Oregon for Polk County, his resignation and final account as such executor, and that said Court has appointed Monday, the 5th day of April, 1915, at ten o'clock a. m., at the Courtroom of said Court, in the city of Dallas, Oregon, as the time and place for the hearing of the said application to resign and of all objections to said final account and the settlement thereof. On said 5th day of April, 1915, at the hour and place above mentioned, said executor will apply to said Court to resign his said trust and for the allowance of his said final account; on or before the day appointed for such hearing and settlement, any person interested in said estate may file his objections thereto.

Dated and first published, March 2, 1915.

F. J. CRAVEN, Executor aforesaid. OSCAR HAYTER, Attorney. Meh.2-30-5t.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS.

Notice is hereby given that the undersigned has been by the county court of Polk County, Oregon, appointed administrator of the estate of Gerhard J. Quiring, deceased, and has qualified. All persons having claims against said estate are notified to present the same, duly verified as required by law, to the undersigned at the law office of L. D. Brown, Dallas, Oregon, within six months from the date hereof.

Dated this February 9th, 1915.

JOHN W. QUIRING, Administrator of the estate of Gerhard J. Quiring, deceased. L. D. BROWN, Attorney for the Estate. 98-5t.

\$9.95

SPECIAL PRICE

ON

Land Plaster

(MADE IN OREGON)

\$9.95 PER TON

INCLUDING NEW BAGS.

See Soehren

PHONE 831.

ONE BLOCK SOUTH OF DEPOT.

West Side Marble Works

G. L. HAWKINS, Proprietor.

MONUMENTS, HEADSTONES AND CURBING. Complete Line of All Latest Designs.

LAST GREAT WEST

Just opened by the Grand Trunk Pacific railway, now completed through the great Nechaco valley, British Columbia, to Prince Rupert on the Pacific ocean. Most productive soil, plenty of wood and water, climate mild and equable, being west of Rocky mountains where the winds are from the warm Japan current. Abundance of oranges. A fine farming and stock country just being developed. Great opportunities for energetic men in farming and stock raising. We have lived in the valley for over seven years and know it thoroughly. We can give true information on all conditions there from actual personal knowledge. Inquiries answered fully and truthfully. We have some of the best lands for sale and a few choice tracts to exchange for improved or partly improved Willamette valley lands. E. P. Hazen & Son, Bellingham, Washington. 86-8t.

A Lasting Friendship DAVIS BEST FLOUR

FRESH BREAD, FRUIT AND VEGETABLES EVERY DAY.

Staple and Fancy Groceries

SIMONTON & SCOTT

Phone 18. 525 Court St.



When We Hand You Our Estimates

of the cost of the lumber you require you can depend upon it that the figures will be as low as first-class, well seasoned lumber can be sold for honestly. If you pay more you pay too much. If you pay less you get less either in quality or quantity.

Willamette Valley Lumber Co.