

TERSE TALES OF TOWN

LOCAL NEWS OF DALLAS AND THIS NEIGHBORHOOD.

Personal Paragraphs Pertaining to People and Their Movements, Gleaned by Observer.

Read The Observer's want column. It is the column in which some genuine bargains may be found. If you want to rent a hop yard; if you want to buy an auto; if you want to buy a gasoline engine; if you want to buy a horse; if you want to buy sheep; if you want to rent a house; if you want furnished rooms; if you want to borrow money, read this column today. Advertising rates in the want columns of The Observer are low, and the ads. give results. If you have anything to sell, or want to buy or exchange, try a want ad.

Miss Leo Petre of Airlie is confined to her home with tonsillitis. Miss Petre is one of The Observer's contestants in its subscription campaign, and while she is unable to work personally she is not without friends who have come to her rescue in this time of need.

Mr. R. M. Johnson of Corvallis, representing the Equitable Life Insurance company, was in Dallas on Friday and Saturday.

Mrs. Carl Manock of Dallas, Miss Francis Kertz and Ernest Houk of Perrydale visited recently at the home of Mr. and Mrs. A. L. Fink of McMinville.

Reserved seats for the Apollo club entertainment at Salem on March 26 are now on sale at Staftrin's drug store.

Dr. and Mrs. Bowersox of Falls City were recent guests of Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Morris.

C. H. Morris was a Portland visitor last Saturday, going thither on business in connection with the Oregon Jewelers' association, of which he is vice-president.

Ex-County Commissioner Herman Petre had the misfortune, while at Rieckreall last Sunday, to run a snag deeply into the ball of his right hand. The attending surgeon found it necessary to split the ball in order to remove the bit of wood.

A traction engine and a gang plow is at work on the Cooper place near Rieckreall. The ranch has been leased.

Mrs. E. M. Wilters of Hillsboro, who was visiting here Friday and Saturday, went to Salem where she will spend a few days before returning to her home.

L. C. Comstock of Dallas was visiting relatives in Salem on Saturday.

Jas. Wilcox of Portland spent the latter part of the week in this city. S. J. Smith of Mt. Angel spent a part of last week with relatives here. Last week daily prayer meetings were held at the Evangelical church, Rev. Gates delivering a short discourse each night on the various books of the bible.

L. S. Huffman of Hillsboro was a Dallas visitor on Friday. Wilbur Swenson of Portland was among the business visitors here Friday and Saturday.

Miss Ruth Swinderman was confined to her home last week with the mumps.

Messrs. John Grant and W. J. White will leave tomorrow afternoon for California, where they have leased a mine, which they will operate.

The Hon. Thos. Brunk was a Dallas visitor on Friday last.

Miss Barrett, court stenographer for this judicial district, has taken up her abode in Dallas, coming hither from Tillamook.

Mr. and Mrs. Don Miller of Oakdale are rejoicing over the advent of a daughter, born on Monday the 2nd.

Mrs. U. S. Loughary entertained the members of the Thursday afternoon club at her home on Oak street Friday afternoon.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles H. Carter of Portland are receiving congratulations upon the arrival of a son. Mrs. Carter will be remembered by Dallas people as Miss Gertrude Craven.

So far the management of the fair association has taken no action leading to the construction of a racing track at the fair grounds, and the probabilities are that nothing to that end will be undertaken this year. There is strong sentiment throughout the county for a racing meet during the county fair.

Dr. McNeel reports the birth of an eight-pound girl to Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Black on Oakdale avenue.

Mrs. N. Baird has been sick for the past week with a severe attack of grippe.

Dr. B. H. White of Salem motored to Dallas Sunday and spent the afternoon visiting at Dr. A. M. McNeel's of Hayter street.

Driven by Electric Motor.

An electrically driven motorcycle recently brought out in California is built exactly like an ordinary motorcycle, but has an electric motor in place of the usual gasoline engine. A storage battery of compact design, which carries a large reserve of electric power in proportion to its size, is clamped above the motor and furnishes the current for operation.

SLIGHT CHANCE FOR OIL

NOT OBTAINABLE IN COMMERCIAL QUANTITIES ON COAST.

Report of Geographical Survey Indicates Little Opportunity for Petroleum Development.

The general similarity in the form and position along the Pacific ocean of the Coast ranges of Oregon to the oil-bearing regions of California has led many people to believe that oil may occur in commercial quantity in western Oregon. However, according to the report of a reconnaissance of that region by C. W. Washburne, a geologist of the United States Geological Survey, the chance of getting oil in commercial quantity here is very slight indeed.

In some places in western Oregon the rocks contain tiny globules of oil, and in others they are cut by veins of solid, brittle oil residue, but nowhere is liquid oil known to seep out at the surface. The solid residues indicate only that oil was at one time present in the rocks, but it does not necessarily mean that oil occurs in quantity in the rocks at the present time. The absence of oil seeps is the most discouraging feature in this field, for the rocks are so broken that it seems highly improbable that much oil could occur in them and still not leak out at the surface and form seeps. The possibility of obtaining oil by drilling is regarded as slightly favorable in a few places in Coos, Douglas, Lincoln and Lane counties, but even there the chances are not good. Seeps of oil have been reported in practically every county in western Oregon, but most of the material described as oil proved on investigation to be only iron oxide, a substance which when present in water in minute amounts forms an iridescent scum that looks very much like an oil film.

Inflammable gas escapes from estuaries and swamps along the coast and has been reported in one or two deep wells. The gas found in the swamps has no relation to petroleum but is formed by the decay of vegetable matter buried in the mud. The amount found at any one place is never very great, and only enough for very local use can be expected. The gas is used at present in one or two places to light farmhouses, at one place enough being collected during the day to run a burner for four hours. The gas found in the deep wells is more significant, for it comes out of the solid rocks just as the gas in the producing fields in other states

does. However, a careful study of all the known occurrences of gas in western Oregon shows that the chances of getting commercial quantities of it are no more favorable than they are for oil. In Mr. Washburne's report all the reported seeps of oil and gas are described, and the possibilities of obtaining oil and gas in the different counties carefully considered.

FRAUDULENTLY USES MAILS.

Dallas Man Taken Into Custody by Uncle Sam's Sleuths.

W. E. Fox, a painter, was arrested here Saturday by Postoffice Inspector E. C. Clement and Deputy United States Marshal W. F. Harman. Fox is charged with having used the mails for fraudulent purposes, having, it is alleged, conducted a fake employment agency under the name of the Information Sales Bureau. He advertised extensively in Seattle and other Puget sound papers and is said to have secured a number of victims. He was taken to Portland by the officers.

Notice to Correspondents.

All correspondents to The Observer, rural or otherwise, are requested to sign their next week's communications to this office, and give their postoffice address, that we may keep in closer touch with those furnishing us the news from throughout the county, and also that we may supply them with new stationery that we have prepared for their special use. Each and every correspondent is urgently requested to send us a breezy letter next week, mailing it so that it will reach this office not later than Thursday afternoon. We appreciate this service very much, but correspondents are not only rendering us a service but their own community as well. The Observer has a wide circulation in Polk county, and throughout this and adjoining states, and the publicity given their respective localities by our correspondents would be hard to buy for money. We want all the news promptly. Give us every improvement that is being made in your community.

Dallas has some knockers; but, thank the Lord, they are in the minority.

LOCAL CHURCHES

On Sunday morning at the Christian church, at the close of the regular service, by a unanimous vote of the members present, a strong appeal was made to Evangelist Van Winkle to remain over one more Sunday with the Dallas church, it being the opinion of the church that his work in their midst is not completed.

Mr. Van Winkle has made many warm friends during his brief stay in Dallas, both in the church and on the outside. Many have decided, under his urgent appeal and strong teaching, to begin the christian life, and many others have received a new vision of service. The church has been wonderfully strengthened in every department, by his earnest efforts in co-operation with Pastor Curtis and his energetic congregation. The great Bible school has received a strong and lasting impetus. The evangelist has succeeded in securing the co-operation of large numbers of christian people, and this is one of the secrets of his brilliant success in this timely effort.

The pastor and evangelist, as well as their wives, were students together in the Bible university at Eugene and this fact has, of course added much to the joy and success of their efforts together. On Sunday night they received a happy surprise in a visit at the evening service by President Sanderson from that institution, also G. S. O. Humbert, the field secretary. President Sanderson was given a few minutes at the close of the service in which to address the people and he brought greetings from the school and spoke briefly concerning the school and its work.

Last Sunday there were present in the classes 385, and while this was fifteen below their worthy aim for that day, it was an increase of fifteen over the attendance of the previous Sunday, which was an encouraging advance toward the four hundred, which is the determined aim for the immediate future. Though a strong and well organized school was found by the evangelist upon his arrival, much credit is due him for the healthy increase and the present splendid enthusiasm of the school.

The crowds were large Sunday, as they have been from the beginning, but Sunday night the house was packed and some were turned away. Some of the evangelist's themes for the next few days follow: Tuesday, "The Lawyer's Defense of Judas Iscariot;" Wednesday, "The Unanswerable

Question;" Thursday, "The Conversion of an Infidel;" Friday, "The Runaway Boy. Special music: Tuesday, solo, Miss Hazel Duignan; Wednesday, duet, Miss Nola Coad and Miss Alice Grant; Thursday, The Ladies' quartette; Friday, solo, Miss Georgia Curtis.

Rev. Geo. H. Bennett is fully sustaining his reputation as a scholarly and eloquent preacher. His sermons are delivered without fear or favor, and he always "hews to the line—let the chips fall where they may." His sermon Sunday morning on "Helping Hand," was a fine portrayal of the power of sympathy and beauty of gratitude, and the love which makes saints of knaves and heroes of cowards. A man may be a deacon, and know the catechism, and receive the sacraments, and make a loud profession of religion, but all this does not count with God or man so much as a life of practical sympathy and kindness. The sermon in the evening on "Stop Thief" was a logical and convincing discussion of divine truth as a conqueror of evil in the world. Truth exemplified in medicine and surgery, in the industries, in the liberal arts, in morals and conscience, is a power which arrests evils that prey upon human welfare. Truth cries "Stop Thief" to the evils of life.

The annual meeting of the congregation of the Presbyterian church will be held on Thursday evening, March 25th, at 7:30 p. m. All members are urged to attend. Lunch will be served at the close of the meeting. The regular quarterly communion will be observed at the Presbyterian church on Sunday morning, April 4.

The annual conference of the United Evangelical churches of Oregon will be held in Corvallis, April 1 to 5. A large number of delegates from this locality are planning to attend and it is anticipated that the gathering will be an important event in religious circles. Bishop W. H. Fouke, D. D., will come from Naperville, Ill., to preside at the conference. An interesting program of live topics is being prepared. After this meeting, the bishop will make a tour of this part of the country and will visit all the churches in the conference territory.

The Board of Stewards of the Methodist church was so gratified with the results of the bake sale on Saturday, that they have decided to hold one on Saturday, April 3.

The Methodist church reports a twenty-five per cent increase in Sunday school attendance last Sunday.

DALLAS MERCANTILE STORE

DIVIDED

Men's Goods
AT THE
Old Stand

About One Week More of
Special Prices on Men's Suits,
Overcoats, Pants, Shirts,
Shoes, Underwear, etc.

New Suits
Just received some of the New
Spring Suits
Two Pair Pants
with each Suit
Will sell regular at \$17.50. Special
this week

\$15

Specials

- WHITE SILK SOCKS..... 25c
- BLACK SILK SOCKS..... 25c
- A FINE GRADE OF FIBRE SILK
- ELASTIC BELTS..... 50c
- BELTS, NEW LEATHERS..... 25 to 50c
- PACKARD SHOES
- SPRING WEIGHT AND STYLE..... \$4.50
- CONQUEROR HATS..... \$2.70
- NONE BETTER
- TRUNKS AND SUIT CASES AT COST

REUNITED ABOUT MAY 1

LADIES' GOODS
MOVED TO
**Room Two Doors
South**

Coats
SPRING COATS AT VERY ATTRACTIVE PRICES. BLUES, SAND, PLAIDS, ETC.

Suits
FANCY BLUE SERGES AT.....\$12.50
FANCY FABRICS.....\$12.00 TO \$18.00

Middy Blouses
75c. to \$1.25
DON'T PAY MORE THAN WE ASK,
FOR WE HAVE WHAT YOU WANT.

Waists
THE NEW SPRING WAISTS ARE
BEAUTIES, AND VERY REASONABLE
IN PRICE. ASK TO SEE THEM FOR WE
HAVEN'T ROOM TO DISPLAY THEM.

Summer Goods
CREPES, LAWN, FLAXONS, DIMITIES,
VOILS, LACE CLOTH, BATISTES,
RICE CLOTH, ETC.
10c. up to 35c.

Corsets
FRONT LACE, FINE MODELS, \$1.50 UP
NEW MODELS, BACK LACE, \$1.00 UP

Silks
MESSALINE AND CREPES, ALL COLORS
FLOWERED CREPES.....50c
BUY WHERE YOU HAVE A VARIETY
FROM WHICH TO CHOOSE.

SPECIAL ALL THIS WEEK

BRASS BEDS \$7.00

Large 2-post---regular \$13.50

SPRINGS \$2.50

Coil Wire Springs---regular \$5.50

We have about 20 patterns
in Iron Beds to close
out at from

One-third to One-Half Off

WALL PAPER FROM 5c DOUBLE ROLL UP

Sterling Furniture Co

MILL STREET, DALLAS.