

The Polk County Observer

VOL. 27

(THE HOME PAPER)

DALLAS, POLK COUNTY, OREGON, FRIDAY, JULY 30, 1915.

(TWICE-A-WEEK)

NO. 43

GOOD PROMISE IS GIVEN

POLK'S EXHIBIT AT STATE FAIR NOW BEING ASSEMBLED.

Grains From Northern Section Makes Splendid Showing—Those Contributing to Display.

Mr. J. E. French, who is collecting grains and grasses, fruits and vegetables for exhibit at the state fair this fall, will make a splendid showing, but from present indications the display will not exceed that of last season in proportions. The grains and grasses will be better than last year, the specimens already secured being of an exceptionally high order. Up to this time, Mr. French has 11 different kinds of grasses, 8 different varieties of oats, 7 of wheat, 4 of barley, 5 of wild clover, 3 of wild peas, 2 of vetch, besides red clover, crimson clover, alsike, yellow sweet clover, white sweet clover, alfalfa, Canadian field peas, garden peas and rye. These specimens have been collected with the greatest care from the very best crops to be found in Polk county, and while some excel those of one year ago others are inferior. Take for instance vetch, this year's crop is of a better quality than last year, showed greater height by several inches last season.

From the northern part of the county some fine specimens of wheat and oats have been secured, especially from the ranches of C. D. Nairn and Richard Clamfield, near Ballston. Walter Domes of McCoy and Fred Warner of Perrydale. According to Mr. French's observations, Mr. Nairn has a stand of wheat seldom seen in this valley. He is of the opinion that the yield will be at least 75 bushels to the acre, while others experienced in tilling the soil estimate the crop as high as 100 bushels. On the Clamfield place oats are estimated at from 50 to 60 bushels to the acre, while the others mentioned have equally good prospects for a bumper yield. Clover is said to be in fairly good condition, very few places in the county having honey dew. Unless the rains of the present week damage the crop of an ordinary yield is looked for. There is little alfalfa in the county, and consequently this part of the exhibit will not be large. Specimens have been secured from the farm of W. H. Kraber, east of Dallas, and that of Cooper Brothers, located north of this city.

The fruit exhibit will probably be considerably above the average, although the harvest for some of these crops is still for the future. The canning and preserving is being carried on by Mrs. Winnie Braden, secretary of the fair board, and large quantities of not only fruits but vegetables as well are in show jars at this time. There are 60 bottles of fruit preserved in acids, which of themselves make a fine display. Following are the different varieties thus far cared for: Five kinds of raspberries, 4 of currants, 2 of gooseberries, 6 of cherries, 6 of strawberries, 10 of plums, 6 of peaches, 2 of blackberries, loganberries, phenomenon berries, besides peaches, beans and cauliflower. Some of the best specimens of grains and fruits are from the extensive Wigrich ranch, below Independence, owned by London, England, parties and managed by Major W. L. Rose. This ranch has 200 acres of wheat, 10 acres of loganberries, 60 acres of hops and a large acreage of orchard. Others who have contributed to the exhibit, and their contributions, are: E. W. Palmer, grass; Seth Fawk, Royal Ann and Yellow Spanish cherries and loganberries; Frank Fawk, Royal Ann cherries and clover; Albert Delish, hairy vetch (vicia villosa); John G. Brown, grass; Geo. Carl, clover; Archie Brown, wheat and grass; Mr. Todhunter, alfalfa; Ewing Bros., field peas, wheat, oats and grass; Irving Ballard, wheat; "Uncle Billie" Wright, peaches and apples; Kate Dick, grass; L. D. Brown, blackberries, loganberries and wheat; Frank Gilliam, wool; Wm. M. Licht, rye and wheat; H. B. Plummer, cherries; J. S. Macomber, currants; Gilbert & Patterson, peaches, blackberries, plums and cherries; Robt. Kraber, alfalfa and wheat; G. J. Rempel, wheat; T. J. Alsip, wheat; Ferd Loy, barley; E. Ostrom, barley; Thompson & Hepner, oats; Richard Clamfield, wheat and oats; C. W. Wester, pears and horboud; N. M. Conner, wheat; C. D. Nairn, five kinds of oats, wheat, grass, spearmint and clover; Clarence Sellers, gooseberries; A. Bartholomew, gooseberries; A. Bartholomew, gooseberries; J. R. Denning, strawberries; Robt. Fisher, strawberries; H. Butz, cherries; B. S. Ferguson, cherries; C. C. Nelson, cherries; A. M. Grant, cherries; K. B. Kugel, cherries; Mr. Wilson, loganberries; Rea Craven, loganberries; F. A. Koer, wool; Fred Warner, wheat and oats; Walter Domes, oats and barley; F. E. Vallier, oats; Bert Illingsworth, vetch; C. C. Gardner, wheat; Dorsey Turner, barley; Jas. Thurston, barley; Voss Bros., wheat; J. J. Leveck, wool; Sterling Crook, clover; Phillip Thess, wheat; Mrs. Winnie Braden, currants, peas, beans and grass; W. V. Acox, wheat and barley; Wm. Shafer, barley; C. W. McLaughlin, wheat and barley; Wm. Riddle & Sons, wheat; J. E. French, vetch (veria sativa), apples, plums and clover.

SHERIDAN HAS \$7000 FIRE.

Owner of Burned Fanning Block Says Evidence Points to Arson.

Fire, said to be of incendiary origin, caused \$7000 damage early Monday morning to the Fanning building, a brick block at Sheridan, and the Fuchs Bros. pool and billiard hall and restaurant in the building. The flames were discovered in the basement. Dense smoke and oil prevent-

ed the firemen entering, so the basement was flooded. The fire ate upward between partitions to the second story and broke out in the opera house auditorium. A. M. Fanning, owner of the building, claims that fire had been started in five different places, two of these being in adjacent buildings. He says he has evidence to prove his assertion.

SEALERS MUST ENFORCE LAW.

No Further Violations of Act Will Be Tolerated.

All district state sealers of weights and measures have been notified by Deputy Sealer Buchtel to enforce strictly the provisions of the new law requiring wood to be sold by the cord or fraction of a cord and coal and ice by weight. The district sealers are instructed to inform the firms in their respective districts, dealing in these commodities, of the provisions of the law and to see that the law is obeyed. In his letter to the sealers Mr. Buchtel says: "I wish to call your attention to the fact that millwood, blackwood, ties and sawed cordwood, when sold for use as fuel are firewood within the meaning of the law, and the same shall be sold by the cord or the fraction of a cord and not by the load. Coal and ice shall be sold by weight. Where written slips or statements are issued by the seller to the purchaser, the slip must indicate the specific quantity sold and delivered, and where none are issued there shall be an oral statement as to the quantity thereof."

MR. FINN WILL RESIGN

COUNTY ROADMASTER ASSUMES THE RESPONSIBILITY.

Says Greater Part of Disaffection Is Purely Local, and Not Attributable to County Court.

When the county court convenes in monthly session on August 5 it will consist of the resignation of Waido J. Finn, who has served during the past two terms as county roadmaster. As will be seen from this official's announcement elsewhere in the Observer today, he deems the proposed recall of the county court unwarranted and wants to be free to fight it from the standpoint of a private citizen. The court will doubtless accept the resignation.

In conversation with Mr. Finn yesterday he said that the most important roadwork had been completed for the present year, that remaining being principally maintenance during the winter months, and that inasmuch as considerable of the discontent is purely local, and attributable to the roadmaster and not the court, he does not want to in any way hamper that body. The roadmaster, in discussing road work and road conditions, says the highways speak for themselves. He gives the several supervisors credit for having done splendid work, and for helping the cause of good roads as much as possible.

FINDS FACTS FOR HIMSELF.

McCoy Tax-Payer Discontinues Circulating Recall Petition.

Chas. Hazelton of McCoy was in the city yesterday, having come to investigate the charges made against the county court that he might act intelligently in the matter of the proposed recall. Mr. Hazelton brought with him petitions which he had been circulating in that section, representing to his neighbors and friends that the allegations set forth therein were truthful, and desired before proceeding further to ascertain the facts for himself. He spent several hours in the offices at the court house, securing such information as he desired, after which he stated to the Observer that the statements contained in the petitions were not in accordance with the facts, and that he would discontinue his participation in the movement further than to discourage it.

AFTER MORE ANGORA GOATS.

Prominent Texas Breeder Inspects Stock in Polk County.

R. E. Taylor of Sonora, Texas, who came to Oregon last year for Angora goat breeding stock taking back with him two carloads of registered does and bucks, found them so satisfactory that he is back for two more carloads this year. Mr. Taylor has this week been at Monmouth to visit William Riddell and J. B. Stump and in Dallas, where he saw the stock of U. S. Grant. Mr. Taylor's return is a splendid testimonial to the quality of stock raised in Polk county.

Band Concert Program.

The Dallas band will give the usual Saturday evening concert on the corner tomorrow, for which the following is the program: March "O'! Return," saxophone quartette; Overture, Morse; serenade, "A Night in June;" waltz, "Dream of the South;" rag, "Harmony;" selection (request) "Bohemian Girl;" characteristic, "A Day in the Cotton Field;" popular, "One Wonderful Night;" humoresque, "The Devil and the Deep Blue Sea;" romance, "Tender Thoughts;" Star Spangled Banner.

Dietrick Lost Currency.

When a house and barn belonging to Lee W. Glazier, six miles north of Salem on the river road, burned Monday night, M. E. Dietrick, the tenant, lost \$765 in currency which was in the house, together with furniture on which he carried \$700 insurance. Dietrick, his wife and five children were in bed and they narrowly escaped death in the flames.

CHARGES AGAINST POLK COUNTY COURT

FAVORITISM, EXTRAVAGANCE AND VIOLATIONS OF THE LAW ARE EMBODIED IN PETITIONS.

The petitions which would recall the county judge and commissioners is now in general circulation throughout the county, having been "released" on Wednesday. At least a dozen of these petitions have been returned to County Judge Teal after the parties to whom they were sent for circulating had made an investigation of conditions and discovered that the statements made therein were misleading. The figures regarding expenditures for road purposes are at variance with the facts, as shown elsewhere in this issue of the Observer. But as to the charges. They are as follows:

CHARGES AGAINST JUDGE TEAL.

Said J. B. Teal has favored certain localities and has acted extravagantly and disregarded plain provisions of law—instances of which:

1. The expenditure for road purposes during 1914 of \$21,397.75 in excess of the amount which lawfully could be expended. This deficit was created in face of the written protest of Commissioner Petre, entered in Court Journal August 5th, and in violation of Chapter 234, Laws 1913, and Section 10, Article XI, Oregon Constitution.
2. Twenty-one hundred dollars more than the bid accepted was paid for Savage bridge, near Willamina.
3. Up to July 1, 1915, all 1915 road tax but \$1262.60 had been expended. Completion of work now under way will leave an unlawful deficit as great as that of last year.
4. Rank favoritism shown to certain localities, particularly Judge Teal's and Commissioner Beckett's districts, where amounts greatly exceeding levies have been expended.
5. Persistent violators of law in employing a private surveyor and paying him more than the lawful rates for doing County work.

CHARGES AGAINST COMMISSIONER BECKETT.

Said C. W. Beckett has favored certain localities and has acted extravagantly and disregarded plain provisions of law—instances of which:

1. The total tax levied for road purposes for 1915, including special district levies, amounts to \$59,819.66. Up to July 1st \$58,557.06 had been expended. Completion of road work now under way will create an unlawful deficit of more than twenty thousand dollars.
2. Rank favoritism has been shown to certain localities. In Judge Teal's district all road taxes were expended before July 1st and seven thousand dollars more will be spent there unless the Court be stopped. In Commissioner Beckett's district, where \$830.34 was levied, \$2,262.58 has been spent, and the work is just fairly started. In Commissioner Wells' district the whole tax has been unlawfully given to the district.
3. The County Court have persistently violated the law by refusing to permit the County Surveyor to plat the roads to be improved, but have employed a private surveyor and paid more than lawful rates for doing County work.

CHARGES AGAINST COMMISSIONER WELLS.

Said G. A. Wells has favored certain localities and has acted extravagantly and disregarded plain provisions of law—instances of which:

1. The expenditure for road purposes during 1914 of \$21,397.75 in excess of the amount which lawfully could be expended. This deficit was created in face of the written protest of Commissioner Petre, entered in Court Journal August 5th, and in violation of Chapter 234, Laws 1913, and Section 10, Article XI, Oregon Constitution.
2. Twenty-one hundred dollars more than the bid accepted was paid for Savage bridge, near Willamina.
3. Up to July 1, 1915, all 1915 road tax but \$1262.60 had been expended. Completion of work now under way will leave an unlawful deficit as great as that of last year.
4. Rank favoritism shown to certain localities, particularly Judge Teal's and Commissioner Beckett's districts, where amounts greatly exceeding levies have been expended.
5. Persistent violators of law in employing a private surveyor and paying him more than the lawful rates for doing County work.

THE RECORDS TELL DIFFERENT STORY

OVER \$30,000 IN ROAD FUND ON JULY 1, INSTEAD OF \$1,200, AS STATED IN RECALL PETITION.

The Observer, since publicity was given the recall petition which contemplated the ousting from office of the county judge and two commissioners, has taken the trouble to make a complete investigation of the charges, if such they may be termed, against the court and finds, as any other interested individual may, that the statements made by the promoters of the recall undertaking are widely in variance with the facts. This is indisputable and susceptible of the fullest demonstration by the records at the office of the county clerk. There is, however, a strong probability that the promoters of the recall did not intentionally misrepresent conditions, but that they miscalculated in figuring the funds which are quoted, their enthusiasm to make matters appear as badly as possible evidently impelling them to disregard accuracy.

It is a matter of public record that for general and special road purposes, including ferries and bridges, a total of \$78,949.82 was levied, while total disbursements for all work of this character up to last night—July 29—aggregated \$42,617.16, leaving a balance unexpended of \$36,332.66. The recall petition contains these words: "Up to July 1, 1915, all 1915 road tax but \$1,262.60 had been expended." At the time indicated by the petition there was more than \$30,000 unexpended, the July payroll throughout the county having been approximately \$14,986, as shown by the published statement of claims allowed at the July term of court. On July 1, 1915, according to the county treasurer's books, there was a cash balance on hand in the roads fund of \$15,062.92, with warrants, of course, outstanding.

Naturally, the road fund, like all others, is short of actual cash, for the reason that because of the provisions of the law passed by the last legislature, which made taxes payable in two installments without penalty. Heretofore more than 90 per cent of

poses the entire amount of money raised in that district that year, and that the work is but fairly started. This is in the northeastern portion of the county, and the court promised three districts in that section \$5,000 in addition to the 50 per cent to which they are entitled under the law for the betterment of a main road which is now being rocked. Judge Teal is authority for the statement that the entire amount awarded to these three districts is but returning the entire sum raised there this year. In Commissioner Wells' district the tax payers appeared before the court in delegation and demanded the entire levy, as did also South Monmouth and South Independence, and in each instance the request was granted. This the court had a perfect right to do. The law plainly says that the court must return 50 per cent of moneys collected in a district, but it does not hold that the court cannot give more if it so elects.

Another feature of the recall petition and one that is to be emphasized throughout the campaign, is that the court "has persistently violated the law" (Continued on last page.)

WOMEN HAVE A CIRCLE

LADIES OF THE GRAND ARMY PERFECT ORGANIZATION.

Mrs. Mandana Shriver Elected President at Election Held Wednesday—Charter Members.

The state president, Anna Kornbott, and state secretary, Valenia G. Benne, of the Ladies of the Grand Army of the Republic, arrived in Dallas Tuesday evening for the purpose of organizing a circle, which was accomplished on Wednesday, at the home of Comrade B. Lovelace, adjutant of U. S. Grant Post, G. A. R. The following ladies were enrolled as charter members: Mandana Shriver, Georgia M. Jennings, Margaret Stanfield, Beatrice Grant, Viola Lane, Sarah Lovelace, Eliza B. Carpenter, Ori Ewell, Mildred Ebbe, Mary Arnold, Susan Zantz.

The circle will be known as W. T. Sherman Circle, No. 16. Yesterday afternoon, at the home of Eliza B. Carpenter, the election and installation of the following officers was completed: President, Mandana Shriver; senior vice-president, Eliza B. Carpenter; junior vice-president, M. Steinfeldt; secretary, Ori Ewell; treasurer, Sarah Lovelace; chaplain, Beatrice Grant; patriotic inspector, Viola Lane; conductor, Georgia Jennings; guard, Susan Zantz; assistant conductor, Mildred Ebbe; assistant guard, Mary Arnold.

DEATH OF MRS. SUSAN LEWIS.

Native of Polk County Passes Away at Home in Lewisville.

Funeral services over the remains of Mrs. Susan Lewis, wife of Mr. D. W. Lewis, whose death occurred on Monday last, was held from the family residence on Wednesday afternoon, and was largely attended by sorrowing friends and relatives of the deceased. Rev. Plowman conducted the services, and interment was in the Smith cemetery. Deceased was a native of Polk county, where she had lived continuously since her birth, which was dated November, 1852. Besides a bereaved husband Mrs. Lewis is survived by seven children: Mrs. Ida Grant, C. M. Lewis, Mrs. Leota Smith of Lewisville; Mrs. Verda Madison of The Dalles; Mrs. Jessie Brinkley, and Lester Lewis of Portland, and Percy, residing at home. There are also four sisters and three brothers surviving: Mrs. Mary Hooker of Independence, Mrs. Jennie Hamlin of Portland, Mrs. Hattie Rhoades of Seattle, Mrs. Ethel Woods of Dallas, Otto and Walter Williams of Dallas, and Ralph E. Williams of Portland.

Passing of Ellsworth Matheny.

After an illness of only a few days' duration, Ellsworth W. Matheny, an employe of the Oregon Power company, passed away at his home on Maple street Tuesday morning at the age of fifty years, leaving a widow, two sons and one daughter. Deceased was a native of Illinois, but came to Oregon about twenty years ago, taking up his residence in this city, where he was well known and highly esteemed. The funeral services were held yesterday afternoon.

Fourteen Cents for Hops.

Fourteen cents was offered on contract yesterday for 1915 hops in the Independence section. In other parts of the valley a number of 13-cent bids were made, but no business at the advanced price was announced.

Bound in Holy Wedlock.

Mr. Herman F. Muller and Miss Dottie Bennett of Perrydale, were united in holy wedlock at the Methodist parsonage on Thursday afternoon, by the pastor, Rev. George H. Bennett.

PRESENTS FIRST REPORT

MR. RICKLI MAKES SUGGESTIONS TO IMPROVE PARK.

Location Ideal for Public Playground, But Considerable Money Necessary for Development.

Mr. J. C. Rickli, the local landscaper to whom has been entrusted the preparing of plans and specifications for the improvement of the city park, an undertaking proposed by the Civic section of the Woman's club, supported by that organization, and apparently favored by the entire community, has "laid the lay of the land" and submitted a preliminary report to the committee charged with promoting the betterment of which Mrs. Conrad Stafrin is chairman. The report does not deal with the probable cost of the improvement, that feature of the project remaining until the details in connection therewith are more fully worked out. It is more along the line of suggestions, and is as follows:

In compliance with your request I have the honor to state that I have made a sufficient examination of the city park grounds to warrant an initial report. I find that the park is admirably located, the sombre wooded range to the west furnishing an ideal background and that on the whole, the tract will lend itself fairly well to improvement without too many obstructions involving considerable expense. In this connection I would respectfully call your attention to the fact that the creation of a park is chiefly a question of money and how much of that indispensable commodity is available. A city with unlimited financial resources could make a complete and magnificent park out of this very ground inside of two seasons.

Unless I am mistaken, however, the city of Dallas, although making a most creditable showing, is in moderate circumstances only. In view of this condition I have the honor to suggest that this park be developed through the loyal co-operation of all the people of Dallas and immediate vicinity each according to their means. We should be strong for the faithful support and encouragement of home talent in music, literature, floriculture, landscaping or any other noble and laudable endeavor in which our community might find occasion to indulge. The process of making the city park "a beauty and a joy for ever" must under existing conditions necessarily be a slow one, but neither was Rome built in a day. The gradual development moreover has its advantages. I am convinced that even to the expert professional landscaper some of the most valuable ideas and features assume definite shape only as he goes along and becomes thoroughly familiar with the topography and nature of the ground under treatment. One of David Crockett's (A Hero of the Alamo) sayings was: "Be sure you are right, then go ahead." This impresses me as an excellent motto for the city park venture. In other words the essential factor in solving this park problem successfully will be to attain best results with the least possible expenditure of money. While you cannot expect all poor people to give their time and labor free gratis for nothing, I have had occasion to observe that too frequently the wage demanded is entirely disproportionate and in excess to the quality of the service rendered. Nevertheless in this connection I respectfully beg to report myself as a poor man with the hint, however, that no mercenaries need apply to participate in the building up of our city park.

I will not try your patience with any further general remarks and from now on confine myself briefly to the technical and practical aspect of the park problem. In view of the development work ahead I would respectfully invite your attention to the fact that the sweepings off our city streets are too valuable for our purposes to be diverted and suggest that convenient portions of the city park be designated as a depository for such material without unnecessary delay.

That section of Academy street between Levens and the Chinaman's laundry should be improved and furnished this season. The laundry building should be removed and part of the site occupied by the approach and a rustic gateway appropriate to our conditions and situated at the terminal and center of Academy street. I cannot lay too much stress on the importance of having a noble, picturesque and effective approach. With this end in view I shall cause the junior member of my family to prepare a drawing of this proposed gateway, subject to your approval. The old gate of course will be removed in this more elaborate and suitable affair. A considerable amount will be necessary after the present roadway after the bridge cut away southeast of the bridge gateway. An undulating or slightly curving driveway is to be from the new entrance to the northwest, merging into the roadway a little beyond the where now located. This would, roughly speaking, board walk to constitute a hand margin of the new leave ample space to plant the unsightly pruned trees and shrubbery. Above section No. 1 of contemplations. Section No. 2 is a graded continuation of to the center, merging 8 to 10 foot graded driveway within the circle arranged in front.

This central circular area as I was able to judge is feasible without (Continued on last page.)

Walter Toose, Comp.