

Polk County Observer
Published Each Tuesday and Friday.
Office.....517-519 Court Street
Telephone.....Main 19

BY LEW A. CATES.
Subscription Rates.
One Year.....\$1.50
Six Months......75
Three Months......40
No subscription taken unless paid for in advance. This is imperative.

Entered as second-class matter in the Postoffice at Dallas, Oregon.

AND ALL FOR WHAT?

The balance sheet of the European war continues to pile up astounding items of debt and losses, with practically nothing as yet in compensation. An apparently authentic compilation places the public debt of England at the end of the current year at the colossal sum of eleven billion dollars. The debt of France will be very nearly as much. Germany is apparently more fortunate financially, her public debt being only about half that of either of her two principal adversaries, amounting to about six and one-half billions. Austria owes almost two billions and Russia nearly eight and a half billions. Italy, which has a comparatively small public debt, has spent about half a billion since the war began.

This tabulation estimates that the war has already cost the belligerents named eighteen billions of dollars, and the end is not yet in sight. No matter which side wins, all the nations involved will emerge from the conflict tottering under a load of debt which it will require many generations to pay. There are no conceivable results which will warrant the expenditure of these stupendous sums of money, to say nothing of the millions of lives sacrificed.

Moreover, it is perfectly clear that the havoc wrought with the industry and commerce of the contending nations must be added to the actual cost of the war, and to the whole mighty aggregate must be added the billions of dollars lost to the business interests of the neutral nations, involving also incalculable hardships to citizens of those nations affected by the industrial derangement. Surely nothing that has been accomplished, nothing that appears possible of achievement, can justify this appalling waste of blood and treasure, of which there does not appear at this time even any prospect of cessation. And an amazing fact in this connection is that even today there is no agreement as to what the present war is about, or as to who really started it. How future generations will scorn such seeming stupidity.

SMALL MERCHANTS.

Upon the so-called Stevens bill, now pending in congress, depends to a considerable degree the fate of the small merchant of the country towns throughout the land in their struggle for existence against the great city department stores and mail order concerns. It is a great economic question that is about to be brought squarely before the American people prior to the assembling of congress, and the success of the bill mentioned is quite largely dependent upon public sentiment. Every person in Dallas, and elsewhere, who has kept his eye open must have observed that for some reason the big city merchants have been gaining ground, while the tradesmen in the interior have found the struggle growing constantly harder.

The money order issues, and bank drafts purchased, clearly show that great sums of money that should be used in trading at home, are going to the mail order houses in the large cities. And the department stores in the great centers are monopolizing the trade, and the little stores are becoming fewer and poorer. This condition is attributed to "cut-throat competition," or price cutting, and from every part of the country there has come a demand for the enactment of a federal statute that will enable manufacturers of staple articles to fix a price on their goods and compel the retailing at a standard figure, no matter where the goods are sold.

The Federal Trade commission is working in this direction, and the indications are that there is bad weather ahead for the handful of city interests that have been driving out the smaller dealers, and growing opulent and arrogant at the expense of the country merchants.

WILSON FAVORS PLAN.

The president has approved Secretary Garrison's plan for increasing the army, and the matter will be presented to the congress with the backing of the administration. The proposition as laid before the chief executive of the nation calls for an annual expenditure of \$182,000,000, an increase of approximately \$75,000,000. According to the plan as developed by the secretary a considerable amount of the increased appropriation would be devoted to coast defenses and a

substantial increase in field artillery. If the navy, which will ask for an increase of \$100,000,000, carries through its plan making the total naval appropriation \$248,000,000, the appropriations for national defense, including the army's \$182,000,000, would total \$430,000,000. It is probable, however, that in final form the appropriations will not exceed \$400,000,000.

One feature of the plan as outlined is an increase of 50,000 men, besides a large reserve force to be created through inducing men to join the ranks by short term enlistments. The national guard would also be given greater encouragement by the government. This arrangement of the administration is hopeful of carrying through at the next session of congress, believing that not only democratic leaders will support the measure, but many republicans as well.

WORK OF TEACHERS.

A fine rumpus has been raised by Comptroller Prendergast of New York, by the suggestion that public school teachers do not work as hard as is commonly supposed and that they should be required to give to the school service at least a portion of their vacations and days off. He believes the present system is unbusinesslike and based on a wrong premise. He does not think that teachers do more work in five days than other people do in six. He is not prepared to admit that teachers need three months' vacation each year when other people who also work at occupations that strain the nerves get along with from two weeks to a month off.

Admitting that it is necessary to close the schools in the summer months, because it would be difficult if not impossible to get children to study at that time, even if it were for the children's good not to give them the "long vacation," he does not think it follows that the teachers also need all that vacation. According to his way of looking at it, much work could be done for the school system by the teachers during those months that would save money to the cities and not be a real hardship to the teachers themselves—after they became used to it.

This sounds rather revolutionary, but for that matter so does everything that is entirely different from the order of things to which we always have been accustomed. We have come to take it for granted that teaching is unusually nervous work and that the school teacher needs the summer rest as much as his or her pupils. It will take more than an efficiency expert to convince school authorities in general, and educators in particular, that this is not so. And if the hours of work were substantially increased for school teachers, would there not appear immediately a demand for proportionately increased salaries?

Mf. Prendergast also maintains that the business of teaching is conducted with too complicated an organization; that the school system generally needs simplifying. He says so much work is done in the average city school that is a mere matter of routine and form, that it would be possible with a business like system to increase the net amount of instruction and at the same time decrease the number of teachers, even though the present hours of work were retained. Of course the teachers generally scarcely will agree with him on this point, any more than they will on the other point which he raises. But it is something to think about, just the same.

WOMAN'S CONQUESTS.

Looking backward over the past twenty months of momentous successes temperance advocates have good and sufficient reason to be proud of their achievements. They should feel encouraged for future crusades against alcoholic victories. Glancing over victories and forward to probable ones, one might epitomize the movement in retrospect and prospect as "a movement of victorious yesterdays and confident tomorrows." During a period of twenty months there were chronicled an unprecedented number of prohibition victories. The temperance transformation of Russia; the anti-liquor measures in effect in German, French and English military circles; the complete abolition of alcohol in the United States navy and in the Panama canal zone; the outlawing of the liquor traffic in Virginia, Colorado, Oregon, Washington, Arizona, Arkansas, Idaho, Iowa, Alabama and South Carolina; the majority vote for state-wide prohibition in both branches of Utah's legislature; the triumph of the enemies of the saloon in a large number of counties and cities; the upholding by the United States supreme court of the constitutionality of the prohibition provision of the Indian treaties—making one-fifth of Minnesota dry; the victorious prohibition elections in forty-five of Minnesota's counties; the battle royal for prohibition in the district of Columbia; the total abstinence rules enforced by many industrial railroad corporations; the decrease at the rate of \$1,250,000 a month of the internal revenue collec-

tions on distilled spirits despite the fact that wines are paying high tax as a result of the emergency war tax law enacted by the last congress; the enactment in prohibition states of stricter enforced laws; the discussion of total abstinence and prohibition by press and popular magazines, and the marked decrease of their liquor advertising; the growth of anti-alcohol sentiment in the medical world—these, with the endorsement of national constitutional prohibition by hundreds of influential organizations and the outspoken declarations of men prominent in the official and political life of the United States and other nations in favor of prohibition and total abstinence, have given a marvelous impetus to the movement for the banishment of John Barleycorn from the business, the social, and the political life of the 'civilized world. The majority vote on the Sheppard-Hobson bill in the United States house of representatives on December 2, 1914, even though it fell short of a decisive victory, was a triumph for nationwide prohibition.

The white ribbon contingent of the prohibition element is praying for the success of the temperance cause at the polls in Ohio next month, and in Vermont in the spring, while encouragement is being extended to co-workers in California, Florida, Kentucky, Indiana, Louisiana, Michigan, Minnesota and other near-prohibition states, which are fast approaching the mountain top of state-wide prohibition. Verily, the nation is doomed to "spit cotton."

MAINTAINING ROADS.

Some opposition has developed to Judge Teal's plan to retain a roadmaster throughout the winter months in order that the rural highways may be patrolled during a time when the greater amount of serious damage is done to roads by reason of the wet weather. The Observer is convinced that the patrol system eliminates waste and saves large expense, provided, of course, that the proper principle is followed, which is necessary in every successful business. It is doing the small things, admirably expressed by the proverb that "a stitch in time saves nine." When ruts begin to appear in a well rocked road they should be given immediate attention, and when drainage is interrupted the obstruction should be removed, thus keeping the subgrade dry. If when chuck-holes begin to develop they are filled with a few shovelful of gravel it is the stitch in time, and saves much repair work the following spring, when possibly a wagon load of gravel might be necessary to bring the highway back to its former condition. A hoe or spade would eliminate any obstruction to proper drainage, where later a day's labor with a team might be required to repair the damage created by "dead water" soaking into the subgrade.

The patrol system is practical, and should be adopted by Polk county in the interest of the tax-payers, who are annually raising large sums of money for the construction and repair of highways in all parts of the county. The few hundred dollars that might be saved by dismissing the roadmaster until work is renewed in the spring would be, practically speaking, returned a thousand fold through the patrol system if the work be thorough. One who is familiar with road construction, and the maintenance of highways, certainly can appreciate the value of constant vigilance, especially as regards rocked and graveled roads.

SHOP EARLY.

With Christmas only a little more than ten weeks ahead, the merchants and the newspapers are commencing to push the annual "shop early" campaign. It is being pointed out that the autumn season already is well advanced and that the holiday shopping rush probably will be heavier than usual this year, for bumper crops and returning prosperity are supplying the people with ready money and making them feel both liberal and optimistic. As a result it is anticipated that the coming holiday trade will take on "bumper" proportions, to correspond with the bumper crops and the general good times that already have returned and are gaining headway every day. And this will mean unusually busy times in shops and stores, with a prospective "rush" of trade just before the advent of the holiday season. Anticipating an unusually heavy holiday trade this year the merchants all over the country are planning to make an extra effort to induce early shopping and are earnestly advising the people not to put off their shopping until the last few weeks, or days, before Christmas.

REAL PATRIOTISM.

Colonel Goethals is no quitter. He has withdrawn his resignation as governor of the Panama canal zone and will set about the task of repairing the damage done by the latest landslide, which promises to tie up traffic through the canal for an indefinite length of time. For this decision, the American people will hold General

Goethals in higher esteem than ever. It would have been easy for him to regard his task as completed, and to insist that some other be assigned to the work of repairing the damage to the canal in order to restore it to service. But he, more than any other man, perhaps, knows just how to go about this work, aided by the experience he has had in getting the canal in shape in the first place. And he is willing and anxious to "stay on the job" until the canal again is cleared and opened for traffic.

It is this devotion to duty that has won the unbounded admiration and approval of the American people for General Goethals. And now that he again has shown an unselfish willingness to submerge personal plans and convenience to the public good and welfare, the people of this nation will more than ever feel like honoring him and holding him up as a conspicuous example of a truly patriotic American citizen, one who freely gives his very best efforts for his country, so long as the latter is in need of his services.

A deluge of second-hand exhibits from county and state fairs are arriving at the Oregon building at the Panama exposition, and in many cases these are pronounced worthless by those in charge.

Of course the president doesn't want to be bothered with an extra session of the senate-between-now and December. Woodrow is busy with other affairs.

In the confusion of greater clashes the dum dum bullet seems to have been lost sight of.

Dear reader, eat an apple. This is National Apple day.

OTHER THINGS

A Rare and Curious Collection of Fact and Fancy.

The Dreamer.
I am tired of planning and toiling
In the crowded hives of men,
Heart weary of building and spoiling,
And spoiling and building again.
And I long for the dear old river
Where I dreamed my youth away,
For the dreamer lives forever,
And the toiler dies in a day.
John Boyle O'Reilly.

The Rev. Messrs. Stewart are ministers of the gospel in different denominations and preside over churches at Independence. That is to say, one is a Methodist minister and the other is a Baptist. Genial christians in that pleasant little city distinguish the gentlemen by calling one the Rev. "Sprink" Stewart and the other the Rev. "Dip" Stewart.

A little cigar, a real dainty little thing, brandished itself fragrantly from Doc Cherrington's lower lip one day last week. County Clerk Robinson saw the odious fumigator, mistook it for a cigarette and said: "Doc, I do believe you'll be riding a bicycle next time I see you."

Last week Herman Hawkins went hunting with a cold on his chest. Now he's got a mustard plaster.

Keeps Her Own Secret.
Miss Lenora Brown is taking a vacation from the postoffice, her brother Hinton filling her place there. She left on the 1:30 train today (Thursday) but where she's going she will not tell, but look out, there has been several going away from Willamina this year without telling where they were going but the boys were usually ready to meet them with the tin cans upon their return, and we surmise there is something of this nature this time.—Willamina Times.

Hank Serr, the w. k. and belinguous grandfather, called on the Gov. and Tom Kay at Salem last week.

Bill White, the debutant prognosticator of atmospheric phenomena, says the dry belt may extend to include Independence because Col. Matthews sells seven bottles for a \$ and Brother Whitney sells only five.

About that new typewriter the county bought for Sheriff John Orr: We have received from the manufacturer a testimonial written on the machine by the w. k. keeper of Polk county lodgings. "sin ee-uding yure automati q dable&action tpe, wryter i have used No other: i un hesitatingly pronu nee it to be al azd MueH morre then the manufaturs sad It w'nd be, dneRinj the time it has been in Our office! it has paid for jOself three tiMes -ei. "in the sAvinj oz Timd an d labr." jOhna W. orr -"pIK county, sheerruf, dallas, Or-EgonE.

Somebody sneaked up and regulated the court house clock last Thursday. Al Rushlight, Portland's w. k. regulator of civic affairs, was in town Thursday. So also was Bill Himes, the polite joyrider.

Martin Luther Boyd announces, with pride, that he was on a jury last week. And here we've been a whole week trying to figure out why that jury hung until after supper, and then found a verdict in ten minutes.

SUMMONS—CASE NO. 4720.
In the Circuit Court of the State of Oregon for the County of Polk.
Harrison B. Riley and William C. Niblack, Plaintiffs, vs. Mary Augi, Frank Laundry, and the unknown heirs of Joseph Augi, deceased, and each of them; and also all persons or parties unknown claiming any right, title, estate, lien or interest in the real property described in the complaint herein, Defendants.
To Mary Augi, Frank Laundry, the unknown heirs of Joseph Augi, deceased, and also to all persons or parties unknown claiming any right, title, estate, lien or interest in and to Lot 6, and Northwest quarter of the Southeast quarter and North half of the Southwest quarter, Section four, Township seven South of Range eight West, Willamette Meridian, Oregon.
In the name of the State of Oregon, you are hereby required to appear and answer the complaint filed against you in the above entitled suit within six weeks from the date of the first publication of this summons, to-wit, on or before the 17th day of November, 1915.

And if you fail to appear and answer for want thereof, the plaintiffs will apply to the above entitled court for the relief prayed for in the complaint herein, to-wit:
A decree adjudging that plaintiffs are the owners in fee simple of Lot 6, the Northwest quarter of the Southeast quarter and the North half of the Southwest quarter of Section 4, Tp. 7, S., R. 8, W., W. M., Oregon; that the claims of the defendants, or either of them, of any right, title or interest in or to said lands are void and of no effect, and that plaintiffs' title to said lands, and every part thereof be forever quieted against the claims of the defendants and all persons claiming by, through or under them, or either of them, and that defendants and all persons claiming by, through or under them, and each of them, be forever barred, enjoined and restrained from claiming or setting up any right, title or interest to all or any part of said land.
This summons is published by order of the Honorable J. B. Teal, County Judge of the above-named County of Polk, duly made and entered the 4th day of October, 1915.
Dated at Dallas, Oregon, this 4th day of October, 1915.

A. C. SHAW,
Attorney for Plaintiffs, 819 Yeon building, Portland, Oregon.
First publication, October 5th.
Last publication, November 16th.

Observer want ads. do the biz.

West Side Marble Works
G. L. HAWKINS, Proprietor.
MONUMENTS, HEADSTONES AND CURBING.
Send It By Parcel Post
Send us your laundry by parcel post. The rural carrier is now authorized to transact this business. It costs but a few cents. We'll return it promptly.
DALLAS STEAM LAUNDRY.

Professional Cards
DENTIST
M. HAYTER
Dallas National Bank Building
Dallas Oregon

S. B. TAYLOR
Civil Engineer and Surveyor
Office, City Hall
Phone 791 or 542, Dallas, Oregon

BROWN-SIBLEY ABSTRACT CO.
610 Mill street, Dallas.
Only up-to-date set of abstracts of Polk county. Posted every morning from county records.

Olive Smith-Bicknell
Teacher of
PIANO and ORGAN
Studio 461 Court St.
DALLAS ——— OREGON

DENTIST
B. F. BUTLER
Office over Fuller Pharmacy.
Office hours from 9 to 12 a. m.; 1 to 5 p. m.
Dallas Oregon

DR. A. McNICOL
OSTEOPATHIC PHYSICIAN
Rooms 5 and 6 Uglow Building
DALLAS, OREGON

SIBLEY & EAKIN
Attorneys and Abstractors.
The only reliable set of Abstracts in Polk County. Office on Court street
Dallas, Oregon

ATTORNEY AT LAW
OSCAR HAYTER
Dallas City Bank Building.
Dallas Oregon

ATTORNEY AT LAW
WALTER L. TOOZE, JR.
Dallas National Bank Building
Dallas Oregon

R. W. BALLANTYNE
PIANO TUNER
Player Pianos Regulated and Repaired
Phone 1774

Butter Wrappers!
Get them at The Observer

GUARDIANS NOTICE.
Notice is hereby given that the undersigned has been duly appointed Guardian of the estate of Henry M. Berry, an incompetent person, by the Hon. County Court of Polk County, Oregon. All persons holding claims against said estate should present the same to the undersigned for adjustment, and all persons owing said estate are hereby notified to settle same with said guardian.
J. D. SMITH,
Guardian of the estate of Henry M. Berry.
SIBLEY & EAKIN,

ERNEST HANSON
Carpenter and Contractor, Wall-papering and Painting, Cement and Brick Work.
512 Orchard Ave. Phone West Red 53

2 World-Famous Brands
Each the best of its class. 2 splendid grades at 2 different prices.
Old Master and San Marto Coffee
"The Kind With the Flavor"
SOLD BY
DALLAS MEAT COMPANY.



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.



THEO. BERGMANN SHOE MFG. CO.
Incorporated.
Manufacturers of the Celebrated Bergmann Shoe.
PORTLAND -- OREGON
The strongest and nearest water-proof shoes made for loggers, miners, prospectors and mill-men.

AND ALL KINDS OF GOOD PRINTING AT THE OBSERVER.

J. A. BARHAM E. V. BARHAM

BARHAM BROTHERS
General Contractors and Builders

REPAIRING AND REMODELING, CEMENT WORK A SPECIALTY. LET US FIGURE ON YOUR FOUNDATIONS AND SIDEWALKS.

Phones 661 and 1012
Dallas, Oregon

BLACK'S GROCERY
We can please you if you want the best