

The Polk County Observer

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(TWICE-A-WEEK)

NO. 71

REPORT IS SUBMITTED

ENGINEER HOLDS THAT INTER-COUNTY BRIDGE IS UNSAFE.

With Distributed Loads and Strict Regulation Structure Might Carry Traffic After Repairs.

Declaring that if some other safe and adequate means of handling the traffic between Salem and Polk county could be devised he would not favor the expenditure for repairs on the Marion-Polk county bridge, Assistant Engineer Holmes of the state highway department submitted his report on repairs to County Judge Bushey Tuesday. Engineer Holmes states that because of the urgent demand for opening the bridge to limited traffic he suggests a list of specified repairs which are suggested with the idea that the county courts of the two counties will restrict the traffic over the span to light well distributed loads moving under strict regulations.

He states further that the repairs can at best provide only temporary relief. On the assumption that because the bridge has carried loads in excess of its original capacity, Engineer Holmes states the structure may be relied upon to carry reduced loads for a short time. Action of wind must be given serious consideration, according to the report, and during high winds no vehicles or traffic of any kind should be allowed on the structure.

"It must be remembered, however, that no definite assumptions may be had that the structure will safely carry the light loads specified after the repairs have been made," the report states further, "owing to the certain alterations of the materials due to long continued and excessive vibration."

Repairs to the bridge according to the report should cost a total of \$1353.00, allowing 25 per cent or \$225.00 for contingencies and \$450 for labor and material for repairs to the west approach of the bridge. Eliminating these two items the repairs to the actual structure would cost \$678.

Traffic Rules and Estimates.
Rules to regulate traffic on the Marion-Polk county bridge in case it should be repaired and an itemized list of estimates of repairs needed to put the structure in condition for light traffic are contained in the report made by Assistant Engineer Holmes of the state highway department to the Marion county court. The rules and estimates follow:

A watchman having special police power should be stationed at each end of the bridge. Such watchman should be fully instructed as to the responsibilities of his position.

held its weekly meeting Wednesday morning at 9 o'clock. After a few announcements by Mr. Dankleberger, the meeting was turned over to the president, Miss Helen Casey. Minutes were read by the secretary, Miss Helen Loughary. In the past years each senior class has chosen its own class pin, but upon a motion of Miss Casey it was decided that there should be a standard class pin, and therefore class pins hereafter will be standard. Ellis Scott was selected basketball manager and Mr. Berg captain.

CITY WILL SUPPORT BAND.

Alderman Guarantees Funds For Maintenance of Musicians.

By unanimous vote of the city council, City Attorney Coad has been instructed to prepare a resolution to bring before the council at its next meeting, authorizing the appropriation of \$50 each month from the city's general fund for the support and maintenance of the Dallas band. To this end the band members have put in much time in perfecting their organization, and receive the aid of the city with the knowledge that it will be the means of creating a more efficient musical aggregation. The city will make its first appropriation for the band in January and in the meantime the Commercial club will pay the salary of the director. The band had a lively meeting on Wednesday evening, at which a few additional members signed the constitution, making a total of 26 members, who plan an active year under the city's guarantee. Mayor Kirkpatrick will appoint a committee of three, one from the council, one from the band and one resident not a member of either of these, to supervise the expenditure of the fund that is donated to the band.

ANOTHER GROCERY LIKELY.

Introduction of Green Trading Stamp Here May Have That Result.

There is a strong probability that Dallas will have another grocery store in the not very distant future, brought about by the refusal of those already engaged in the business here refusing to adopt the trading stamp proposition as made by Sperry & Hutchinson. Mr. E. M. Tankersley of Corvallis is in town with this end in view, unless he finds it more convenient and better business to buy one of the local stores, provided it is possible to do so. It is said that overtures have been made to at least two grocery concerns to purchase, but as yet nothing definite has been done. The groceryman says that with the small profits in their goods it is impossible for them to give away three per cent in trading stamps, and hence the declaration on their part to enter into a contract with the promoters of the plan.

RETURNING PROSPERITY

MUCH ELECTRICAL ENERGY USED INDICATES IMPROVEMENT

Oregon Power Company Manufactures More "Juice" Than Ever Before in Its Local Business.

That the tide of prosperity is returning to Dallas and Polk county seems to be conclusively indicated on every hand. The latest report that would indicate such a condition is from the Oregon Power company, with headquarters in this city, and engaged in public utility service in Dallas, Monmouth and Independence in this county. The output of electrical energy from the company's plant in Dallas was greater in the month of October than in any month in the history of the company's business in Polk county. The same could be said of the business during the month of September, but the latter month has increased over September by thousands of kilowatt hours. In October the plant developed and distributed 128,204 kilowatt hours of electrical energy for use in this county. That figure is an increase of exactly 19,813 kilowatt hours over the production of October, 1914, and an increase over the next largest record, that of September, 1915, of 4,032 kilowatt hours.

The increase is due to the great activity on the part of such electrically equipped concerns as the Willamette Valley Lumber company, the Armsbury packing plant, the Independence Sand & Gravel company, the Independence creamery and the Coal mill. These manufacturing are showing a steady trend, and in many cases a marked improvement in business, that speaks well for the district in which they are located. When more power is required to operate the machinery of these plants it stands to reason that a larger amount of work is being done, and, therefore, the tide of prosperity that is inundating the business and activity of the community can be traced over many lines of industry. In most of the industries represented in the county the stress that has held itself over the nation for many months, has had but little weight, and from facts that are evident the upward rise effects this community as soon as it does the remainder of the country which so severely felt the effects of the depression. Electricity being the motive power of the day and of the future its use is an excellent barometer of industrial conditions.

CLUB ENTERS THE FIGHT

COMMERCIAL BODY ADOPTS RESOLUTIONS IN RATE WAR.

Wednesday's Session Results in Taking Over Sales Day Proposition and in Helping Band.

A resolution condemning the fight that Portland lumber interests are making against the Southern Pacific company giving a slight lumber rate advantage to Willamette valley mills, will be written by a committee appointed on Wednesday evening at the Commercial club meeting. The expression of many interested in the outcome of the fight was that the Portland interests are most unfair to the valley and that it should be the duty of valley Commercial clubs to exert any possible influence against the battle. W. L. Soehren was appointed chairman of the resolution committee. The meeting on Wednesday evening was one of the best that has been held for some months, as the attendance was larger and the discussion more varied. The club, by majority vote, decided to make the monthly sales day a club undertaking and will give the venture its official support. Forty dollars were guaranteed to the outstanding committee to pay expenses of the first sales day, which will be held on the last Saturday of this month, according to plans of the committee. The location of the sale is to be decided later. Features of the first sales day will be the participation of the Dallas band. Two auctioneers have offered their services, free of charge, to the club's committee, and it is considered that the appropriation of the club will be plenty to cover costs.

The club also appropriated \$100 to finance the band until January 1, when the organization will receive its first support from the city. The appropriation will cover the leader's salary, and the band must pay for its own music. Among other decisions made by the members was that membership in the United States Chamber of Commerce would be continued, and the payment of the annual fee of \$10 was authorized. From the report of Secretary U. S. Loughary the financial condition of the Commercial club was found to be in very good shape and the scope of club activity will not be limited, this year at least, because of financial stress.

ties taking part in the display have reaped fine benefits from the exploitation of their products and many consumers and producers have been brought together. The exposition has attracted the attention of many visitors in Portland enroute to the exposition in California and the message of the state's agricultural and industrial wealth has been carried to thousands of people.

BAND ELECTS NEW DIRECTOR.

Musical Organization Will Receive Support From City.

At a meeting of the Dallas band on Wednesday evening the resignation of Director George H. Marsh was read and accepted and B. A. Downey was elected to fill the vacancy. Several new members appeared and signed the constitution of the band and in general the meeting augured well for the future of the organization for the interest shown in the plans for the coming year. The same officers will have charge of the band affairs through 1916, when the organization will be supported by the city. The Commercial club will finance the band until the city funds warrant an appropriation, or until January 1. The band will be required, however, to purchase its own music hereafter. The boys figure on creating a treasure fund by giving a public concert some time in December. They have an option on the new theater for the first two nights before its regular opening and will either give concerts or take a share in the home talent production that will be staged at that time. Next year being presidential election year, and campaign money being more or less plentiful at such times, the band expects to figure in on some of it.

BENTLEY COMPANY INSOLVENT

Unable to Liquidate Indebtedness Telephone Operators Ready to Quit.

The Bentley Telephone company, a Polk county corporation with headquarters at Bentley, being insolvent, preparations are being made either to throw the concern into bankruptcy or ask for a receiver. The company operates a line from Bentley to Bear Camp and some seven miles beyond down the Salmon river, through a sparsely settled mountainous country, and the revenue derived from the plant has not been sufficient to meet the company's obligations, incurred through its efforts to maintain the line. Some months ago an effort was made to bond the system for an amount approximately equal to the indebtedness, but this plan failed to mature, and finding no other way out of financial entanglements the directors concluded to give the property of the company into the hands of its creditors. John Boyer of Bear Camp and Mr. Walker of Bentley are the leading members of the company.

NEW BUILDING NEARLY READY.

Fine Two-Story Structure is Credit to Builder.

The scaffolding in front of the Riley building that is being reconstructed on the corner of Main and Washington streets, was torn down by workmen yesterday. The new plate glass windows will probably be put in next week. The building will rapidly receive the finishing touches that will make the front one of the most modern two-story structures in the city. The corner store-room is occupied by F. E. Davis as a furniture store and the remainder of the building will be given over to the new Orpheum theater, one of the finest of its kind in the valley. Interior work in the theater will be done as promptly as possible to allow for an opening performance some time next month. D. J. Riley, the owner of the building, has been personally in charge of the reconstruction and he contemplates erecting the south wall and finishing the second story within a year.

COURT INSPECTS BRIDGE.

Will Examine Conditions Mentioned in Engineer's Report.

The county judge and Commissioners Wells and Beckett are spending part of today in examining the inter-county bridge across the Willamette at Salem. The object of the examination is to determine the necessary repairs, or to view the places that are recommended for repairs by the state highway engineer's office. It is estimated in the report from that office that to put the bridge in condition to receive restricted traffic will cost more than \$1300, and the court is getting a first-hand idea as to where and how this is to be spent. The bridge repair crew will be at work by tomorrow and within a very few days the span should be in sufficiently good condition to carry the loads that are prescribed by the report of the engineers.

Business Men's Meeting.

The third meeting of the recently organized Business Men's association will be held at the rooms of the La Creole club next Monday evening, when a full attendance of those representing the city's business interests is requested.

Mrs. William Kirkpatrick is improving rapidly from her illness.

GUILD'S ANNUAL MEET

CHARITABLE SOCIETY PREPARING TO HELP NEEDY POOR.

Donations Will Be Received at Home of Mrs. Ellis Next Friday, November 12.

The Dallas Needlework Guild will hold its regular annual meeting at the home of its president, Mrs. M. M. Ellis, next Friday evening, November 12, at which time the officers of the guild hope to have every member present to see the large display of garments. This meeting is the most important for the general membership of any that is held during the year, as it is the time when the garments that have been solicited from the members are displayed. The meeting is purely social, business being disposed of at other times, and the delightful luncheons that are served at the annual meeting makes them very popular. Garments and other donations will be received and displayed next Friday, and Mrs. Ellis will keep open house from about 3 o'clock on, through the afternoon.

Many little boys and girls and many families will benefit by the work of the ladies of the guild, this winter. Each member makes some article of wearing apparel and these are distributed to the worthy poor. In cases of emergency help is given by the guild at other seasons than Christmas. At times of great disasters the guild ladies are the first to respond with practical aid in the way of clothing.

INVESTIGATING LIMESTONE.

Fertilizer Plant May Result From Col. Lawson's Recent Visit.

That the extensive limestone deposits of Polk county will in the not very distant future be utilized for the manufacture of commercial fertilizer seems probable. Investigations of these deposits have recently been made with this end in view, and reports are of the most encouraging character. It has been found that the limestone here has a peculiar value for the purpose indicated, and capital is now being sought for the promotion of the project with good prospects for success. The raw material, which exists in great abundance, has been thoroughly tested and experiments show that from it high-grade fertilizer may be had. Col. B. K. Lawson, former warden of the state penitentiary, who was recently here as the representative of Portland capitalists, has consulted with Mr. Sam Moore of Corvallis on the subject, and is convinced that the making of fertilizer from Polk county limestone can be made a profitable industry. Mr. Moore visited the deposit between Dallas and Falls City last summer, and took therefrom liberal specimens of the stone for the purpose of testing its quality. He found that it is well suited for the making of commercial fertilizer at a minimum cost, and it was for the purpose of gaining what information he has on the subject that Col. Lawson visited him this week. What the outcome of these investigations may be remains to be seen, but the enthusiasm displayed by Col. Lawson over the project will probably result in something more than mere talk.

DALLAS AND SILVERTON PLAY.

Football Game Tomorrow Promises to Be Good.

The football game between the high schools of Dallas and Silvertown isn't to be such an easy victory for the local team as was the first game of the season, according to the coaches and players. The Silvertown team has added materially to the strength of its line by re-enlisting a number of former stars and the fact has put such fear of defeat into the hearts of the Dallas boys that they have been working conscientiously throughout the week to perfect a fighting team that will "bring home the bacon." The game is to be played on the college campus tomorrow afternoon, and aside from the game of last Saturday, will be one of the most hotly contested of the year. Coaches French and Rudder have been drilling their men in open play, a feature of football which might have brought a victory last Saturday had it been tried, and are painting victory in the minds of every player. The game last week was financially successful, but the average for the year must be good if the team, which is absolutely self-supporting, is to break even. Therefore, the boys and girls of the high school are anxious for a large attendance at the game tomorrow.

A special train from McMinnville passed through Dallas last evening carrying a large number of members of the Elk's lodge from the lower valley towns to a meeting at Salem.

W. V. Fuller returned from Yamhill county forests this week to spend a few days at home. After spending a day in Portland he returned to the "tall ones" to complete the cruising project he is engaged in.

BLAMED FOR ACCIDENT

COLLISION ON SOUTHERN PACIFIC CHARGED TO CONDUCTOR

Board of Inquiry Renders Verdict in Head-on, Which Recently Took Place Here.

That the accident last week in which three persons were slightly injured was due to negligence and could have been avoided by compliance by employes with Southern Pacific company rules is the opinion of board of inquiry appointed by the company to investigate the reason for a collision between Southern Pacific motor car number 65 and a train of six cars of logs, near the local mill on October 25. Three passengers sustained slight injuries, the motor car had its pilot and rounding nose dived in and four window lights and the wood work on the front end were broken in the collision, doing damage estimated at \$135 to the motor car and \$4 to the first flat car in the log train. The motor car was bound for Iririe, leaving the depot at 5:30 p. m. Near the sawmill it encountered an open switch. Going at a rate of 5 miles an hour the car would not stop before the collision occurred.

"An examination of the premises," says the report, "discloses that the engineer could clearly discern position of switch target, and that had he been running under control, by ordinary alertness and watchfulness, he could have brought his car to a standstill before reaching the open switch. Breaking apparatus was in perfect operative condition at time of accident. The primary cause of the collision was the failure of the conductor of the log train to place the main track switch in proper position after using it."

Those injured in the accident were Mrs. C. O. Johnson, forehead slightly bruised; Mrs. N. A. Montgomery, neck and knee bruised and E. R. Lewis, cut on hand. The board of inquiry that made the report to the company was composed of C. W. Martyn, assistant superintendent; Charles McCann, roadmaster; C. F. Gerlinger, general foreman; J. R. Craven, Dallas merchant, and F. E. Davis, Dallas merchant.

Neil Baldwin, former private stenographer to the governor, is visiting friends in the city.

PLANS FOR BIG BAZAAR

WOMAN'S CLUB PRESIDENT NAMES COMMITTEES.

Reports From Delegates Attending State Gathering Submitted—Entertainment Afforded.

The regular meeting of the Woman's club was held on Tuesday. After a short business session the members present were delightfully entertained with vocal and instrumental music by Miss Lucile Hamilton and Miss Dorothy Bennett. Mrs. W. I. Ford, Mrs. H. B. Cosper and Miss Caroline Burch, delegates who attended the recent convention of the state federation of woman's clubs, gave most complete and entertaining reports of the work of the sessions with many interesting side lights, and there were given a rising vote of thanks.

The president appointed the following committees to take charge of the club bazaar to be held on December 3. General committee: Mrs. A. B. Robinson, Mrs. Eugene Hayter, Mrs. C. G. Coad, Mrs. D. P. Patterson, Mrs. Crites, Mrs. E. V. Dalton and Mrs. W. D. Collins. Marking committee: Mrs. Oscar Hayter, Mrs. H. A. Woods and Mrs. J. R. Craven. Sandwich committee: Mrs. Carl Manock and Miss Julia Nunn. Cooked food committee: Mrs. I. L. Smith, Mrs. Geo. Scott, Mrs. M. M. Ellis, Mrs. John Orr, Mrs. W. I. Ford and Mrs. Willis Simonton. Candy will be made and sold by the young woman's department.

May Banta Dead.

May Banta, the nineteen-year-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. A. B. Banta of North Dallas, passed away late last week. The cause of death was given as tuberculosis. Funeral services were conducted from the Chapman parlors by F. W. Smith. The young lady had two brothers and a sister.

Exposition Big Success.

The Manufacturers' & Land Products show will close Saturday, November 13, after three weeks of success. Crowds have increased daily since the opening of the big exhibition, October 25, and the low fares on steam and electric lines serving Portland have attracted many visitors from Oregon and Washington. Com-

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Greece.

No more money-orders will be sent to Greece from the local postoffice for an indefinite period. This became an established fact Monday when a new order from the postoffice department was received. The order, which went into effect immediately, is as follows: "By virtue of the authority conferred upon him by the existing convention, the postmaster general has ordered temporary suspension of the interchange of postal money-orders with Greece."
"Until instructed, therefore, postmasters at money-order offices in the United States will refuse to issue money-orders on Greece or to pay money-orders issued in that country after October 25."

Student Body Meeting.
The student body of Dallas High

committee meeting in Dallas, to outline a campaign for next year. An effort will be made to have precinct committees of the county during the primaries of the county during the primaries next spring. Although an active campaign will not be opened until after the primaries are held next year, it is planned to carry on a campaign of education in the meantime.

Disappear From Reformatory.

Apparently no trace can be found of Charles Grosso of Dallas and George Spindler of Freemont, the two lads who escaped from the state reformatory school early in the week. W. S. Hale, superintendent of the institution, reports that the boys, both twelve years old, stole a shotgun from a farmer near the school after making their escape.