

The Polk County Observer

(THE HOME PAPER)

DALLAS, POLK COUNTY, OREGON, FRIDAY, DECEMBER 24, 1915.

(TWICE-A-WEEK)

NO. 85

LOT OF SUNSHINE

GENERAL ORDERS PLAN MAKING LITTLE BOYS HAPPY.

Chairman Himes
Toys Will Be
Distributed Today.

The consolidation of capital the of Pythias and the Elks in are accomplishing great good Christmas, taking the cheer of season's greeting and their supply of nearly a hundred homes in and the immediate vicinity. Himes, chairman of the committee of the Knights, has been faithfully for several days visiting the needs of the worthy and has bought the Christmas that today will gladden the hearts of more than one little tot in whose Christmas outlook was bright but bleak. "Bill's" idea, of his kinsmen, was to buy toys that go toward a truly joyous Christmas, for the little folk is not made of gold, even in direct poverty, with stockings and a new cap, as if in the childish want for fruit, candies and toys. The of the more necessary such as wearables, has been other organizations in the the county court and the work Guild are constantly giving things to the needy, but to be a vacancy in the hearts if Christmas doesn't things that other children and candy.

\$100 was collected from in Dallas, and what was for in that amount was from the K. of P. treasury, of the architect Mr. Himes charge of the assembling of He bought a whole box of sixty pounds of candy, fifty of nuts, other fruits, and the collection of toys imaginative clothing, including stockings, for supplying special were purchased, but for the of the fraternal participation of Christmas cheer toys and goodies. Through of the lodges and or a knowing of worthy cases men were able to find near-ly, mostly little folks, happy this gay Christmas

BUSINESSMAN DIES.

Former Dallas Merchant Buried at Portland.

For Harrison E. Dallas merchant, under of Salem and Fred Marshall, and veteran of were conducted on Monday at the Bunnyside Congregational church, Portland. Mr. Kozer Saturday at his home where he has lived since he came to business in Dallas some years ago. Services were held under the auspices of the chapter of the lodge and Ben Butler Post, of the Republic. The of the deceased and interment in Lone Fir cemetery.

Mr. Kozer, who was 75 years of age, resided in Dallas for many years. He was one of the people who have lived here a long time. He was a business man with William Faulkner, who owned the Craven company. The firm of Kozer was one of the best establishments in Dallas at the time. Mr. Kozer had friends in all parts of Polk county, and here they came to mourn his death. His wife, Mrs. Kozer, is a native of Dallas, and was acquainted with another Sam Kozer, who has held Portland offices in the state.

GETS SALOON TAXES.

Made on Tax Roll Not Yet Collectable.

The sheriff's office is surprised on Tuesday when it found that the 1915 taxes came in when assessment became collectable, however, is not the case. The payment came from the Falls City saloon. It is that particular line of the new year. Mr. Kozer, the fact that his taxes were not paid, but he is ambitious to pay the new year not only by paying the business he is in, but by paying the state. This was the case of saloon taxes to be levied in 1915. It will be the sheriff and his deputies will be paid for the levying of the new year, and the payment of Mr. Kozer was unexpected.

Water Case Soon.

The case of H. V. of the City of Dallas and the of the commission, will be heard by Judge Kelley at Salem next week. This case in the ownership of the Dallas

MR. WOODS GIVES WARNING.

Motorists Should Be Careful In Crossing Tracks on Main Street Hill.

I. N. Woods, of the Southern Pacific company, has called timely attention to a very dangerous practice among local motorists, and citizens would do well to heed the warning in time to save their necks. Topping a hill in North Dallas, leading from Main street, is a railroad track, where a number of trains pass one way and the other each day. Automobile drivers usually run from Main street onto the hill at full speed, making a turn that obscures the track, just before they reach the top. At the rate of speed the machines travel it would be little short of a miracle if death or serious injury to the occupants were avoided in case a train came along at that moment. If the community were larger and both train and automobile travel heavier it would be very necessary to build a viaduct for the trains to pass over, but under present conditions the only safeguard that can be had is in the warning given, or the establishing there by the company of a signal bell system. An engineer would have no possible chance to avoid a collision with a rapidly moving machine, under existing conditions, and it therefore behooves the motorist to exercise every precaution to avoid an accident on the Main street hill.

ROAD READY BY SPRING

PART OF NEW HIGHWAY IS IN POLK COUNTY.

Yamhill-Tillamook Roadway to Popular Ocean Beaches Is Now Ready for Traffic.

County Roadmaster J. Waldo Finn has announced that the Yamhill-Tillamook highway, from McMinnville to the coast, will be completed and ready for travel by spring. Almost nine miles of this roadway are within the boundaries of Polk county. The Yamhill-Tillamook highway is the work of the county courts of Polk, Yamhill and Tillamook counties, this county building that part of the road within its limits, and the other counties appropriating \$120,000 for the work. Of the appropriations of the two counties one-half, or \$60,000, became available this year, and the balance will be available next year. The state government appropriated \$9,000 to assist in the project. The highway leaves the west side highway at McMinnville, passes through Bellevue, Sheridan, Willamina and Grand Ronde, having its western terminus at the ocean. After leaving Willamina the highway enters Polk county and is within the county until it gets some distance beyond the Butler store, nine miles from Willamina. The entire distance is about 100 miles from Portland, and Portland motorists can easily travel between the metropolis and the ocean between noon and nightfall on a summer day.

Polk county's share of the improved roadway is ready for the heavy traffic that it will be forced to bear during the coming summer. The entire distance has been macadamized. The most admirable of the many scenic attractions along the road are found within this county, and they are of such a nature and extent as to make the road famous as soon as it becomes better known to travelers. It will make an important side line to the west side highway, which will receive the major share of the Willamette valley travel next summer, just as it has before. Polk county's pride in her stretch of the Yamhill-Tillamook highway is none the less because her name is not linked with the titles of the sister counties.

BIG TEAMS COME TO DALLAS.

Local Basketball Shooters Will Play Many Important Games.

The Dallas basketball team is preparing for a strenuous season of playing in which it will meet some of the best teams in the northwest, and perhaps several very good eastern teams. The big games scheduled already are those with the Washington State college team, sometime in the latter part of January, and the University of Idaho on February 10. Other games tentatively agreed upon are with the University of Washington and a crack organization from Oswego, New York, which will tour through the west during the playing season. As the University of Oregon has dropped basketball from its sporting calendar for the present at least, there will be no game here with that institution, and it is not very probable that the O. A. C. team will invade this territory this year.

Monmouth Club Active.

The Ladies' Civic club of Monmouth is one of the prime movers for civic betterment in that community. Only recently the ladies successfully conducted a movement to provide garbage cans to catch the refuse along the main streets. The cans have been purchased and set about town, and are doing a great deal of good in keeping the streets free from ordinary trash.

CHILD IS NOW MISSING WATER FORCES OUT DAM

MOLLIE BOWERS LEAVES STATE WITH OFFSPRING.

Juvenile Court May Bump Against Further Litigation If the Mother Is Persistent.

Where are Mrs. Mollie Bowers and her four-year-old daughter? That is a question that is now interesting the juvenile court of Multnomah county and also one in which Mr. and Mrs. Milt Grant of this city are vitally interested in. When Mrs. Bowers, acting upon an order from the supreme court of the state, came to Dallas last Sunday and gained possession of her daughter after it had been under the care of the Grants for approximately two years, during the latter half of which period the mother was engaged in a legal battle to recover her offspring, she was supposed to have returned to Portland, where the child would remain under the jurisdiction of the juvenile court of that county, but the court is unable to locate either.

On Monday Mr. and Mrs. Grant went to the metropolis with a view to inducing Judge Cleeton to give back to them the custody of their ward of two years, but were disappointed in finding that both the mother and the child had disappeared. Their whereabouts could not be ascertained, but an investigation is under way and the matter will doubtless be ferreted out within a few days. There is a strong probability that Mrs. Bowers and the child are sequestered in Washington, in which case further litigation may follow if the juvenile court would continue to insist upon its rights in the premises. Mr. and Mrs. Grant went to Portland to contest before the juvenile court for possession of little Marion, on the ground that they had cared for her during the past two years, providing her with all the comforts of a home, thus making her happy and contented.

Dogs Must Be Leashed.

The practice of permitting dogs to run at large in Dallas after nightfall must be stopped, says Marshal Chase, who proposes to see that the city ordinance pertaining thereto is rigidly enforced. Dogs that are tied up during the daytime are, in some cases, permitted their freedom after it becomes dark, and those citizens who follow this practice henceforth are liable to prosecution.

Planning Next Sales Day.

The next public Sales day, which will be held on the last Saturday in January, will be made the most conspicuous of any of these events yet held. Manager Loughery will commence the promotion of the January Sales day with the opening of the month, and that he will be able to create much greater enthusiasm among the farmers of the county is a foregone conclusion.

Great Money Spending Contest Nears Close

Christmas shopping is in full blast in Dallas today, and the idle man can find plenty of entertainment in just watching it as it goes on. There is the shy young man who hopes for something before the next Christmas. He is entering a jewelry store because he thinks it would be almost sacrilege on his part to dare to purchase any article of clothing such as might suit his divinity. He is breaking himself, but he is meditating all the time that when he makes the gift he will do it in a careless way just as though he was in the habit of doing such things every day.

There is the young lady. She is intent on something; she is hesitating between neckties and fine linen handkerchiefs; she is looking furtively at pins that would fit a scarf and she is saying to herself, "If Clarence will only keep his word I will be out of this trouble a year hence."

There is the old man and woman fixing up to fill a whole row of stockings on Christmas eve, and they are as mysterious about it when once home as ever a banker is when once in a great while he loans some impetuous citizen \$7.25 without orthodox collateral.

There are the boys in the family that behind a warehouse somewhere are counting their money and trying to estimate how many million dollars worth of goody-goodies they can purchase for mamma for that amount of money. There are brother and sister gifts being purchased. There is the anxious looking lady doing her shopping with the thought in mind that she has one hundred and seven outside friends that are not worth a dollar apiece to whom she must send presents ranging all the way from three dollars to fourteen dollars, and she is in perfect humor when she

WATER FORCES OUT DAM

FALLS CITY LIGHT PLANT IS SERIOUSLY CRIPPLED.

Heavy Rainfall Causes Overflow of Several Streams, Damaging Property in Some Instances.

High water caused consternation among travelers on the roads about the county the first of the week, and property damage resulted from the overflow from rivers and streams in different parts. The most serious property damage done by the heavy rains was when the Falls City dam burst on Tuesday, resulting in a heavy loss for its owner, Claud Ellison, formerly of Dallas. The dam holds back a water supply for the operation of the electrical power machinery that lights Falls City, and its breaking will be heavily felt by residents there as soon as the high water has subsided. The dam was torn out when a heavy log rammed through it, and it will hardly be possible to reconstruct the affair until the water reaches its low level sometime next summer. It may be that Mr. Ellison will arrange to install an engine to continue the service of electrical energy. While the water remains at the present high mark the electric light and power plant will not be handicapped.

Near Rieckreall the banks of the Rieckreall overflowed and inundated the roadway for a distance of one-half mile. The water was high on a large automobile on Tuesday in the vicinity of the Moulson log yard below Rieckreall. Within a short distance of Monmouth the slough filled and overflowed, covering the road over two or three hundred feet. Travel was extremely difficult through this water, but it did not remain long on the roads. In the McCoy neighborhood, and in several other parts of the county where there are streams, the roads were covered, knee deep in many places, after the heavy rains. It is reported from the Lewisville neighborhood that the Big Luckinute is on a rampage and that its torrents are tearing through and over much valuable property. The water of the Big Luckinute is said to be higher at the present time than it has been since 1908. At Falls City red lanterns were placed on a bridge to warn travelers of the danger from the high water and swift current that threatened the bridge with destruction at any moment.

Dramatic Club at Work.

The Dallas Dramatic club will start earnest work on the preparation of the play with which to open the Orpheum theater in the near future. The cast has been assembled several times to assign remaining parts and to read over the manuscript. One evening next week the cast will get together again with the idea of completing study and practice as soon as possible, and rehearsals may be started within another week.

PAPPAS DECLARES INTENTION.

The United States Will Have Another Citizen in Near Future.

With the assistance of County Clerk Robinson The Observer was able to learn on Tuesday that Panagiotis Papageorgopoulos of Midea, Geibesi county, Greece, had declared his intention of allying himself with hosts of his countrymen under the stary banner and imposing protectorate of the United States of America. That name is spoken in Dallas, where the gentleman makes his home, as Peter Pappas, which for obvious reasons, including sympathy for the reader, we prefer to use. Peter Pappas, employed as a laborer in Dallas, came to the United States from Navplion, Greece, and has lived in Polk county for some time. The fact that many friends with whom he has been associated have become citizens of the United States caused him to appear at the office of the county clerk to declare his intention of becoming one of us. Pappas is the Americanization for the man's real name.

Pastor Will Resign.

Rev. Mr. Berchitt of the Independence Presbyterian church, has announced that he will soon resign his local pastorate to take up missionary work in South America. He has been pastor there for one year, his efforts being very successful.

STEEL TRUST IN GAME

ATTEMPT TO STIFLE COMPETITION IN BIDS ON BRIDGE.

Series of Stories in Seattle Building Record Said to Originate in Portland.

That interests opposed to the building of a concrete bridge across the Willamette river at Salem, doubtless representatives of coast steel companies, are originating in Portland and sending to Seattle for publication in the Seattle Building Record a series of stories criticizing the Marion and Polk county courts for the method used in calling for bids on the bridge, is the opinion of a Salem man, who has been closely associated with the two courts in the preliminary arrangements.

"The stories in the Seattle publication," said this man, "have been published with the apparent purpose of stifling competition. The result has been that both concrete and steel builders have been communicating with Salem asking if there is anything in the reports that the counties are going to give up the competitive idea."

"The stories that have been given publication claim that the time limit allowed for submitting bids is too short and that the \$1000 fee for the plans selected is too small. The regulation rate is 2 1/2 per cent of the cost of the structure with an additional 2 1/2 per cent if field supervision is to be handled by the engineer."

Representatives of coast steel companies met the Polk county court at Dallas and argued in favor of a smaller roadway than has been planned, a lighter loading and a higher structure. Should one of these companies be given the contract it would insist upon the engineering bids complying with its own plans and specifications and would cause all other bids to be thrown out. It would give the company control of the whole situation, including the financial. The people of the two counties are willing to spend money for the bridge, but they want every dollar to go into the bridge itself. This policy, however, meets the opposition of the steel trust."—Statesman.

PRECINCTS TO BE CHANGED.

Rock Creek Voters Asks For Polling Place There.

The matter of changing the boundaries of several of the voting precincts in Polk county will come before the county court at its next meeting, to be held January 5. No action was taken on this at the December term of court. The West Salem precinct is too extensive, according to some who live too distant from the polling place to take an interest in voting. There are more than the limit of voters in this precinct, and it is one of the several that will probably be changed. The Bridgeport precinct is another of those whose boundaries are too far apart for the convenience of the majority. The Bridgeport precinct will probably be divided so that part of the voters in the Bridgeport district will be able to cast their votes in one of the Monmouth precincts. A petition has been received by the county court asking for the creation of a precinct in the vicinity of Rock Creek, in the extreme southwestern part of the county, where there are a number of voters who cannot exercise their right of franchise because of the distance to the polls. The petition will be acted upon at the January meeting of the county court.

The orchestra of Independence will give a Christmas ball at that place tomorrow night.

EXPIRES SUDDENLY

ENSIGN HOWES DIES IN PORTLAND EARLY THIS MORNING

PTOMAINE POISON THE CAUSE.

Was But Recently United in Marriage to Mrs. Christina Fellows—Particulars Concerning Sad Demise Are Meager.

Ensign E. Howes of Dallas, vice-president of the Union Pacific Life Insurance company, passed away suddenly at the Imperial hotel in Portland at 4 o'clock this morning.

Mr. Howes and his wife, who was formerly Mrs. Christina E. Fellows, went to Portland early Wednesday to do Christmas shopping, and on Thursday, Mrs. Howes telephoned the information to friends here that her husband had taken suddenly ill and was confined to his room in the hotel, with a trained nurse in attendance. Shortly after four o'clock this morning the nurse called friends here to say that he had died. She did not state the cause of death. When Mr. Howes left Dallas on Wednesday he was apparently in perfect health, and the only cause of death that would seem reasonable in the absence of better information is that he had ptomaine poisoning. It is said that he had been subject to slight attacks of stomach trouble for several years.

Mr. Howes was a native of Massachusetts and was fifty years of age. He had been well known in Dallas for five years, as he was a frequent visitor at the home of Mrs. Fellows, whom he married at Portland on November 9 of this year. The couple had returned only a week or two ago from an extended wedding journey through California and southern states and were making their home in Dallas. Mr. Howes attended to his duties as vice-president of the Union Pacific Life Insurance company by making frequent trips to Portland, and on Wednesday combined a business and pleasure trip in going to his Portland offices. Mr. and Mrs. Howes were to return to Dallas last evening, and called friends in the afternoon to say that their return would be delayed until tonight because of Mr. Howes' sickness. Mrs. Howes has sent for her only child, Mrs. Marshall of Lyle, Wash., and she is to arrive in Portland today to bring any possible comfort to her bereaved mother. Mrs. Marshall accompanied her mother and Mr. Howes on their recent wedding trip.

Pension for ex-Slave Sought.

Representative Hawley of the first district of Oregon, has introduced a bill in congress to pension Lou Southworth, an old negro ex-slave, who fought in the Rogue River and other Indian wars in the pioneer days of this state. He was purchasing his freedom from his master when the Civil war gave him his freedom and he never received a receipt for the money paid. The bill introduced by Mr. Hawley would pay him a pension of \$20 a month.

Milt Grant Cuts Hand.

Milt Grant, rural mail carrier, nearly lost a little finger on Wednesday, when his hand slipped and struck the edge of an axel greased can. The little finger hung only by the skin, but will probably be saved as a result of prompt surgical attention. The painfully injury did not keep Mr. Grant from his duties.

Mrs. Coad's Niece Dead.

Mrs. Julian Byrd of Burns, Oregon, a former Dallas resident and a niece of Mrs. F. J. Coad, died on Monday at her eastern Oregon home. Mrs. Byrd had been under treatment at Portland hospitals for several weeks, but failed to recover from the attack. Mr. Byrd, who survives his wife, is the editor of one of the papers at Burns.

Expense Money Cut Off.

Delegates who may be elected to the different national party conventions for the nomination of presidential candidates must pay their own expenses in attending the conventions next year, as the old law allowing them \$200 each was repealed by the last legislature.

Epidemic of La Grippe.

An epidemic of la grippe is prevalent throughout Western Oregon and several deaths from that cause are reported from Portland and Salem. The general health condition in Dallas is good. The "grip" has not invaded this city to any extent.

K. of P. Play Soon.

Fred West informs The Observer that the Knights of Pythias will stage a play yet to be selected soon after the presentation of the one to be given by the Dallas Dramatic company next month. The committee in charge of the arrangements consists of Fred West, Lew. A. Cates and John Sibley.