

# The Polk County Observer

(THE HOME PAPER)

DALLAS, POLK COUNTY, OREGON, FRIDAY, DECEMBER 31, 1915.

(TWICE-A-WEEK)

NO. 97

## FOR BETTER JOB RICKREALL P. O. ROBBED HOTEL GAIL CHANGES HAS PROMINENT PLACE BUDGET GETS APPROVAL DALLAS NOT TO SUFFER

### GOES TO POSITION AT CULTURAL COLLEGE.

Seymour, superintendent of schools, has been elected to the position of superintendent of the Oregon Agricultural College.

Prof. Griffin as state leader of the extension department of the Oregon Agricultural College, Prof. Griffin has similar position with the department of Cornell University, N. Y., and is expected to leave for that institution early in the spring.

When Mr. Seymour will be in charge of the school at the O. A. C. for three terms as county superintendent, with headquarters at the Oregon Agricultural College, Seymour has won not only national distinction as a school worker, and under his leadership Polk county schools have made wonderful progress.

Especially in connection with the industrial club work become organized, and the federal recognition was not the last of his excellence. As county superintendent of schools, Mr. Seymour has been a diligent worker, and his greatest energy and devotion at his duties. His ideas of school work have combined to make Polk county school system one upon which it rests to spend most of his life in Dallas and in that time he has made many friends, through his personality, but his general appreciation of his duties has been an advocate and has been a credit plan that he has successfully worked in the schools of the county, and he is about a marked improvement in the teaching force of the schools, and his efforts were recognized to a great extent for the school department of the county, and for the winning of the state fair.

Recognition of these many qualities, as well as in appreciation of the man himself, that Mr. Seymour has been selected to the position with the agricultural college. It is a position requiring adaptability and special talents and these the college board has found in Mr. Seymour better than in any other person. His selection was made on the part of the board of directors, and there were several other applicants for the place. He is to work under Prof. R. D. Hetzel, county extension department, but will be distinct from that of extension workers. He will have a staff of assistants, among them two well-known in Dallas and frequent visits, Miss Helen Leonard J. Allen. Mr. Seymour has served three terms as superintendent of Polk county schools, and with genuine regret that the county court is in a quandary as to the appointment of a successor. It is probably bringing the matter to a settlement at the January meeting of the court. There are several candidates, both among republicans and democrats. Absolutely no one has been made upon any one in the past, several women applicants have been given preliminary consideration by the court. There are several men or women eligible to be considered and qualified to hold it. It is a position requiring great energy and ability, as well as education and experience among the men whose names are mentioned are H. H. Partridge, school supervisor, B. A. Independence, H. L. Keckel, and Mr. Johnson of McCoy Ford, among republicans. Mr. Crowley has also declared himself a candidate for nomination at the democratic next spring.

### ARE MADE HAPPY.

### People Provide Food Clothing, at Christmas.

Open purses and willing hearts of the people of Independence this Christmas time to the support of the poor. More than \$120 in cash and donations of clothing, shoes, and potatoes were provided for the families previously mentioned. Committees of these families previously mentioned what was most needed for Christmas comfortable and when filling the orders, they were not forgotten, and a box of candy and nuts and a gift for each child in the families.

### Lawley Attends Meeting.

Lawley of McCoy, representing Oregon Poultry Livestock Association, has been attending the annual meeting of the Oregon Irrigation Association at Portland this week. Irrigation from all parts of the state has been far away as Texas have been in session with the congress in

### THIEVES ENTER LUCAS & PRICE STORE IN UNKNOWN WAY.

Book Containing Stamps Carried Away—Gold Watch Stolen From Eakin Home.

The Rickreall postoffice, located in the Lucas & Price store, was entered by thieves on Tuesday night, or early Wednesday morning, and \$40 or \$50 in stamps taken. The theft was discovered by the proprietors when they opened the store on Wednesday, and in the meantime the robbers had so well covered their tracks that no trace of them has been found. Although much of value was handy in the store those who broke in did not molest anything with the exception of the stamps, which were in a large book. The key to the registered mail bags was within reach of anyone in the office and the registered mail sacks contained approximately \$150 in money and orders. The stock or tills in the store of Lucas & Price were untouched, the thieves evidently being satisfied with the haul they made on the stamps. Wednesday morning the cover to the large stamp book was found on the Nesmith place near Rickreall, where the robbers had discarded it after tearing out its contents.

Sheriff Orr went to Rickreall early on Wednesday to investigate the robbery, but found no clew of value in his search for the culprits. The doors of the store were all securely fastened when the place was opened by the proprietors the morning after the robbery, and it is a mystery how the thieves gained entrance unless they had passed keys, and were well acquainted with the store. Several Rickreall people are sure that the robbery was committed by two men who passed along the road toward Dallas about eleven o'clock Tuesday night. The finding of the stamp book even indicated the route they took in making their escape.

It may possibly have been the same person, or persons, who entered the postoffice, who later entered Hort C. Eakin's home the same evening and took Mrs. Eakin's purse containing a valuable watch and some money. This theft was not discovered until late Wednesday morning, and it is attributed to the same thieves as those who entered the postoffice. Nothing in the Eakin house was disturbed with the exception of the writing desk, where Mrs. Eakin's purse was. Mr. Eakin's sister heard unusual noises in the early hours of the morning, but attributed them rather to the wind than to robbers. The watch, which Mrs. Eakin valued greatly, had her full name engraved on the inner back case and would be very hard to dispose of dishonestly on that account.

### HIGH SCHOOL TEAM WINS.

### Student Basketball Players Clean Up at Smithfield.

The Dallas high school basketball team showed a fast team of Smithfield youths the rudiments of the game on Wednesday evening when it defeated them on their own floor by a score of 48 to 9. Both teams played good basketball throughout the game, but coaching and practice and knowledge of the game were in favor of the Dallas boys and they went on the floor like a whirlwind, taking everything in their rushes. For Dallas Ray Scott was the chief point winner, and to his credit are marked 11 field baskets and two free throws, or just half of the total number of points scored. Floyd Ellis made five field goals, four of which were in the last period of play. At the end of the first period the score was 20 to 6, and in the second period Dallas made 28 points while the Smithfield team could only score a single goal. For Dallas the game was played by Cutler, Bennett, Scott, Hart, Ellis and Berg. For Smithfield the following five played the entire game: Diehm, Myers, McCrow, Trent and Zumwalt. The next game is that at Silverton with the high school of that city on Saturday evening, January 1.

### Thrown From Buggy.

While returning home from a neighbor's on Christmas day, Mrs. E. F. Rogers of the Oakdale district was thrown from the buggy in which she was riding alone at the time, but escaped serious injury. Mr. Rogers had left her with the rig while he opened a gate when the horse made a quick start, overturning the buggy and throwing its occupant to the ground. One wheel of the vehicle passed over her body, but it being light her injury was slight.

### Show Gives Promise.

The Marion County Poultry association is offering much greater cash inducements, than ever before, to the poultry fancier to exhibit some of their poultry at the show to be held from January 11 to the 14th, inclusive. This will be the only winter show held in the Willamette valley this season and will therefore draw from a much greater territory than ever before.

### MR. THOMPSON, FORMER OPERATOR, BECOMES OWNER.

Henry Serr Leaves Dallas to Seek Higher Altitude for Benefit of Mrs. Serr's Health.

After a successful career of nearly four years under the capable management of Henry Serr the Gail hotel has been purchased by its former and original proprietors, Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Thompson of Albany, owners of the building. Mr. and Mrs. Thompson operated the Gail for eleven years, and under their management the hotel gained widespread fame among travelers and among local people. Three and a half years ago the Thompsons sold to Henry Serr, who has continued to run the business along the lines set down during the Thompson ownership. Some years ago Mr. Thompson built a brick annex to the hotel and equipped that part in a thoroughly modern way, making the hotel one of the best in the valley. It has outlived several other establishments in the city and enjoys the majority of the first class trade that comes into the city.

Mr. Serr has been successful in the management of the hotel and leaves only because of his wife's health. The family will leave here early next week for Spokane, where the several members thereof will enjoy a well-earned rest until Mr. Serr locates in a similar business in some of the inland towns, where a higher altitude will benefit his wife. Mr. Serr enjoys the close friendship of every traveling man who makes Dallas and this trade is an important item to the Gail. He expects to enter the hotel business somewhere in Idaho when he finds the proper location.

Mr. and Mrs. Thompson have been living in Albany since they sold to Mr. Serr, and there are heavily interested in the Hotel Albany. Under the new management the Gail will be operated as it was when Mr. Thompson was in charge before. No extensive improvements are planned for the immediate future, but Mr. Thompson has in mind several things which will be changed when the proper time comes. He was an active factor in the civic and commercial life of the city when he had the hotel before, and in this Mr. Serr has been like him, closely identified with the work of the Commercial club, and commercial and civic undertakings. Mr. and Mrs. Thompson are spending today at Portland and will assume charge of the hotel tomorrow morning, starting the new month and year.

### SPAN PLANS ARE SORTED.

### Of 19 Submitted for Salem Bridge, Only Few Are Considered.

All except five of the nineteen plans submitted for the proposed Marion Polk county Willamette river bridge at Salem were eliminated from consideration on Tuesday by the board of viewers and the state highway department, because they did not conform to the specifications imposed by the state highway department. From the five plans left the viewers will recommend the two deemed best. The courts of the two counties will then select the type desired.

### McMinnville Citizen Dead.

At the age of 79 years, Royal Grover, one of the best-known McMinnville citizens, passed away. He is survived by his widow and the following children: Mrs. Maude Kirk of Roseburg; Mrs. H. L. Toney of McMinnville; Principal Carl Grover of Oregon; and Professor Isabel Grover of McMinnville college. The funeral was held Wednesday.

### GOOD BYE, OLD YEAR.

GOODBY, OLD YEAR, GOODBY!  
YOU HAVE BROUGHT MUCH PAIN AND SADNESS;  
YOU HAVE BROUGHT MUCH JOY AND GLADNESS.  
MANY A PATHWAY YOU HAVE BRIGHTENED;  
MANY A SORROW YOU HAVE LIGHTENED.  
GOODBY, OLD YEAR, GOODBY!

COME IN, NEW YEAR, COME IN!  
WE ARE MUCH REJOICED TO MEET YOU.  
WITH WORDS OF WELCOME WE DO GREET YOU.  
FOR YOU THE MIDNIGHT BELLS ARE RINGING;  
FOR YOU THE CHORISTERS ARE SINGING.  
COME IN, NEW YEAR, COME IN!

COME IN, NEW YEAR, COME IN!  
LIGHTEN THE FOOTSTEP IN THE FURROW;  
SOFTEN EVERY PANG OF SORROW;  
SOOTHE THE BROW THAT IS EVER ACHING;  
COMFORT THE HEART THAT WITH PAIN IS BREAKING.  
COME IN, NEW YEAR, COME IN!

COME IN, NEW YEAR, COME IN!  
DEAL GENTLY WITH THOSE THAT WANDER  
FROM THE FOLD OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD.  
WITH THE BREAD OF LIFE, OH, FEED THEM,  
AND IN THE LIGHT, OH, KINDLY LEAD THEM!  
COME IN, NEW YEAR, COME IN!

### POLK CONSPICUOUS IN FARMERS' WEEK PROGRAM.

Stockmen and Dairymen Will Discuss Leading Questions at Coming Corvallis Meet.

Farmers' week at the O. A. C., beginning on Monday morning, will be one of especial interest to Polk county residents because of the fact that so many Polk county people will be speakers at the various meetings and conferences to be held during the week. On Monday J. Waldo Finn, county roadmaster, will deliver a thirty minute talk on "Oiling Roads, Methods and Costs." This is to be in connection with the Road Builders' conference. On Tuesday, January 4, "Leading Guernsey Families of America," will be the subject used by Mr. Chase of Independence before a meeting of the Guernsey Breeders' association. On the same day the Oregon Jersey Cattle club will meet at the college and one of the subjects discussed will be "Raising the Jersey Heifer." Guy Hewitt of Monmouth will lead the discussion of that subject. Wednesday will be given over to various meetings, among the most important of which will be the conference of the State Dairy association. Mrs. F. E. Lynn of Perrydale is addressing that gathering on the subject of "The Dairy Farmer's Home." At the same meeting Frank Loughary of Monmouth, president of the Polk County Cow Testing association, will deliver a five-minute talk. A conference of officials of county fairs of the state will be held on Wednesday and a number of Polk county people will be present. H. C. Seymour, county superintendent of schools, will address the meeting on "School Industrial Exhibits," a subject with which he is very familiar, as shown by his work here. "Women's Work in Connection With the County Fair," is the subject that has been assigned to Mrs. Winnie Braden for treatment. Farmers' week will be a busy one for all who are present at the agricultural college, and a number of Polk county people in addition to those on the program will attend. There will be evening social features for the pleasure of the hundreds of farmers and others who will be in Corvallis, and the business meetings of the various organizations will be another interesting feature.

### POLK COUNTY IS FINANCIER.

### November Payments From County Treasury Amount to \$82,295.62.

Polk county deals in sums of money each month in the transaction of routine business that would seem to indicate high finance. For the month of November County Treasurer Holman's report is interesting in this connection. During that month \$82,295.62 were paid out of his office. The largest part of this was in payment of warrants called in, amounting to \$31,750.35. In addition to that heavy expenditure the last half of the state tax was paid, amounting to \$28,000.04. Other expenditures that helped make the total a large one were: General fund, \$5,025.58; general road fund, \$147.21; common school fund; \$5,703.75; high school fund, \$849.12; special school fund, \$786.78, and special city fund, \$2,956.79.

### Fruit Growers to Meet.

The Polk County Fruit Growers' association will convene on Saturday, January 8, for the purpose of electing officers for the coming year and for the transaction of such other business as may come before the meeting. President Eakin is desirous that there be a full attendance on this occasion.

### TAXPAYERS ENDORSE WORK OF THE COUNTY COURT.

Proposed Levy of Twenty Mills Remains Unaltered—Voting Precincts Are Changed.

Without a single change and by practically unanimous vote the assemblage of taxpayers at the public budget hearing yesterday adopted the 1916 budget as prepared by the county court. There was a large number of prominent Polk county people at the meeting, and the discussion entered into was to the point and effective. Contrary to many expressed predictions the meeting did not cut the county fair appropriation. The various items on the budget were taken separately and studied, but the levy of 20 mills remained unaltered after a session lasting throughout most of the day.

Several matters of importance to voters in several parts of the county were brought to the attention of the meeting. A new voting precinct was created in the Rock Creek district by cutting off the major portion, including all the west end of the Pedee precinct. The new precinct is larger as it was created than the Pedee precinct, which was formerly one of the largest in the county. Some of the prominent voters in the new district are H. L. Hayes, Frank Heyden, Joe Sampson, E. Wright, J. L. Chamberlain and F. L. Fatland.

The County Boundary board, consisting of the county court and the school superintendent, reviewed the special school tax levy of the Black Rock district from five mills to three mills. A petition asking for the review was presented by C. L. Starr, representing timber interests in the district, while the district itself was represented by Mr. Ross of the school board. The reduction was caused because the school board computed its tax levy on a lower assessed valuation than that shown by the tax assessment rolls.

Among those who attended the public hearing were: Senator C. L. Hawley of McCoy, I. L. Patterson and Frank Gibson of Eola, C. A. Park of Salem, J. Imah of West Salem, J. K. Sears of McCoy, S. L. McLumurray of Independence, I. M. Simpson of Airle, H. M. Edgar and Jesse Williamson of Crowley, A. B. Southwick of West Salem, A. Livingston of West Salem, C. L. Starr of Portland, G. W. Gibson and Charles Pierce of West Salem.

### MASS MEETING NEXT SUNDAY.

### The Other Side of Sunday Laws to Be Argued by Wm. Healey.

The anti side of the Sunday closing law will be discussed at a general mass meeting on Sunday afternoon at the Grand theater by the Hon. William Mayhew Healey, an authority on that particular subject. A wave of so-called reform is sweeping the country and the lid is constantly being clamped tighter on Sunday activities of any kind. There are innumerable arguments pro and con, but the majority of those presented are in favor of closing everything on Sunday. Mr. Healey and those who are associated with him in the anti-Sunday law movement have different ideas on the subject and his presentation at the Sunday mass meeting will be interesting. Some of the questions he will deal with and attempt to answer satisfactorily are: Are Sunday Laws Religious? Who Made the First Sunday Law? Civil Rest Day Law Exploded. Shall Majorities Rule in Religious Matters? The meeting will be open and free to the public.

### MR. SOEHNEN WOULD RESIGN.

### Believes Fair Management Should Be Vested in Farmers.

Giving as his reason that the county fair should be under the management of the farmers of the county, Mr. Soehren has declared that he will tender his resignation as president of the fair board, and this being the case there is a vacancy to fill. Who will be elected to succeed to the presidency has not been discussed by the other members of the board, but if it is the wish of Mr. Soehren that our rural neighbors have the management of this institution, and resigns with this end in view, it would be only fair to him to elect his successor from among the farmer members of the directory.

### Postoffice Inspector Here.

C. W. Linebaugh, United States postoffice inspector, was in Dallas yesterday in connection with the Rickreall postoffice robbery. Mr. Linebaugh found nothing that will materially aid in finding the culprits, but has subject matter for a complete report to the government.

### Brophy Will Probate.

The will of the late H. R. Brophy, who accidentally shot and killed himself in West Salem early in the month, has been admitted to probate in Marion county. The estate is valued at \$16,500, and consists chiefly of real estate.

### PREPARATIONS FOR DRY DAYS HAVE BEEN MADE.

Shipments of Intoxicants Into Bailwick Numerous During Last Days of Dying Year.

By means both fair and foul The Observer has compiled the approximate total of intoxicating liquors shipped into Dallas since the first day of December. And the total is astounding to those who had a belief that the city, as well as the remainder of the state, would be tee-totally dry beginning with the first of the new year. Perhaps never during the palmy days of the saloon in Dallas was so much liquor consigned to the city as has been shipped in this month. Throughout the state cellars are taking on a hospitable appearance with the approaching dry days. In fact today is the last on which intoxicants in various forms can be received without the prescribed permit, and from the figures here presented it is not at all likely that County Clerk Robinson will be called upon to issue a permit in Dallas for some time. A significant fact put forth by a metropolitan contemporary, and borne out in the case of Dallas people, is that the "tipplers," the habitual drinkers, and those who go miles out of their way to patronize a saloon, are not those to whom liquors are consigned. The shipments coming into Dallas from Portland, Independence, and other wet towns, in addition to northern California points, are delivered in a majority of cases to people who have not been known to even take their "morning's morning," or "evening's evening." They are the folks who staunchly supported prohibition, and who shunned even the thought of having intoxicants in their homes. They are the class that will be but lightly affected by the enforcement of the prohibition measure; those who did not want liquor enough to warrant the saloon evil, but who, now that the saloon is singing the last sad notes of its swan song, see that their homes must be as oases in the desert of prohibition and are stocking up their buffets and basement lockers. Wholesale liquor dealers, especially those of Portland, have done a land-office business in Dallas within the past month, but tonight at 12:30 o'clock the eras of prohibition will be tied to the door knob, heavy shipments will cease and when the available supply is used the shipment of 24 quarts of beer and 2 quarts of whisky or vinous liquors to each four weeks will start.

But getting down to figures in the matter of liquor shipment to the "dry" city of Dallas, we find that through two sources, and not including the great amount of "booze" that has been brought into the city in suit cases and packages from Falls City and Independence, there have been delivered to Dallas people, during the month of December alone, approximately 47 barrels and 25 cases of beer, or roughly figured, 3580 quarts, enough that a quart of beer could be allowed almost every man, woman and child in the city. During the same period 2 barrels, 11 kegs, 4 cases and 318 quarts of whisky have been delivered to Dallas people, in addition to what has been carried in. Figuring roughly again it may be seen that the total amount of whisky shipped into Dallas in the month of December would allow a full quart to 2185 people. Not only has whisky and beer been shipped in large quantities, but wines have been popular. Of different kinds of wine Dallas people have received 1 barrel, 5 kegs and 8 cases in December, or the approximate equivalent of 980 quarts. In addition to beer, whisky and wine the shipment of 1 keg of gin and 2 kegs of alcohol has been recorded. It is, in view of these figures, not difficult to estimate that during the month just closing there were delivered to Dallas people almost 7200 quarts of liquor. These figures do not include all that came in yesterday or any of to-day's consignments. Verily the new year will be a wet one.

### FREIGHT TRAIN IS DITCHED.

### Shipments Into Dallas Delayed by Accident Near Oregon City.

The regular daily freight shipment from Portland to Dallas was delayed yesterday because train number 221 went into the ditch between Oregon City and Pulp, a station just beyond Oregon City. The derailment delayed the freight into Dallas nearly an entire day as the car did not arrive until late in the evening, when it was due early yesterday morning. Train 221 brings the daily freight shipments down the main line, and at Whiteson leaves Dallas cars for the local train to pick up. The derailment resulted in no serious damage.

### Return From California.

Ed. Jacobson and family returned yesterday morning from California, whither they went several months ago to reside permanently, and will again take up their residence in Dallas.

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