

Polk County Observer

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THE OBSERVER EXTENDS TO ITS ENTIRE LIST OF PATRONS AND LOYAL FRIENDS ITS BEST WISHES FOR A HAPPY AND PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR.

MILITARY TRAINING.

That military training and industrial efficiency go together is the testimony of General Wille, commander-in-chief of the Swiss army, who is a careful observer of conditions connected with the European war and draws conclusions therefrom that are of considerable interest to the people of this country.

Of course, this is the idea of a military man, and yet it is a plausible theory and it is quite conceivable that his claim for the value of military measure of industrial efficiency may have some basis in fact.

The theory thus advanced by General Wille, moreover, appears to be supported by the testimony of a well-known English writer, Mr. Sidney Brooks, who contributes an article to the current number of The North American Review, which carries a very frank exposition of some of the faults and shortcomings of the British as a nation.

One of the greatest of these difficulties has been poor stock. There have been too many cows in the country that could not under any circumstances be money makers for the reason that their productive capacity was below their cost of keep.

While the smoke rings curl upward from several pipes the political bee buzzes frequently in the office of City Auditor Gregory. Hughes is to be the next president, according to a recent prediction at one of these meetings.

NEGLECTED COAST DEFENSES.

While this government has paid more attention to its system of coast defenses than to some other branches of its military establishment, it nevertheless has seriously neglected them in one most important particular.

On this particular point of preparedness there seems to be little room for dispute. With immense stretches of ocean front to defend upon both coasts, certainly the least we can be expected to do is to provide not only machinery for defense, but the men trained to make use of it.

ism about this—no occasion for alarm on the part of the most timid pacifists that we are drifting into militarism when we provide merely the necessary harbor defenses that our great commercial centers on both coasts may not be destroyed.

By constructing these defenses we have admitted their necessity. All the more indefensible, therefore, would be the neglect to make them effective. But men can not do this work without training.

THE COUNTRY NEWSPAPER.

We oftentimes come to a more complete appreciation of the worth of a friend, an institution or a condition by reflecting upon what would happen were they to be taken from us, says an exchange.

The country newspaper, under the management of a broad-minded, public-spirited man, is the best friend a community can hope to have.

In a business way it is decidedly the most efficient help to the patron, making it possible for him in a short time to accomplish some business transaction which otherwise might not be possible.

It is a friend who, when he is married, with genuine interest and good wishes, describes the happy wedding. It announces the birth of the first wonderful child, and when death visits the home, with the sympathy of a friend, writes the obituary.

The boys are still in the trenches, and New Year is almost here.

Francisco Villa is without the confines of Mexico, but has been entirely eliminated?

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A GROWING INDUSTRY.

Dairying in the Willamette valley, like all new industries, has not moved forward without a single hitch. The disorganizing effects of a tariff law that removed all protection from the dairyman has had an unfavorable influence on the price of butterfat, and there have been other difficulties for the owners of cows to surmount.

The remedy for this condition is obvious—better stock must be kept. It must be determined by test which cows are paying their way and which are not, and the unprofitable ones must be sold to the butcher.

The Willamette valley cannot hope to spring full-fledged into a dairy country of the first importance, but with its splendid resources of climate and crops it can become in the course of a comparatively short time a dairying section second to none.

Out of defeat. Joy always comes again!

Than joy that follows a defeat No joy can be more keen and sweet.

—Mary C. Davies.

—Eugene Register.

WRITE A LETTER.

A movement of statewide importance, and one that possesses no inconsiderable amount of merit, is the writing of letters by residents of Oregon to friends and acquaintances abroad with a view to inducing settlement, or at least advertising the resources, advantages and scenic beauty of the commonwealth.

Writing a letter, or a dozen letters, is not a task but a real pleasure, for a letter is a personal bond that draws distant friends more closely together.

A campaign of this character is peculiarly suited to Oregon's population, for the number of Oregon people who have relatives and friends in other states is exceptionally large.

Newcomers are numerous, and those who have spent most of their lives here have, in nearly every instance, relatives and friends in other parts of the United States who would be interested in receiving a personal invitation to visit the great northwest at the earliest opportunity.

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OTHER THINGS

A Rare and Curious Collection of Fact and Fancy.

Once, walking down a shady street, Sweet Cecily I chanced to meet. A knot of crimson roses pressed Just where the lace crossed on her breast.

Red roses, tell me true, I prayed, Does she love me, this little maid? Muteely they dropped, nor seemed to hear;

Glen Holman believes that a groom is a very necessary adjunct to a wedding, but figures that in future he doesn't cut much ice.

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ent county treasurer ever smoked, was in town yesterday. Fred says that cigar made him most awful sick.

The water-wagon resolution will be a favorite this New Year in Dallas.

One of the lectures listed for Farmers' week at the O. A. C. is: "Broccoli, Peppermint and Garlic," by Prof. A. G. B. Bouquet. Incidentally it occurs to us that Broccoli, Peppermint and Garlic would be some bouquet. And who is this fellow Broccoli?

After all of which we wish you a very happy and prosperous New Year.

POLK COUNTY

PUTNAM HILL.

Frank Pennington, wife and daughter spent Christmas with Mrs. Pennington's mother of Amity.

Walter St. Pierre left Wednesday for Southern Oregon, where he will teach school.

Fred Peters and wife of Twin Falls, Minn., are spending the winter with Mr. and Mrs. Clifford Lake. Mrs. Peters is a sister of Mr. Lake.

Miss Mary Cone, a teacher in Willamette university, and Miss Agnes Stewart of Anacortes, Wash., are guests at the W. E. St. Pierre home.

R. M. Risser with relatives in Portland. Mr. Risser returned home Sunday. Mrs. Risser expects to visit until Friday.

Miss Bell, who has taught the primary grades in the West Salem school the past four years, resigned, and will attend the Monmouth Normal school. She will complete the Normal in June. Miss Bennett of Monmouth will fill the vacancy.

SUNNY SLOPE.

A. J. Shipley returned from a week's visit with relatives in Benton and Lane counties on Monday.

James Short went to Corvallis on business Monday.

The school children are enjoying a week's vacation.

The dance at Robert Rake's was well attended.

J. D. Howsman of Independence is visiting at R. M. Bosley's.

Lee Egleston is working for Paul Riley.

Mrs. A. J. Shipley and Kenneth Huggins visited relatives and friends in Falls City Wednesday.

John and Dave Dove ate Christmas dinner with R. M. Bosley and family.

Miss Ruby Rasmussen is spending her vacation with her parents at Corbett.

We understand that Mr. Clapp, a former resident of this vicinity is quite sick in Idaho.

CRIMINAL WAS JAILED HERE.

Evan B. Kemp, Degenerate, Wanted for Kiendish Crime.

Evan B. Kemp, for whom a reward is offered by Portland authorities as a result of a dastardly crime he is alleged to have committed there early this week, was an inmate of the Polk county jail here about four years ago.

John Grant, then sheriff, found him in southern Oregon, where he had gone to hide. He was brought back to Dallas to answer the charge, but being youthful, was sent to the state training school at Salem.

Mr. Grant recognized the man from pictures printed in Portland papers. He characterizes Kemp as a degenerate of the worst kind, and a person who would stoop to the meanest crimes.

Students Work on News Stories.

The historical reviews to be written by students of the junior English classes at the Dallas high school are underway during the year-end holidays, that work being one of the duties assigned the students before classes were dismissed for Christmas.

Mrs. Cecil B. Godinton of Seattle arrived in Dallas last night to spend a month with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. H. P. Shriver and daughter, Kathryn Jennings.

NEW HIGHWAY PROJECT

AIR LINE ROUTE BETWEEN INDEPENDENCE AND BENTON.

Surveys Partially Completed for Road That Will Eliminate Many Crooks and Turns.

What will probably prove to be one of the most important road development projects started in Polk county in several years is that by which a new state highway, running on a straight line, will be built between Independence and the Benton county line. Although the matter has been in the minds of some progressive Independence people for some time, action was started not much more than a week ago, and on Tuesday of this week the first six miles of the proposed roadway were surveyed.

The Independence people behind the movement for the new road, which is to have a maximum grade of 2 per cent, throughout its length, circulated a petition among the farmers last week and secured enough signatures and land donation to assure the roadway. Among the farms which the road will cut in its "crowly" course from Independence to the southern boundary of the county, are those owned by Ernest Zelisch, Mr. King, Piery Dickinson, George Dickinson, S. H. McMurray, Messrs. Bowers, Osborn, Stapleton and Hill.

that must be cut down. The new highway will be a part of the West Side highway, and will be a state road in place of a county road.

The present road between Independence and the southern county boundary is one of many grades and slopes. It is never in good repair and is one of many twists and turns. The proposed road will relieve the situation in every way. It will make a shorter, more level route and will be properly built to begin with.

Guild Elects Officers. The annual meeting of the Needlework Guild was held at the home of Mrs. M. M. Ellis on Tuesday afternoon, when the following officers were elected for the ensuing year: Mrs. M. M. Ellis, president; Mrs. Eugene Hayter and Mrs. Conrad Staffin, respectively; Mrs. E. F. Coad, secretary; Mrs. I. N. Wood, treasurer.

To Play Californians. The Dallas basketball team, through its manager, Fred Gooch, has scheduled a match game with the University of California team which will stop off here, en route for Seattle, on January 13. The local players are tackling big game, but are confident that they can produce a winning combination.

Quit Bar Ahead of Time. The Moose lodge of Independence ceased to operate its saloon Wednesday night, the supply of liquor being exhausted. After the first of the year soft drinks, lunches and cigars only will be served. The lodge has over 250 members.

A Substantial Gift. James J. Hill made Albany collect a Christmas present of \$50,000 worth of securities, already well invested and drawing good interest.

YOUR ATTENTION

It is again called to the completeness of The Observer's news columns today, which is not unusual. And this twice each week throughout the year for only \$1.50—the price of most weeklies. You cannot afford to be without The Observer in 1916.

THE GOOD JUDGE CALLS ON A FRIEND WITH THE DOCTOR. SAY JUDGE, I HAD A GOOD TIME WITH THE BOYS LAST NIGHT AND THE ONLY THING THAT TASTES GOOD TODAY IS W-B CUT--THAT REAL TOBACCO CHEW. YOU'RE AGAY OLD RASCAL, ALL RIGHT. HE HAS A BAD TOOTHACHE, BUT A TASTE FOR GOOD TOBACCO. THE "true-blue" little chew that never goes back on a man is W-B CUT Chewing—the Real Tobacco Chew—new cut, long shred. Quality always the same—less grinding—less spitting—and the taste is better and lasts longer. Get a pouch—take a small chew and notice how the salt brings out the rich tobacco taste. Made by WEYMAN-BRUTON COMPANY, 50 Union Square, New York City

Trusting that our friends enjoyed a Merry Christmas, we wish one and all A Happy New Year. Those who are not our customers should start the approaching New Year right by patronizing this store. Green trading stamps with purchases. Dallas Grocery Co. Successors to Simonton & Scott.