

# The Polk County Observer

(THE HOME PAPER)

DALLAS, POLK COUNTY, OREGON, TUESDAY, OCTOBER 17, 1916

(TWICE-A-WEEK)

NO. 66

## WOMAN KILLED

### MOBILE COLLISION FATAL TO MRS. C. M. MATLOCK.

#### A. M. Matlock, Aileen, and Two Others Seriously Injured When Chalmers Hits Ford.

Mrs. C. M. Matlock of Salem, mother of A. M. Matlock, shipping clerk of the Willamette Valley Lumber company, is dead, and Mrs. A. M. Matlock and 25-months' old daughter, Aileen, Mrs. Mary N. Irie and Mrs. L. E. Weeks are suffering from injuries as a result of a head-on collision between the Ford car in which Mrs. Matlock was traveling north on the Salem-Silverton road Friday morning and the Chalmers car of Mrs. A. M. Matlock, westward of Liberty Hill, Silverton. Miss Jennie Matlock, 8-year-old daughter of A. M. Matlock, escaped injury as did three of the occupants of the Alms automobile. Christian Alms, driver, Misses Alice Scott and Clara Dick and E. Swan. The injured are at the Salem hospital. Mrs. Matlock's body in charge of coroner Clough of Silverton.

The accident occurred one mile east of Doc's fair grounds north on the varion road about nine Friday morning. Testimony indicates that the cause was responsible; a low hanging fog which prevented either from seeing far ahead; excessive speed of the Alms automobile; swiftness of the left-hand side of the Ford; and the fact that Mrs. Weeks, from the condition of the cars at the accident it is evident the impact was terrific. The Ford was turned half way around and when the cars passed their bodies were parallel, facing north, with their noses turned to the west. Just previous to the accident the Ford car was traveling west and the Chalmers west.

The entire front of the Ford was crumpled. One of the Chalmers front seats, left fender and windshield was smashed.

The crash of the collision, the screams of the women and children, and the shouts of the men were heard. Miss Althea Holdridge of Polk county, a guest in the near-by home of A. C. Peterson. She rushed from her home and was soon joined by J. Brown and Percy Brown of Silverton whose automobile had been used but a short time before by the party. Miss Holdridge telephoned for Dr. O. B. Miles of Salem and was taken from the home of Ed. Peterson to the injured Aileen in the Falls house and called Dr. W. Morse. Dr. Byrd also answered the call sent for Dr. Morse.

The injured body of Mrs. C. M. Matlock was taken from under the Alms car wheels. Finding that she was beyond aid the physicians directed attention to the injured. They were hurried to the Salem hospital. If the people in the Ford car Jessie Matlock was the only one uninjured. The bodies of the other women were on either side and under the machines. Members of the Alms family were thrown into the air and landed on the opposite side of the road. Apparently someone in each car was hurled through the windshield. Miss Dick's back was strained but fortunately no other passengers in the Chalmers were hurt. On the Ford Mrs. Weeks had had her ears, hands and sprained hips. Mrs. Irie has a badly lacerated lower lip and facial gashes and Mrs. Irie is suffering from severe injuries.

Photographs of the cars, the scores of the men when the brakes were applied, and the positions of the Ford as to the Alms automobile and of the wreckage of both wrecked automobiles was presented to the coroner's jury Saturday morning.

The coroner's jury returned the following verdict: "We find that Mrs. C. M. Matlock died as a result of injuries sustained in an automobile collision which occurred on the Salem-Silverton road about one mile east of the town of Salem."

The accident occurred from the negligence of the driver of the Alms car, the principal of which was the high rate of speed and the fact that the car driven by Christian Alms was traveling north on the Salem-Silverton road Friday morning, and the Chalmers car was traveling south on the same road at the time of the collision. The secondary cause was the fact that the Ford car was traveling west on the Salem-Silverton road Friday morning, and the Chalmers car was traveling east on the same road at the time of the collision. The coroner's jury also found that the Ford car was traveling west on the Salem-Silverton road Friday morning, and the Chalmers car was traveling east on the same road at the time of the collision.

The jury also found that the Ford car was traveling west on the Salem-Silverton road Friday morning, and the Chalmers car was traveling east on the same road at the time of the collision. The coroner's jury also found that the Ford car was traveling west on the Salem-Silverton road Friday morning, and the Chalmers car was traveling east on the same road at the time of the collision.

a verdict placing the entire responsibility on Alms.

Ten witnesses were called before the jury in their effort to get at the facts of the case.

A. M. Matlock was reached Friday morning and went immediately to Salem. He has not been heard from since.

## FOOTBALL TEAM IS ACTIVE.

### Dallas High Boys Have Three Games Scheduled.

The Dallas high school football team, which was organized with Elmo Bennett as manager and Frank McCann as captain shortly after the opening of school, has been holding a practice series for the past week, and will play its first game of the season at Salem next Saturday with the state deaf and dumb school. On Saturday, October 28, Silverton high will play with Dallas on the home grounds, and on November 4 a return game will be played at Silverton. Other games will be scheduled later.

The team is composed of the following members: Irving Baldere, full back; Frank McCann (capt.) right half; Elmer Butts, left half; Elmo Bennett, quarter back; Webster Beebe, left end; Arnold Wilson, left guard; Paul Praast, left tackle; Douglas Wheeler, center; Raymond Wilson, right guard; Virgil Brock, right tackle; Earl Cutler, right end. O. F. Chenoweth is coach of the team.

## Friday, the 13th, No Hoodoo.

Instead of being a hoodoo, Friday, the thirteenth, was the best day of the week at the Willamette Valley Lumber company's mill. Not once during the day did the mill close down because some machine broke or for any other reason. It was the first day in the week that time did not have to be taken out.

## Will Engage In Business.

Mr. and Mrs. Roy Holloway and three children, of Twin Falls, Idaho, have decided to make Dallas their home and have rented the Irwin house. Mr. Holloway will go into business in the city.

## TENTATIVE DATES SET

### FIFTEEN REPUBLICAN MEETINGS TO BE HELD.

#### To Begin With Meeting Thursday Night at Buena Vista, and Continue Until November 4th.

Chairman Talbott of the Republican County Central committee has completed a tentative set of dates for Republican meetings in Polk county, the first of which is to be held on Thursday night at Buena Vista. The meetings are to continue each evening, except Sundays, throughout the campaign and will wind up with a big rally at the county seat on the night of Saturday, November 4. The date for November 3 is still open. For the meeting at Independence on Monday, October 23, Congressman McArthur has been secured.

Following is the tentative schedule as compiled by Chairman Talbott: Buena Vista, Thursday, October 19. Suver, Friday, October 20. Airlie, Saturday, October 21. Independence, Monday, October 23. Brush College, Tuesday, October 24. Perrydale, Wednesday, October 25. Ballston, Thursday, October 26. Buell, Friday, October 27. Falls City, Saturday, October 28. Rickreall, Monday, October 30. McCoy, Tuesday, October 31. Monmouth, Wednesday, November 1. West Salem, Thursday, November 2. Friday, November 3—Open. Dallas, Saturday, November 4.

## PHEASANT SEASON IS OVER.

### Sunday Was Last Day to Shoot Chinas.

At 5:25 p. m. Sunday the pheasant season ended. The season had been cut in two by the state fish and game commission because of the scarcity of birds. Rod and gun clubs had petitioned that the season be closed entirely but the game commission responded by cutting the time in half. Birds examined by state officials show signs of tuberculosis and it is probable that this disease, along with the severe weather last winter, destroyed some of the chinas.

Sportmen over the state are urging that the 1917 season on pheasants be closed to permit the birds to propagate for the 1918 season. In Portland, Sunday, Mr. Shoemaker said he did not know whether this would be done or not.

## ASSOCIATION IS FORMED

### DISTRICTS ORGANIZE INTO BETTER ROADS ASSOCIATIONS

#### Delegates To October 28 Conference Here Are Selected at Meetings.

Organization of the 19 road districts of Polk county into permanent better roads associations is being completed this week. At each meeting delegates to the road budget conference in Dallas, scheduled for October 28, are being chosen. Delegates are selected to represent every road in the district. These delegates are then supposed to obtain the opinion of the residents along each road as to improvement needs and submit these opinions to conferences of the delegates. At these conferences the needs of each district are to be determined and a definite program for submission to the county court decided upon. In this way it is hoped to have a complete prospectus of the county's road needs for the year 1917 and the county court can then make a budget including the improvements it finds possible. It is hoped that by this system all sections of the county will be heard from before January 1.

Elkins district was organized Friday night. Saturday night district 12 organized at a meeting in Guthrie schoolhouse. J. R. Craven was selected as chairman, Chester Gardner as vice-chairman and Lynn McEee as secretary. Roadmaster Finn explained the purpose of the meeting and of the road conference in Dallas. The following delegates were selected: Clarence Sellers, Oakdale; Olet Ralph, Liberty; Chester Gardner, Luckiamute; John Holman, Cooper Hollow; A. B. Muir, Dallas. W. V. Fuller, Frank Coad, A. B. Muir, Lawrence Dinneen and J. R. Craven attended from Dallas. W. V. Fuller was called upon for some dialect selections.

At the meeting Roadmaster Finn announced that the road conference date had been changed from October 21 to October 28, so as to give the various districts more time to perfect organization.

## MANY INTERESTED IN CHORUS.

### Forty Attend First Meeting in High School Friday Night.

Forty Dallas men and women answered the call of Joseph A. Finley of Portland, new music teacher in the Dallas schools, for the first meeting of the choral society Friday night. Mr. Finley congratulated the city upon the number and said the start was more propitious than he had when he started the Portland oratorio society which now does big work. Miss Dorothy Bennett was accompanist for the practice and Mr. Finley distributed five songs which he said he wanted the society to sing. A temporary executive committee, Mrs. G. P. MacGregor, chairman, John W. Orr and Claire Snyder, was appointed to arrange for the next few meetings and report to the society upon a form of organization and constitution and by-laws.

## SAYS WILLAMETTE BEST.

### Railroad Agent in Washington Exchanges for Valley Lands.

In a letter to The Statesman (Salem) R. P. Rozell, agent for the C. M. & St. P. R. R. at Hanford, Wash., says that he believes the Willamette valley will within the next few years witness the greatest influx of settlers it has ever known.

Mr. Rozell says that the high water assessments and pests have discouraged the settlers in the irrigated districts, and many of them are seeking land in the non-irrigated portions of the northwest. Mr. Rozell has traded property in the district where he now lives for Willamette valley lands.

## Clears \$3000 on Clover.

Mr. and Mrs. Tillman Crook believe there really is something in the good luck of the four leafed clover. Probably there were quite a few of the lucky kind in the Crook patch. The result, at least, would indicate as much. The Crooks say their patch paid them \$3000 profit this year.

## Puts in New "Y" and Track.

An Espee gang has been working this week putting in a new "Y" and siding for the Southern Pacific company at Gerlinger.

## Need More Gravel Cars.

Roadmaster Finn reports that graveling on the Downing and Goetz hills has been delayed because of the lack of cars.

## MRS. BRADEN PRAISED

### SEATTLE "STAR" FEATURES POLK COUNTY EXHIBITOR.

#### Mythical "Cynthia Grey" Finds Woman Farmer an Interesting Subject for Feature Story.

The mythical "Cynthia Grey" of the Scripps-McRae syndicate of newspapers, this time writing for the Seattle Star, has the following to say of Mrs. Winnie Braden, Polk county's prize winning fair secretary:

It takes a good man to compete with a woman in farming these days. Mrs. Winnie Braden, winner of the \$400 sweepstakes prize and also the first prize for best exhibit at the 1916 Northwest Land and Produce show, now in progress at the Arena, plucks prizes at fairs just as she would apples from a tree.

During the short period of seven years she has won first prize at the Dallas poultry show for five consecutive years, first prize at Oregon state fair for prize poultry and best exhibit; first prize at Portland Land and Produce show, and first prize at Polk county fair.

When I came upon Mrs. Braden this morning at the Polk county booth, in the Arena, I found her tacking the purple banner, lettered with gold, high above the sheaves of grain.

It was the first prize and she informed me that she was more proud of it than she was of the \$400 sweepstakes prize money.

As a way of breaking the ice, I said:

"I suppose you are a real, honest-to-goodness farm lady, aren't you?" "Oh, no," she laughingly replied, "although I get the credit of being a full-fledged farmer wherever I go." I got the surprise of my life when Mrs. Braden informed me that until seven years ago she resided in Portland and attended parties, theater clubs, meetings, luncheons, etc., and lived the life afforded the wife of a prosperous business man.

Then she told me all about it. "Seven years ago my husband became the owner of the Sleepy Hollow poultry farm, at Dallas, Polk county," she said. "My life in the city did not afford me the opportunity to become very friendly with Mother Nature, although as a child I was deeply interested in outdoor life and loved every growing thing. My father once remarked that if I should plant a cabbage up-side-down it would grow."

"The year before we moved to Dallas the coops of the Dallas poultry show burned and that association went behind considerably financially. Because my husband was in the poultry business, quite naturally I became especially interested in it. With several other members of the association I worked and secured the financial backing and support of prominent Dallas citizens. The coops were rebuilt and another poultry show staged. We made \$50. I won my first prize at that show."

## County Fair Secretary.

"Shortly afterward I was elected secretary of the Polk County Fair association, and won several prizes for my exhibits. I was asked to take charge of the county exhibit at the state fair and also at the Land show in Portland, winning the first prizes at both places. Then I brought the exhibit here. That's all there is to tell," said Mrs. Braden.

But it isn't all, by any means. The most remarkable part of it is that Mrs. Braden secured all of the material for the exhibit. She spent the greater part of her time from June until September collecting and preparing the exhibit now at the Arena. She made a tour of the county when the grasses were in blossom and secured the prize bunches. Plucking and curing them is an arduous task. Mrs. Braden informed me that it took her an entire day to strip and shape three bunches.

Aside from preparing the sheaves, Mrs. Braden canned all of the fruit on exhibit, and selected the prize vegetables and fresh fruits.

There are 21 varieties of wheat, 16 of oats, eight of barley, seven of corn, 30 varieties of grasses and 96 varieties of fruit and vegetables in the exhibit.

## ACQUITS SKINNER OF CHARGE.

### Jury Returns "Not Guilty" Verdict Last Night.

The jury in the case of the state of Oregon vs. Skinner, charged with violation of the prohibition law by

selling Hostetters Bitters, a proprietary medicine, returned a verdict of "not guilty" at 8:30 last night. The case was hard fought throughout yesterday afternoon by Oscar Hayter, for the defendant, and District Attorney Sibley. The conduct of the trial was complimented by members of the state pharmaceutical board, present during the afternoon. District Attorney Sibley has not yet decided whether or not he will appeal the case.

## ELECTRIFICATION ADVANCES.

### Pole Line Completed To Crowley. Into Corvallis November 1.

The electrification crew of the Southern Pacific has completed the pole line to Crowley. Headquarters have been established there. Roadmaster McCann believes the track and line will be completed to Corvallis November 1. It will be some time, however, before electric service is ready. One unit, from Gerlinger to Walledale, 16 miles, has not been done yet. Mr. McCann would make no statement as to when this unit would be completed.

## County Fair Pays Own Way.

Thanks to three things, an increased allowance from the county court, gate receipts, and the first prize money at the Seattle exposition, the 1916 Polk county fair will be able to pay up its debt of \$500, pay its own way this year and probably have money in the bank. Nearly all bills have been paid already though a final return can not be made until Mrs. Winnie Braden's return from the north.

## Will Visit Ballston Lodge.

Members of the local lodge of Odd Fellows are planning a fraternal visit to the Ballston L. O. O. F. lodge tomorrow night. From 15 to 20 members are expecting to go from here, making the trip in autos. The Ballston lodge is one of the new ones of this section, having been organized about two years ago, and for some time Dallas has had a standing invitation to make it a fraternal visit.

## VALUE IS \$11,853,255

### POLK COUNTY ROLL SHOWS DECREASE OVER LAST YEAR.

#### Total for 1916 is \$11,853,255, Which is Loss of \$929,665 Compared With 1915.

The total valuation of Polk county for 1916 is \$11,853,255, according to the assessment roll which was completed last week by County Assessor F. E. Meyer. This is a loss of \$929,665 compared with the county's total valuation for 1915. This valuation does not include railroads and other public service corporations, which are assessed by the state tax commission.

The county contains 424,999.45 acres of all lands which are valued at \$8,575,950. Of this total acreage 134,478.68 are tillable lands valued at \$4,788,689, and 290,520.77 are non-tillable, valued at \$3,786,370.

Improvements on deeded or patented lands amounts to \$673,065 and on town and city lots, \$629,215, while improvements on lands not deeded or patented amount to \$16,030.

Logging roads and their rolling stock total \$25,890 and engines and manufacturing machinery amounts to \$120,160.

Merchandise and stock in trade total \$245,910, hotel and office furniture, \$10,990, money, notes and accounts, \$46,470; shares of stock, 1800, with a value of \$87,470; farming implements, wagons, carriages, etc., valued at \$148,850.

There are 5,376 head of horses in Polk county, valued at \$213,565; 10,474 head of cattle, valued at \$186,480; 16,532 head of sheep and goats, valued at \$34,295; 5,511 head of swine, valued at \$15,690 and 763 dogs valued at \$8,145.

## Dry Spell May Establish Record.

The past few weeks of fine weather has almost established a record, no rain having fallen in the valley for 30 days, according to observations of the U. S. weather bureau at Portland. If the rain holds off until Friday it will equal the record established in 1895 when there were 42 consecutive fall days without rain. A fall of less than .95 of an inch is not considered by the bureau. Locally this unusual condition has allowed the completion of the grain and fruit harvest, one of the best in the history of the county and farmers are now beginning to hope for rain soon that they can get into the fields for fall plowing.

## CITY'S BONDS AWARDED

### CLARK-KENDALL COMPANY IS SUCCESSFUL BIDDER.

#### Offer Is Par With \$55.25 Premium. To Consider Bidders Bids at Adjourned Meeting Oct. 24.

At the council meeting last night the Clark-Kendall company was awarded the \$3,328,56 worth of improvement bonds of the city of Dallas at par with accrued interest and a premium of \$55.25. The bonds bear six per cent. This is the same company which bought \$12,000 worth of Dallas bonds last year. There were three other bids. The city of Dallas will provide the purchasers with an abstract of the council proceedings covering the improvements included.

The council committee on the Dallas city bond reported that the bond had taken a vacation for three months but would resume practice January 1. The committee advised that the bond appropriations for October, November and December be not paid and an ordinance was introduced to that end.

The ordinance repealing the ordinance subjecting the motion picture show to a \$100 tax was lost by a vote of four to two. A new ordinance was introduced providing for a lower tax. O. C. Smith appeared and asked that the councilmen express their feelings upon the motion picture tax but no councilman availed himself of the opportunity to say how he would vote November 6.

## RIFLE TEAM TO CLACKAMAS.

### Company L Squad Left This Morning to Attend State Shoot.

The rifle team of Company L, composed of Sergeant Hines, Corporal Robb, Private Helgeson and Private Dennis, with Sergeant Syron as team captain and alternate, left this morning at 10:10 for Clackamas where it will participate in the state shoot commencing tomorrow and continuing until Friday evening. The various military organizations of the state have teams participating in the shoot.

## CHAMBERLAIN TO SPEAK.

### U. S. Senator Will Be In Dallas Thursday Evening.

U. S. Senator Geo. E. Chamberlain will be the speaker at a Democratic rally to be held in the Dallas armory Thursday night.

## Say Whipp Is Good Singer.

Mrs. S. B. Taylor and Mrs. A. B. Starbuck returned from the recent conference of the state federation of woman's clubs at Seaside with enthusiasm for the coming concert of Hartridge Whipp and Mrs. Lenora Fisher Whipp in Dallas next week. Mr. and Mrs. Whipp sang at Seaside and the Dallas delegates were very much pleased with them. The Whipp concert in the Orpheum theater will be repeated, free, for the high school students the morning following the theater performance.

## Mrs. Field Allen Buried.

The funeral of Mrs. Field Allen will be held this afternoon at two from the Baptist church. Interment will be in the I. O. O. F. cemetery. Rev. W. T. Tapscott will conduct the services. Mrs. Allen had been ill for the past year, following an operation for cancer.

## Mrs. L. F. Williams Dies.

Mrs. L. F. Williams, former resident of Salem and Dallas, died at her home in Lewiston, Idaho, Friday. Mrs. Williams is a cousin of Harry Coper. Mr. L. F. Williams is a cousin of Walter, Ralph E. and Otho Williams.

## Farmers Meet Tonight.

F. A. Sykes of Corvallis, secretary of the farmers' unions, will be present at the farmers union meeting, local No. 140, in Liberty schoolhouse tonight.

## May Locate in Dallas.

P. C. Hiebert and P. C. Wiebe, of American Falls, Idaho, who have been visiting friends in the county the past two weeks, may come here to live.

## Hausers Have Baby Boy.

A ten-pound boy was born to Mr. and Mrs. E. B. Hauser Sunday night. Mrs. Hauser was Miss Florence Barham.

## Will Attend Allen Funeral.

The W. O. W. circle will attend the funeral of Mrs. Field Allen today.