

Polk County Observer

Published Each Tuesday and Friday
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Telephone.....Main 19

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Subscription Rates.
One Year.....\$1.50
Six Months......75
Three Months......40

No subscription taken unless paid for in advance. This is imperative.

Entered as second-class matter in the Postoffice at Dallas, Oregon.



HUGHES AND FAIRBANKS.

DID YOU GIVE HIM A LIFT?
Did you give him a lift? He's a brother man,
And bearing about all the burden he can,

Did you give him your hand? He was slipping down hill,
And the world, so I fancied, was using him ill.

Do you know what it means to be losing the fight,
When a lift just in time might set everything right?

Did you ask what it was? Why the quivering lip,
Why the half-suppressed sob, the scalding tear drip?

A CASE OF NEGLIGENCE.
An important part of the duties of county commissioners is the intelligent administration of the county road and bridge affairs.

RAILROADS ARE PROSPERING.
Reports made by various railroad companies continue to show a most gratifying condition as regards their earnings and profits.

With the railroads' present prosperity, and especially if it continues for any considerable time which seems more than likely, the receiverships which now cast a cloud over a large part of the country's rail lines should soon be removed.

campaigns of improvements, replacements and extensions. A tendency in this direction already is noticeable, and it is having its influence in speeding up the general prosperity of the country.

It is certain that the country rejoices in the stronger position in which the railroads now find themselves. The public is not unfriendly toward these corporations, in spite of insinuations which have been made to this effect.

WAR AND WHEAT PRICES.
The price of wheat has reached a high level as a result of the European war and a rather short crop yield for the present year.

The real solution of this problem appears to rest on the farmers of this country, who already are being urged to raise more wheat during the coming years.

CORPORATIONS WOULD BENEFIT
How the railroads and the other big corporations would avoid paying their share of the state taxes if the measure named on the November ballot, the "Full Rental Value Land Tax and Homemakers' Loan Fund Amendment," is adopted was pointed out recently by Henry E. Reed, assessor of Multnomah county.

"The amendment does not make adequate provision for the taxation of railroads and public service corporations, which paid taxes in 1916 upon a valuation of \$123,000,000, or 13 per cent of all the taxable property in the state," said Mr. Reed.

out any consideration of market value.
"Estimates of the taxes that the state and its civil divisions would lose from the public utilities under the operation of this amendment ran as high as 65 per cent.

"Friends of the measure dispute these figures of diminution of valuation and revenue, and hint that there is authority hidden away in the amendment to assess the utilities on the basis of value due to special privilege. This is not true to begin with, and if it were true, it furnishes one more reason why the amendment should be rejected.

To select a county commissioner who is fully qualified to attend to the duties of that office, which includes a wise administration of county road and bridge matters, should be the thought of voters when they enter the polls in November.

The American people do not want a president who will "butt in" to trouble recklessly and without reason, but they do want an executive who will say what he means and then stick to it.

We are told that Mexico is commencing to experience an industrial revival. As the nature of the industries affected is not mentioned, however, one naturally wonders if it has anything to do with the making of fresh resolutions.

The farmers and the politicians differ on the weather. The farmer is now praying for rain and the political aspirant is hoping for a continuance of the sunshine—at least until after November 7.

No matter who you agree to do business with—a stranger or the wife's relatives—do not start without a definite written agreement as to what each party must do.—Rural New Yorker.

The late James J. Hill left an estate valued at \$100,000,000. Pretty good for a man who started out with no money, no influential backing and only a common school education.

Some of the New York restaurants now charge for snats as well as for orders of food. Leave it to New York to find ways to "get the money."

A noted Chinese novelist rejects in the name of Mr. Bing Ding. And one can easily imagine that his stories must have plenty of "pep."

OTHERS' OPINIONS

The Place for a Home.
The choice for a site for a country home is extremely important—more so than in town, where the choice is limited, anyway.

To begin with, it should be so placed that it will be convenient to the members of the household and still be out of the odors of outhouses and stables.

And so we might go on, multiplying the different things that should be considered, and we have not half exhausted them. But it is better to get it this way: The site for the farm home should be one which considers the convenience of every member of the home circle using it.

There have been thirty men who have received votes in the electoral college who have never been elected president.

SOME THINGS

To Try Potato Bread.
Potato bread, a la Germany, as one means of cutting the high cost of living, will be tried out by Denver housewives, who have been experimenting with recipes furnished by the foreign office of the United States department of agriculture.

George Ade and Meredith Nicholson, Indiana authors, Monday began a political debate on a monograph electric sign situated in the center of Indianapolis. The inaudible debate begins with the display of a forty-five word argument favoring Woodrow Wilson's re-election which was written by Nicholson.

A MAN IN DALLAS

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