

The Polk County Observer

(THE HOME PAPER)

DALLAS, POLK COUNTY, OREGON, FRIDAY, JANUARY 19, 1917

(TWICE-A-WEEK)

NO. 83

BRADEN REPORTS

SECRETARY MAKES VALUABLE SUGGESTIONS.

of Past Year Shows Polk To Fore in Securing Prizes for Exhibits.

Polk County Fair association to have passed a very successful year by the secretary's report, adopted by the board of directors of the association at their annual meeting Saturday.

Winnie Braden reviewed the report of the secretary's office in the morning and made valuable suggestions. The report follows:

Honorable Members of the Polk County Fair Association, Greeting: The year 1916 was without question a successful one in the history of our fair. Greater co-operation was secured from our people, prizes were won with our exhibit greater publicity was given and its wonderful progress in any previous year.

People are beginning to realize that our county fair and many have come to me asking how to grow to strengthen our exhibit.

Received many favorable comments on our beautiful sheaf grains. In fact two government experts publicly stated never seen such beautiful and bunched grains and more artistic arrangement.

County fair, September 19-20, was unquestionably a success. Exhibits had been enclosed with care and admission was charged for the first time, netting us \$554.00. Improved conclusively that a fee is desirable as it places our fair on a better business basis and adds dignity.

Number of entries at our 1916 fair a decided increase over last year. Not only was there a greater number of exhibits but the quality greatly improved. From our conclusion that our people are beginning to realize the educational feature of our fair and are realizing the quality of the product is of more value than the quantity.

Close of our county fair our horticultural and horticultural exhibits taken to Salem and exhibited at Oregon state fair, September 30th, where we won first prize in our district and received a score of any county in the state.

We also given second premium in "Exhibit," this being the time Polk county ever received a prize in this contest.

Close of our state fair our exhibits taken to Seattle to compete with Northwest Land Products against four counties from Washington and Montana.

We were awarded the first prize with a score of fifty points over our closest competitor.

Publicity was given our county fair exhibit in Seattle. We were given more press publicity than we have before been able to secure. The management of the Land Products exposition acknowledged the success of the exposition was due to Polk and the other Oregon exhibitors.

County's first "corn show" in Independence, November 20th. Every one visiting it was a success. Corn was shown from all parts of our county. Growers were greatly interested. Received much valuable information on the desirable varieties and instructions on seed corn cultivation.

Independence our corn was shown in Salem, where it was exhibited in competition with Marion county. In spite of the fact that Polk county has been giving attention to corn culture in the past years, and we have given it a creditable number of

attempts to measure our success in dollars and cents, yet we all agree it was well worth while, and the necessity of continuing our horticultural exhibits because they are more to advertise Polk county than any other of our resources than all else.

On 22nd I visited the Tilghman fair to secure information as to how they were conducting their fair and about their arrangements.

My trip was well worth

the expense as I returned convinced that we, too, could have a balcony and thus secure more space for displaying exhibits.

Through the efforts of our executive committee this balcony was built and we now have a suitable place for the ladies to display all entries in departments J. K. and L. From the many favorable comments I am sure our ladies appreciate this balcony.

I also visited the North Pacific Fair association in Portland where the problems which confront all fair managements were discussed. Much valuable information was gained.

January 1st to 6th I attended the lectures and conventions at the Oregon Agricultural college, where every hour of every day was devoted to the subjects in which all communities are vitally interested.

At our county fair convention we were able to agree upon a more uniform classification. A committee of which I was the chairman, met with the president and secretary of the Oregon State Fair board and they agreed to change the rules governing our county exhibits at the state fair to conform to our ideas. In fact, they

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Man 88 Years Old, Hale and Hearty.

Newton Campbell departed Tuesday evening for his home near Fresno, California. Mr. Campbell, although 88 years of age, is hale and hearty and eats three "squares" a day. He has been visiting here with J. L. Campbell and other relatives for the past two weeks. The old gentleman is traveling alone.

REAL ESTATE STIRRING

LETHARGY IS WEARING OFF; PRUNE LAND MOST ACTIVE

Several Deals Made in Past Two Weeks; More Sales on Slate for Near Future.

Real estate in Polk county is at last beginning to move. H. G. Campbell, the pioneer real estate man of this county, cites the following as evidence that the winter lethargy is wearing off. He advertised a piece of prune land in a Salem paper last week and he has already received nine queries in answer to the ad. Along in November the same sort of an ad failed to elicit a single letter.

There was quite a move during the early fall around Dallas but the winter months so far have been extraordinarily dull. Prune land seems to change hands more often than other real estate. A deal was closed this week at the office of the Ellis Realty Co. whereby W. H. Weaver of this city has purchased the 12-acre prune orchard of George M. Tice near Falls City. This orchard is one of the best in that vicinity, has been in bearing for several years and has produced a most excellent grade of prunes. The orchard is in one of the best parts of the county, Falls City having become famous for its prize winning fruits and garden products.

There is an option out on a prune tract belonging to Frank Brown and located about one mile north of Dallas. There are 28 acres in the tract which is planted to two-year-old trees. Real estate men expect business to pick up from now on.

POLK FRUIT GROWERS ELECT.

Annual Meeting Held Saturday; H. C. Eakin Re-elected President.

The annual meeting of the Polk County Fruit Growers' association was held here Saturday afternoon. Officers' reports were read and approved. H. C. Eakin is re-elected president of the association.

The other officers are: George Hawkins, vice-president; F. V. Brown, secretary; H. G. Campbell, assistant secretary and N. L. Guy, treasurer. The executive committee consists of H. M. Harvey, D. D. Peters, R. M. Ewing, Otto Skersies and L. A. Dickinson. This committee will serve in conjunction with the president and secretary in managing the affairs of the fruit growers.

Settlement Is Made in Auto Case.

Charles Hartung has made arrangements for the settlement of the judgment for 1 in favor of A. Sampson in the Falls City automobile accident case. The agreement was reached through Walter L. Tooze, Jr., and Oscar Harvey attorneys respectively for Sampson and Hartung. No appeal will be made. Mr. Hartung has reopened his garage business in Falls City.

CLUB BANQUET JAN. 31

EVERYONE INVITED TO ATTEND COMMERCIAL FEED.

Finance Committee Is Ordered To Prepare New Membership List Based on Subscriptions.

A banquet will be held here January 31, to which all local citizens, their wives and friends are invited. The feed will be given under the auspices of the Commercial club. Plates will cost 50 cents each.

At the close of the regular meeting of the Commercial club Wednesday night Tracy Staats voiced the sentiments of the members present when he suggested that the amusement committee should be arranging one of the club feeds. W. L. Soehren in the absence of H. L. Fenton assumed the chairmanship of the committee and promptly decided to stage the affair in either the Imperial or Gail hotel on the evening of January 31.

A new membership list based on paid-up subscriptions was a need, agreed upon by all present. The finance committee was ordered to see all delinquents and get the subscription list as nearly paid up as possible before the next meeting.

The finance committee made its annual report and stated that the books of the secretary and treasurer were neatly kept and correct as far as they could ascertain. The receipts in the aggregate for the past year were \$1881.81 and the total disbursements were 1159.27. This left a balance, January 1st, of \$722.54.

The standing committees of the club as appointed by President Fuller are: Finance: Tracy Staats, F. E. Davis and R. U. Steelquist; promotion and publicity: M. L. Boyd, H. W. Brune, J. C. Hayter; manufacturing: F. J. Coad, R. U. Steelquist, W. L. Soehren; amusements: H. L. Fenton, W. L. Soehren, N. L. Guy; roads and highways: A. B. Muir, H. L. Fenton, N. L. Guy; membership: J. R. Craven, D. V. Poling, U. S. Loughery; city and county affairs: N. L. Guy, W. G. Vassall, J. R. Allgood; railroads: W. L. Soehren, A. C. Petersen, E. C. Kirkpatrick; legislation and judiciary: E. K. Piasecki, Oscar Hayter and W. L. Tooze.

The club passed a resolution against the practice of picketing and intimidating the employees of a non-union business. Dallas is not affected but the action was taken in response to a communication from C. C. Chapman of Portland, who is attempting to get the legislature to pass a bill preventing the practice.

Ira S. Smith, a member of the present legislature, and a former Dallas man, was invited by the club to visit his old home and friends and talk to the people of Dallas and community on "Assessment and Taxation." Mr. Smith is deeply interested in his subject; he submitted his plan to the legislature two years ago but it failed to carry by a small margin. He suggested to U. S. Loughery upon the latter's trip to Salem, Monday, that he would like to have the chance to explain what he considers the only correct method of assessment and taxation, to the people of Dallas. The date has not been decided upon as yet.

The proposition to have the mail for people around Rieckrell come from Dallas instead of Rieckrell was indefinitely postponed. The club acted upon the suggestion of W. G. Vassall, who reported that the club would surely antagonize Rieckrell if they took any action and that the action should come from the people vitally interested, anyway.

Mrs. Winnie Braden was instructed to purchase such supplies as she deemed necessary for the secretary's office. A new loose leaf minute book will replace the old one, which is becoming bulky.

National Chamber of Commerce dues were ordered paid to put the club in good standing with the national organization.

The local club's proxy was given to the Portland Chamber of Commerce, whose delegates leave for Pittsburgh January 21 to attend the convention of Foreign Trade Relations delegates.

C. H. Morris, who is president of the state Jewelers' association asked the club for recommendations upon the best date to invite the association to Dallas for their annual convention. The club suggested June and expressed a willingness to aid Mr. Morris in showing the visitors the products of Polk county and make their stay pleasant.

LOCAL MILL TO SHARE

UNION PACIFIC WILL PLACE BIG ORDER HERE.

Mills of Willamette Valley, Portland and Region North on Company Tracks to Share Equitably.

Orders for between 8,000,000 and 10,000,000 feet of lumber to be used in the construction of 1800 refrigerator cars for the Pacific Fruit Express are being placed by the Union Pacific system among the mills of the Willamette valley, Portland and the region north of Portland on Southern Pacific and O. W. R. & N. tracks.

No definite word has been received here yet, but the Willamette Valley Lumber company will probably come in for a large order. The company's decision was announced Tuesday by Harvey E. Lounsbury, general freight agent of the O. W. R. & N. The cars will be constructed by the company.

The cars will be constructed by the American Car & Foundry company at its plants at Chicago and at Madison, Ill. It is estimated that the lumber, at current rates, will cost \$220,000 at the mills.

The Pacific Fruit express is a corporation separate from any railroad company, specializing in the handling of perishable products of orchard and farm. It owns its own equipment, which is handled by the carriers on a contract basis, similar to the contracts prevailing between the railroads and the express companies. The P. F. E. is controlled jointly by the Union Pacific and Southern Pacific systems, through ownership of stock.

It is because of this ownership of stock that the Union Pacific's purchasing organization is looking after the placing of orders for this new car lumber.

It is understood that work on the cars will be rushed, so that all will have been manufactured and delivered to the western railway centers in ample time for handling next season's fruit crop.

As an example of the need for such additional cars, Mr. Lounsbury said the O. W. R. & N. loaded 2000 more refrigerators during the fruit season between July 1 and December 31, 1916, than during the same period of 1915. Considering that constantly more acreages of fruit are coming into bearing, the demands for 1917 are expected to exceed all previous records.

TRACTOR CAUSES COMMENT.

Little Four-Wheeler Keeps Well Within City's Speed Law.

People, who are unacquainted with modern farm machinery, wondered what kind of a new fangled auto would invade the world of travel next, when they saw Harry Woods at the wheel of his new orchard tractor, proceeding north on Main street, Tuesday morning.

There are several tractors in the country surrounding Dallas. Mr. Woods' new one is a four-wheeler. Its maximum speed is about three miles an hour, so no speed laws were broken. In fact, spectators who were curious to find out how the machine runs, were able to keep up without great effort.

The orchard tractor does away with the necessity for horses, entirely. It does all the farm work connected with the upkeep of an orchard.

RIFLE CLUB AVERAGES FALL.

New Targets And Longer Distance Blamed For Low Scores.

Averages depreciated at the Rifle club about Tuesday night. Members cite the new targets and the longer range as accountable for the showing. A. F. Toner led the field with a percentage of 89. The other results follow: H. A. Webster 87, C. G. Coad 84, H. W. Stump 81, Oscar Ellis 80, Joe Craven 79, A. W. Bennett 79, W. Young 74, Paul Hunter 74. Mr. Toner also secured the best individual score, which was 48 out of a possible 50.

SHELDON'S BOOK DRAMATIZED

Orpheum to Present "Martyrdom of Phillip Strong" Sunday-Monday.

The "Martyrdom of Phillip Strong," which is the attraction at the Orpheum Sunday and Monday, was produced from two books written by the Reverend Charles M. Sheldon. The great author is a personal friend of D. V. Poling of this city. Mr. Poling and Rev. Sheldon were both members of the famous "Flying Squadron" which toured the United States a few years ago.

Sheldon is a wonderful man; he has written 27 books, one of which, "In His Steps," is the most widely read book today, with the exception of the bible. He is considered one of the foremost American authors," said Mr. Poling in speaking of his friend.

The "Paramount" people took "The Crucifixion of Phillip Strong" and "In His Steps" as a basis and produced a photoplay which pictures the struggle of a young minister against exterior and worldly things in trying to get at the real factors of life and the conditions which make life so hard for the poor. The result was "The Martyrdom of Phillip Strong." Critics pronounce it a wonderful picture.

FINANCE MENSURE IS IN

COMMITTEE ADVOCATES BUDGET SYSTEM FOR 1917.

Staats, Davis and Muir Work With Experts For a More Business-Like Handling of Finance.

The finance committee of the city council advocated the adoption of the budget system for 1917 in order to insure a more business-like handling of the city's affairs. The manner of purchasing supplies and employing labor was taken up in detail in the report, which follows:

"It appearing that the time has come when the affairs of the city of Dallas should be conducted in a more business-like manner, and certain suggestions having been made by the experts, we, your finance committee, have studied the report of the experts very carefully, and it is our opinion that the recommendations contained therein are all good and should be accepted by the council at their earliest convenience.

We believe the affairs of the city can be better and more economically conducted by adopting the budget system; and we recommend that an ordinance be passed adopting the budget system, and when passed, that the council adhere strictly to the budget as adopted.

We find it impossible for the council or any one else to keep track of the purchases and employment of labor, and it is not right for the finance committee to recommend for payment bills, about which they know nothing and about which they can find no record, as is often done by the present system. We, therefore, ask that an ordinance be passed adopting the requisition system for all purchases of equipment and supplies, and the employment of all labor for the city of Dallas.

We further recommend that the blank forms prepared by Crandall & Roberts and heretofore attached to and used by the city be replaced by suggestions and recommendations, adopted by the council, may be systematically carried out."

The council unanimously accepted the report and ordered the city attorney to draw up an ordinance, whereupon Chairman Tracy Staats of the finance committee read the following budget and recommended its adoption for 1917.

General Fund.

Auditor's salary.....\$ 900.00
Treasurer's salary..... 300.00
Salary of marshal..... 780.00
Salary of deputy marshal..... 780.00
Lights..... 2,278.00
Fire department..... 600.00
Repairs, equipment, office supplies..... 360.00
Fuel..... 30.00
Construction of safety vault..... 500.00
Maintenance of city buildings..... 50.00
Assistance of band..... 420.00
Reduction of indebtedness..... 1,352.00
Miscellaneous expenses..... 650.00
Total.....\$9,000.00

Library Fund.

Maintenance of the library.....\$1,000.00
New books for same—about..... 100.00
Total.....\$1,100.00

Street Fund.

Maintenance.....\$ 500.00
Oiling streets..... 500.00
Intersections..... 1,250.00
Total.....\$2,250.00

Bond, Interest and Sinking Fund.

Water.....\$1,050.00
Fair..... 750.00
Sewers..... 1,050.00
Total.....\$2,900.00
Total for all funds.....\$15,250.00

Annual Medical Society Meeting.

Dr. R. L. Kleinsorge of Silverton was elected president of the Polk-Yamhill-Marion Medical society at the annual meeting Tuesday night. Other officers elected were: Leo Wood, Amity, first vice-president; J. O. Ma-this, Monmouth, second vice-president; J. B. Pemberton, Salem, third vice-president and Prince Byrd, secretary. The meeting was attended by several physicians from various Willamette valley points and by many members of the legislature. Dr. R. E. Steiner gave a lecture on "Sterilization of the Unfit," and Dr. L. F. Griffith spoke on "Prevalence, Prevention, and Seriousness of Social Diseases." General discussion followed the discourses.

Oregon Power Has Unique Window.

A lighthouse with a revolving light, to warn ships off the rocky coast appears in one of the windows of the Oregon Power company. The display has caused considerable comment from passersby. The object of the window is to emphasize the value of his in practical everyday life.

NO BASKETBALL TONIGHT.

Manager Gooch Is Unable to Secure Game For This Week.

Local basketball toasters are minus competition this week-end. Manager Fred Gooch tried to bring McMinnville or Silverton here but was unsuccessful.

The Dallas team will play two games on the armory floor next week however. Mt. Angel will be the attraction Wednesday night and the Corvallis Firemen will try conclusions with the local champions Friday. The Chemawa Indians have been secured for February 3. Manager Gooch hopes to get some of the northwest college teams to visit Dallas before the conference season is over.

MACGREGOR FALLS DEAD

SPECIES OF HEART FAILURE CAUSES SUDDEN DEMISE.

He Had Just Finished Loading Wood and Was Talking to Teamster; End Came Quickly.

Gilbert P. MacGregor stopped suddenly at 2:40 Wednesday afternoon while at work in the yards of the Willamette Valley Lumber company. The death was probably due to some species of heart failure.

Mr. MacGregor had just finished loading a wagon and was talking to E. T. Colson, one of his teamsters. He had stooped and picked up a piece of lumber. While standing there talking Mr. Colson noticed him falter and start to fall, so caught him. Colson lowered him to the ground; he raised up once and fell back dead. Dr. Starbuck arrived almost immediately and presumed the cause to be some species of heart failure.

Mr. MacGregor has suffered from stomach trouble and ill health for the past 20 years. Last summer he underwent an operation which corrected his trouble and since then he has enjoyed splendid health. His many friends remember of him telling them recently how well he was feeling. He felt extremely well Wednesday during the lunch hour at his home.

Mr. MacGregor has been running the Dallas Wood company here for the past six years. He was superintendent of the yards at the mill when he first came to Dallas, over ten years ago. Mr. MacGregor made a friend of each person he met and his death is mourned by a host of local people.

The funeral will be held at one o'clock Sunday afternoon at the Presbyterian church and the body will go to Portland on the two o'clock train, to be cremated. The body may be seen at Chapman's undertaking parlors until Saturday night.

Gilbert P. MacGregor was born in Morristown, New York, on August 1, 1865. He was 51 years old at the time of his death. He lost his parents when he was but a mere lad. He was married to Katherine Haeguel Wedekind in 1888 and they came to Dallas in 1906. They have made their home here since.

Mr. MacGregor has no immediate relatives. A sister of Mrs. MacGregor is on her way to Dallas from Chicago; she is expected Saturday night or Sunday morning.

Deceased is a graduate of Columbia university. He was the youngest of three children, all now dead. His father was a native of Scotland and his mother of New York state. In 1889 he and Mrs. MacGregor moved to California. In 1905, seeking his health, they moved to Cripple Creek, Colorado, but the altitude was too high and they came to Dallas in April 1906, since which time he has been engaged in the lumber and wood business here.