

# Polk County Observer

Published Each Tuesday and Friday

Office.....517-519 Court Street  
Telephone.....Main 19

BY H. W. BRUNE

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.

## A SELF-SUSTAINING NATION.

Should this country be drawn into the great war it would have at least one vastly important advantage over the several nations already embroiled, in the fact that with respect to supplies necessary for the welfare of the people, as well as for the conduct of war, it is self-sustaining. In other words, this country produces practically everything it needs to house, feed and clothe its people, and its mineral and other natural resources would permit it to live within itself almost indefinitely, even if it was shut off from other parts of the world, just as Germany is at the present time, and as the Teuton allies would like to impose on their enemies, if they can raise a barrier by means of submarines.

Of course it is true there are some commodities extensively used in this country that are largely or entirely imported, for instance, coffee, tea, sugar, rubber and silk, and there are many other lines of imported goods and commodities that materially contribute to the pleasure, comfort and convenience of the American people, which would be missed by the latter should an actual embargo be placed in operation. But this does not alter the fact that if it came to the pinch the American people would manage to get along nicely, and with little if any discomfort, should they, by any possible chance, find themselves compelled to rely on the produce and resources of their own land.

In this particular the United States is vastly better off than any of the European nations now engaged in war, for all of them are more or less dependent on other countries for things that are vitally essential to their welfare. England, most of all, is forced to depend on outside sources for her food supplies, although this also is a serious problem with France and Germany, and some of the smaller belligerents. Metal, coal and petroleum supplies furnish another vital question to most of the belligerents, and the cotton raised in this country is an important factor to several of them.

Germany has performed wonders in trying to keep going on her own products and resources, but the difficulties of this task have taxed the skill and wisdom of even that resourceful and highly organized nation. And although this country is not likely to be put to the same test, it is a matter of no little satisfaction to know our experts calculate this nation would find it a comparatively easy matter to get along, even if every avenue of outside communication should be closed. It would not be pleasant, of course, and some changes necessarily would occur, but there would be no suffering and but little inconvenience. And there is not a nation in Europe but gladly would change places with us, in this condition of conceded advantage.

## SOMEWHAT PUZZLING.

An interesting and puzzling problem is presented by the published records of the federal treasury department, showing that the consumption of beer and whiskey in this country was very much larger during the year 1916 than during the preceding year. During this same time the area of "dry" territory was materially increased, thousands of saloons were legislated out of existence, and the prohibition movement made strides which seemed to warrant the reiterated claim of the "drys" that King Alcohol was "on the run." Yet the official records indicate that the American people used 146,000,000 gallons of strong liquors during 1916, as compared with 124,000,000 gallons for 1915, while for beer the round figures are 61,000,000 barrels for 1916 against only 57,000,000 barrels for the preceding year.

This increase in the use of alcoholic drinks is rather remarkable and it is not accounted for altogether by the Washington explanation that the \$24,000,000 collected on whiskey by the government last year in excess of the 1915 total "is attributable to the fact that the government is at present collecting taxes on all whiskey produced in the country, whereas, because of extensive frauds, such was not the case a few years ago." This may account for some of the increase in the tax, but there hardly could have been such an enormous amount of moonshine whiskey produced in the year 1915 that was pay-

ing the internal revenue tax the following year. And anyway this lame explanation would not account for the large increase in beer consumption, for there practically is no such thing as "moonshine" beer and the government always has collected full tribute from the brewers.

As a matter of fact, there seems no good reason to question the plain inference of the government statistics, which actually indicate a larger consumption of alcoholic drinks last year. And in looking for an explanation of this condition three things are suggested: first, that although the "dry" territory has been extended the people still use the stuff; second, an increase of population in "wet" territory; and, third, that the phenomenal prosperity enjoyed by the American people last year has something to do with it. Some critics believe the last mentioned item is the real explanation of the increased consumption of alcoholic beverages, for when people are flush with money they turn to indulgences. But whatever the real reason may be, the official figures show that 1916 was a "strong" year for strong drink.

Another reason why we shall perhaps not have any drastic good roads legislation is that opinions differ so radically upon the matter as to the best legislation to enact. There is one point on which all agree fairly well, however, and that is if possible we should get the good roads without the necessity of paying for them.

It is said that American manufacturers can make 400 aeroplanes a week, and the ease with which these machines have been smashed up in the past indicates that such a supply would be none too large.

It has been decided to hold the presidential inauguration just as though that was the only business the country had to look after. The Washington hotel keepers need the money just that badly.

General Carranza has sent his "best wishes" to the German kaiser. Which may mean much or little, according to how you look at it.

Japan is planning to build a much larger navy, says a dispatch. Another little hint to cause Uncle Sam to sit up and take notice.

The ground hog seems to have sized things up pretty well.

## COUNTRY CORRESPONDENCE

### PERRYDALE

Miss Bessie Morrison and G. L. Lee attended the Sunday school convention in Independence Sunday.

D. L. Keyt of Monmouth was a visitor here Sunday.

Will Caldwell, Miss Grace Forrette and Dorothy Bennett attended the "Negro minstrel show" here Saturday evening.

Miss Fannie Keyt left here Wednesday for a few months' visit with her sister in Boise, Idaho.

Mr. H. J. Elliott is in Portland this week on business.

The Perrydale school teachers attended institute in Monmouth Saturday.

Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Houek were Dallas visitors Tuesday.

Mr. and Mrs. Lester White visited with Mr. and Mrs. Carl Morrison Saturday and Sunday.

The "Negro Minstrel Show" given here Saturday evening was a great success. Mr. Fred West of Dallas sang a very pleasing solo. The amount netted by the show was \$38.00.

### CROWLEY

Miss Pearl Dennett went to Dallas Monday evening to care for a patient at the hospital.

Fred Wells and bride of Rieckreall visited Saturday afternoon at the home of the bride's brother, Kaner Trent.

Mr. and Mrs. Dennett were Rieckreall visitors Saturday.

Mr. and Mrs. John Fidler and Herschel Fidler of Dallas and Miss Minnie Pettyjohn of Washington were Sunday visitors at Jesse Williamson's.

Mr. and Mrs. George Sherwood of Rieckreall visited Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. A. H. Dennett.

Miss Verda Williamson returned home Monday, after spending the past two weeks' with relatives in Salem and Waconda.

C. H. Farmer was a business visitor in Dallas Friday.

Mrs. Valliere visited her daughter, Mrs. Ben Carrol of Greenwood, one day last week.

Cass Riggs was a Dallas visitor one day last week.

Edgar Williams was an Amity visitor Friday.

Malcolm Pewtherer and family visited relatives in Oak Grove Sunday.

R. J. Williamson and family, Finley Edgar and family, Henry Edgar and family of Dallas, Jim Edgar and family of the Eola hills, Mr. and

Mrs. Ed Butler of Portland, Mrs. J. W. Lewis, Mrs. J. C. White and Texella White, and Mr. and Mrs. Carney Warren spent Tuesday with Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Edgar of Oak Grove, in honor of Mr. Edgar's 79th birthday anniversary.

Mrs. Holt Crowley and daughter of Rieckreall were visitors at Malcolm Pewtherer's Friday afternoon.

A Salem man was here Friday trying to buy potatoes.

R. J. Williamson pruned his orchard last week.

Mrs. Hodges was a Salem visitor Saturday.

George Smith sold a fine work team Friday to Cofelt brothers of Tigar.

F. M. Edgar attended grange at Oak Grove Saturday.

Quite a number of the young people here attended the dance at McCoy Saturday night.

Kaner Trent was a Smithfield caller Saturday.

Ones Whaley of Rieckreall spent Friday night at the home of his grandmother, Mrs. Geo. Smith.

Harry Valliere hauled a load of lumber from Dallas Saturday.

### OAK GROVE

Ray Fawk has been suffering with throat trouble, caused by a growth in his throat.

Grange was well attended here Saturday.

A goodly number attended the basketball game here between this place and Rieckreall Friday night.

Herb Fawk and family of Holmes Gap were Sunday visitors here.

Clyde Vincent and sister attended the dance at McCoy Saturday night.

Mr. and Mrs. Kaner Trent visited Sunday at Mrs. J. C. White's.

John Blaffus was a caller Monday at Jas. McBride's, at Holmes Gap.

Mr. and Mrs. Ed. Butler of Portland visited this week with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Edgar.

Thad Stevens was a Dallas visitor Monday.

Mrs. Gus Williamson of McCoy visited Friday and Saturday with her sister, Mrs. Roy Gilbert of Salem.

Mr. and Mrs. Ed. Butler of Portland are visiting relatives at Oak Grove and Crowley this week.

Hugh Farmer of Rieckreall was a Salem visitor Friday and Saturday.

Mrs. Jesse Williamson of Rieckreall was quite sick a few days last week.

### MOUNTAIN VIEW-POPCOEN

Hazel Price was a visitor at the Bouffleur home last week.

The play given by the Kid Comedy club of Salem at the schoolhouse Saturday night was well attended. The boys did splendidly in acting out their parts and the audience was kept in laughter throughout the play.

The ladies' aid held an all-day meeting at Mrs. Schindler's Thursday. The morning was spent in taking a quilt, and the afternoon was spent piecing one.

The farmers are busy plowing and pruning their orchards.

Mr. and Mrs. Grice spent Sunday with their daughter, Mrs. Charles Schwartz.

Mrs. Fry spent a few days in Dallas last week visiting friends.

### SUNNY SLOPE

Dr. Matthias of Monmouth was out to see V. A. Fishback's youngest child Tuesday.

Paul Riley was here Tuesday trying to buy cattle.

Walter Johnson is working at the cement quarry near Oakdale.

Welch & Cody finished cutting wood for C. E. McCaleb Wednesday.

Mr. and Mrs. Lefever attended the funeral of Frank Hinkle at Monmouth, Thursday.

Ward Riggle and Mrs. Ed. Wunder of Independence passed through here Thursday.

H. R. Fishback took a load of potatoes to Independence Friday.

Several cattle buyers have been scouring the country for beef cattle lately. They report them very scarce.

L. D. Hamar sold his potatoes in Independence Saturday.

Miss Rose Page attended the teachers' institute at Monmouth Saturday.

Spraying orchards is the order of the day in this vicinity. The weather has so far been very favorable.

P. A. Welch and son visited in Independence Saturday.

### BUENA VISTA

E. B. Gobat and N. C. Anderson returned home from Portland in Mr. Gobat's 7-passenger Studebaker, which he purchased there.

Willard McClain was a Portland business visitor this week.

Earl Chown and Walter McKellipp of Goldendale, Washington, spent a few days with Mr. and Mrs. Chown.

Mrs. Hopkins and son of Portland are visiting with Mr. and Mrs. R. Emmons.

Mr. and Mrs. W. R. Beven and Mr. and Mrs. Holman spent a couple of days in Dallas this week.

Mrs. Bevens of Dallas spent the week with Mrs. Holman.

Mrs. W. R. Bevens returned Sunday from a week's visit with relatives in Dallas.

A number of friends helped Mr. Cryderman celebrate his 52nd birth-

day on Saturday, February 10. The evening was spent playing "Rook." A number of instrumental selections were given by Guy Prather.

Mr. and Mrs. F. E. Black are visiting with relatives in Portland.

Quite a number from here attended the Hawaiian singing entertainment at Independence.

A very interesting game of basketball was played here Thursday evening between the Dallas second team and our high school team. The score was as usual in favor of Buena Vista 35-34. At the end of the 40 minutes the score was 33-33. Five minutes was given to play the tie off and then we were one to the good. The lineup was: Dallas, Hayes and Bennett, forwards; Gooch, center; Hart and Hoisington, guards. Buena Vista, Loy and Black, forwards; Sehrunk center; Nash and Wells, guards.

W. D. Brundridge, a prominent farmer residing near Buena Vista, was married last week in Portland to Gertrude Haskins. They have gone to housekeeping on Mr. Brundridge's ranch.

### WILDWOOD

Mr. Townsend of Kings Valley visited with the F. L. Price family Sunday.

Levi Oleman is hauling shakes to Hoskins.

Fred Price and Odie Powell are making some cedar parts for Dave Simpson.

Mr. and Mrs. Levi Oleman attended the funeral of Mrs. Jack Oleman at Monmouth last week.

Mrs. Pearl Price and children visited with Mrs. L. D. Fry one day last week.

John Ritner and Charles Kerber were up the Laekiamute looking for cedar post timber. They hope to be able to get out two carloads in the near future.

### TOWN TOPICS

I write Fire, Timber and Automobile insurance. Walter Williams, 97tf

We frame pictures. Did you know that? Sterling Furniture Company.

Broken window? We put in window glass. Sterling Furniture Company.

The Dallas Wood company is ready to furnish you with mill wood. Good loads and good service. All wood cash on delivery. Phone 492. 103-1f.

Dr. R. C. Virgil, osteopath, Uglow building: 9 to 12; 1 to 5; 7 to 8. 46-1f

Dr. C. L. Foster, dentist, City Bank building, Dallas.

For Fire and automobile insurance see Chas. Gregory, city hall. 32-1f

Have you a picture to frame? You need go no further than our store to have it done. Sterling Furniture Company. 75-1f

Schevers, W. D., at 415 Oak street, knows how to shoe horses. Try him.

## THE BEST

WHEN YOU BUY GROCERIES YOU WANT SOMETHING GOOD. WE TRY AT ALL TIMES TO GIVE YOU THE BEST THE MARKET AFFORDS. THE BEST IS NONE TOO GOOD FOR OUR CUSTOMERS. JOIN THE RANKS OF SATISFIED CUSTOMERS BY TRADING AT THE

Dallas Grocery Co.

PHONES 18-180

## It Pays to Patronize

A modern, sanitary meat market and we're glad to welcome many new patrons. Everybody is treated alike at this market; the small or the big purchaser gets a square deal.

### Quality Meats

Are handled in a sanitary manner. Choice and tender cuts of juicy steaks and succulent roasts can always be had here.

Dallas Meat Co.

Phone No. 9.

## Coy Brothers

Contractors and Builders

Glass, Sash, Doors, Mouldings, Prune Trays, Dutch Kitchen Work

A Specialty

Planing Mill, 315 Ash St., Dallas Phone 1574

## BULLETIN

WANTED—Stump puller, in good condition. Must be bargain. P. O. Box 627. 100-101c

WANTED—Plain sewing. Mrs. Bertha Payne, Ellis street, two doors north Young's Grocery. 100-101c

FOR SALE—At a bargain, my residence property in Perrydale. 8½ acres, good house, barn and out-buildings. Acetylene gas lights in house and barn. Bearing family orchard of 25 trees. Close to school, postoffice and railroad station. J. A. Baxter, Perrydale, Ore. 99-3c

WANTED—To trade modern home situated on corner of Jefferson and Maple streets for orchard or small farm near Dallas. Carl Gerlinger, phone 1393. 97-105

FOR SALE—New, modern five-room bungalow on Washington street, terms. McBee Land Co. 77-1f

FOR SALE—Clean vetch seed at three cents a pound, baled cheat hay at \$13.50 a ton and oats, at going price. A. R. Brown South Red 35, Dallas. 86-104c

FOR SALE—Early Irish Cobbler seed potatoes, \$4 per sack. A. H. Dennett, Crowley station. Phone Rieckreall 2x552. 101-102

WANTED—Pony or small horse for children. Must be gentle. G. H. Bronson. Phone 774. 101-102c

FOR SALE—First class, improved apple orchard; from 10 to 30 acres. Inquire at Observer office. 98-103c

**\$1.85 VALUE FOR 50 CENTS**

Hunt up "Pratt's Positive Proof" offer in Oregon Journal, you may find it in some other Rural paper. Bring them in. Coupons only good this month. I have moved from Main Street to Dallas Warehouse (Braham's) where I will continue in the same line of business.

J. L. BRADEN - Phone 5

## CLEAN--HOLY GROCERIES

The Best of Fruits and Vegetables.

PHONE US YOUR ORDERS

VIERS & COMPANY

## FOR TEN CENTS

You can tie up in my bar cents is enough for me. profit on that. Let me

PLASTER, the Move-y Man

## FARM LOANS

(NO COMMISSION)

Eastern Life Insurance money can be borrowed of us on first class farms at 6 per cent without commission. Write to us direct and save money. Give full details in your first letter.

We refer you to any bank in Portland

DEVEREAUX Mortgage Company 607 Commercial

## ... OUR PIES

Our Pies are just as good as the mother used to make, and some better. We rather like to brag our Pies, and Cakes, too, for that. And lots of folks say we are justified. We want you to try them.

YOUR BAKER WINTERS