

Polk County Observer

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FOR HIGHWAY COMMISSIONER.

The people of Dallas and Polk county would be much pleased to hear of the appointment of Hon. H. Hirschberg of Independence as a member of the state highway commission from this district. Under the new law Governor Withycombe is to appoint the three members of the commission, one from each congressional district of the state, and numerous letters endorsing Mr. Hirschberg as the logical man for this district have been sent to the governor from friends throughout the valley. Mr. Hirschberg is not an active candidate for the position, but we understand would accept the appointment. As the new law carries the emergency clause the old commission is virtually dead and the governor will appoint the new commission within a very short time.

JAPANESE AMBITIONS.

Japanese trade interests are alert and active, and they are not waiting for the end of the war to push their commerce with other nations. One of their ambitious projects is to establish a round-the-world line of steamship service, and the first vessel to be placed on this route sailed from San Francisco only a few days since. This steamer will call at Honolulu and then proceed to Yokohama, after which she will visit Chinese ports, skirt the Indian ocean, touch at South Africa, cross to South America and, passing through the Panama canal, return to her starting point at San Francisco. Other Japanese vessels will be placed on a similar route, going both ways around the world, and in this manner the clever Japs expect to build up a very profitable transportation service, which at the same time will materially aid and promote Japanese trade with the nations thus served.

Since the commencement of the European war it is stated that Japan has more than doubled her commerce with South American nations, and her far-sighted leaders are making every effort to firmly establish Japanese commercial interests in every part of the world. This is a worthy ambition, it must be conceded, although it is cause for regret that the trade and shipping interests of this country are not as fully alive and as ready to grasp opportunity by the hand, as are our energetic Japanese neighbors. There is little excuse, for instance, for letting rich South American trade go to Japan, when by all the rules such trade should come to America. And why permit the Japs to take the lead in ocean transportation service, when all that is needed is a little push and enterprise on the part of Americans to gain and hold this advantage for our own country?

Of course, Japan cannot be blamed for being ambitious and for working to promote her own trade and commercial interests. But in view of the activities put forward by Japan it seems to be high time for American businessmen and financiers to wake up and do something to match the efforts of Japan. Foreign trade is not gained by merely sitting down and waiting for orders, unless an exception be noted in the case of so-called "war" business. Control of transportation routes and service is also important, and this nation should bend every energy to gain as much of this advantage as possible. The Japs already are busy with such efforts, and Americans must wake up and get into the game.

REMEDY FOR HIGH COST.

Thousands of people in this country have been trying to find a satisfactory solution of the high cost of living. Boards of trade, other commercial organizations, the heads of transportation companies, and even the government itself have been struggling with the same problem, although without making much progress, it would seem. This problem has proved to be one of the greatest of modern day puzzles, in fact—more elusive and absorbing than even the famous "pigs in clover" and the "13-14-15" games which were so popular a few years back.

Yet there is one sure and easy way to beat the high cost of living, and a prominent Chicago wholesale grocer has furnished the formula in just two little words. It is, perhaps, a suggestion that has occurred to others, but it has remained for this Chicago man to furnish the rule in concrete form and give it widespread publicity. It is a rule, moreover, that is

worth a good deal of money to those who follow it, for it is a certain and guaranteed "cure" for all the troubles and worries caused by present prevailing high prices. And while it particularly refers to only one line of high prices, it applies to everything included in the problem of high cost.

The magic words which describe this definite rule for getting ahead of high cost are simply "Eat less." Doubtless a good many people already have applied this rule to some extent, through sheer necessity. When a dollar goes only half as far as it did a few years ago, the natural result has been a decrease in purchases by those whose income has not increased to correspond with inflated prices, hence the rule to "eat less" has been unconsciously followed. But there is a big chance for further application of the same rule, and the more general this practice becomes, the sooner will the public find a final solution of the high cost problem.

If the American people generally will adopt the plan of eating less, wearing fewer new clothes, spending less for extravagances and, in fact, cutting down expenses in every direction, the high cost problem soon will cease to be a worry and will become a "closed incident." It is an easy rule to remember, but like lots of other rules it may not work. For of course the people will follow it only as far as they actually are forced to do so.

THE UNIVERSAL TRAINING BILL

After several months of hearings and investigations conducted by the senate committee on military affairs, the latter has formulated and reported a measure intended to carry out the idea of universal military training in this country. Asserting that military training is a duty of citizenship, the measure proposes that every male, upon coming to the age of nineteen, shall be enrolled in the citizen reserve, and remain therein until he is twenty-eight. Those having relatives wholly dependent on them, as well as the physically unfit, will be exempt from attendance at the training camps. Allowing for all exemptions and losses, it is estimated that at the end of the nine-year period the trained force will number between two and three million men.

There is small likelihood this measure will be passed during the present session of congress, but it will afford a basis for discussion and consideration, thereby paving the way for action when congress does get around to take up this very important question. There can be no doubt that the plan of universal military service has grown rapidly in public favor during the past year, and a good many clear-sighted leaders insist this plan is bound to come, and "the sooner the better." The system proposed by the Chamberlain bill, of course, will not suit everyone, but it will serve to center public attention on the very vital question of providing better military preparedness, a thing that too long has been neglected, yet which no longer can be neglected with impunity.

The general lines on which the present bill has been drawn are scarcely open to intelligent criticism, although some advocates of preparedness may regard the proposed plan as not so thorough as it should be, as it calls for only 400,000 men a year and requires only six months training. On the other hand, however, those who have been fearful lest an adequate system of intensive preparedness necessarily means the withdrawal, by wholesale, of young America from civic pursuits, grinding the youth of the land in a military machine, will be reassured. The army heads, themselves, have never recommended anything suggesting an approach to such an economic peril, and the Chamberlain plan would scarcely scratch the surface of our resources for organizing the manhood of the nation for war.

NAUGHTY CUBA.

Little Cuba again has assumed the role of the "bad boy," who gets into mischief at the wrong time and causes no end of trouble by his thoughtless pranks. Just when Uncle Sam is closely occupied in other directions, naughty little Cuba up and stages a new revolt. Revolts are nothing new for Cuba, of course, but for a number of years Uncle Sam, with rare patience and persistence, has sought to teach Cuba better manners and a better way of conducting public business. And just as it seemed Cuba thoroughly had mastered this lesson, comes the surprising and somewhat discouraging news that Cuba has fallen from grace and gone back to its old bad habit of revolutionary strife.

Of course the United States, as guardian and protector of Cuban interest and national life, cannot allow such things to be in Cuba, and so the Washington administration has sent plain and emphatic notice to the island leaders that the United States will not regard as legal any government set up by force. This official warning has even been repeated the second time, with evident hope the Cuban leaders will take the hint and

consent to abide by constitutional regulations and requirements, although there seems to be much skepticism as to the outcome. There can be no doubt, however, as to what this government will do about it if Cuba fails to heed the American warning. If the island revolution assumes really serious proportions and threatens to indefinitely interfere with peace and good order in Cuba, nothing will be left for this government to do but again take charge and control of island affairs—a repetition of the process which twice before has brought Cuba through a crisis and set her on her feet.

There are some intimations that German plotting may be back of the present revolt in Cuba, but this will make no difference in the treatment which the United States will apply to end the menace of Cuban disorders. Cubans should know that the time has passed when they could start an uprising any time some particular faction thought there was a chance of overthrowing the existing government by force of arms. And the Cubans also should remember there is a limit to the patience of this government. The latter has twice been forced to intervene to save Cuba from its own foolishness, and if it is compelled to again act it may decide to retain direct control over Cuban affairs. If Cuba cannot conduct its own affairs in an orderly and peaceful manner it cannot expect this government to always stand ready to help it out of trouble, just to give it another chance to cut up some fresh caper.

The Germans claim the Americans are "tempting fate" by sending test ships into the prescribed war zone. From the American viewpoint, on the other hand, Germany will be "tempting fate" if she sinks any of these American vessels in an illegal manner.

It just has been officially decided that President Wilson was re-elected at the election held in this country last November. This makes it perfectly safe to pay any bets that may have been held up on the ground of uncertainty.

A Milwaukee paper says many women in that city purchase potatoes two or three at a time, paying at the rate of five cents per spud. A man with a whole basket of potatoes these days evidently would need a bodyguard.

It is claimed this government now has a coast defense torpedo which "has ears and a brain," but it goes without saying, of course, the vivacity is heartless.

"It never rains but it pours." Now it is Cuba that is causing Uncle Sam additional trouble and worry.

PLAY REQUIRED 6 SCULPTORS.

Settings in Aztec Picture, "The Captive God," Very Elaborate.

Several years ago, when the business of making photo-dramas was struggling for a happier existence, the sculptor was unheard of as an adjunct of a producing plant. He was privileged to command such an astonishing salary that it was little short of impossible to engage him. And aside from that fact, the products of his skill were not in demand. It was a simple matter to make a picture-play without the services of statuary. But today the sculptor enjoys an important place in the industry. His work is doing such to embellish otherwise unpretentious productions, and he appears to be becoming more firmly established as a necessity.

The use of a sculpturing department in the modern motion picture plant is declared to compel attention in a recent subject from Inceville, "The Captive God," the Triangle play in which William S. Hart is presented as star, which is to be given at the Orpheum on Saturday, February 24. This is an Aztec story and, being illustrative of the customs and architecture of the Aztec Indians, was severe in its demands on the art department.

An inkling of the importance of the sculpturing department to this play is evident from the fact that nearly 300 tons of plaster were employed in the making of settings.

JOSEPH BRADEN PASSES AWAY

Prominent Member G. A. R. Died At Roseburg Sunday; Buried There.

Joseph A. Braden died Sunday at Roseburg.

Death was caused by paralysis and a hemorrhage of the brain. Mr. Braden was a former resident of Dallas. He had gone to Roseburg to visit the old soldier's home there for a few months, expecting to have his wife join him. He was a member of the summer post of the Grand Army of the Republic of Portland and was buried in the National Cemetery at Roseburg in accordance with an official expressed wish before his death.

Besides his wife, the deceased is survived by his son, James L. Braden of this city, both of whom attended the

funeral Monday afternoon. Mr. Braden was honored and respected by his fellow men especially by his old soldier comrades. He was born in Seneca county, New York, July 11, 1840, being 77 years of age when death came.

GEORGE WASHINGTON HONORED

Situation of Country He Founded Adds Force To Wise Counsel.

Yesterday was the anniversary of the birth of George Washington, the founder of our country.

The day was set aside all over the United States to fittingly observe the occasion. Dallas banks, the postoffice and other public institutions were closed. In Portland, even the school kiddies were given a holiday and taught to remember the champion of peace.

This anniversary of the birth of George Washington finds the nation of which he was the chief founder in such a situation as adds double force to the wise counsel which he gave in its infancy. The crisis through which he successfully led it was far more serious than that which it now faces, but there is a certain similarity in the circumstances. With the aid of foreign allies, he led a small, widely scattered and comparatively poor people through seven years of terrible war to final victory. He won this triumph with untrained, badly disciplined troops, with deficient military supplies, under a government which hampered him at every step and which had neither money nor credit; also in the face of faction and jealousy. The opinions which he formed as to the wisest policy for preservation of the peace, honor and independence of the nation were the fruits of his bitter experience.

Besides being a great general, Washington was one of the most able statesmen this country has ever had. His counsel and theories of government have lasted through the ages.

TOWN TOPICS

I write Fire, Timber and Automobile insurance. Walter Williams. 97-11

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

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Dr. R. C. Virgil, osteopath, Uglow building: 9 to 12; 1 to 5; 7 to 8, 46-11

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

For Fire and automobile insurance see Chas. Gregory, city hall. 32-11

Have you a picture to frame? You need go no further than our store to have it done. Sterling Furniture Company. 75-11

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

BULLETIN

ONE CENT A WORD, 'PHONE 19.

ROSES FOR SALE—Testout, Druschki, Cochet, American Pillar, 15 cents each. Delivered to any address on receipt of price. J. E. Beezley, Salem, Oregon. 103-104

FOR SALE—Hay and straw. W. W. Ullery. 103-6

FOR SALE CHEAP—A piano. Post-office box 224. Mrs. Ethel Barham. 102-103c

GIRL WANTED—For housework. Inquire at Mrs. Toner's Millinery Store. 102-11

FOR SALE—Single comb Buff Leghorn eggs, \$1.25 for 15; \$6.00 per hundred. Mrs. O. E. Focht, Ballston, Oregon, phone Sheridan 67151. 102-103c

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. 77-11

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—Cheat and other hay. White and gray oats. U. S. Grant. 98-103c

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

AUTO FOR SALE—Studebaker "Six," run less than 7,000 miles, in fine condition. Leaving Dallas and will sell for \$575; cost \$1450 at factory one year ago. Inquire at The Observer, or Lew A. Cates, Hotel Gail. Will consider trade.

6 Per Cent Farm Loans on first-class farms. H. E. Morton, 605 Court street, Dallas.

NOTICE OF SALE OF REAL PROPERTY.

Pursuant to the terms of the Will of the late Gideon Sowers, the undersigned Executor of said Will offers for sale, for cash, at private sale the following described premises belonging to said estate, to-wit:

Lot 1 in Block I, Montgomery's addition to Falls City, Polk County, State of Oregon, being store property. Lots 5, 6 and 7 in Block B, Montgomery's addition to Falls City, Polk County, State of Oregon, being residence property.

All bids to be submitted to the undersigned Executor of said Will at the office of Walter L. Tooze, Jr., at Dallas, Oregon. Bids will be received on each tract separately, and all bids submitted should state whether bid is for one or both tracts, and be accompanied by a certified check for 5 per cent of the amount offered.

All contracts of sale are made subject to the approval of the County Court.

W. F. NICHOLS, Executor of the Last Will and Testament of Gideon Sowers, deceased. WALTER L. TOOZE, Jr., Attorney for Executor. A86-11

Saturday, February 24, Dr. Freeze, the eye specialist, will make his regular visit to Dallas. Consultation free at the Gail hotel parlors all day. All sufferers from headaches and eye troubles should take this opportunity for relief which is assured by the scientific system employed. One day only. 101-103

Professional Cards

SIBLEY & EAKIN Attorneys and Abstractors.

The only reliable set of Abstracts in Polk County. Office on Court street Dallas, Oregon.

DENTIST W. C. SCHAEFER Office over Fuller Pharmacy. Office hours from 9 to 12 a. m.; 1 to 5 p. m. Dallas Oregon

DENTIST M. HAYTER Dallas National Bank Building Dallas Oregon

ATTORNEY AT LAW WALTER L. TOOZE, JR. Dallas National Bank Building Dallas Oregon

ATTORNEY AT LAW OSCAR HAYTER Dallas City Bank Building Dallas Oregon

S. B. TAYLOR Civil Engineer and Surveyor Office, City Hall Phone 791 or 542. Dallas, Oregon

DR. W. L. HOLLOWAY CHIROPRACTOR Office over Staffin's Drug Store Phones: Res. 882; Office 522.

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