

Independence Enterprise

ESTABLISHED 1883.

INDEPENDENCE, OREGON, FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 1911.

NUMBER 39

NO OIL YET BUT HOPEFUL

DRILL AT WHITEAKER OIL WELL DOWN MORE THAN 2000 FEET

The President of the Company Expects to Prove that Polk County is the Center of Oil Region in Oregon.

If the Whiteaker oil well between Monmouth and Dallas proves to be anything more than a hole in the ground it will be quite an exception for the Willamette valley, and yet, there are many who have great faith in the prospect and are looking forward to future developments with great anticipations.

An oil excitement of a similar nature developed at Pratum a year ago and a great deal of money was expended by Salem and Portland capitalists in purchasing equipment, to go after the petroleum beneath the surface of the earth at that place. Two attempts to drill proved a failure and the property finally went into the hands of a receiver. The stock holders who invested in the prospect went into spasms and the instigators of the project went to parts unknown leaving unpaid bills. Another attempt was made at a point on the Santiam river not far from Lebanon, and this proved to be as unsuccessful. All of these failures would seem to have a tendency to retard the work at the Whiteaker well, but the men who are drilling patiently and quietly for subterranean petroleum in Polk county are firm in the conviction that the prospect will be successfully developed. It is said that the drill has reached a depth of more than 2000 feet and is still going down. One of the employees of the Oregon Oil & Pipe Line Co., who is financing the project on the Whiteaker place, was heard to remark one day last week that oil is not yet in sight.

The development work has been in progress for a year or more and the prospect is apparently no nearer a dividend yielder now than it was when the drill was first moved upon the place.

George A. Emery of Portland, president of the company, visited Dallas one day last week and made the following statement to the Observer man:

"The Oregon Oil & Pipe Line Company is a corporation composed largely of Dallas people," said he, "and we have been carrying on development work for the past year. As is generally the case in new and untried territory, our progress has been somewhat slow, and we have had a number of delays due to unfavorable accidents, but we are down about 2000 feet at the present time, and everything is progressing favorably. We have tapped several strata of sand which show considerable colors, and more or less gas has been encountered ever since we passed a depth of 700 feet.

"It is our intention to exploit fully our territory, and I feel that our expenditures have been justified. I am convinced we will settle definitely the fact that the Willamette valley is an oil territory, which will produce the highest gravity oil to be found anywhere in the West. We have a standing drilling rig, in charge of experienced Pennsylvania drillers, and we are running two 12-hour shifts. Our greatest trouble has been in the handling of the water, which has caused the sides of the drill-hole to cave badly, but we have overcome the difficulties from that source, and as I said, the work is going forward in a manner that is entirely satisfactory.

C. L. Long is having an addition built to one of his houses on the corner of Second and C. streets.

MERCHANTS ORGANIZE

Independence Merchants to Have a Red Book Credit Guide.

The Merchants' Mercantile Company is preparing to publish a Red Book Credit Guide for this district, including all of Polk county and the Independence merchants have nearly all subscribed for the service.

By this system this district will be put in direct touch with credit conditions all over the United States, and whenever anyone moves here from any other part of the country, the Independence merchants will at once be advised through this organization as to how said party paid his bills where he formerly lived.

These credit guides are made in nearly every part of the United States and from the combined experience of all the merchants in each district.

Every merchant rates his own customers according to how they have paid him. Before a customer is rated he is given notice by letter that he will be rated and is given a chance to pay up his account and thus secure a good rating.

Every merchant, professional man and every newspaper in each district is furnished with a copy of the guide so he may refer to it and look up the rating of any customer or prospective customer before giving him credit.

NEW CAFE OPENED

The Mission Cafe threw open its doors to the people of Independence Wednesday evening. The place has been fitted out with things Mission from dining room to kitchen, and is a noticeable contrast with the restaurants that have been started heretofore in this city. Messrs. Burt and Clay are the proprietors. Mr. and Mrs. Burt are experienced in the business, and the way Mr. Clay handles the tray proclaims him anything but a novice. The bill of fare contains oysters, crabs and tamales, and it is the intention to serve everything desired, if in market, from 6 a. m. to 12 p. m.

The diningroom was filled Wednesday night and so far as known, all were satisfactorily served. The proprietors wish to announce that no liquors will be served and ask that none be brought in or displayed by patrons. They will cater to the best people in Independence and any "rough house" demonstrations will not be tolerated. Independence needs and now has, an up-to-date restaurant, where the best of things will be served and the most courteous service extended, and such a place should merit the patronage of the public.

CHURCH OF CHRIST NOTES

Permit us to kindly call your attention to our services, next Lord's day. Our morning subject is "Can Christians Dance?" and the evening subject is, "Scriptural Baptism."

We teach and demand Bible Baptism. The one way is Christ-given; the other two are man-made, only. Have you obeyed Christ? It is expected that the morning or evening service will be followed by New Testament baptizing.—H. Campbell Clark, Minister.

FUNERAL AT MONMOUTH

Mrs. Eliza E. Chase died at her home in Monmouth Sunday morning, aged 68 years, 8 months and 3 days. Her remains were interred in the K. of P. cemetery and the funeral services were conducted by Rev. Davis of that place, Tuesday. Mrs. Chase has been a resident of Polk county for the past nine years; coming from Wisconsin.

HELP HELP HELP

When in need of help of any kind call on or phone the Owl Employment Agency, 158 S. Commercial St., up stairs, Salem, Oregon. Phone is Main 2984.

BREWERY IS ENCOURAGED

WET GOODS FACTORY TALKED OF FOR THIS CITY.

One Citizen Interested in the Establishment of a Brewery Offers \$5000 for Stock.

The question of converting the unused canning and packing house in this city into a brewery has been agitated considerably of late and it has reached a point of interest which seems to indicate that Independence may at some future time become famous, like Milwaukee, for its beer. There are men in this vicinity who believe that an enterprise of this kind would prove to be a profitable industry for the farmers and hop men of Polk county and some have volunteered to take stock in the concern if it is established. It is said that one prominent citizen of Independence has offered to take \$5000 worth of stock, and others have expressed a willingness to invest, but the amounts have not been stipulated. Independence is Oregon's hop center beyond all question of doubt, and if a brewery is worth anything to a community in a financial way, it certainly can be made to pay in this city.

Independence being the center of the supply of raw material necessary in the manufacture of beer, says one of the promoters, no better location for a brewery can be found. An ample supply of hops would be available at all times and with no transportation charges from grower to consumer, a large sum of money would be saved annually. Hop growers, he says, could realize the top prices at all times and the money would be invested in our town and scattered among our own people. It is also claimed that the establishment of a brewery in Independence would encourage the production of barley among the farmers. The abundance of good water in this vicinity necessary for the production of a good quality of beer, and the central location of Independence in the Willamette valley, are the strong points used by the promoters in favor of the proposition.

With the amount of money that has been offered to start the proposed enterprise several business men of Independence are of the opinion that it is going to be easy sailing from this on and that it will be only a matter of a short time when Independence will have an establishment located where beer is manufactured.

But an enterprise of this kind, located immediately in the vicinity of

the churches, is bound to meet with discouragements nearly, if not fully, sufficient to offset the large investments offered, and while there are some who believe Independence will have a large brewery in operation within a few months, supplying a large portion of the demand for beer in the Willamette valley, there are others who believe that the proposed beverage factory is only visionary.

INCREASED THEIR TALENTS

Ladies of the M. E. Church Raise \$40.00 Speculating on Small Capital.

Like the parable of the talents as recorded in the 25th chapter of St. Matthew, forty talents were given to members of the M. E. Ladies Aid shortly before the holidays and the ladies went out to increase their talents. The forty cents in the hands of so many earnest women increased to the neat sum of \$40.00, which was placed in the treasury Wednesday.

The occasion Wednesday, was in the nature of a "Martha Washington" social held in the M. E. church parlors. The rooms were decorated with flags appropriate for the event and the ladies were dressed as in ye older times. Each of the contestants related their experience in increasing their talent and this was one of the interesting features of the occasion. Some of them turned in from \$1.00 to nearly \$5.00.

The ladies were given a dish shower and many handsome dishes were presented to the society. After the program refreshments were served.

SUNDAY EVENING

SERMON-LECTURES

The large congregation at Calvary Presbyterian church last Sunday evening, the majority of whom were men attested the great interest being taken in the series of sermon-lectures now being given by the pastor, on "The History of the World's Religions." Next Sunday evening Dr. Dunsmore will speak more particularly on the religions of Ancient Egypt and Chaldea. Calvary's popular choir will render special music. The public are cordially invited.

MAY GO TO ALASKA

Fred Warnock, recently publisher of the Heppner Gazette, and at one time editor of the Silverton Appeal, was in the city Tuesday. He has been working in the state printing office during the Legislature.

Mr. Warnock remarked that the business men of Silverton want him to start a paper there, but he has some idea of going to Alaska in a few weeks.

ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

K. OF P. LODGE HOLDS INTERESTING ENTERTAINMENT

More than One Hundred People Join With Homer Lodge in Celebrating Anniversary.

Homer Lodge No. 45, K. of P. celebrated the forty-seventh anniversary of that order Monday evening in a most appropriate and pleasing manner. The meeting was attended by more than 100 people and from start to finish there was a good time. The Independence orchestra furnished music for the occasion and before the guests had all assembled in the Hall, several selections were rendered.

Verd Hill, Grand Master at Arms, called the meeting to order and made a brief address of welcome, and spoke of the purposes and objects of the order. Following this address, Miss Mattison rendered a solo in her usual capable manner, the title of which was "Cuddle Doon."

Little Miss Vivian Browne gave a recitation, "The Unhappy Poodle Dog," and following this was a beautiful solo by Mr. Macey, "Let Me Die On the Deep."

By special request the orchestra played "La Poloma."

Another selection that met with great applause was a duet, "Silver Bell," by Miss Gebro and a young man from Monmouth whose name we did not learn.

Miss Burton gave a recital entitled, "Angelina," and Prof. McIntosh sang: "A Storm On the Mountain Heights." Both of which were well rendered and highly appreciated.

After the program the company spent some time in games and social entertainment and at nearly the midnight hour a banquet was spread which would do credit to the most elaborate occasion imaginable.

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

Last Lord's day the Sunday School and morning service attendance was the largest for many a day. If you do not attend regularly elsewhere you are invited to come to the Bible School and morning worship next Sunday at ten and eleven o'clock, respectively.

We shall extend the hand of fellowship to newly received members as we gather around the Lord's Table at the close of morning worship.

In the evening the pastor will give a Bible Study of "The Devil," Satan, the arch-enemy of men's souls and body.

Arthur Blackstone.

EMPIRE LAND PLASTER

The effect of land plaster in increasing the yield of clover and grasses, wheat, oats, potatoes, corn, and crops of all kinds including fruits and hops, is well known in Oregon. The following letter is from James Withycombe at the Experiment Station at Corvallis:

OREGON EXPERIMENT STATION,
James Withycombe, Director.

February 4, 1911.

My Dear Sir:

Have your letter, and in reply beg to say that the land plaster sent here for analysis is practically pure gypsum, one of the best samples of land plaster ever analyzed at this station. Trusting that this supplies the information that you wish, and that at any time we can be of assistance you will advise us, I am,

Very Truly Yours,
James Withycombe.

Buy Your Land Plaster Now!
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