

Shall We Celebrate
In view of the fact that the "glorious fourth" will probably go uncelebrated in Polk county unless Independence celebrates, we suggest that our public spirited citizens take the matter in hand and inaugurate one of the finest celebrations ever held in the county. It is not a difficult matter, indeed, it is comparatively easy if we only think so.

A little money, a little push and a moiety of public spiritedness is all that is needed. It goes without saying that the people of this city possess all these requisites for they have proven it on divers occasions.

Our citizens, especially the leading business men, should call a meeting at once and set the ball to rolling. Celebration day is near at hand, only a month hence, and whatever is done should be done quickly. But short as the time for preparation is, there is ample time for making full and complete arrangements if our citizens will only act promptly in the matter.

The expenses of a celebration need not necessarily be very great. Voluntary contributions, properly managed, can be made to cover the entire cost.

There should be a competent finance committee appointed to solicit contributions to the fund. This is an important step, but another element of success is in having an intelligent committee on arrangements.

A unique and interesting program should be arranged, a program that will attract attention and draw a crowd. There must be something besides the regulation fire crackers and the firing of anvils, but a competent committee can easily arrange all these minor details. The main thing is to get together and decide to celebrate.

Independence has the reputation of being one of the most wide-awake, public spirited towns in the valley, and when it becomes generally known that she is going to celebrate a large attendance is at once assured. Our people are noted for being roval entertainers "way up in G," and when they do a thing it is always done not only well but the very best that can be done.

Several of our neighboring counties are going to celebrate and "old Polk" has never yet stood anywhere except in the front row, and it is rather late in the day for her to take a back seat now. Besides our people, the people of Polk county, we mean, are the first in patriotism, the first to do honor to that immortal instrument which makes the crown sit uneasy upon the head of every earthly potentate. Buckle, the historian, says that the declaration of independence should be "blazoned upon the porch and written over the throne of every king." If this great charter of political liberty fires the heart of a patriotic Englishman, how much more should it kindle the flame of patriotism in the heart of every true American.

By all means let the people of Independence get together and invite their fellow-citizens of Polk county to join with them in celebrating with patriotic speech, martial music and booming of cannon the anniversary of the great republic's 119th birthday.

TEACHERS' PICNIC.
A Large Audience and a Well Rendered Program.

A large crowd gathered at the City Park last Saturday to witness the Teachers' picnic exercises. Superintendent Hutchinson explained there was a misunderstanding among the teachers of the county as to the date of the adjourned picnic of the week before, some thinking the picnic had been postponed until the 22, instant, hence the exercises would not be so complete as expected.

The exercises, however, were quite interesting and the large audience appeared well pleased with the program as rendered.

The program consisted of general exercises, a drill, and graduating exercises. Following is the program as rendered:

Music, by the band.
Invocation.
Song, by Mary Stengel, of Monmouth.

Recitation, by Clara Ireland, of Elkins school.
Recitation, by Sadie Myers, of Smithfield school.
Recitation, by Bessie Holmes, of Edna school.

Recitation, by Bernice Sears, of McCoy school.
Music, by the band.
Tambourine drill, by pupils of McCoy school.

P. M. Graduating exercises.
1. Selection, "Two Scenes From the Life of Benedict Arnold," by Eloise Phillips, of Dallas.

2. Oration, "Mountains of Life" by Jennie Powell, of Monmouth.
3. Oration, "Elements of Success" by Clarence Wagoner, of Independence.

For the general exercises Sadie Myers, of the Smithfield school, received first prize; Bernice Sears, of McCoy school, second.

The prize for the drill was

awarded to the pupils of the McCoy school. For graduating exercises Clarence Wagoner, of Independence, received first prize; Jennie Powell, of Monmouth, second. The prizes are as follows: For general exercises, an Atlas of the World; for the drill, a book entitled "Kings of Platform and Pulpit," and for graduating exercises, two silver medals.

SUVER.
Mr. Bradley, of Parker, was doing business in our little town last Friday.

Grant Elgin and Robert Steele made a flying visit to Independence and Monmouth last week.

Miss Melvera Elgin has returned home from a visit with friends near Salem.

O. A. Wolverson had a runaway accident the other day. His team got away from him and did considerable damage to the buggy.

Jake Hecker, of Wells, makes semi-weekly trips through Suver, going up-stream.

W. F. Cauthorn is slowly recovering from his recent illness.

A correspondent in last week's Enterprise says that "Grant" makes flying trips westward, but we wish to hint that he only makes the visits when "Jake" is traveling in some other direction.

Quite a number of young folks from this vicinity will attend the picnic at Fall's City next Saturday.

R. W. Steele saved 60 cords of oak wood last Monday and Tuesday with his steam saw for James Wheeler.

The dance at Suver last Saturday night was one of the best of the season.

Quite a number of farmers are shearing their sheep this week. Wool is selling at Suver for 11cts cash.

Hold your wool, farmers, for 14 cents and you will get it.

THE POLK COUNTY PRESS.
News Items and Editorial Expressions.
(Observer.)

Mr. Jesse Berry was certainly thankful and happily surprised on being notified last Saturday that he was the possessor of \$10,000—the gift of an aunt in Missouri.

Johnny Uglow was lucky again the other day and drew a fine bicycle, this being his second one within a month.

Mrs. Mary Johnston, of this county, was taken to the asylum on last Friday.

Mr. Willard Linville and two daughters, of Corvallis, are here this week at the bedside of Mr. Linville's mother, who is still very sick. "Grandma" Linville is the mother of Mrs. David Cosper of this city.

Decoration day was duly observed by Dallas citizens, and especially by Friendship Lodge, I. O. O. F. and the Rebekah lodge, they marching to the cemetery in a body. It is certainly commendable to show due respect to the dead.

Dallas should celebrate on the fourth of July. Every citizen should give encouragement.

The Itemizer is booming a moral wave for Dallas. It suggests that some of our women should be cast out on some other community.

(Itemizer.)
Charlie Webster and Henry Dodson have brought a band of horses from Eastern Oregon to the Ballston settlement.

Jos. Black is having a tough time of it, having again thrown the shoulder out of place that has given him such trouble all winter.

The tool house at the Odd Fellows cemetery was recently looted of its entire contents.

Buck English, who is now in jail at Napa, California, charged with robbing a stage, was raised near Airlie and has been an outlaw for years. His mother lives with her son, Dr. English, at Clinton in British Columbia.

Mrs. Mary E. Meyer, wife of Chas. Meyer, and daughter of D. Vanbuskirk, departed this life May 25th, at the home of her father near Perrydale. She was born April 18, 1876, married November 2, 1893, and was a faithful member of the Baptist church since 1886.

The last legislature with ninety members made use of 186 clerks at an expense of over \$20,000. The concern was thoroughly republican and is yet claimed to be the party of economy and reform. Let the claim be made no more in Oregon until facts warrant it.

AN ORCHARD PEST.
The Tentworm a Nuisance which Seriously Threatens our Orchards.

A splendid article appeared in the Oregonian of June 2. Mr.

Mrs. Dr. Jeffries died at her home in Salem last Tuesday, and was laid to rest in our cemetery beside her daughter, Cassie, who was buried last August. The deceased was the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. W. M. Walker, who are the oldest settlers in our valley.—Spring Valley Cor.

(Transcript.)
G. W. Keeland, H. G. Keeland and J. F. Hardesty each filed on 160 acres of land yesterday in the Rock Creek section. The entry was made before County Clerk Muirkey.

Wild strawberries are being brought into Dallas in plentiful quantities.

It is Mr. and Mrs. H. C. Eakin, now, as on Monday, May 27th, Miss Blanche Bronson became the wife of Mr. Eakin, at the home of the brides parents near Lewisville.

Both are estimable people and worthy the congratulations extended. Rev. Geo. Gillespie tied the nuptial knot.

It is said that Mr. Weelman has gone from our gaze—where no one knows. His family still reside on a little ranch up the La Creole.

Rev. Ross, who was here two years ago and created quite a sensation in the field of Christianity, arrived here with his wife last Thursday. He began meetings at the Christian church Sunday, and as before has been drawing crowded houses.

Mr. W. D. Ralston, of the north end of the county, reached home on Friday last from Chicago, where he had taken a band of cattle for the market. He got about double the price in Chicago that he could have realized in Portland.

ITEMS OF INTEREST
Gathered from our Various Exchanges Throughout the State.

At the Pendleton scouring mill, receipts total up to date are 1,517,699 pounds; of this there came by rail, 1,337,642; by team, 280,057. The week's receipts were 331,475 pounds. Two cars of scoured wool were shipped during the week, and total shipments to date are 321 bales, or 134,759 scoured pounds, representing about 400,000 pounds of grease wools.

Several Coos bay lumbermen are putting in bids to supply a portion of the ties which will be used on the San Joaquin valley road. The specifications call for either white cedar or redwood hewn ties. Three hundred thousand is the amount required.

The Wasco county grand jury finds that \$131.77 in fraudulent scrip has been issued by its county clerks, and recommends suits against the respective bondsmen. They urge that the sheriff's books be examined.

Jack Brown, charged with attempting to rape two little girls near Eugene, has been held to the grand jury in \$1000 bonds. The evidence against Brown is said to be very strong.

The city council of St. Helen's has appropriated \$400 as a bonus for a water plant. It is estimated that the works proposed will cost about \$1500. The builders are to be Orchard and Jones.

Wednesday night's train from The Dalles carried out 299 boxes of strawberries for the Eastern market.

Tillamook county has collected \$13,034.43 for school purposes. There are 1519 children of school age in the county.

The body of Mrs. F. E. Robinson was exhumed at Klamath Falls last week for shipment to Santa Rosa for final interment. It required the united efforts of eight men to lift the casket from the grave, as the body had become at least partially solidified by the action of the chalk in the cemetery ground. The casket with its contents weighed at least 700 pounds, and no odor was emitted after boring a hole in the outer boxing.

The flag on the band stand at Hillsboro on Decoration day went through the Yakima Indian war of 1856. It has four bullet holes in it and is different from the present flag in that it shows in the blue field but thirty-two stars. The banner was loaned by its custodian Hon. J. W. Sappington.

AN ORCHARD PEST.
The Tentworm a Nuisance which Seriously Threatens our Orchards.

A splendid article appeared in the Oregonian of June 2. Mr.

Minto discusses a topic of interest to horticulturists and farmers generally, and some of his suggestions are very opportune. The article is as follows:

The subject of this communication is timely, inasmuch there is no time to be lost in opposing the spread of the caterpillar nuisance, generally known as the American tentworm. The pest does not make a large web as cover for itself this year, whether as unnecessary for the season according to insect intelligence or because it is a different variety of the worm. Be that as it may, it is very general in its presence in orchards this year, and the following statement of facts will show it is very intelligent and very determined to seek its own support and propagate itself. Your readers, rich and poor, having orchards in their care, may get benefit by considering the following facts:

Solomon Durbin, a well-to-do pioneer of this state, has a residence and orchard about a mile east of the penitentiary. Having large stake interests in Eastern Oregon and in Montana he is absent most of each summer; and the orchard of some 50 apple trees, about 25 years old, is left without much care or thought. Last year the tentworms had their own way, and they completely denuded the orchard of leaves and fruit; and began migrating to the nearest fresh supply, about 150 yards to the west, where August Aufrane has a farm of 28 acres (which cost him for the land alone \$6000.) on which he has 15 acres of beautiful young fruit trees and small fruits well worth, I estimate, \$4000.

The worms in their invasion took the boards of the fence—the nearest and driest way—to reach Mr. Aufrane's trees; and the fight began against them by himself and family. To stop the worms, they first resorted to wrapping the boards of the fence with cloths saturated with coal oil. This checked the invasion for awhile, but the insects soon began a regular way of leaving the fence and passing the obnoxious oil cloths, and, mounting the fence again, kept on toward the fresh fruit trees.

It became a systematic approach by the worms and a determined defense on the part of the family, lasting nearly one month, during which barrels and bushels of insects were destroyed. Yet toward the end of the period of the caterpillar stage of life they got onto the cherry trees, and the shrubbery near the house. Now some one suggested the use of Paris green, and this dangerous poison was mixed with flour and dusted on the leaves of the cherry trees while the dew was on. This worked like a charm on the worms and they began to drop thick and fast to the ground. Some of the trees were on ground to which the chickens had access, and they (not having knowledge of Paris green) devoured the worms. There was a fine pathos in the voice and manner of the good woman when she told me the result yesterday. "Ah, 32 nice chickens—all dead!"

Now then, you can see in this single case the necessity for the law to step in and use its police power protect the weak against the strong. Any man having the least perception of justice can see that Mr. Durbin nor any other rich man has a right to maintain a nuisance which can—and if left unchecked will—destroy the means of living of others. There is no doubt whatever that at law a suit could be maintained for all damages that would arise from a recurrence of a case like this. But this is only one of hundreds in the state which are now demanding attention.

I was, a few days ago, at Silverton, one of the thriftiest towns in Marion county. Nearly in the middle of it, is the fine residence of one of the richest men of Marion county. In the roomy home let are a few old apple trees so infested with this tentworm pest that if not destroyed they will shortly invade the home lots of this man's poor neighbors, who are in dread of just such an invasion as I have tried to describe. Within one-fourth of a mile of the rich man's residence is one of the owner of 22 acres on which is an apple orchard, which has been sprayed in season. It is depended on by its owner for its fruit as a means of living, and its promise is abundant, with not a single tentworm's nest to be seen.

All the statements made to me

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