

Polk County Observer

SEMI-WEEKLY

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CONTRACTOR NOW READY TO BEGIN BRIDGE

CONSTRUCTION WORK ON S. F. C. & W.'S PROPOSED STRUCTURE OVER WILLAMETTE TO START SOON.

EAST APPROACH BOTHERS

Salem Residents' Hostile Attitude May Delay Entry of Road to East Side; Company Anxious to Proceed, But War Department Rules Interfere It Is Declared.

Renewed interest has been injected into the new bridge which the Salem, Polk City & Western railway will build over the Willamette river at West Salem, by the arrival, the first of the week, of Contractor George W. Rear from Sacramento, Calif. Accompanying Mr. Rear is the consulting engineer, the foreman who will have charge of the work, and other attaches of the contractors office. They have already taken up the preliminary details necessary to begin work, plans in which to house the workmen employed on the construction work is expected soon and crews of men will appear later.

The arrival of Contractor Rear has caused a spurt in assembling material for the approaches to the bridge and the mill of the Dallas Lumber and Laying company, which has the contract, will rush the order through as rapidly as possible.

Salem Approach Bothered.
The matter of the East side approach to the bridge in the city of Salem, which has been held up on account of the unwillingness of the property owners to permit the company to raise the grade to the necessary height to reach the bridge, is still undecided, and it is impossible at this time to say what the company will do. They have already shown the Salem people that it will be impossible to lower the tracks, as the war department decides the height of the bridge above the water, and allows no deviation from it. The level of the bridge will be several feet above the street, and it is absolutely impossible, the company's engineers say, to reach the tracks without the grade as proposed.

Compromise Proposed.
The attitude of the property owners has caused the railway company much inconvenience, but everything possible has been done to meet the objections. All sorts of compromises have been offered on the part of the company, but none of them have been satisfactory to the property owners near the East side approach, who maintain that the grade or trestle on Union street will damage them to a very great extent, and they have so far refused to permit the work to proceed.

In the meantime the company is going ahead with its operations on the West side of the river, confident that some way out of the difficulty will be discovered.

From the standpoint of the railway company, it is felt that the people of Salem should welcome the road which means so much in the development of country tributary to the city, rather than in doing everything possible to hamper their efforts and even to prevent them from entering the city on their proposed plan.

BALLANTYNE GETS DEPUTYSHIP
County Clerk Names Native Son as Office Assistant.
Walter Ballantyne, the well-known Dallas boy, has been appointed Deputy County Clerk by E. M. Smith, and entered upon the discharge of his duties this morning. Walter Ballantyne is the son of Rev. A. J. Ballantyne, of Dallas, and was born and raised in this city. He is an alumnus of Dallas College, and well-qualified for the position which he has assumed. He has a host of friends, not only in Dallas but throughout the county, and his appointment will meet the hearty approval of a host of friends.

Battleship Michigan, American Dreadnought, at Gun Practice



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LAST year the champion of the navy in target practice with big guns, the battleship Michigan this spring lost her laurels to the battleship Utah in the tests made off Hampton Roads. She has an imposing bulk, with her two huge sets of superimposed turrets fore and aft, her lofty "peach basket" steel masts supporting her fire control platforms and wireless apparatus, and is altogether a splendid specimen of the American Dreadnought type. She is of 16,000 tons displacement, carries in her main battery eight twelve-inch guns and cost about \$5,000,000. One of her twelve inchers throws an 850 pound projectile. Each shot requires 300 pounds of smokeless powder and costs about \$225. The Michigan won the red silk pennant "for battle efficiency" for the year 1911, defeating the former holder, the battleship Maryland. The photograph here reproduced shows the Michigan discharging a broadside in the target practice in which the Atlantic fleet recently engaged.

COURT SESSION TO 18 SCHOOLS NOW OPEN TODAY STANDARD

JUDGE KELLY TO HEAR MOTIONS THIS AFTERNOON.

Will Clear Preliminary Matters Previous to Assembling of Jury; Judge Galloway to Hold Court Saturday.

Judge Percy Kelly, who will preside at the jury term of department No. 1, of the Polk County Circuit Court, next week, will arrive in Dallas today and open court this afternoon at 1 o'clock, for the hearing of motions and demurrers affecting the cases on the docket, in order to clear up preliminary matters and be ready to get down to the actual grind Monday morning.

Judge Galloway has informed County Clerk E. M. Smith that he will hold a session of department No. 2, on Saturday, May 11, at 9 o'clock a. m., for the disposal of such business as may be brought before it.

No cases of far-reaching interest will be considered at this coming term and the criminal cases will probably be confined to two or three. There are a number of old indictments on the docket that have been there for years awaiting the arrest of the defendants, who have left the state, and whose whereabouts are unknown, and it is unlikely that any of them will be taken up.

HOSPITAL PLAN IS SUCCESSFUL
Indications Now Are That Entire Amount Will Be Subscribed.

Following the efforts of a committee of the Dallas Commercial club to solicit subscriptions to the capital stock of the Dallas Hospital association for the proposed building which will be erected at the corner of Shelton and Court streets, it is announced that several substantial boosts have been received during the past week, and it now is assured that the plan will succeed. Plans for the new building are about completed and bids will be called for within a few days.

FIVE MORE ADDED TO LIST IN POLK DURING YEAR.

Lewisville, Perrydale, Bethel, Brush College and Hopville Pass Requirements For Standardization.

There are now 18 standard schools in Polk county, according to reports on file in County Superintendent H. C. Seymour's office, five new ones having recently passed the requirements and been added to the list. They are as follows:

Lewisville—Teacher, Mrs. H. J. Peavy. Directors: A. A. Lindeman, William Holmington, C. M. Lewis and J. J. Levick.

Perrydale—Teachers, J. W. Wilson, Lyda V. Bell, Elsie Keyt. Directors: W. H. McKee, D. L. Keyt, H. J. Elliott, J. E. Youkum.

Bethel—Teachers, W. A. Johnson, Eva Darr, Florence Donahoe, Carl Stewart. Directors: F. J. Graves, G. L. Richards, S. L. Stewart, J. P. Sears.

Brush College—Teacher, J. C. Bell. Directors: C. W. Beckett, W. H. Keller, J. W. Edgar, A. R. Ewing.

Hopville—Teacher, Miss Martha Skerries. Directors: C. O. Sloper, R. B. Addison, Floyd Woodward, M. W. McGowna.

There are several other schools in the county which are very near the standard requirements and it is expected that they will soon be able to enter that class. Fully 25 Standard schools are expected in Polk at the end of the present school year, which will be a remarkable showing, it is declared, and speaks volumes for the efficiency of the school work.

New Scott to Change Hands.

J. W. Crider, owner of the New Scott Hotel, corner Mill and Jefferson streets, announced that a deal has been made for the lease of the property for a term of years to a competing hotel man, who will be here the last of the week to assume charge. The Observer will print the full particulars in its next issue.

ELECTS OFFICERS AND AMENDS BY-LAWS

ANNUAL SESSION OF DALLAS WOMAN'S CLUB ON TUESDAY IS BUSY ONE; MUCH BUSINESS DONE.

MRS. GERLINGER REELECTED

Will Head Organization For Another Year; Other Officials Succeed Themselves; Radical Changes in By-Laws Adopted; Plans For June Meeting.

Election of officers for the ensuing year and the adoption of several amendments to the by-laws and constitution occupied the attention of the Dallas Woman's club at their annual meeting held Tuesday afternoon in the Sunday school room at the Presbyterian church. The session was a busy one and lasted practically all the afternoon. The election of officers resulted, for the most part, in the re-election of all of the old officers.

New Club Officials.
The new officials of the club are as follows:

President, Mrs. George Gerlinger, (re-elected.)
Vice-President, Miss Edith Starbuck.

Secretary, Mrs. J. Riley Craven (re-elected.)
Treasurer, Mrs. C. L. Barnes (re-elected.)
Chairman of the Literary section, Mrs. Oscar Hayter.

Chairman of the Civic Improvement section, Mrs. Ella J. Metzger (re-elected.)

Upon the resignation of Mrs. G. P. MacGregor, Mrs. S. B. Taylor was elected chairman of the Musical section, and Miss Nola Coad was elected as chairman of the Young Women's section.

Changes in By-Laws.
Several radical changes were made in the by-laws, one of the amendments related to the payment of dues and made it necessary for new members to pay their dues within 30 days after election, or forfeit their membership. Another provides that all old members must pay dues by January 1 or forfeit membership.

Any member having thus forfeited her membership is not eligible for re-election, but may be reinstated at any time by the payment of all arrearages.

Reports of officers for the past year were read, also the reports of the heads of the different sections regarding the work of the past year.

A committee is now working on plans for the June meeting, which will be the last one of the season and is to be purely a social affair, the plan now under contemplation being a cafeteria dinner, to which the men will be invited.

President's Address.
The President, Mrs. George Gerlinger, read the following address, which was ordered placed on file and also sent to the Dallas press:

"The president's address will be brief, for you have already heard in detail of the work of our club during the year past. The four sections of the club have been singularly fortunate in their enthusiastic, capable leaders. The committees have done their work well, and always with the utmost good will. Our work has brought together here for the first time women representing every time, church, every lodge, and most of the families of the community. The mere force of numbers has been an inspiration.

"We have discovered and developed many heretofore unsuspected talents among ourselves. Through our increased interest in child welfare, civic improvement, music, literature, the drama, and society, we have, in the stately words of the prophet Isaiah, "enlarged the place of our tents and stretched forth the curtains of our habitations." We have come in touch with thoughts and movement of world-wide interest, and thus greatly broadened our horizons and acquired a better perspective.

FORMER DALLAS CITIZEN DIES AT NEW HOME

William T. Gilsan Succumbs to Attack of Pneumonia After Short Illness.

William T. Gilsan, for many years a citizen of Dallas and of Polk county, died at his home in Drain, Ore., on Tuesday, May 7, after an illness of less than a week's duration. He moved with his family from Dallas to his new home about a month ago. He had recently purchased some land near that place and went there to look after it.

Deceased was born in Missouri 64 years ago. He was married to Mary E. Scott in Indiana, and to this union have been born 10 children, seven of whom survive him. They are Carey Gilsan, of Perrydale; William Gilsan, Jr., and Clarence, at Bridewell Station; Mrs. Mary Robertson, of Taft; Mrs. Maud Cameron, of Drain; Mrs. Jennie Guthrie, and Andrew Gilsan, of Dallas.

Mr. Gilsan and family moved to Oregon 38 years ago and settled at Bellview, where they lived for several years, coming to Polk county in 1900. Deceased was a man who attained considerable prominence in Polk county, and by frugality and good business management succeeded in accumulating a competence. He was a member of the Masonic fraternity.

WANTS RELEASE FROM VOWS

H. Conner Asks Court to Sever Marriage Relations With Spouse.

H. Conner has begun action for divorce from his wife, Mary Conner, on the grounds of desertion, according to papers filed in department No. 2, of the Polk County Circuit Court Tuesday. In his allegations plaintiff says that the couple were married February 3, 1907, at Elgin, Oregon, and that about two years thereafter, defendant deserted him and has since failed and refused to live with him and does at this time so fail and refuse, notwithstanding the fact that he has been and still is ready to support and care for her. Such being the condition that confronts him, he asks that his marriage relation with Mary be annulled and forever severed. He says that one child, the only issue of the union, is now in the custody of the defendant.

O'REILLY GETS GOOD POSITION

Polk County Teacher Is Made Lane County Supervisor.

According to information received on Wednesday, A. I. O'Reilly, teacher of the famous Spring Valley school, in Polk county, was on that day selected as rural school supervisor of Lane county, at a salary of \$1200 per year and all expenses. Attention had been attracted to O'Reilly by his work in the Spring Valley school and negotiations were opened up at once by the Lane county authorities in order to secure his services for that county.

Pleasant Forecast.
"It is a temptation to forecast some of the pleasant and profitable experiences we are going to enjoy next autumn, when we move into our permanent quarters in the new library building. But I leave to your imaginations the big, pleasant room, with kitchen adjoining, the dainty curtains, the piano, pictures, rug, china, and silver, all assembled to make a charming, home-like setting for the enjoyment of ourselves and our friends. The young people, with this agreeable social center, will be given the opportunity to gratify in the best way—namely, through making their own good times together under proper chaperonage—their natural craving for gaiety.

"Club women all over the country are giving serious thought to this matter of wholesome amusement for the young. The popular tendency now is away from personal effort in home entertaining, and all toward outside, commercialized amusement, often of a very dubious or valueless character.

Effort Well Spent.
"If, in our simple way, we can successfully grapple with even this one problem, all our effort has been well spent. This is only another aspect of civic improvement, for a town should be a happy place to live in as well as a clean, beautiful one.

"In closing, let me offer a tribute to the fine courtesy and aid accorded us in many ways by the men and press of our community; and to the club members heartiest thanks for their loyalty to the club and its officers."

COLLEGE WORK TO CONTINUE AS BEFORE

TRUSTEES DECIDE THAT INSTITUTION IS NECESSARY TO DEVELOPMENT OF WORK ON PACIFIC COAST.

POSTPONE IMPROVEMENTS

New School Law Involves Larger Development Than Planned, Hence Local Betterments Must Wait; Work To Be Carried On as At Present For Another Year.

That Dallas College will continue as formerly, with every member of the faculty and the church organization behind it to make it the success in the educational world that it ought to be, but that all ideas of local improvement has been postponed for the summer, is the announcement of President A. A. Winter, who will leave Dallas today for the East, to remain during the summer. Mr. Winter will remain over Sunday at LaFayette, and will leave Portland Tuesday, and will stop for a few days in Denver and at Hope, Kansas, and will be at home to his friends after June 1, at 69 Eldred street, Williamsport, Pa.

Will Continue the Work.
"It has been a question in the minds of some whether the college would continue its work as heretofore," said President Winter, Wednesday, in discussing the situation, "and I am glad to say to our friends that the board of trustees, at their annual meeting, decided that since the college was a necessary asset to the development of our work on the Coast, it should continue, as formerly. But, since the new school law, standardizing the colleges of the state is now in effect, and involves a larger development than our plans had contemplated, it has seemed best to postpone any local improvements for this summer. Owing to this situation, I shall return East to my family and, if the Eastern canvas cannot be continued at this time, I will do some post-graduate work this year in some Eastern college.

Old Students to Return.
The college authorities will seek to adjust the work to the new conditions as best they can for the present. A goodly number of old students will return, and we hope for a creditable enrollment for the coming year. Prof. D. M. Metzger, dean of the faculty, will, as usual, do the field work for new students during the summer, and we have every reason to believe that his efforts will be crowned with success.

Faculty to Remain.
With the exception of Prof. Gilmore, it is expected that the present faculty will serve for the coming year, notwithstanding reports which have been circulated to the contrary. Prof. Metzger was offered a position in Iowa which guaranteed greater remuneration than his work here, but he is interested in building up the Dallas institution, and felt that his labors still should be enlisted in doing all in his power to make Dallas College the institution that it should be. He will spend the summer in a quest for students and has enthusiastic hopes of success, notwithstanding the new law, as the college will go on doing the same creditable work in the future as in the past, with the ultimate aim, as predicted by President Winter, of eventually reaching an endowment sufficient to standardize the school.

My-Lenox.
Mr. Harley A. Ely and Melissa J. Lenox, of McCoy, were united in marriage by Rev. D. Lester Fields at the home of Arthur Dimick, in Dallas, at 4 p. m., on May 8, 1912, in the presence of friends and relatives. Their future home will be at McCoy, Ore.