

The Polk County Observer

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(TWICE-A-WEEK)

NO 49

MOB HANGS LEO FRANK

GEORGIANS FORCE WAY INTO STATE PRISON FARM.

Body Taken to Within Two Miles of Murdered Girl's Home and Swung to Tree.

Leo M. Frank is dead. The announcement of his abduction from the Georgia prison was made by The Observer on Tuesday, it getting the news in Dallas before the arrival here of the metropolitan dailies. A Georgia mob claimed the life of the alleged slayer of Mary Phagan early Tuesday morning. His body was found at 6 o'clock hanging from the limb of a tree two miles east of Marietta, the home of his alleged victim. The lynching of Frank was carefully planned and it went through without a hitch. After cutting all telephone wires leading to the prison farm, the mob, about 25 strong, advanced on the main building shortly before midnight. The warden and most of the guards were sleeping on a rear porch. The lynching party worked so swiftly and quietly that the guards were overpowered and disarmed before the warden was awakened. The rest was easy. The leader of the mob forced the warden to turn over his keys and lead him to Frank's cell. He was still asleep. Frank, all accounts, say, took in the situation immediately.

"I will go with you, gentlemen, quietly," he said. "I am not afraid to die. But I want to say that I am innocent of that little girl's death." Frank was rushed to an automobile, driven in the direction of Eatonton. "The body of Leo Frank," one of the mob shouted, as the auto drove away, "will be on the grave of Mary Phagan tomorrow." This threat was not made good, but Frank's body was left hanging at a spot just two miles from Mary Phagan's grave. When the Roswell road was reached, the body was strung up to a limb and left dangling with the toes touching the roadbed. Then the mob disbanded and completely disappeared. The entire state of Georgia is aroused over Frank's abduction and lynching.

Governor Harris of Georgia will supervise an investigation now being made into the lynching of Leo Frank. The governor is not satisfied with the interest shown in the Frank case by the state prison board. He desires an explanation of the conditions at Jolleville which resulted in the prison officials offering no resistance to the Frank kidnapping. The action of the Atlanta police in permitting the crowd to make a show of Frank's body in the undertaking establishment will also be investigated.

SCHOOL TAXES DECREASE.

Polk One of Seven Counties Showing Saving Over 1914.

While in the twenty-three counties of the state school taxes for the present year foot up more than \$300,000 in excess of the previous year, or an average increase of 7 1/2 per cent, Polk county's school taxes for the period named decreased 6 per cent, it being one of seven counties to show a reduction. And yet notwithstanding this marked reduction in taxes over 1914 this county has shown remarkable advancement along educational lines. For the present year, including levies for general and district school taxes, but eliminating state taxes, Polk county's levy was \$90,003.95, or \$6,402.97 less than for 1914, which makes a per capita tax of \$6.18. Only four counties in the state have a lower per capita tax.

For county and road taxes collected this year, according to the Oregon Voter, Tillamook leads the list on a per capita basis, it having a levy of \$30.95. Thirteen of the twenty-three counties lead Polk, whose per capita for the purpose named is \$11.20.

THE TRIALS OF AUTOMOBILING

Beach Party Spends Six Hours Stranded in Mountains.

To have a breakdown in the mountains, many miles from anywhere, and to spend six hours fretting and fuming because you can't get the damage repaired, and finally discover that only a little unimportant and unobtrusive pin had broken and disabled your transmission, certainly is conducive of expletive thought. But, adding insult to injury, when you were expecting to enjoy those six hours quaffing the cool and refreshing breezes that sweep over the ocean and lolling about on the sandy beach—well, then it's pretty tough. George Stewart, R. R. Van Orsdel, William Boydston and August Rissler left here Saturday morning for Newport. They had gone half way when the car stopped for lunch in the mountains. They spent six hours of their week-end outing trying to fix it and finally arrived in Newport early Sunday morning. In spite of the setback the party enjoyed itself.

Commissioner Wells Reports.

The total investment of insurance companies in the state of Oregon is \$2,235,063, which includes bonds,

mortgages, and real estate, according to the report just issued by Harvey Wells, state insurance commissioner. Life insurance companies lead all others in the amount of investment with a total of \$15,924,254. Of this amount \$10,015,515 is in mortgages, \$2,899,963 is in municipal, school and other bonds, \$2,894,000 in interurban and street railway bonds, and \$14,778 in real estate. Fraternal insurance companies seem to have confined their investments to municipal, school and road bonds, while life and accident companies favor mortgage loans as investments.

LIQUOR SHIPMENTS BY MAIL.

Postmaster V. P. Fiske Corrects a Wrong Impression.

In correcting a statement made by one of the Portland newspapers, Postmaster Fiske gives some information regarding unmailable articles, especially liquors, which may be of interest to the public. He refers particularly to the liquor establishment just across the California line, which purports to serve Oregon customers with these beverages by mail. He says:

"Everyone should be made to understand that Uncle Sam does not allow of liquor ever entering the mails in any shape, as for the public to think otherwise will cost confusion and expense for nothing. While on this subject it might also be well to mention that misleading items have also frequently been published by the Portland papers as to shipments made by parcel post—such as stoves, furniture, live animals, etc. Stoves and furniture would be barred by their size, excluding 84 inches of combined girth, and nothing alive, except a queen bee, properly packed, can be mailed. The frequent stories of this or that being sent by mail, not conforming to regulations of weight and measurement, cause erroneous impressions to go out to possible shippers, and this is not for the good of the service.

"I make it that, as a newspaper always endeavoring to provide the public with the truth only, you will desire to counteract wrong impressions, and correct, at least, the statement that our Oregon imbibers may, after January 1, get their booze by mail."

OFFICIALS SUBMIT REPORTS.

Treasurer and Auditor Show Dallas Financial Condition.

According to the quarterly reports of the city treasurer and the city auditor, the total indebtedness of the municipality of Dallas is \$44,590.30, which includes improvement bonds for the past six years. The reports, which were referred to the finance committee of the city council at the meeting of that body on Monday evening, cover the quarter from May 1, to July 31, 1915, and embrace every financial transaction of the city for that period. There have been two arrests for which fines were collected, amounting to \$10, and the total income from new and renewed licenses amounts to more than \$200. In all, the police judge has collected and deposited with the treasurer \$245.90, which includes licenses, fines and small miscellaneous collections. Auditor Gregory's report shows the amount turned over to the city treasurer during the quarter as \$3,026.90, which is divided among all municipal funds, and includes bonded improvement collections. Two funds, namely, the 1915 street improvement fund, and the general fund of the city, show a deficit \$4,642.31 and \$2,715.14 respectively, or a total of \$7,357.45.

LITTLE FORD CHUGS-CHUGS.

Turns Turtle Near Rickreall, But No Damage Done.

Two men, driving from Portland in a Ford last week, and driving fast, had the very good luck to escape with their lives when their car overturned in a sandy stretch of road near Rickreall and righted itself at the side of the road without stopping the engine. The only damage done was to the wind-shield and fenders, although the car finally landed upright with the men under it. When the occupants saw that the world had not come to an end they started off again without the necessity of cranking their car.

Olcott Acting Governor.

Ben W. Olcott, secretary of state, for the first time since Governor Withycombe has been in office, this week acted governor of Oregon, while Governor Withycombe was in California, attending the exercises in connection with Benson day at the exposition as the official representative of Benton county.

Stewed Prunes Served.

Last Friday was Willamette Valley day at the exposition, with stewed prunes on tap and Dr. Dunsmore of Independence, E. S. Evenden of Monmouth, F. W. Sullivan of Oregon City, Dr. L. M. Davis of Portland and M. Moesseln as speakers.

New Eleven-Cent Stamp.

The eleven-cent postage stamp has made its appearance. The new stamp is dark green in color and bears the profile of Benjamin Franklin on its face. It is being issued primarily to prepay postage and insurance on parcel post packages.

OLD RELIABLE IS BUSY VALUABLE FLOCK TAKEN

NO REDUCTION IN WORKING CREW AT LOGAL MILLS.

Several Important Improvements Have Recently Been Made By Willamette Lumber Company.

It is interesting as well as satisfying to note, in the face of the depression that has swept the country comparatively bare of industrial life, that the Dallas mill of the Willamette Valley Lumber company is running full force and that there is very little likelihood of its having to close down even for a short time because of the sluggish condition of the lumber market. Superintendent E. E. Ellsworth reports the suspension of activities at most of the important lumber mills in the valley and adds to the report the encouraging statement that the local mill is turning out daily approximately 100,000 feet of lumber. The crew employed is normal, giving many Dallas men a place on the large payroll, and bringing added prosperity to the city. The mill and yards hum busily throughout each working day, and so confident is the company that the mill's product will continue in demand that several important improvements are being made in the equipment. Just recently an extension has been built to one of the lumber drying sheds and a stove-wood loader has been added to the labor-saving devices in evidence in all parts of the plant.

At this season of the year there is a good demand for stove wood and this by-product is being disposed of as fast as it can be produced. The wood-loader is designed to fill the delivery wagons as the wood is sawed, and it seems to be putting in regular working hours on the job. Much cordwood is also finding a market. Prices on lumber, however, are low as a result of the backward condition of the market, but there is hope for improvement in the near future. There is nearly enough demand to keep the mill busy, however, and the excess product is being piled for seasoning. Industry is using its foresight in preparing for the future. It is a general anticipation that business in all lines will take a decided turn for the better very soon, and the anticipation seems justified, so the local mill will have a market later on for the lumber it is now stocking its drying sheds with.

MONEY LONG OVER DUE YES, POLK WILL EXHIBIT

HEIRS OF POLK PIONEER ARE SOUGHT BY AETNA LIFE.

Insurance Policy Held By James M. Chandler, Who Died in 1881, Has Never Been Paid.

The heirs of James M. Chandler, who died near Dallas January 1, 1881, have \$98 due them from a life insurance policy which the deceased caused to be written in the Aetna of Hartford in December 1873. On Tuesday Marshal Chase received a communication from the insurance company, saying that as the insured was born late in the last century he must have passed away ere this time, but that no proof of death had been received, nor claim made for money due on the policy. The company stated that as the policy now stands there was payable at the death of the insured the sum of \$98, and requested the officer to make a search for the heirs that the amount might be turned over to them.

Mr. Chase found upon investigation that James M. Chandler was a well-known resident of the community in pioneer days, his occupation being that of a farmer, and that he had three heirs at the time of his demise, Charles and Albert Chandler, and Emma Chandler, the respective ages of whom was 16, 12 and 9 in 1881. Albert Chandler is now living near Sheridan, where he is a prosperous farmer; the daughter married W. B. Davis and resides in Eastern Oregon, while of the whereabouts of Charles Chandler nothing has been learned. This information has been given the insurance company.

New Normal Building.

Work started on the new Normal training school at Monmouth a few days ago. Five teams are moving dirt preparatory to laying the foundation. The building will be located across the street from the main normal school building, and will be 128 by 84 feet, two stories above the basement. The material used will be brick.

Logger Struck By Cable.

E. S. Young, a loader at the Black Rock camp of the Willamette Valley Lumber company, was at the Dallas hospital Tuesday with a badly injured right eye, as the result of being struck with a strand of cable.

MR. EAKIN LOSES MANY CHICKENS BY THEFT.

About One Hundred and Seventy-Five Broilers Stolen From Ranch at Rickreall Wednesday Night.

Nearly two-hundred pure breed White Leghorn chickens were stolen from the large flocks of H. C. Eakin last Wednesday evening, as closely as the owner can determine, and no trace of them can be found. The marauder worked carefully and was thoroughly familiar with his surroundings, as well as with the stock he stole. The chickens had just reached the right size to finish feeding for the market and Mr. Eakin had planned to do this at once, so that the thief must have watched the stock very closely to determine the best time to carry it away. The theft was executed quietly, and quickly, as Mr. Eakin was asleep not more than 100 feet from the entrance to the chicken yards and heard no sound. In fact it was not discovered until feeding time the next day when Mrs. Eakin saw the door of the coop, which latched from the inside, standing open and held so with a prop. The Eakin flock has several hundred chickens so that the exact number taken cannot be determined, but at the very least, the owners say, there were 150 or 175 broilers missing.

The thief and the chickens have completely disappeared and there are few clues for Sheriff John Orr to work on in the search he is making. The chickens, in prime condition, weighed from 1 1/2 pounds to 1 3/4 pounds and will bring in most any market not less than 17 cents a pound. The offense, therefore, is grand larceny and punishable with a penitentiary sentence.

Member of Hayter Family Passes.

Thomas B. Smith, traveling representative of the Bobbs-Merrill company, law book publishers of Indianapolis, died at his home in Portland, Wednesday morning, after a two weeks' illness of malarial fever. He left a wife and three young sons. Mr. Smith was a cousin of T. J. Hayter of this city, and was a native of Missouri, to which state the body will be taken for burial. Oscar Hayter, who was at his cousin's bedside when the end came, returned to Dallas yesterday.

PLANS MAKING TO SHOW PRODUCTS AT LAND SHOW.

Booster Organizations of County Will Be Requested to Contribute to Meet Expense.

An effort will be made by the county fair board to induce the several commercial organizations of the county to make an exhibit at the Land Products show to be held in Portland in October and November, and there is a strong probability that the collection of grains, grasses, fruits, vegetables, etc., gathered for display at the state fair will be taken to the metropolitan and exhibited. The matter was presented to the Dallas Commercial club Wednesday evening by Messrs. H. L. Fenton and W. A. Ayers, members of the fair board, who were appointed at a recent meeting of the latter's executive body to promote the undertaking, the fair association being unable to provide finances to pay the necessary expenses. The Commercial club will father the exhibit, its purpose being to call upon Independence, Monmouth and Falls City to contribute funds to help meet the cost of maintaining an exhibit throughout the Land Products show, the same to be under the personal supervision of some Polk county individual who is thoroughly informed regarding the section's resources, advantages and possibilities, thus making it worth the while.

The Land Products show is an institution that is largely attended by contemplating settlers from all parts of the country, and hence a display there cannot fail to be valuable, even more so than one at the state fair, which is practically a local affair. It is held at a time when thousands from middle western and eastern states journey coastward after the harvest season, and is considered by other booster bodies as the leading event in promotion work of the year. Last year Polk county had an exhibit at this show which won first prize in competition with the whole Pacific northwest, yet it was a makeshift compared to what it might have been. Many visitors were even unable to locate the Polk county exhibit. The Polk county exhibit at the state fair this year will be the most complete collection of its products ever assembled here, and should the commercial organizations conclude to finance the

project in question it will undoubtedly attract widespread attention from those visiting the Land show.

The Observer believes in exploitation work of this telling character. "Old Polk" possesses unrivaled resources for the successful prosecution of agricultural and horticultural pursuits—its possibilities are possibly greater than any other county of the state—but full development will never come if we hide our light under a bushel. Every community booster within the boundaries of Polk county should give substantial encouragement in making the coming exhibit the very best ever.

"SHOWING" A MISSOURIAN.

Mr. Dalton's Little Party Has Experience Above Black Rock.

An interesting and not altogether enjoyable experience is recounted by E. V. Dalton who journeyed yesterday to the Willamette Valley Lumber company's camp above Black Rock. There is no special accommodation for passengers to and from the camp and those who must travel take things as they find them or they do not travel. Mr. Dalton with his wife and nephew, S. P. Dalton of Columbia, Mo., made the trip to the camp without incident, but when they were ready to return they had a choice of walking or riding the "cow-catcher" of a logging engine. The latter looked the more pleasant so the trio chose that method of returning to Black Rock. With a firm grasp on every available object they managed to keep their seats on the joggling, jolting and dirty engine, but they have said nothing about the comforts found in the journey. They found the trip over the trestle especially fascinating, according to Mr. Dalton. Here the engine wheels squeaked on the tracks in a mournful way, and with 100 feet of air between the trestle and the ground the effect was most uncanny. It was with difficulty that the party clung to the cow-catcher in rounding the curves, and the sight-seers have taken a solemn oath to ride hereafter on more secure and comfortable seats or to stay away from lumber camps. Mr. Dalton's nephew is from Missouri, but the elder gentleman says there is always something to show him in Oregon.

PUTTING IN FINE NEW FRONT.

Mr. Reilly Improving Building at Main and Washington.

The work of rebuilding the front of the Reilly building at the corner of Main and Washington streets was inaugurated Wednesday morning, and when completed will present a metropolitan appearance. The front will be constructed of pressed brick, and will be two stories high, the intention of Mr. Reilly being to add another floor to the building when he completes the Orpheum playhouse adjoining, which will be late in the fall. The first floor, occupied by F. E. Davis, the housefurnisher, will have an entrance in the center of the fifty feet, with large plate glass windows on either side, making it possible to display goods to far better advantage than at present.

SHERIDAN MILLS SOLD.

Resumption Will Depend on Lumber Market Opening.

A deal involving two sawmills and 4500 acres of timber land was completed yesterday, when J. C. Bracher and George M. Bracher of Portland, owners of the Bracher Timber company took possession of the Sheridan Timber company. The consideration was \$175,000. The new firm name will be the Sheridan Lumber company. Until the lumber market opens up the mill will be kept closed and a retail business carried on.

Collar Bone Broken by Fall.

Curtis Van Skike, an employe at the local plant of the Oregon Power company, suffered a broken collar bone and numerous bruises on Wednesday, when a step broke and let him fall. Mr. Van Skike was carrying some heavy iron castings and when the step gave way this fell on his shoulder. The injury was dressed at the Dallas hospital and the patient was removed to his home. The accident was reported to the state industrial accident commission by A. L. Martin, manager of the Oregon Power company here.

Work Progressing Rapidly.

Work on the new road around Dolph hill, promoted by Tillamook and Yamhill counties, is progressing rapidly, but the project will not be completed in time for use this year. The new highway will eliminate Dolph hill from the road to the Tillamook beaches, and likewise the toll gate.

Assessing Grant Lands.

Believing that it rests with the board of equalization whether the assessor has the right to assess Oregon & California railroad grant lands only for the amount of the railroad's equity, or at all, the assessor of Lane county has assessed all such lands in his county at from \$5 to \$20 per acre, virtually at the same rate as last year.

To be good, according to some people, is to be a hasbeen.

SUNK BY A SUBMARINE

WHITE STAR LINER HAS MANY AMERICANS ON BOARD.

Germans Attack and Sink Arabic Near Lusitania Disaster Without Slightest Warning.

The big White Star Line steamer Arabic, formerly a favorite ship of the Liverpool-Boston service, but which on her present trip was on the way to New York, was torpedoed and sunk by a German submarine at 9:15 o'clock Thursday morning southeast of Fastnet. The steamer, according to a statement of the White Star Line, was attacked without warning and went down in 11 minutes. Of the 423 persons on board—181 passengers and 242 members of the crew—32 are missing and are believed to have perished.

Most of those who have not been accounted for belong to the crew. Only six of the passengers are reported missing. There were only 20 citizens of the United States on board, 22 being in the second cabin and four in the steerage. The Arabic carried no first-class passengers, having lately been turned into a two-class liner.

When some 50 miles west of where the Lusitania was sunk in May, the German underwater boat rose to the surface and launched a torpedo. The marksmanship of the Germans, as in the case of the Lusitania, was deadly accurate and, like the Lusitania, the big liner quickly settled down and shortly disappeared from view. Some of the survivors, according to reports, say that they had just witnessed the torpedoing of a British steamer, presumably the Dunstable, and that this had caused great alarm on board the Arabic. In their fright the passengers had rushed for life preservers and had barely adjusted them when the German submarine turned its torpedo against the vessel's side.

W. C. T. U. ELECTS OFFICERS.

Cold Water Advocates Hold Convention at Independence.

The next county convention of the Women's Christian Temperance union will be held at Perrydale as a result of the action taken by ladies assembled at Independence this week for the annual meeting. The convention at Independence was very successful and most enjoyable. Dinner and supper were served to the visitors in the Methodist church by the ladies of the Independence branch, and several timely subjects came up for discussion. The question of placing bibles in public schools, was taken up and approved. The schools of Perrydale are supplied with bibles, according to Mrs. Jennings of the Perrydale union. A feature of the program was the splendid readings given by Mrs. Downing of Portland. Officers elected at the convention to preside over the union for the year were: Mrs. Blanche Paul, Falls City, president; Mrs. D. G. Rempel, Dallas, vice-president; Mrs. H. A. Lee, Perrydale, secretary, and Mrs. W. P. Miller, Dallas, treasurer.

Mr. Davis Sets Date.

Mr. F. E. Davis announces that the first exhibit of farm products, in connection with which will be a public sales day, will be held on September 25, and requests that farmers who have articles they desire to dispose of at auction at this time list them as soon as possible that they may be advertised properly. The sale of any article brought in will cost the owner absolutely nothing, the promotion of "sales day" by Mr. Davis being solely for the purpose of bringing the country and city more closely together by affording opportunity for buyer and seller to meet for mutual benefit. Any one having an article to be disposed of may list it with Mr. Davis, and it will be sold to the highest bidder.

People Are Hard to Please.

If there is a thankless job anywhere it is being county judge or commissioner in an economy year. Every penny you spend brings a kick from the taxpayer, and every penny you save brings a re-call threat from the man who didn't get the penny. The general temper of voters, however, is to pay little attention to recall agitations in the various counties unless there are well-substantiated charges of flagrant abuse.—Oregon Voter.

Public Auction Tomorrow.

Having decided to discontinue farming and take up a residence at Pasadena, California, Arthur W. Fink will tomorrow dispose of his personal property, including horses, cows and farming implements, by auction. The sale will be held at the farm, four miles north of Dallas, on the Salt Creek road.

Oats Yield Well.

J. D. Allen, who lives on the Oak Grove road in Polk county, nine miles north of this city, reports 168 acres of oats, making an average yield of 45 bushels.