

THE SPRINGFIELD NEWS

L. M. BEEBE, Editor

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Uncle Sam pays rent amounting to \$400,000 every year. And the burden is not even mitigated by the joy of being able to get out occasionally and hunt a flat.

Hon. William Jennings Bryan, twice defeated candidate for President of the United States and one of the world's greatest expounders, will be in Eugene, Thursday, January 24, and will speak in Villard Hall at the University. His subject has not yet been announced.

According to William E. Curtis, President Roosevelt's ambition is to occupy a seat in the United States senate from the state of New York after the expiration of his presidential term, following a trip around the world. He is said to make no secret of his desires in this direction.

A recent estimate places the total Roman Catholic population of the United States at 12,651,244, or an increase of 189,151 over a year ago. The total number of churches is 11,814, and the number of children attending parochial schools has increased to 1,066,207. The number of schools is 4,281, and there are 869 colleges or seminaries.

The Alaska-Yukon Pacific Exposition bill that has been introduced in Congress asking for an appropriation of \$1,200,000 provides only for the appropriation of Hawaii, Alaska and the Philippines at the fair. The federal government will be asked later on to make provisions for its general exhibit and a building to house it.

By a vote of the people at the last election, local option carried and the saloons were wiped out of our thriving little city as a result. By a majority vote, the people have said that they do not want liquor sold in the county. Since the election the News has carried out of town liquor ads but we have decided to discontinue all such ads in the future, or, at least for the time being and await results.

Western Oregon people are becoming more insistent that the Southern Pacific company shall place upon the market the 2,000,000 or 3,000,000 acres of grant lands held in the name of that corporation and permit their settlement and development. It is said that if the railroad company longer refuse to accede to the popular clamor, the legislator of Oregon will be asked to memorialize congress to revoke the grant. These lands are becoming valuable by the settlement and development of alternate sections and the terms of grant are that the company shall sell the grant lands in tracts not exceeding 160 acres to actual settlers and at a price not exceeding \$2.50 per acre. It is said that large bodies, not to settlers but to timber speculators and mill companies, have been sold, not at \$2.50 per acre but any price that could be obtained from the purchasers and that some large tracts have brought as high as \$25 and \$30 per acre.

According to reports the Pacific States Telephone and Telegraph company is about to invest an enormous sum of money in the reconstruction of the telephone exchange. The company, acting through its fiscal agents, is marketing the first \$10,000,000 of a \$35,000,000 bond issue, and of that amount \$3,000,000 is being offered for sale in Portland. It might be suggested that the company spend a very small portion of that amount in trying to better the rank service

that we are receiving. The service of the Springfield exchange has become so unsatisfactory that people are showing a disposition to welcome with open arms any company that promises to give relief. The Commercial Club have taken the matter in hand and will see what can be done either with another company or with an independent system. It is true that the company had men working on the system for some time last summer doing some repair work, but owing to the enormous growth and increase of population the accommodations do not seem to have improved and it is now a demand of the public that better accommodations be furnished the subscribers or relief be given by another company. The rates that are charged are simply ridiculous for the kind of service that is received. On one party line which is but three blocks long there are now ten phones and many other lines are nearly as bad if not worse. The Pacific States people have no franchise in Springfield and now while we have them at our mercy, let us see what can be done. A much lower rate should be obtained, in fact, the present rate cut in two would be a big compensation for the service we are receiving. The Commercial Club should be heartily commended for the effort that is being put forth for the improvement of the present service. It is hoped that their efforts will meet with good results.

There are two kinds of girls in the world, the girl who works and the girl who gads. Commend us to the former. Work lends dignity to a pretty girl, is an added charm to her. The girl who works, God bless her, combines the useful and ornamental. She might gad about, roll on sofas, gossip and read story books but she prefers to be some account in the world and goes out stenographer, teacher, saleslady or housekeeper bravely makes her own way. Such are the salt of the earth and of such is the kingdom of heaven.

Courtship in Church.

A young gentlemen happening to sit in church in a pew adjoining one in which sat a young lady for whom he conceived a sudden and violent passion, was desirous of entering into a courtship on the spot; but the place not suiting a formal declaration, the exigency of the case suggested the following plan: He politely banded his fair neighbor a bible, open, with a pin stuck in the following text: Second epistle of John, verse fifth—"And now I beseech thee, lady, not as though I wrote a new commandment unto thee, but that which we had from the beginning, that we love one another." She returned it, pointing to the second chapter of Ruth, verse tenth—"The she fell on her face and bowed herself to the ground, and said unto him, 'Why have I found grace in thine eyes, that thou shouldst take knowledge of me, seeing that I am a stranger?'" He returned the book pointing to the thirteenth verse of the third epistle of John—"Having many things to write upon to you, I would not write with paper and ink, but I trust to come unto you, and speak face to face, that our joy may be full." From the above interview a marriage took place the ensuing week.

Exposition Notes.

An international music contest has been suggested as a feature of the musical department at the Alaska-Yukon-Pacific Exposition. Musical organizations and individual musicians from all over the world will be invited to participate.

The Pennsylvania society of Washington, organized to co-operate with the management of the Alaska-Yukon-Pacific Exposition in the work of securing participation for the Keystone state, will request the legislature of Penn. to appropriate \$100,000 for an exhibit and building. It is hoped to have a reproduction of Independence Hall with the Liberty Bell installed therein.

The Illinois Society of Washington has started a movement to erect a statue to Abraham Lincoln at the Alaska-Yukon-Pacific Exposition.

Director General I. A. Nadeau, of the Alaska-Yukon-Pacific Exposition, has gone to Ottawa, Canada, to officially invite the Dominion government to participate in the exposition.

The Arctic Brotherhood will erect a substantial club house and install an exhibit of an Alaskan miner's cabin and outfit at the Alaska-Yukon-Pacific Exposition.

Rainier Chapter, D. A. R. at a recent meeting decided to raise a large sum for the erection of a statue of George Washington at the Alaska-Yukon-Pacific Exposition.

It is the desire of the management of the Alaska-Yukon-Pacific Exposition to have Massachusetts erect as her building at the exposition a reproduction of historical Faneuil Hall.

The California Promotion Committee will send a delegation to Seattle in the near future to choose a site for the California building at the Alaska-Yukon-Pacific Exposition and, after conferring with the exposition officials, to decide upon the size of the appropriation California should make to be adequately represented.

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