

THE LANE COUNTY NEWS

W. A. DILL

Editor and Manager

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And Remember to Get a Stop-Over for Springfield.

SPRINGFIELD, OREGON, MONDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 1915.

A TASK FOR SPRINGFIELD.

Thousands of people of the East and Middle West are going to be going through Springfield in the next ten months. Thousands more are going to be writing to Springfield commercial organizations to learn more about this part of the Willamette valley. Upon the results of the inspection made or the information sought will hang the bringing to Springfield of new factories and new settlers who will help in the development of this country. It therefore behooves Springfield to make as good an impression as possible. A unity of purpose in advancing the interests of the community must be shown. Provision must be made to supply literature to all who ask, and facilities should be at hand for showing visitors the resources of this part of the valley. No elaborate literature is needed. Easterners are no longer buying land in the West because of beautiful pictures in a book. They are asking what the land can do, and what the tillers of the soil and the stock men and the dairymen are really producing. They want the facts and figures, with mighty few pictures.

How best to secure this literature and to place it, and how best to entertain the visitors who come to Springfield, will be taken up at a mass meeting of all persons interested in the commercial development of Springfield, which will be held tomorrow night at the Development League rooms. It is not at all likely that all of these problems can be answered at that time. Quite likely only a most general policy can be outlined, but whatever is done, it ought to be in the line of a united community effort for the advancement of Springfield, especially at the time.

Come to the meeting Tuesday evening whether you belong to one commercial organization or the other; to either or to both. Life is changeable. Today there are organizations; tomorrow there may be none; and the next day there may arise a new plan of campaign under a new name that will carry forward the interests of Springfield before the world.

TIMBER IS RIPE.

"There is need," says the chief forester in a recent bulletin given to the press, "to increase the cut of timber from National Forests wherever a fair price can be obtained, because a great deal of it is mature and ought to be taken out to make room for young growth."

Gradually it is coming to the understanding of the officials that the timber of the west, as long as it is locked up and "conserved" for future generations, is going to lose in value instead of gain. The great bulk of the timber in Lane County is upwards of two hundred years old, and much of it is so old it is actually deteriorating. If this timber is ever to be used it must be taken out now, within the next few years. After that the trees will die and the timber be lost as far as meeting human needs is concerned.

If this timber is to be used, it must soon be cut and brought to market. The ultra-conservation policy of the early Roosevelt period is passing, but even yet the forest officials in Washington regard the cutting of a tree as a very serious matter, and the sale of a few million feet of logs is a subject for a vast amount of legal formalities. The timber is there in the Oregon hills, much of it ripe to the fullest, ready now to be converted into useful lumber. Other trees are growing to maturity, replenishing the supply even faster than it is now being cut. Oregon, and especially Lane County with its great timber resources, will be glad to see the adoption of a policy that will give the freest access to forest wealth that is consistent with a wise policy of careful husbanding, to the end that present needs may be supplied and the supply of timber for the future made as sure and as large as possible.

Meetings such as that held Friday evening at the Lincoln school do much to increase the interest of the parents in the operation of the public schools.

USING THE VACANT LOTS

Councilman Peery's suggestion that owners of vacant lots allow them to be tilled is indeed an excellent one. One of the particularly unpleasant scenes about an otherwise beautiful city has been the unsightly lots covered with weeds every summer. Simply as a means of making the city more beautiful the councilman's suggestion ought to be adopted.

There are, however, excellent reasons aside from this for the utilization of vacant lots as gardens. The benefit accrues both to the owner and to the tenant. A year's tilling will put a vacant lot into proper shape for the planting of lawn. For the "tenant" on the lot, the use of the land may mean the difference between hunger and plenty. The vacant lots do no one any good, and are indeed a detriment. Tilled by men or boys who at this season of the year may not have much to do, they will yield a supply of potatoes or corn or garden vegetables that will go a long way toward reducing the cost of living.

In other cities, owners of lots have given their vacant lands free for the use of non-owners who would produce crops, and it is Councilman Peery's suggestion that the same plan be followed here. If the land is likely to stand idle all summer it would be better to have it in productive garden than in non-productive weeds.

The News would be glad to list lots thus offered for the

use of those who would till, and it would be glad to put inquirers in touch with the persons ready to allow their land thus to be tilled.

Many heroes have arisen in the history of the United States, but somehow the American people can not forget the birthday anniversary of the leader at Valley Forge, at Trenton and at Yorktown. No great demonstration marks the day today, but a silent thought goes back 183 years to the babe who should lead his fellow countrymen into freedom and who should be their first chief magistrate.

One New York church is to build a thirty-story skyscraper, with the church on top. Thus the general opinion that New York is a modern Babylon is verified.

Marriage fees have been reduced in Boston, but that is no great encouragement to matrimony. It is the upkeep cost that counts.

TELLING US HOW

(Communication in Florence West)

There is nothing more irritating to the people of a small town than the air of superiority that people from larger towns have toward them and their village. It is hard to say just what prompts the city man to feel greater than the villager, but he almost invariably does, and what makes it worse, shows it in his actions.

It is the weakness of city people, this belief of theirs that country people are back numbers. The man from a city concern pays the country business man a visit and shows plainly that he considers the little merchant a very small potato; but if he were wise enough to realize the truth of their respective businesses, he would know that the back-number merchant, as he looks upon him, is laying by each year more than the city chap is drawing as a hired man from a company that could find a thousand like him in a day's time.

The narrow-brained lecturer drops into the small town, and at the beginning of his talk, mentions that he has changed his subject, "for fear the one announced would be over the heads of his audience," and then proceeds to ramble along for a couple of hours with stale stories and disconnected ideas, boring his auditors half to death. The Chautauqua entertainer, until he has had a good deal of experience; the travelling salesman, up to the time he becomes of some value to his house; the transient visitor, on a chance business or pleasure trip; the young city employe, before he learns the lessons of the relation of capital to business, wherever it is employed—all of them make the same mistake of misjudging the capacity, the intelligence and the character of country people.

If there is such a thing as superiority between city and country folks the latter have the best opportunity of securing it. But as people, there is no difference between those who live in the city and those who live in the country. They all read the same newspapers, the same magazines and the same books; they hear the same lecturers, and see the same theatrical performances; they attend the same high schools and graduate from the same colleges and universities; they take the same trips, visit the same vacation resorts, and make as many excursions abroad; they ride in Pullmans as often, and pay their bills as regularly; and when everything is counted, it is hard to point out any difference between them, except that the country people have the advantage of freedom from the life in throngs, and from the scramble for a livelihood with great numbers contesting for a share.

We have no contempt or criticism for those who prefer to live in a city, but we do object to their attitude of scorn for the doings of those who live in the country or in small towns. There is no basis for their feeling of superiority and, to a person with a proper understanding of the relations of things, it is nonsensical and uncalled-for.

HIGH SCHOOL NOTES

Supt. Kirk announced Friday that just as soon as a flagpole could be secured and the weather became suitable the new high school flag would be hoisted.

The Seniors will make their first rehearsal of the play Monday evening. There will be thirteen characters and it is expected that with the aid of Miss Rhodes as coach every character will be successfully trained. Miss Rhodes comes to the Springfield high school from U. of O. and has had considerable experience along that line.

Lester and Miss Irma Hill, brother and sister of Clarence started to school Monday. They were students of Eugene high school until last Monday when the family moved to this city.

A meeting of the baseball enthusiasts was held Wednesday evening and Norton Pengra was elected baseball manager. The boys are going into spring athletics with vim and determination. As the high school grows the more active it becomes, particularly along the line of athletics.

Prof. Kirk called the Seniors to his room last week and began the first preparation for commencement exercises.

"Commercial Law under the instruction of Mr. Kirk is very interesting," is the report heard from all who take that work.

There was a great deal of excitement among the students one day last week when a false fire alarm was given.

Both the girls and boys basketball teams will go to Pleasant Hill Friday evening to play games there. A number of rooters will go in a separate wagon it is expected.

The program given Saturday night by Mr. Stroud's division of the Literary society was very interesting and a great many reports to it have been the best of the season. "A fifty cent entertainment for nothing" and "the best thing we have had in town for a long time," are some of the expressions made by the patrons and visitors. There were about three hundred people in the assembly hall and a great number of these were compelled to stand up during the entertainment. At the rear end of the room the aisles were crowded and even the hallway was filled.

Following was the program:
The Big Four Minstrels Program
Middleman Mr. Johnson
Endmen Mr. Brown, Mr. Smith
Part I. ALL SORTS
Opening chorus Big Four Minstrels
Gags Big Four Minstrels
Quartet Burnt Cork Quartet
Oration Mose
Song and chorus Big Four Minstrels
Grand Finale, Rapid Transit
..... Big Four Minstrels
PART II. GRAND OLIO
Mr. Brown and Mr. Smith—the wizards of the guitar and mandolin in songs, solos and sayings.
Sambo—A modern Cleo in his famous oration, "A Celebrated Woman."
Dinah—The modern Joan of Arc, in her famous speech, "When Dey Enlisted Cull'd Soldiers."
Gags Big Four Minstrels
Stump Speech, Spring Rastus
Song Burnt Cork Quartet
Instrumental Mr. Smith and Mr. Brown
Quartet Burnt Cork Minstrels
The whole is concluded with the roasting farce entitled, "Mr. Jackson's Servants."
Mr. Jackson, The Master, Mr. Kelley, Mrs. Jackson Mirandy
First servant Jude
Second servant Sambo
Third servant Mr. Brown
Jockey, Lizzy, Betsy, Dinah, Jasper, Mose, Lizzy, Topsey.

We print butter wrappers.

THE 96-223 First National Bank of Springfield, Oregon

Report of the condition of the First National Bank of Springfield, in the State of Oregon, at the close of business December 31, 1914, condensed from report to the Comptroller of the Currency:

RESOURCES.	
Loans and discounts	\$102,185.81
U. S. and other Bonds and Warrants	21,810.91
Banking house, real estate, furniture and fixtures	13,457.85
Cash and due from banks	39,962.32
	\$177,366.89
LIABILITIES	
Capital stock	\$ 25,000.00
Surplus and Profits	3,002.73
Circulation	6,250.00
Deposits	143,114.16
	\$177,366.89

ESTABLISHED 1907
SAFETY-CONVENIENCE-SERVICE

The Best Groceries

For Less Money

The Fifth Street Grocery

Thos. Sikes, Prop. Phone 22

How Much Money Did You Save Last Month?

Not much! There are others, but we know one man who gave himself a note for \$1000.00, then opened an interest-paying deposit account with us and saved until he paid himself off.

4 PER CENT interest is one of the best paying little machines you ever operated.

Commercial State Bank

Capital \$30,000.00

The Cash Grocery

We have a good fresh, clean stock of Groceries and solicit your trade. Try us on your next grocery order and become one of our many pleased customers.

Try our Blue Ribbon Hard wheat Flour, no higher in price than many of the poor brands, but as good as the best and always makes good bread.

TWO SPECIALS 2 cans tomatoes 15c
English Breakfast Tea, lb. per 30c

Full line of new garden seeds in Bulk and Packages.

NICE & MILLER

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IF YOU HAVE NEVER TRIED

The Springfield Creamery

CHAS. BARKMAN, Proprietor

Try it and be convinced that it pays to patronize home industries.

FIRST NATIONAL BANK, EUGENE, OREGON.

Established 1883

Capital and Surplus - - - - \$300,000.00

Interests on Savings Accounts and Time Certificates

W. F. WALKER

UNDERTAKER

FUNERAL DIRECTOR

Office Phone 62; Residence 67-J

West Main St.

HERBERT E. WALKER

NOTARY

PUBLIC

Office in City Hall, Springfield, Ore.