

THE LANE COUNTY NEWS

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PUBLIC MARKET MAY BE ESTABLISHED HERE BY THE LANE COUNTY GRANGE

Upon the success of the public market, soon to be established in Eugene, depends the possibility of one being started in Springfield. This was the message brought to the Springfield Grange by C. J. Hurd of Eugene, who has been largely instrumental in securing the market for Eugene. Mr. Hurd related the various problems that had to be faced and the steps that had been taken, and expressed the hope that the public market would be a success. If the people do patronize the market, and the growers find ready sale for their products, the plan will be extended by the location of public markets in Springfield, Junction City, Creswell, and Cottage Grove.

Mrs. M. E. Bond of Eugene lecturer of the Oregon State Grange and editor of the Grange Bulletin, was also present and talked on the subject of public markets. At the afternoon session, Mrs. Lucina Richardson, who has just returned from Berkeley, California, talked on the rural schools of Oregon and California, explaining the changes in the demands for the courses in the schools, and the newer methods which are being employed. Following her address a discussion followed, led by Mrs. M. Fenwick and others.

Springfield is Complimented

The City of Springfield, Oregon, is one of the most fortunate cities in the state when you take into consideration its location on the bank of the Willamette river, in a beautiful valley composed of the north and south forks of the Willamette, McKenzie and Mohawk rivers, and on each stream there is a fertile valley dotted with productive farms for more than twenty miles up the streams from Springfield.

It has been the policy in the past for the farmers, who live in these beautiful productive valleys, to follow grain raising as their chief industry, until they have been convinced that the constant cropping of their farms have caused their soil to be depleted; and there is a movement on foot at the present time to change from the growing of cereals, to dairy cattle and swine, in order that the farm lands might be made more productive, and in turn, more money annually will be distributed among the farmers.

On the 19th day of June, the first of a series of meetings was held at Springfield for the purpose of getting the business men of that city, and the farmers in the surrounding country together, so that all may work for their mutual benefit.

The first object is to create a friendly feeling between the business men of the city and the farmers in the rural districts, and all work for the improvement of their country roads leading from the rural districts to Springfield. In addition to the above, pure-blood dairy cattle and swine are to be placed on the farms, and a new system generally is to be inaugurated.—Western Stock Journal.

FREE SITE IS OFFERED FOR CAMPING GROUND FOR AUTOMOBILE TOURISTS

A camping ground for tourists, with a fire-proof building in which to keep their automobiles will be offered by Springfield if a few details can be arranged by a mass meeting which has been called to meet tomorrow evening in the rooms of the Springfield Development league at 8 o'clock. Development league officers have taken up the matter with Mr. Klovdahl, owner of the property, and have secured his permission to use it. The project is one of public concern, and all interested in making Springfield a stopping place for automobile tourists are invited to attend the meeting. Speaking on this subject, President J.

E. Richmond this morning said: "Through the kindness of Simon Klovdahl, owner of the garage at the foot of Main street, it has become possible for the people of Springfield, through the Development League, to offer the motoring public a free camping ground and fire proof storage for autos, second to none. "Just at this time, when so many motorists are passing along the Pacific Highway and nearly every city from Portland to Ashland is endeavoring to offer inducements to the travelers to stop with them a while and get acquainted, this opportunity is of special advantage. "Those who have lately been over the road assure us that such a place would greatly appeal to these strangers in a strange land who are now camping in many cases by the roadside in most unpleasant places and from such cities as have already provided free camping grounds, it is evident that, as a means of advertising a community and leaving with the individual a real personal feeling of interest in the place, this will be seed fallen upon good ground. "This is not all, since every automobile passing the night here will leave several good outside dollars with us. "There will be practically no expense connected with this but it will be necessary to clean up and alter the grounds some, a few signs will have to be placed and there are many questions on which it is desirable to obtain the advice and co-operation of the town as a whole and, as the season is wearing away, there is need of haste. "Therefore a special meeting has been called for Tuesday, Aug. 17 at 8 P. M. at the Development League rooms, not only for members but for everyone who realizes the importance of the move and wishes to help make it a success."

LITTLE HOPE FOR EARLY FINISHING OF NATRON LINE

President Sproule of S. P. Says Antagonistic Attitude of Public Makes Money Too Hard to Get

Hostile legislation and hostile public sentiment, which he says are more pronounced in the west than in any of the states, are given by William Sproule, president of the Southern Pacific, as the primary reason why the Natron-Klamath cutoff has not been built. President Sproule says frankly that the Southern Pacific cannot get the money, and it cannot get the money, he says, because investors in railroad stocks have been made timid by hostility.

Mr. Sproule's statement was made in a letter to the new Portland Chamber of Commerce which appealed to the Southern Pacific a few weeks ago to build the cutoff. The appeal was prompted by an urgent request from Klamath Falls business men, who represented that they desired to deal with Portland but could not do so with existing railway service. Mr. Sproule's letter follows:

"Construction on the projected railway line connecting Klamath Falls with Natron has been discontinued because we cannot raise the money to finish it. Under existing conditions we cannot make a showing of earnings that would justify the millions necessary to complete the line. When anyone and everyone can attack railroad rates, state and interstate, with public approval of the scaling down of railroad rates and disapproval of the maintenance of railroad revenues, the railroads have little foundation left upon which to borrow money, because the rates of the present give no promise for the revenues of the future.

"Until investments in railroads, which are made from the savings of the people at large, become secure and inviting, it is not likely that railroad construction in this country can be resumed, and least of all on the Pacific coast, where such construction is needed most. People will not place their money in these distant fields of operation unless the disposition of the people and the governments gives those people reasonable assurance that their money is secure and the return on it attractive enough to warrant its investment far away from their home. Pacific coast states are distant from the centers of population where the money accumulates.

"These states need development; yet they have for some years been the most radical in their attitude toward the railroads, which the people from whom we might expect to borrow money cannot understand and sincerely mistrust.

RAISES FINE CROP OF FINE ONIONS

Edwards & Brattain have on display samples of some fine onions that were grown by Miliard Tripplett, who purchased the old Hay place east of town a year or more ago. From one row 100 yards long he harvested eight sacks of onions.

Messrs. Edwards and Brattain also have on display a sheaf of fine oats of the White Russian variety, grown on the Brattain place.

FEDERAL COMMISSION HEARS REASONS FOR PRESENT LUMBER CONDITIONS

Portland, Ore., Aug. 13.—Unfavorable conditions contributing to present stagnation in the lumber industry absorbed most attention today at a hearing of the federal trade commission held here. Mill men, lumber exporters and bankers gave their views as to causes of the troubles of the lumber trade, and unanimity of view was noticeably lacking. Over-production, over-speculation in stumpage, shortage of available tonnage for export and general financial stringency were variously assigned by those who spoke as being, in their respective opinions, the chief cause of the dullness.

Evidence also was taken regarding conditions in the grain business, and other speakers explained to the commission the difficulties that Oregon fruit growers and shippers have recently encountered in finding profitable markets.

In his opening statement, Joseph E. Davis, chairman of the commission, said:

"The object of these hearings of the federal trade commission is to give you an opportunity to present conditions without requiring that you go to Washington. The second object is to examine into and improve our commerce in the foreign trade. Through the diplomatic and consular agents we will receive reports and suggestions from all parts of the world. All of this is to extend the commerce of the United States.

"We have conducted hearings in New England and other parts of the country, where we got a view of their needs in the foreign markets. We have transferred our hearing to the Pacific Coast to get in intimate touch with the needs of this section."

C. C. Colt introduced A. L. Mills, president of the First National bank, as the first witness for Portland.

"In many lines we are in good shape here," said Mr. Mills. "Farmers have an enormous wheat crop on their hands, for which they will receive at least 85 cents a bushel. Cayuse ponies that formerly sold for \$25, bring \$125 at war prices. Lambs that you can almost cover with a \$5 bill are selling for \$5.40. All the agricultural markets are in excellent shape.

"The one trouble is with our one great industry—the lumber business. Mills are running at a loss. Something is wrong. You can see how vitally this affects us when I tell you that from 50 to 55 per cent of our labor depends upon the lumber mills.

"Another big question that stares us in the face is that of securing ships for the exportation of our record wheat crop.

"As a result of the opening of the federal reserve banks, the country is swamped with money. There is no famine of capital. We had plenty to move the crops last year. We are willing to let the lumbermen have capital. One of the things against them is that the average mill man doesn't know whether he is running at a profit or loss. The only sign he has to go by is the fact that he has less money at the end of the month than on the first. We need a standardized system of accounts by which we can tell at a glance how much it costs to manufacture his lumber. When I get a statement from a lumberman I immediately take off from 25 to 40 per cent, according to what I know personally of the man."

"How has the war affected the lumber business?" "The war has affected us seriously, as regards freight and markets. It has cut down the

W. F. Walker is Named Registrar

All births, deaths, burials and removals of bodies in registration district No. 44, must be reported to W. F. Walker of Springfield, who was today appointed registrar for this district. The law is already in effect, and it is the duty of all doctors, midwives, nurses, undertakers and sextons to make these reports at once. Mr. Walker's district is composed of the voting precincts of Springfield, Armitage, Edwards, Thurston, Camp Creek, Gate Creek and Leaburg—virtually the whole McKenzie valley.

number of ships and narrowed the demand. It has also hurt exchanges."

Edward Cookingham, of the Ladd & Tilton bank, followed Mr. Mills. He said he was president of three or four timber companies.

"The lumber business is completely at sea," said Mr. Cookingham, frankly. "It faces prostration. That is our most vital question."

"I believe the lumbermen themselves must undergo a complete regeneration. They have abused their credit. The serial bonding of properties compels them to produce whether there is a market or not. This is economically and morally impossible. It is bad financing, that was sure to end in disaster. We haven't one of these serial bonds in our banks. The speculators have gone in over their heads in this sort of financing—and now they are drowning.

"We've been lifted to a state of exaltation by the possibilities of our great timber resources.

"One of our greatest needs is a merchant marine to open wider markets. Even between Oregon and Eastern ports the business will not stand railroad rates. We need boats.

"I think also that we should be allowed to form associations under your supervision. It is too big a problem for any company or any one group to handle. While we are opposed to harmful monopolization, we also are up against the strongest foreign combinations. Some sort of combination under strict federal supervision must be formed to fight them."

"And that results in overproduction and price cutting by the small mills?" asked Commissioner Hurley.

"Yes. Also if the banker could see exactly what the mill man was doing, he could apply pressure that would in a measure remedy conditions."

W. D. Wheelwright, of the Pacific Export Lumber company, said that one of the diseases of the lumber trade was overspeculation. There has been a perfect craze, he said, for timber lands. A big demand for lumber helped this along. When the slump came the timberman was forced to shut down at a loss or run at a loss.

"We could get vessels," he said, "if we had the orders. The truth is that the markets have disappeared. In Great Britain

WILL DEBATE QUESTION OF MILITARY POLICY

The question of whether or not the United States should adopt some system of military preparation, similar to that in use in Switzerland will be debated by the high schools of the Oregon High school debating league this coming winter, according to R. L. Kirk, president of the league, who returned on Thursday evening from a meeting of the executive committee at Salem. The particular wording of the question has not yet been decided upon, but will be submitted to the schools early in the school year.

There were 41 high schools in the league last year, and it is hoped that at least 60 will participate this year. Springfield won both affirmatively and negatively in the preliminaries last year, but lost out to Albany in the next set of debates.

LOVERIDGE FARM SOLD TO CALIFORNIA MAN

The fine farm owned by the Loveridge estate on the Pacific highway between Eugene and Springfield, consisting of 17.59 acres of rich river bottom soil, has been sold to Lawrence J. Byrne, formerly of Oroville, Cal., for \$7,900 cash.

Mr. Byrne is an expert on soils, grasses and all kinds of fruits, and has made a science of the economical handling of a ranch. He will at once move his family to the place and will make a number of permanent improvements.

every industry except those connected with war has fallen away. "Mr. Cookingham is absolutely right about the necessity of financial regeneration for timber men. The depression is the natural outcome of overspeculation."

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