

THE LANE COUNTY NEWS

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THE NEED FOR A NEW HIGH SCHOOL

The one comment after the annual school meeting last Monday night was, "Why didn't they talk about a new High school? That is what I came out for this rainy night."

Citizens quite generally see the need for better facilities in the High school here and if the need be, are willing to provide a new building. The whole atmosphere of the meeting was, "Be economical in the expenditure of school money, but do not cripple the means of instructing our children." That is an entirely right attitude to take. The Springfield schools are not back number—the high school meets the state standard requirements—neither are the Springfield schools experimenting in fads or ultra fashions in education. They are offering the courses such as prevailed in schools from early days—the rudiments of English and mathematics—and they are offering good courses in domestic science and manual training, such courses as have been tested out in other places and found good.

Springfield is essentially a manufacturing city, and it is entirely proper that the vocational subjects should be given more emphasis here than in some other communities—a college town, for example.

But what the people of Springfield are more particularly interested in at this time is the health of the students, and if the present high school building cannot economically be repaired, the only thing to do is to build a new one.

A new high school need not be an expensive one—there is no need for marble or even for fancy brick. The next few years hold an unknown future for Springfield. It may be that within five years blocks that are now considered well out will be central business property. With such possibilities before us, we can be economical, and wise at the same time.

The school board in times past has been cautioned to be careful in the spending of the people's money, and it is not likely that the board would want to initiate an expense such as the erection of a high school would be, but they are all reasonable men, and interested in the welfare of the Springfield schools. There is no reason to believe they would not investigate the matter thoroughly and report a plan to the district if they were asked to. About all that could have been done at the meeting Monday would have been to pass a resolution asking the board to go into the matter of need for a new high school, how much one to meet the needs would cost and the means of meeting this cost, and then submit a proposition to the voters of the district. Since the instruction was not given at the school meeting, it might well be given by petition. A communication asking the board to go into the high school question, signed by a goodly number of the taxpayers, would undoubtedly receive prompt attention.

THE STOCK BREEDING INTERESTS.

During the month of November, 26 conventions are being held at the Panama-Pacific exposition of associations of stock breeders, poultry raisers, etc. The stock breeders' meetings are mostly of sheep and swine growers. The number and strength of these associations is a revelation of the growing interest in all kinds of stock raising.

Formerly a pig was a pig and a sheep a sheep. The majority of farmers thought little as to the breeds to which they belonged. Several different breeds were usually to be found in the same pens. The mongrel products lacked the distinctive merits of any one type of stock, and brought correspondingly low prices.

Today large and small associations of breeders are forming all over the country. They plan advertising campaigns, by which the distinctive product of some breed or of some section or locality become better known. They have competitions by which standards of production are fixed. The individual grower can thus determine if his animals are producing favorable results. They teach the farmer that blood tells in sheep and swine and poultry, as well as in folks, and that mongrels are costly boarders. All which increases efficiency in animal husbandry, and will increase production in these lines.—Albany Herald.

A salary of fifty dollars a month, it appears to us, is entirely inadequate for a nightwatchman in a town the size of Springfield. The officer must be on duty twelve hours a night, seven nights in the week, holidays included, and the work is not pleasant, especially these dark, rainy nights. And there is always the danger of a shot in the dark from some alley prowler. No, we don't think fifty dollars is enough for the work required. Pay of that size is too likely to cause drowsiness or double-dealing.

Did you read the first Wallingford story in The News Monday? Clever story, wasn't it. There will be fourteen more of them, each complete in itself, printed in the Monday issue of The News. The stories, picturized, are being shown at a local theatre.

WHAT IS SPRINGFIELD GOING TO DO ABOUT IT?

Every producing community has a right to expect the nearest town to furnish the primary market for its products.

We can say that we admire the combination of signs that have been put on the billboard opposite The News office.

Of S. P. Co. net earnings for Pendleton will pave Riverside 1914, 33 per cent went for taxes. drive with gravel bitulithic.

HOW WRAP YOUR CHRISTMAS PACKAGES

The following are some timely suggestions from Postmaster Harry Stewart: Mail your Christmas packages early and they will stand a far better chance to reach the destination in good condition than if you wait and start them at the last moment. You are allowed to write on the package "Not to be opened till Christmas" or some such request.

Wrap them extra well, and if the contents are fragile or perishable, tell us so. Write the address very plainly with ink as frequently addresses in pencil are so nearly erased by the time they reach their destination that it is in some instances impossible to read the name of the addressee and the only thing we can do is to send the package to the dead letter office. This advice applies to all classes of mail matter as well as Parcel Post. Please remember that.

The Postal regulations require the name and address of the sender on every Parcel Post package before it is dispatched from the office. Up to four ounces the rate by Parcel Post is one cent per ounce of fraction of an ounce, and if it weighs more than 4 ounces it takes the zone rate. 50 pounds may be sent in one package 150 miles, which is covered by the first and second zones and 20 pounds may be sent in one package anywhere in the United States.

Don't mail anything, letter, paper, or package, without first making sure that the address is complete; name, postoffice and state and that sufficient postage is affixed; then be sure and put your address on the piece of mail somewhere, to show who sent it, and then in case it is impossible to deliver it to the addressee at the destination, it may be returned to you.

North Pacific Steamship Co. announces purchase of steamship Breakwater to be put on run of the Santa Clara that was wrecked recently.

Newport—M. M. Davis promoting dock and tramway on South Beach.

North Bank railroad acquiring terminals at Hood River and White Salmon.

Twenty-mile loop highway located around Mt. Hood.

Oregon City drops city manager charter as freak proposition.

Chemawa Indian school is having \$7,000 heating plant installed.

Baker—Two sawmills here will expend \$81,500 on four dry-kilns.

Falls City planning to extend water supply.

Western Union Telegraph Co. reports 30 per cent increase of business.

SWEET CLOVER IN CROOK COUNTY

The growing of sweet clover was recommended to Crook county farmers for dry land, alkali land and the poorer soils under irrigation, by A. E. Lovett, County Agriculturist of Crook county. Estimates as to the value of the crop for this section were made and farmers advised to try out small plots planted to the white blooming sweet clover. About 200 acres were planted last spring. Blanks for reports upon this crop were sent to all those who had planted it, and reports have been received from nearly all of the men. In the majority of cases, an entirely satisfactory stand was not obtained, but men sending reports to this effect have usually blamed the time of planting or the method used rather than the crop itself for the unsatisfactory stand obtained. In practically every instance, those who planted the crop this season will plant a better acreage next year.

"As a pasture crop," says Mr. Lovett, "farmers have found that stock will eat sweet clover readily. No losses from bloat have been reported excepting in one case when a man reports the loss of three sheep from bloat. This comes as a surprise but it will be well for those handling the crop in the future to remember this report and watch carefully for indications of bloat when pasturing sweet ure. As a hay crop, it has been found as acceptable to the stock as is alfalfa after they have learned to like it, and very little trouble has been experienced in getting the animals to eat the sweet clover hay.

"The failures in obtaining a stand of sweet clover have been caused by planting too late on dry land, having the seed bed too loose and a blowing-out of the crop on very sandy land. On

irrigated land the crop was this year planted as late as April 15th, and a good stand and crop obtained. On dry land seed planted after April 1st in no instance gave good returns. The opinion of the men who have tried the crop this year on dry land is that the seed should be planted very early in the season, probably any time after December 1st and not later than March 1st. If the seed is sprouted and growth of the plant started, the crop will usually live and prosper throughout the season.

"Sweet clover is not a 'cure-all' or 'the only crop' for Crook county. We have, however, this year proven that it may be made a profitable crop for pasture and hay on our farms in this section, more ideal the moisture conditions, the better will be the crop of sweet clover; but the crop will grow and pay on the poorest land, on rocky and alkali soils, and in places where other crops will not grow. This will probably prove to be its greatest value. If the land is properly prepared and the seed planted early, it will prove a paying crop on dry lands. However, the greatest value to be obtained from this crop in the next few years in Crook county will be the improvement of the soil by adding plant food and humus to the soils where the crop is grown, even though the crop be pastured or raised for hay. This value is obtained because of the large, thick root growth characteristic of the plant and because of its being one of the legumes which obtain the nitrogen necessary for their growth from the air. Those looking for a crop to improve their soil for larger production will do well to consider sweet clover. Where other crops already grow luxuriantly, or where a reasonable profit is being obtained from the lands in growing other crops, sweet clover might turn a less profit, and as stated in the beginning, is not recommended for all lands and under all conditions above other crops. When other crops will not pay, or it is desired to improve the soil physically and chemically, sweet clover will prove at least one of the crops which should be planted."

Classified Ads

For Sale, Rent, Wanted, Etc.

LOST—Friday, in Springfield, a black and white dog. Answers to "Duke." Call 20F4, Eugene.

FOR SALE—Wagon and harness cheap. Call at News office.

FOR SALE—Nearly new Oliver typewriter. Holbrook & Johnson.

LOST—Black handbag, on Second street between Stewart's and VanValzah's. Had \$2 in cash, silver vanity case and Institute program. Finder please leave at Hampton's store.



We can re-cover your Umbrella. Prices \$1.00 to \$3.00.

D. W. ROOF, Jeweler & Optician

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The salaries paid by Uncle Sam to Civil Service employees equal and exceed those paid in any branch of private commercial life. Thousands of opportunities are made available. Opportunity to learn any Civil Service Examination. Write today for free Civil Service Book.
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