

# THE SPRINGFIELD NEWS

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## SPRINGFIELD WILL CELEBRATE OPENING OF IRRIGATION ERA

### Business Men Hold Meeting and Decide on Having Monster Jubilee.

#### NOTICE!

All merchants and business men of Springfield are urgently requested to attend a meeting at Stevens Hall at 8 o'clock this (Friday) evening for the purpose of making final plans for holding a Springfield Irrigation Jubilee in commemoration of the beginning of work on the Benham Irrigation project.

A number of Springfield business men met at Peery's drug store last evening for the purpose of discussing ways and means for holding a fitting celebration and jubilee in honor of the beginning of work this week on the Benham Irrigation Project near this city.

While definite plans were not fully decided, it can be said there will be held in Springfield next month—probably on the 12, 13 and 14—three days of festivities in which a carnival of pleasure for young and old will be staged, and to which all the countryside will be invited to participate.

Sufficient publicity will be sent out to assure making the event a huge success and thousands of visitors are expected to respond to the invitation to come to Springfield for a jollification.

Final plans for carrying out the jubilee will be made tonight and every business man and merchant in Springfield is urgently requested to attend the meeting at Stevens Hall at 8 o'clock this evening.

Now is the time to get busy and show your patriotism for Springfield in a substantial manner, for only by a united effort can we succeed. Be there.

#### CIVIC IMPROVEMENT LEAGUE HOLDS BUSINESS MEETING.

#### General Clean-up and Enforcement of City Laws Decided On.

The Civic Improvement League held an enthusiastic and important meeting Tuesday evening in the Public Library. Many subjects relating to much-needed improvements in the city were discussed, and action was taken on a number of matters coming before the body, among which were plans for inaugurating a general clean-up campaign.

Attention was called to the dirty and unkempt condition of many alleys in the city, as well as many back yards and vacant lots, and these will be given immediate attention. It was also decided to make a strong effort to induce owners of empty buildings to clean them up inside and out.

There has been much complaint made recently by people living in the residence districts of unnecessary noise made at all hours of the night by thoughtless drivers of motorcycles and automobiles speeding through the streets with their mufflers open, and this will be taken up at once with the authorities and an effort made to stop it.

Much complaint has also been made regarding the pasturing of cows in vacant lots around town, many owners of these animals allowing them to run at large on the sidewalks and thus creating a nuisance. The League will give this attention and see the laws relating to pasturing of cows is strictly enforced.

The next meeting of the League will be held Tuesday night at the Library, and several matters pertaining to civic improvement will be taken up and acted on.

The membership is increasing rapidly and all women who have the city's welfare at heart should be present at the next meeting and join in making Springfield a town worth while.

#### NEWS RECEIVES BEAUTIFUL VICTORY LOAN EMBLEM.

The News has received from the treasury department at Washington through J. E. Edwards, chairman of the local Victory Liberty Loan committee a beautiful emblem in the form of a banner, which contains the following inscription: "The Victory Liberty Loan, Industrial Honor Emblem, Awarded by the United States Treasury Department."

The emblem is awarded the News for its efforts in helping raise the Springfield Banking District quota.

Miss Lillian Mulligan was an over-Sunday visitor with her mother, returning to Portland Sunday evening, where she will reside in the future, having accepted a position with the Allen & Lewis company.

#### DR. POLLARD IS HONORED BY PRESIDENT WILSON.

Acting through the Adjutant General's office at Washington, D. C., President Wilson has appointed Dr. W. H. Pollard, of Springfield, Captain, Medical Section, Officers' Reserve Corps of the Army of the United States.

The doctor, however, has not fully decided to accept the honor bestowed on him owing to the fact that much of his time would be required in giving attention to the office. The appointment reads as follows:

The President of the United States of America: To all who shall see these presents, Greeting:

Know Ye, that reposing special trust and confidence in the patriotism, valor, fidelity and abilities of William Howard Pollard, I do appoint him Captain, Medical Section, Officers' Reserve Corps of the Army of the United States, to rank as such from the 29th day of April, 1919. He is therefore carefully and diligently to discharge the duty of the office to which he is appointed by doing and performing all manner of things thereunto belonging.

And I do strictly charge and require all officers and soldiers under his command when he shall be employed on active duty to be obedient to his orders as an officer of his grade and position. And he is to observe and follow such orders and directions from time to time as he shall receive from me, or the future president of the United States of America or the general or other superior officers set over him, according to the rules and discipline of war.

His commission to continue in force during the pleasure of the president of the United States for the time being and for a period of five years from date.

Given under my hand at the city of Washington, this first day of May, in the year of our Lord one thousand nine hundred and nineteen, and in the one hundred and forty-third year of the Independence of the United States.

#### BY THE PRESIDENT.

The Adjutant General's Office.  
Recorded May 1, 1919.

O. S. Wood, Adjutant General.

#### LADIES' AID WILL SERVE SUPPER MONDAY NIGHT.

The Ladies' Aid Society of the M. E. church will give a supper at the church Monday evening at 7 o'clock to which the public is cordially invited. Those desiring to partake of the supper are kindly asked to phone Dr. Pollard or Dr. Emery, so that an estimate can be made of the edibles required.

Following the supper Mr. Norman Byrne, a noted speaker, will make an address, giving his experiences while traveling through China.

# Roosevelt Highway

It Means—Quick mobilization of guns and men for national protection.

It Means—Commercial and agricultural development of seven Oregon coast counties—Clatsop, Tillamook, Lincoln, Lane, Douglas, Coos Curry.

It Means—The opening of a year-round paved road from British Columbia to the Mexican border.

It Means—The opening to sportsmen of the county's fishing and hunting paradise.

It Means—The employment of thousands of skilled mechanics and laboring men in its construction.

It Means—That Uncle Sam will match every state dollar for construction and will maintain the highway forever.

You owe it to your country—you owe it to your state, to go to the polls at the special state election June 3 and vote 31% X Yes

For the Roosevelt Highway  
Oregon's Road to Prosperity

## PICKING THE PRESIDENT



If precedent in any way rules the political affairs of the nation then the United States will have a "war" president following the election of 1920, say students of the game. Already both big parties are looking over the lists of men available on such a platform. In the Democratic ranks, Secretary of War Newton Baker is mentioned as a logical candidate to give a good race to any opponent put forward, while the great personal friendship which existed between the late Colonel Roosevelt and Major General Leonard S. Wood, makes the latter a candidate who might be acceptable to both wings of the Republican party and at the same time furnish all the military timber needed to win.

#### ARNE TOMSETH IS BACK FROM OVERSEAS.

Arne Tomseth, son of John Tomseth, was in the city a few days this week visiting relatives and friends.

Mr. Tomseth enlisted in the Forest Division at Weed, Cal., and went to France shortly after, spending 18 months there. He says he enjoyed every minute of his experience, but is very glad to get back to the good old U. S. A.

He expects to make his future home in California following a brief visit in Portland with his father and sister.

BORN—To Mr. and Mrs. Warren Price, of Marcola, on May 8th, a daughter.

Walter Ebbetts made a hurried trip to Portland last Saturday afternoon on business.

#### SPRINGFIELD HIGH WINS FROM JUNCTION CITY HIGH.

A very interesting tennis tournament was played between the Springfield High team and the Junction City High team last Friday afternoon, resulting in Miss Fern Travis, of Springfield High winning the singles and Junction City High winning the doubles.

The teams will play a return game at Junction City in the near future.

#### Y. W. C. A. HOLDS ICE CREAM SOCIAL.

Last Friday afternoon the Y. W. C. A. held an ice cream social during the tennis game, which proved very successful. The affair was under the supervision of Miss Vera Williams, the history teacher.

## SPRINGFIELD BOY WRITES VERY INTERESTING LETTER FROM FRANCE

### Ralph W. Coffin Tells of His Experiences in France Since Armistice Signed.

The following letter was recently received by Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Coffin, of this city, from their son, Ralph, who is with the American Expeditionary Forces in France.

Nevers, Sunday P. M., Mar. 9.

Dear Mother and Dad:

Well, it's been a week since I have written and it's been a full week, too, let me tell you. Haven't received any mail this week, so will start right in and say all I know and won't try to answer any questions.

Monday my pass to Paris came and I took the noon train and went up to the gay city. Arrived there about 6 p. m. and immediately got lined up on a hotel which was a fine one. Got a big bed which sure went good after months of the army cots, and my bed is better than most of them.

Well, Tuesday morning I went out to the Pantheon Leguerre, which is a huge picture painted during the last four years of the war. Enclosed you will find some post cards of it, and each post card illustrates a certain section of the picture. It is made round and I suppose were it stretched out straight it would cover a hundred yards or more. Certainly it is the most wonderful picture I ever saw.

All the men, horses, etc., are life size, and it is so realistic that I held my breath in wonderment. The wreath lying on the steps where the woman is weeping looks just as if it had been laid there and they had a hard time convincing me that it was painted. These Frenchmen certainly can paint and no joke. It's the best thing in France, I think, and I enjoyed it.

In the afternoon we went out to Napoleon's tomb, but "Napie" was busy and we couldn't see him. We looked over the French fort there and saw many relics of former wars, etc. Then we went to Versailles and saw the palace of Louis XIV. Louis certainly hated himself, as he had a photo or bust of himself every two feet. There were many paintings there also, and I have seen many of the reproductions in history. I am glad to have seen the originals. Also took in the lovely gardens and fountains which abound near the palace. Also took a squint at the Eiffel Tower and other items of interest around the city of Paris itself.

Wednesday we got a train about 8 o'clock and went to the city of Soissons, which you will remember was fought over for two or three years, and which was taken and retaken by the French and Germans. We were practically the first ones that had been there since the war was finished and the battlefield remains almost exactly as it was the day they fought on it. The town is ruined and the enclosed cards will illustrate it. I bought the cards in the store where you see the few people standing. The battlefield is just as it was the day of the last fight. There were many helmets, rifles, shells of all kinds, etc. everywhere. If I had had a wagon I could have gotten a wagon load. I got a German helmet and two nice shells. I am mailing tomorrow to you the helmet and one shell. This helmet is a genuine one and I picked it out of the grass and mud on the battlefield. The holes in it are further proof that it was worn by a Boche. I picked up another one, but there was still part of a German's head in it, so put it down again. It was rather gruesome, so I didn't bother with it. About two weeks before they found a German out there and buried him, thus showing you that things are pretty realistic there yet. The shell is a German, and if shined up will make a nice flower holder, or you could put it on the front porch as a flower pot. The helmet, also, you could plant full of flowers, thus reversing its use or rather restoring what it was really meant for. I also have a French helmet, but cannot send it home yet, but will bring it when I come if I can.

After looking around the town we came back. The whole country for miles around is full of shell holes and I will tell the world that they have sure done some tall shooting up there.

The town of Aisne is completely destroyed and nothing left but piles of stone. Every farm house is torn to pieces with big shells. The Germans took great delight in hitting everything high and they sure busted things up. For instance, the spires of churches were cut off as neatly as if you would have done it with a knife. There is not a pane of glass in the whole country which I saw. The Germans were strongly entrenched in Soissons and one of their machinegun nests was made in a brick kiln and they had machinegun ammunition piled up four and five feet high. They sure would have done a lot of damage had they got a chance, but I think shell fire from the French drove them out and they didn't get a chance to use it. The ammunition still stands there piled up just like they left it. Everywhere one would look was ruin. Wire entanglements, trenches, rifles, helmets, bombs, grenades, shells of all kinds, were everywhere. I never saw such a sight.

Please let me know when you get the helmet and shell. I do not know whether you wished a souvenir or not, but presume you did. I picked them up myself, so I know they are genuine.

Thursday we went to see Napoleon again and he was in, so we saw him at the tomb. It is quite an elaborate affair and he should feel safe enough in it. They have a peculiar light effect from the windows which make it look like sunlight in the room even on the darkest days. It has never been reproduced, they say. After this we looked around the town some more, and caught a train for home, feeling that the three days were well spent. I was glad to go and glad to get back. Got home at 4 a. m., and crawled into the old bunk. I am very glad to have gone.

I am waiting for another pay-day when I will try and make a trip to Nice to look over things down there.

Everything is running along nicely and I am enjoying things very much. I just came from my friends, the war workers, where I had a supper of fried eggs and sausage with a nice cup of hot chocolate and a slice of pineapple. It sure went good and I enjoyed it. They are going to Nice this week and I am attending to the reading rooms during the day. That accounts for the fact that I am working nights this week. I prefer the day job now, as the clocks were set an hour ahead and it's light till long after supper and of course as summer comes along the evenings will get longer. I think if all goes well that I will get back by the middle of June. Everything seems to be working toward that end and I will tell the world that I will be glad to get back.

Well, not having received any mail this week, I can't answer any questions and I suppose that there will be a letter drop in tomorrow with a lot of mail and a letter from you with a lot of questions in it. I received two rolls of Oregonians dated January. I was glad to get them. I suppose the legislature is going to beat the band and trust that all is well.

Will close with love to all.  
Your loving son,  
RALPH.

33rd Service Co., S. C. A.

Mr. Coffin is expected to leave France for New York within the next few days.

#### LOCAL METHODISTS EXPECT TO RAISE QUOTA IN 3 HOURS

The local Methodists expect to begin the drive for their quota of \$105,000,000 next Sunday, and they expect to get the amount subscribed in three hours, as they are thoroughly organized to do their part.

Dr. W. H. Pollard is the local chairman. He has his workers selected and will start promptly at 2 o'clock on a visit to every Methodist in Springfield.

This is one of the greatest church undertakings in the history of the world. The money is to be used for world reconstruction.