

THE SPRINGFIELD NEWS

Published Every Friday at Springfield, Lane County, Oregon By
MILLER & FREELAND

LYNN W. MILLER

H. B. FREELAND

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PUBLISHERS' NOTICE

On September 1 the undersigned purchased from Messrs. Tague and Cagley the plant, subscription lists and good will of the Springfield News, and we take up the work of publication with this issue.

All accounts for advertising and job printing up to September 1 are payable to Messrs. Tague and Cagley, and all such accounts after that date are payable to the new publishers. Back subscriptions are payable to the new firm, which will in turn fulfill all unexpired subscription contracts.

It will be our first endeavor to make of the News a good local newspaper, and to boost for every public and private enterprise or undertaking which tends toward advancement of Springfield and surrounding country.

After investigating several newspaper propositions at points on the Coast during the past two months, we decided that Springfield offered the best field coming to our notice. We were very largely influenced in this decision by the fact that a big irrigation project for this region is assured—in fact that it has progressed to such extent as to make water now available for an area of land that will next season effectively demonstrate the great value of irrigation in these valleys. With the completion of this project and the utilizing of water from it during the dry season upon all lands within its scope, we would scarcely regard as over-sanguine any prediction as to future growth and prosperity of Springfield and adjacent country.

In national and state politics the News will not be "independent" (so-called). Believing, as the editor does, that the welfare of our country is best assured by the existence of two strong, near-balanced political organizations, and having the further conviction that the nation's affairs have been in somewhat more satisfactory shape when the republican party has been responsible for their conduct, the News will, in proper season, advocate the policies of that party.

With this week's issue the News is increased in size, and we hope in future to make such betterment of the paper as patronage will justify and our limitations as publishers permit.

As we are strangers in the community, we will ask readers to kindly assist us in making a better paper by phoning or better still—leaving at the office any notes or information of local or personal news that may come to their notice.

LYNN W. MILLER.
H. B. FREELAND.

ELECTION OF SCHOOL DIRECTOR

In another column of this paper will be found a notice published by the school directors of a special school meeting to be held at the High school building next Monday evening, September 15, at 8 o'clock. The purpose of the meeting is to elect a member of the board to succeed Welby Stevens, who has resigned.

Not being familiar with the school laws of Oregon, the writer made inquiry as to the above system of electing directors. It appears that, according to ruling of the state superintendent, the directors in districts of Springfield's class have the option of either holding a regular election or selecting directors at a "district meeting". This latter method, we understand, has been taken in order to save the expense which a regular election would involve.

Although we have not heretofore had opportunity to watch the working of a "town-meeting" election, we are inclined to jump to the conclusion that directors so selected in a district the size of Springfield would come about as near all being the choice of a majority of the qualified voters of the district as would be a system of putting the names of all eligible citizens in a barrel, stirring 'em up, and then drawing three names. However, we may be mistaken. Possibly it works very satisfactory.

At any rate, all qualified voters who can be at the High school building next Monday evening at the hour specified should make it a point to be there. The selection of a school director is a matter of much import to the parents of school children, to taxpayers, and in fact to everybody making their home within the district.

A Newport (Rhode Island) man arrested as a fugitive from justice and charged with failure to support his family, informed the court that his love was unabated for his own, but that under Free-Trade's high cost of living he either had to flee to escape Wilson's luxury war tax on the necessities of life or be jailed for going naked at home. And self-preservation being the first law, the court sustained him.

The News will always welcome communications from readers upon proper subjects. One very proper subject is criticism of public affairs and the conduct of public offices, and public officials whose policies or acts have been the subject of such communications will likewise have the privilege of using these columns to answer their critics. The only proviso is that all such communications must be free from abusive language and contain nothing derogatory to the welfare of the community. Correspondents are also, of course, welcome to criticize the editorial position taken by this paper upon any matter of public concern.

"SO THE PEOPLE MAY KNOW"

Editor News: Recently the News published two articles regarding the election of a Springfield school superintendent. The first was so ridiculous that it answered itself; and few we believe considered it a proper introduction of Mr. Hamlin to the citizens of Springfield. Not content with this, the paper again came out with an article questioning the motives of two of the directors, so it becomes necessary for us to now deny that these articles were based on facts. We more than once stated at the meetings, and again repeat, that because Mr. Roth smoked was not the reason others were selected in preference. However, knowing the stand of most parents on the question of smoking, the attitude of Mr. Roth on this matter was discussed at some length.

Also wish to inform the public that the records show that the salary of Mr. Bennett, the first superintendent elected, was \$1700 instead of \$1600 as stated in the News, and that Mr. Stevens cast his vote for said salary. Mr. Hamlin is to come for \$1700. Mr. Roth did not state what he did expect. We had applications as low as \$1400 and as high as \$2000. We might state that the salary paid Mr. Hamlin is more in line with what is being paid for superintendents than the \$1250 allowed Mr. Roth as principal for such position. However, we are not saying that this is too much for Mr. Roth, and that had Mr. Stevens or our editor taken the time or trouble to investigate they would perhaps learn that Springfield is fortunate in securing Mr. Hamlin at \$1700. Because of his unusual energy and ability to handle, in addition to the regular studies, the physical training and other school activities now demanded, he is going to save the district far above the difference between his salary and the one of a cheaper superintendent.

In selecting a man as superintendent the amount of salary should not be our only guide. His worth must be determined by his habits, his character, his personality, his activity and executive ability. Because of the opportunity of influence of one in such a position, the best available is none too good.

We could go farther in telling you about the election of our school superintendent, but do not wish to bore the readers and do not desire to drag in Mr. Roth, who we know does not approve of the tactics of his supporters.

However, if any one cares to hear further, we are willing and ready at any school meeting to give reasons or answer questions relative to any action of the majority of the board. You can then base your opinion on facts instead of distorted street talk or the views of one who is disgruntled.

We plainly stated our policy before election and are proceeding along these lines. If some think that the school voters have since changed their minds, the recall is their recourse. Let them measure their strength with those who are in favor of good schools and advancement.

CAR E. FISCHER,
M. W. WEBER.

LUMBER FOR SALE

Flooring and dimension timbers of the Open-Air Dancing Pavilion. For particulars, call at this office.

Enroll Any Monday

DAY SCHOOL always in session

NIGHT SCHOOL begins Sept. 29

SOLDIERS, SAILORS and MARINES may enroll with us under the State Aid Act

ASK FOR FREE INFORMATION

EUGENE BUSINESS COLLEGE

A. E. ROBERTS, Manager

992 Willamette

Phone 666

 TO THE FARMERS OF
 SPRINGFIELD DISTRICT

The importance and value of a silo on your farm can hardly be over-estimated. We are not agents for any silo but we do want to help you in every way we can, and if you own your farm or are in a position to justify the expense, we will be glad to aid you financially in adding a silo to your equipment.

 SPRINGFIELD FIRST NATIONAL BANK

Start a bank account at the First National Bank of Springfield, and keep the account growing. It will help Springfield to grow. The index to any town is its banking condition.

Big County Fair

EUGENE, ORE.

Sept. 16, 17, 18 and 19

Great Exhibits
Agriculture Livestock
Machinery

Great Amusement Program

Splendid Band—Tomassino Italian Band, enroute Sacramento to Salem.

GREAT RACING

Fifty Entries

Fifty Entries