

THE SPRINGFIELD NEWS

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Happy New Year!

Make it happy all the year.

And prosperous, too.

Start the new year right by saving every week.

STAY-AT-HOME DOLLARS.

The other day we heard of a man investing a thousand dollars in an industrial plant located in a large city several hundred miles away. The investment probably is as safe as could be made along industrial lines. Dividends are reasonably sure, and the money was the man's own, to do with as he willed.

That same man, a few weeks past, was asked to take stock in a local company, one as yet existing only in the minds of its originators. Some day it will be a fact. When that is so, the town will benefit. It will create a greater demand for food grown near this city. It will increase business of local merchants, skilled and unskilled labor, because it will add to the town's population and to its buying power. The chances are good that it will pay dividends.

To experienced business men, thoughtful local financiers, the new company project appeared every bit as promising as the outside corporation investment. But not so to this particular man. He sent his dollars away. He earned his dollars here. He saved them here. But he chooses to send them away to do their bit toward boosting the growth of the big city rather than the small home town.

That is one reason—the main reason—why the last census revealed such an alarming hesitancy in the growth, population and wealth of towns and small cities. It is one of the reasons why the largest cities grew so rapidly in the decade. The census of 1920 is expected to show similar statistics.

The obvious thing to do with home-earned dollars is to invest them in home industries. If one never have the security of bonds, home town, county and highway bonds. The average

small community markets its bonds in the large city and pays the discount, while at the same time it sends its savings to the same city and pays a commission upon its investments.

By keeping dollars at home, working, you help build up the home community. That is building to your business. It is increasing the value of your land. It will in time make it possible for you and your children to enjoy privileges and conveniences now only to be found in large cities.

Before you refuse to put your savings into some local industry, creamery, mill, factory, canning plant, condensery or dehydrating plant, bear those things in mind.

Always, remember this: many a small town industry is a better investment (financially) than the average large city concern.

SMALL FRUIT INDUSTRY GROWING.

In spite of the damage done by the recent cold snap to some berry vines that had been put up on the trellises, increased acreage is going in rapidly.

All berry vines and cones left down will make more roots and plants than ever from the soil enriched by the heavy snow falls.

Tips and plants will be multiplied and will be more valuable as a part of the crop and all growers should prepare to save them.

As an example of what can be done, two boys in western Oregon have taken up and sold at \$3 per thousand 230,000 strawberry plants.

They have done this during the month just before the storm and what is more important they took the plants from a ten acre field.

That is \$69 an acre for plants, and before spring there will be as many more rooted and ready to take up for new plantations.

Another field of three acres yielded 100,000 plants or \$100 an acre as a mere by-product of the small fruit industry.

There is going to be the greatest possible demand for

small fruits and for new plants to extend acreage and all should help supply them.

And when the plants from the increased acreage begins yielding there will be need of more and better markets here. The canneries and near-by markets use a great deal but there is a demand for a closer and larger market.

A dehydrating plant is the thing that is needed here.

DO GOOD ROADS PAY?

The average cost of hauling on country roads in the United States has been estimated at about 25 cents per ton mile. This cost varied in the estimate for different types of road, as follows:

On sandy roads, when dry, 64 cents ton mile; on sandy roads when wet, 32.6 cents per ton mile; on earth roads with ruts and mud, 39 cents; on broken stone road in ordinary condition, 11.9 cents; on broken stone road, dry and in good order, 8 cents.

In 1906 the interstate commerce commission estimated that 265,000,000 tons were passing annually over country roads. On this basis, Paul Vogt, a rural sociologist, has found that a saving of 12 1/2 cents per ton mile in cost of hauling would save the farmers of the country \$200,000,000 a year.

Road building is expensive, even with improving conditions in its management. But the state of Indiana, it is found, has experienced an increased value of land through road improvement of \$6.48 per acre in the improved districts. Add to this the increased price received for perishable crops quickly hauled. Consider also the loss formerly from haulage postponed until roads admitted of movement of the goods. And do not forget to consider how road improvement widens the producer's marketing area.

Then consider the improved road from another aspect than the financial one. How many children are getting a longer school year, in a better, consolidated school, because people are making the sound investment of better roads? How many lives are saved because medical aid may be brought where it could not go before? The Oregon Farmer.

REMEDY—THE GOLDEN RULE.

We hear much talk these days about the middle-man. He is blamed for a large part of the present high cost of living.

The public utility industry employs no middle-man. Public utility service is sold direct from producer to consumer.

This may be the reason that utility companies have been able to survive on but slightly increased rates during the past few years of skyrocketing prices and wages.

But the best utility management has reached the limit. It can't live on sawdust any more than the farmer's horse.

The public must recognize the facts and allow an adequate income to these great public servants.

The problem is not complicated and the remedy is simple. The public must be willing to pay for service rendered and not demand something for nothing.

A slight application of the Golden Rule is all that is necessary.—Manufacturer.

In fact, not only a slight application of the Golden Rule, but a real earnest application of the Golden Rule would go far towards solving all the other perplexing problems of the present day. It would help to solve the difficulties between capital and labor, between producer and consumer and all industrial situations. It could even be applied to politics and national and international affairs, in which places it has long been neglected, even considered as being an old and out of date theory.

Now is a good time to give the Golden Rule a chance by practicing it in the individual



of the New Year

SPRINGFIELD MILL AND GRAIN COMPANY

life which is an important unit and factor in the national life.

A Mount Angel farmer recently marketed his crop of hops from seven acres, from which he averaged \$300 an acre. Of course this is extra good for hops, but compare it with the result of an upper Willamette river valley farmer who received \$1200 from two acres of strawberries, or \$600 for each acre. And the strawberry farmer had far less expense for growing and harvesting his crop than did the hop raiser. This was also from first year strawberry plants which will yield heavier the succeeding years, both in berries and plants.

FORMER MOVIE MEN VISIT IN SPRINGFIELD
W. Potter and Leo A. Potter were

in Springfield last week on business and renewing old acquaintances. They lived here until about five years ago. The Potter brothers built and operated the Bell theater for several years, later selling out, and are now engaged in distributing moving pictures throughout the northwest, having their headquarters in Seattle.

J. H. Peabody, who is now operating the Bell theater, secured from the Potter brothers one of the best pictures now showing in the west, "The Eyes of Youth" which will run here two days, February 5 and 6. This picture ran two weeks in Seattle and has been booked for a good run in Portland at one of the largest play houses. In speaking of the picture W. Potter said that Mr. Peabody is to be congratulated on being able to show this film play, and that he recommended the picture to all his former friends here.

ANNOUNCEMENT

I am opening a second hand furniture department in conjunction with my new furniture department and will be able to save you money in that line.

Trade in your old furniture for new.

I have everything in new and second hand furniture, stoves and phonographs.

BERRX PIANO AND FURNITURE COMPANY



are for all—a happy New Year

Springfield Creamery



A good year! A very good year—and you helped us make it so! We thank you, and extend to you and yours the compliments of the season.

First National Bank SPRINGFIELD