

THE SPRINGFIELD NEWS

Published Every Thursday at Springfield, Lane County, Oregon by
TYLER & FREELAND

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Entered at the Postoffice at Springfield, Oregon, as Second-class Matter,
 February 24, 1903.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES:

One Year	\$2.00	Three Months	50c
Six Months	\$1.00	Single Copy	5c
One Year, When Paid in Advance			\$1.75

Are the citizens of Springfield and vicinity interested in building up their home town? Actions speak louder than words.

SMALL FRUIT CROP VALUABLE.

The Willamette valley, the McKenzie valley, the Mohawk valley and the numerous other valleys of western Oregon, and particularly the section of country around Springfield is a natural home for the small fruits. Here they grow to perfection.

Increased acreage of small fruits is the order of the day and every available plant of strawberries, blackberries, loganberries, black and red raspberries is being set out for canner products.

The next thing Springfield must have in order that the small fruit industry will pay the farmers and thus bring its share of business into Springfield is a good market. It is possible to have either a canner or a dehydrating plant, or both.

The yield of small fruit crops that can be harvested without expensive machinery and with family labor is higher than any other crop, running into a thousand dollars an acre in some instances.

On top of this is the crop of plants produced each year after a good stand has been secured, and netting from one hundred to five hundred dollars an acre as a by-product when no other crop is on.

FROM A LABOR LEADER.

We cannot force the contractors to pay us more than they get out of their contracts.

The employer cannot force us to work for less than we can live on.

The public cannot afford to pay exorbitant prices for work done.

Tilting wages on the one hand results in tilting prices on the other, and the mass of people cannot stand this forever. Capital everywhere is studiously considering ways and means to intensify production of goods and materials as the only solution. We in turn must consider

ways and means to intensify our production by doing more work in the same time than we have been doing.

Gone is the day when we could think that it was simply a case of getting all they could for the least they had to pay.

It has now come to a condition where capital and labor are vitally concerned in the economic disaster which is sure to overtake our country should conditions continue as they are going.—Wm. Noonan, Electrical Worker.

EVERYBODY IS ORGANIZING

At no time in the history of agriculture was there more activity. Organization is the watch-word of agriculture today. We all know the wonderful results that have been obtained in California. How they have twenty state wide movements that are becoming stronger and more better known every day, movements which have stabilized California's industry and have made and are keeping agriculture profitable. Recently, two thousand wheat growers of the Inland Empire have gotten together, and formed a wheat growers association, which bids fair to become the largest organization in the United States.—Oregon Grower.

In round figures, farmers pay a third of the taxes, city dwellers a third and the owners of timber, sawmills, railroads and public utilities a third. Public ownership apostles and single tax inebriates would load the one-third paid by these corporations on the farmer.

In predicting that advertising by organized farmers will strikingly increase in the near future, a writer in Judicious Advertising gives this as one of the reasons for his belief: "Farmers are adopting very efficient business methods of perfecting organization. Under old conditions farmers never organized except under the stress of some driving necessity. Witness the milk producers, the citrus growers, the apple men. In future farmers already successful and prosper-

ous are going to resort to organization, and, after it, advertising, to strengthen their business position or to seize patent market opportunities." The success of western fruit growers in invading eastern markets with their wares is a case in point.

The new telephone invention which enables ten people to talk on the same phone at once, will be especially useful to the women.

TWO MILLION HOUSES WANTED.

Back in 1916 the supply of houses just about kept up with the demand. Population was increasing at the usual rate of 13 per cent a year.

During 1917-18 everybody was busy "winning the war," and construction of houses fell off to about one-third the usual figure.

January, 1919, found us with these four million men coming back into civil life the accumulated demand of two or three years, came all at once.

Three years' supply of houses were needed at once. Instead of having them we are short 2,000,000 homes that would normally have been built during 1917-18.

Here we have an unusually large demand and 2,000,000 less houses than the ordinary supply. The law of supply and demand—the law that fixes prices—has raised rents.

The only thing that can bring rents down is this same basic law. If the balance is to swing the other way to lower rates—we must build.

We are all here and we've got to live somehow, so there isn't much chance of cutting down the demand.—Ex

CAR SHORTAGE MAY CAUSE INDUSTRIAL SHUTDOWN.

(The Manufacturer.)

There were car shortages under private ownership of railroads, but lumbering has never suffered as it has under government operation.

The outlook for the west coast sawmills is gloomy, and the railroad administration seems to have completely lost control of the situation.

For instance on Jan. 7, Washington ordered the Oregon Short Line to deliver 75 cars a day at Huntington. On Jan. 21 none had been delivered.

Then Washington offered as an excuse for car shortage that the Pacific northwest had outgrown its yardage and sidetrack facilities.

The state of Washington public service commission came back with figures to show that the transcontinental lines had never exceeded 60 per cent of their track possibilities.

In its greatest month, June, 1917, the Northern Pacific alone used its track facilities up to 75 or 80 per cent for thirty days only.

The government comes back with the claim that for week

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3

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"Snow Ball"

That melts in your mouth. A straight Valley Flour AT A PRICE

SPRINGFIELD MILL AND GRAIN COMPANY

ending Jan. 10th, 5421 cars of timber products were loaded compared to 3829 for same week in 1919.

But that report fails to tell that of the 5421 cars loaded for week ending Jan. 10, 1706 cars were loaded in the Inland Empire, a section that has not greatly complained of car shortage.

A fairer comparison which shows the way the west coast lumber output is handicapped, is that for the first 20 days of October, 1919, 1000 more empties were received in the Pacific northwest than for the first 20 days of January, 1920.

And four thousand more loaded cars of lumber products were moved out of western Oregon and Washington for the same 20 days in October, 1919, than for the 20 days of January, 1920.

The resent situation is growing desperate and if cars are

not received in ample quantity and that soon, there may be an industrial shutdown, a business paralysis for the entire Pacific northwest, and extension of labor unrest to all industries.

GRONNA ON HOOVER.

"We don't take Hoover seriously out our way," says Senator Gronna. "Why not nominate the Prince of Wales?" And that is what other people are thinking. Leaving the United States when but 23 years of age, Mr. Hoover spent twenty years in Australia, China, Burma and England, with scarcely a thought for his own country. Almost his whole adult life has been amid foreign surroundings, and his convictions were formed under foreign, principally British, influences. Is it possible that any considerable number of Americans want such a man for their president?



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