

OBSERVATIONS ON THE FAIR

Chances for and Against It, And Distribution of Local Benefits

Next Monday, the 19th, is the date for the opening of the special session of the legislature. The chief purpose in calling it together was to consider the question of submitting to the voters of the state a proposition to issue \$3,000,000 in bonds of the state in support of the proposed international fair at Portland in 1925. Some further observations on the fair and the proposed measure may be in order now, and they might not be in order two or three weeks from now.

It seems evident that the measure will not go through the legislature without a contest. It may not go through at all. If not, that will be the end of the proposition; and the fair project will probably fall to the ground, unless some other practicable means of financing it can be devised. It does not appear that, outside of Portland, the proposition to finance the fair by taxation is being very strongly urged by the newspapers. Hon. Louis E. Beasly, of Eugene, speaker of the house of representatives, was quoted some time ago as being opposed to it. He is said to be preparing to present to the legislature an alternative proposition to finance the fair by an income tax, instead of a property tax. It is doubtful if that would fare any better with the legislators, probably not so well with the electors.

It would seem that in these days, when the people are feeling the burdens of taxation so heavily, it would be hard to carry a proposition to assume another heavy burden, for an object not in the line of necessities, at the polls. Men will be influenced, in some degree by considerations of locality, and by supposed personal or community interest; and often they will take too narrow a view.

Many voters, if it comes to them, perhaps some in the legislature, will not see much in the fair but an enterprise for the benefit of Portland. If the fair is held, and it brings as large a mass of visitors and exhibits as it is expected to do, no doubt it will prove of immense benefit to Portland. So it will to a vast extent of the country, including most of the three northwestern states; and the benefits will not be confined to these limits. But probably it will cost Portland more, for the benefit she receives, than any other locality.

The benefits, no doubt, will be very unbalancedly distributed throughout all parts of the region named, and nobody can foresee just how. Some localities that count on great benefits will receive little, and some that expect little will receive more. The tourist travel for instance; both the mere sight seeing element and those who come to spy out the land; might be expected to be heavier that year than ever before, and lighter than for many years in 1924. This might be expected mainly to follow the ready prepared channels—railways and highways—but, through personal acquaintance, it will be sifted more or less into every community in the northwest.

Northern and western Oregon, not much more than half of the state, is more favorably situated than the southeastern twofifths, by perhaps five to one, to attract this traffic, which might represent a large percentage of future citizenship and investment. And here comes in a place for a long guess, on what might look very different next spring, and might never come to a test. Our guess would be that the proposed tax measure, if it ever comes to a vote at all, will get a very light vote in the part of the state just mentioned. Fortunately for the measure, its voting population is light.

One of the few things a penny will buy—a Christmas seal.

WANTED!

200 men, women and children at the Christian church Sunday morning. Last Sunday we had 169—a place for you.

Great interest manifested in the revival meetings, with 30 additions to date. Hear great sermons and take part in "soul-lifting" song service. Come!

The Red Cross home nursing class which has been meeting at the library each week has been discontinued until after the holidays. Watch the paper for notice of next meeting.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS OF MASONIC LODGE

Liberty Lodge, No. 171, A. F. & A. M., at its regular meeting, Tuesday evening, elected the following officers to serve one year: Worthy Master, Harry M. Stewart; senior warden, J. F. Ketels; junior warden, C. A. Swartz; secretary, H. J. Cox; treasurer, B. A. Washburne; senior deacon, S. Ralph Dippel; junior deacon, Carl Olson; Tyler, Fred E. Louk; senior steward, Theron C. Cogill; junior steward, Carl A. Wyman; Trustee, to serve three years, O. H. Jarrett.

Public installation will be held Tuesday evening, December 27. At that time, a banquet will be served for the members and their families.

NEW STATIONS ON THE NEW STREET CAR LINE

The first station outside of Springfield on the new street car line will be called "Glenwood station", by the request of the residents of that neighborhood. It will be on the embankment just west of the point where the highway passes under the track.

The company has built a stairway leading up to the top of the embankment, on the north side of the track, and a footwalk from the side of the highway across the slough to the foot of the stairway, with a wing to the north and south at the side of the highway.

There will be another station between Glenwood station and Springfield Junction, at the point where the track crosses the road just west of the Free Methodist church.

A POPULAR CORNER FOR A LITTLE WHILE

The corner of Third and Main street has for a little while, been one of the most prominent corners of the town. It has been the actual terminus of street car traffic and the only station on Main street. At certain hours there has been a great gathering there at car time. Then, by spurts, there would be various kinds of work, connected with the change in the line, going on somewhere in that vicinity, which would attract those who had nothing to do but to gaze. This corner has been like a station on a new line of railroad while the terminus remains there. It is likely to be for some time to come the principal point of departure for travel on outgoing cars. It will take up all the passengers that used to start from there and those that used to start from the two corners below.

"The Westerners", the photoplay of the novel by Stewart Edward White, is a drama of the great gold rush to the Black Hills. See it at Bell, Saturday, Dec. 17th.

Alvin McBee, a child of Delbert McBee, was operated upon for hernia at the Springfield hospital Monday evening.

W. O. W. meets every Tuesday evening at W. O. W. hall.

Mrs. W. G. Carson, of east Main street, has been sick for several days.

It seems natural to see loads of mill wood dumped about town again. It will have its influence on the prices of fuel, too.

Dr. S. Ralph Dippel, dentist, Springfield, Oregon.

Wood for sale by National Products Co., the old Fisher-Boutin mill on Broadway street. F. H. Walker.

Dead men tell no tales.

CALIFORNIANS HALTED ON TOUR

Accident to Car on Highway Turns Tourists Aside For the Winter

A news story passing by the auto camp ground one afternoon last week, was surprised to see a tent pitched near one of the entrances and a car standing by it, an unfamiliar sight for some weeks past. Inquiries then and later brought these facts:

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Kingery and their two little boys, of Eugene, California, had traveled north during the past season, as far as the Boise valley, Idaho, visiting friends here and there on the way, and maintaining themselves by advertising a brand of soap. They had gotten thus far on their way back, and camped on the auto ground on Tuesday or Wednesday. Late Thursday afternoon, Mr. Kingery, returning from Creswell, failed to get his car started, after a stop, just over the hill beyond the overhead crossing. He came in to the camp, and returned after supper to look after the car. He found that it had caught fire after he left, as is supposed from the same cause which prevented his starting it. The body of the car was ruined but the engine was not affected.

The car, a Buick, was only partly paid for, was insured and the former owner held the insurance. Yielding to wrong advice, Mr. Kingery left the car on the ground, and guarded it through most of two nights. Several of the attachments and tools were stolen. Getting word from the former owner, he finally moved the remains of the car to Spencer's garage.

Yesterday the family moved to Eugene, chiefly to get the older boy into school. The Springfield schools being overcrowded, they could not get him in here. Mr. and Mrs. Kingery will seek some employment for a livelihood during the winter.

S. S. Potter and family, who moved to Bandon last spring, returned to Springfield last week. They have bought the residence property on C street just west of Pitts and Hill's shop, and are settling there.

A car belonging to J. T. Harbet, of Thurston, in which several high school students, of the Harbet and other families have been coming in to school was overturned on east Main street yesterday evening. The top and the wind shield were broken. A son of John Edmiston was slightly injured.

An Oregon made picture "The Golden Trail", a dramatic and thrilling story of the Alaskan gold fields where men are men, and their real natures, either good or bad, assert themselves. Jane Novak in "The Golden Trail" at Bell Sunday, December 18th.

Richard Harbet, who lives on James Seavey's hop ranch, has commenced the construction of a large story and a half bungalow on the slope of Willamette Heights, probably for rent.

Try our sodas, they are sodalicious at Eggmann's.

What's a man's political hopes; a mother's dream of happiness or a brother's safety when a seventeen-year-old girl wants something? Gladys Walton will tell you in "Short Skirts". Bell Wednesday, Dec. 21st.

ROBBERIES ARE ATTEMPTED HERE

Several Places of Business Entered Tuesday Night. Not Much Loot.

The office force of the Springfield Mill and Grain company discovered, on preparing for the opening of business yesterday morning, that the office had been entered the night before, and the safe damaged so that it could not be opened. The lower sash of the window in the rear of the office had been pried up, and the fastening at the top of the sash broken. The combination of the safe had been sprung so that the door could not be opened. The robbers had apparently gone as far as they could go, unless they risked trying to blow up the safe, and then gave it up. There was only one cent of cash in the office, a copper cent in the corner of the office, and they failed to find that. A lock smith was brought over from Eugene, and after a preliminary examination, removed the safe to the shop in Eugene for further work. At the close of the day, people did not know when they were going to get into their safe and get the use of their books.

It was soon learned that R. G. Masters' garage, on 2nd street and O. F. Bever's grocery, across the river had been entered. A comparison of accounts seemed to show pretty conclusively that the Master's place had been entered first, by prying open a front window of the office with a round bar; and the others afterwards by the use of a flat wrecking bar taken from Masters'. They took about \$1.50 in nickels and dimes which had been left in the till at Masters'; but they took a number of tubes and a great number of small auto appliances which they are supposed to have carried away in a small grip which they took there.

At Bever's, they pried loose the screen and pried the lock off the front door. They pried the till loose from beneath a counter, took about 150 pennies which it contained, but left about as much in stamps. Mr. Bever had not missed anything from his stock yesterday afternoon.

Altogether, it was rather a slender haul, to risk a few years in the penitentiary. The mill people were of the opinion at first that it was the work of local talent. Later, the number of places broken into gave the impression that it was done by men of the road. Some of their proceedings indicated some familiarity with the situation. Deputy Sheriff Croner was on the ground during the day looking into the matter.

Seal your mail with the stamp of health.

Mrs. Earl Moore, proprietress of the laundry, who has been sick for the past three weeks, is taking up her work again. Her sister, Mrs. J. W. Baker, assisted at the laundry during her absence.

For private piano lessons see Miss Ruth Scott or phone 126J.

B. H. Miller, chief engineer of the work at the overhead crossing, was brought to the hospital yesterday morning to be treated for burns on the face, caused by escaping steam. He is reported this morning to be doing well, and not likely to sustain any permanent injury.

CLINGAN TAKES OVER BEAN'S FEED STORE

Fred A. Clingan has purchased the feed store business of O. C. Bean, including the grinding work. Mr. Morrison's interest in which Mr. Bean had lately taken over. Mr. Clingan now has entire control of the whole business. The change took effect Monday. He is putting the business on a strictly cash basis. Custom rolling and grinding will be promptly attended to.

Mr. Clingan had been in Mr. Morrison's employ for several years, and is thoroughly familiar with the business. Mr. Bean will be busy with settlements for a week or two. We are not informed as to his plans beyond that.

LOGGING TO BEGIN ABOVE WENDLING

Preparations for regular logging operations are to begin at camps 28 and 29, above Wendling, next Monday. The camps were completely dismantled when logging operations were suspended. In the fore part of the season and they will have to be fitted up from the start. A crew of about ten men in each camp, consisting of fallers and buckers, will be employed in the preliminary work. Only one cook house will be run for the two camps during the period of this preparatory work.

A slide which now obstructs the track between Wendling and the camps, if it should not be cleared away before Monday, might delay the opening of this work. It is not expected that logging will begin before January 10th.

PROGRESS OF THE WORK ON McVEY'S POINT FILL

The fill north of the overhead bridge, at McVey's Point, has been carried forward about half its length; but this is by far the heaviest part of the filling. It has reached a point where it is less than half the height at the bridge, and proportionally narrower. So the work gains ground much more rapidly than at first. The road bed on the south side mostly remains to be built after that on the north is completed. The main part of the cut is being pushed in to the hill side and toward the steepest part of the fill so that the hillside here, on a close front view, looks like one great bluff.

The recent long stormy period made it pretty nasty work for the men. They could certainly appreciate the fine weather of last week. Persons connected with the work estimate that it will take until about the middle of January to finish it. Very much severe stormy weather would no doubt push the completion off still farther.

IMPROVED EQUIPMENT FOR X-RAY EXAMINATIONS

Dr. W. C. Rebhan has recently added to the efficiency, safety and convenience of his X-ray machine by installing an overhead system of system of operation, which allows the patient to be examined in any position; standing, sitting or lying. A part of the new equipment is a Coolidge tube, with a special screen appliance, which is great improvement over the old gas tube, furnishing absolute security against the possibility of burning the patient.

The doctor has as powerful and completely equipped machine as is to be found in the large cities of the west, and one capable of bringing a good result. It is furnished with appliances for accurately measuring the strength of the current employed, and enabling the operator to know to a certainty that he is going to obtain a picture.

Louis A. Daoust, of Portland, an X-ray expert, with extensive experience in that line of service in the late war, will make periodical visits here, spending several days each time, and giving whatever instruction is needed in the operation of the machine.

BASKETBALL GAME TONIGHT AT THE HIGH SCHOOL GYM

The Thurston basketball team will play a return game with the American Legion this evening at the high school gymnasium. On the 23rd the city league will start the schedule, the following teams playing a double header at the high school: High school vs. Baptist church, and the American Legion vs. the Christian church. Tuesday evening the Triple "F" team of Eugene defeated the Christian church team 14 to 11 in a practice game.

REASONS GIVEN FOR ANNEXING

Some Fancied Advantages of Being Governed From Abroad

It may be in danger of becoming disagreeable in referring again to this disagreeable subject. No matter what a man favors, if he thinks of it enough to speak of it to another, he usually has something that passes for a reason, at least with himself for favoring it. It may be only a hasty, ill-considered thought, springing from a passing fancy, untested by comparison with more mature thought, and discarded before you see him again; but for the present, he usually thinks he has a reason.

We are giving here, we believe, all the reasons, if you may call them reasons, that we have known of any one in Springfield giving why it should be.

It might better that Springfield should cease to be a self-governing community, and consent to be governed by another. All put together that we have heard of putting forth any and all of these reasons would make only a handful, and not more than two or three advancing any one of them; but no doubt there are more. We have not been impressed in a single case that the argument originated in Springfield.

The idea has been advanced that if Springfield were absorbed in Eugene the value of property would be greatly enhanced. What (or who) ever put it into anybody's head that handing over Springfield's city government to the governing elements of another town, separated from it by several miles, whose interests are greatly diverse, would automatically raise the value of his property, or of any or all property here. No; the things that are to stimulate the prosperity of Springfield and raise values here must be worked out right here, and largely by people whose interests are here. Suppose there were any ground for such an unreasonable expectation; should a man be willing to sacrifice some of the more precious interests of the body of people among whom he lived in the hope that he might profit to the extent of a few dollars?

It has been said that some moral conditions have been improved in Eugene. But Eugene has some moral evils of its own which Springfield is not directly brought in contact. We are not going into particulars unless we have to. In very recent times, the most promising enterprise that has been projected for both the material and moral welfare of this community, and all this region, the Methodist camp meeting project, was defeated, as its promoters have reason to believe, through the hostility of certain interests in Eugene to any such enterprise that was of local advantage to Springfield, rather than to Eugene.

Another reason suggested has been improvement in city affairs. We are not likely to be better served by putting the affairs of the community—we will not say city—into the hands of persons not directly interested in its welfare.

Any betterment in any of Springfield's affairs can only be wrought out by its own people, in the exercise of their own legal rights and the improvement of their own opportunities.

These two towns must remain two towns, no matter what juggling there might be with the government of either. Their relations have been fairly amicable for several years. Further persistence in this absurd propaganda will break up this condition, and make it hard and disagreeable for everybody to do business across the intervening space.

Better quit it. Christmas seals stand for the Christmas spirit.

OTHER CITIES TAKE NOTE

Des Moines, Iowa went without street cars for 75 days. The business of the town was paralyzed. Now the cars are operating again. Commenting on the reestablishment of car service the Des Moines Capital says: "It is like getting home after a long absence to see the street cars moving through the streets. We should tell all the world that the street cars are running. Residents of Des Moines having friends east or west will do a good thing by writing to such friends that Des Moines once more has street car service. The absence of cars has been used to the injury of Des Moines east and west. Now the good news

ALL CONFERENCES ARE NOT IN WASHINGTON.



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