

SOME THOUGHTS ON ANNEXATION

Weaknesses of the Proposal From a Springfield Point of View

Probably 75 persons listened to the debate on the question of annexation to Eugene, after the supper, at the Methodist Brotherhood meeting, last Monday evening. It passed for an innocent exercise in debating, the only way its introduction in that place could have been justified; but back of this seeming, there was apparently a desire to secure a favorable staging for a propaganda of exceedingly questionable propriety at any time or place. The debaters themselves were not unanimous in their approval of its presentation there.

The affirmative was supported by Rev. B. C. Miller, pastor of the Baptist church, and Dr. W. H. Pollard; the negative by M. C. Bressler and Prof. C. E. Lambert. Twenty minutes was allowed for the leading speaker on each side, and ten for the second; with five minutes for the leader on each side for rebuttal. By agreement among the debaters, discussed before and decided at the meeting, no judges were appointed, and no decision was rendered in any form. By motion, an opportunity was afforded for individual expressions after the close of the debate; but no thought strengthening either view was brought out; but one delicate cautionary hint, such as we have given above, was dropped. Under this head, however, R. W. Smith brought forward a proposition, which he has been advocating privately, to divide the county on a line running between the two towns, and make Springfield the county seat of "McKenzie county", a proposition of much greater merit than the other.

It might have been difficult for one sitting merely as a judge of debate to render a decision. Some of the minor arguments on the affirmative would have served the negative quite as well. The frequent admissions on the affirmative side of a previous condition of strife weakened their theory of a future harmonious cooperation. You cannot bring about harmonious cooperation between two cats by tying them up together by the tails. Some of the facts brought forward by the negative were not as strongly presented in the debate as in private before.

But that is not much either here or there. The important thing is that this insidious annexation propaganda has forced itself upon the attention of the public, and the Springfield end of it has been forced into the open. It cannot thrive in the open. We believe the outcome of this debate will be to crystallize public sentiment on this matter. Several persons, during the past week, uttered the query, "Do these people really take this matter seriously?" The presence of several persons at the debate never present before, and all as far as heard from, strongly opposed to the project, showed that they had been aroused and brought out by a rumor that certain interests precious to them or the community, were about to be assailed. A number of persons, singly and in groups, who were reported to have toyed with this fantastic proposition when it was first sprung here have, after some study, taken a decided stand against it. The sentiment in favor of it has passed the peak. It may remain as a source of annoyance and uneasiness, and a hindrance to enterprise, to investment and to settlement, for a time.

The alleged facts and arguments brought forward by the advocates of annexation, in button-hole approaches or in more public utterances, have been little better than moonshine. They have been intoxicated by the very moonshine they have been dispensing. It was not made in Springfield, however, but in Eugene. No one knows that any of the fine things these annexationists profess to think would come from annexation would really come. No one has any means of knowing. There is no known case like it from which to draw conclusions. There is nothing in all reason to support it.

If the towns were situated side by side, with only a stream like the Willamette river between them, there might be some reason in the proposition. But in this wild scheme, Springfield would not be even a suburb, in the ordinary meaning of that term. It would only be a distant appendage. Such cases as were referred to in the debate of larger

HAMPTON FAMILY OPEN RESTAURANT

F. W. Hampton, who formerly owned a tract and lived in the bottom on the west side but has lately been living near Oakridge, has traded some Eugene property to Willard Cochran for the fixtures of the White Lunch restaurant. He has fitted up the place for business, and opened for custom at supper yesterday evening. Mrs. Hampton and her two young daughters will mostly carry on the restaurant. Mr. Hampton will give his attention mainly to the ranch which he still owns near Oakridge. The two girls will be in the High school.

DISTRICT CONVENTION OF AMERICAN LEGION

Capt. F. B. Hamlin attended a district convention of the American Legion, held in the club rooms of the Legion at Albany last Saturday evening. He went as a delegate from the Springfield post. This district embraces 17 posts, occupying the territory between Salem and Cottage Grove.

The whole country has been divided into similar districts, for the purpose of perfecting the personal records of the service men, for all purposes for which such records may be needed. This was the object of this convention. Capt. Hamlin has not yet made his report to W. H. Adrian, the commander of the Springfield post.

INCOME TAX FACTS

Farmers, rangers, herders, dairymen, truck gardeners, vineyard and orchard owners, and other food producers must compute their net and gross incomes for 1921 and ascertain whether an income tax return, or tax, or both are due. All gains, profits, and income derived from the sale or exchange of farm products, whether produced on the farm or purchased and resold, must be included in gross income. When a farmer exchanges his products for groceries, clothing, or other merchandise, the fair market value of such goods must be included. Profit received from the sale of farm land, or rent received for use thereof, must be included.

In determining income, upon which the tax is assessed, the farmer may deduct from gross income all necessary expenses incurred in the operation of his farm during the year 1921. These include cost of cultivation, harvesting, and marketing of his crops, cost of feed and fertilizer used, amount spent in repairs to farm buildings (other than the dwelling) and to fences and machinery. Wages paid to farm hands are deductible, but not wages paid to a domestic servant, which is a personal expense.

As an aid to farmers the bureau of internal revenue has prepared a special form, 1040F, for recording sales of live stock, produce, and summary which must be attached to the individual return of income and expense.

cities, in the process of natural growth absorbing an adjacent smaller one, furnish no parallel, and give no light. This is not that kind of a case. These misguided pleaders of another town's cause against their own (and "misguided" is precisely the proper word) are proposing to surrender their town's opportunity, on the threshold of realization, on a mere wild guess that there is a pot of gold at the end of the rainbow they are painting. And if they miss their guess, they cannot undo the mischief. They cannot go back to the point of departure, and join with their former partners in playing out the game they "jumped." They cannot make good the loss to the interests that were wrecked by the wild venture.

There has probably never been a time in the history of Springfield when such a proposition was more untimely and unfitting, from a Springfield point of view. And that is just why it is broached at this particular time. A Springfield advocate of absorption by Eugene is placed in this inconsistent and ridiculous position: He professes to see in the coming years the same kind of Springfield we have had for several years back, and declares that the only hope of anything better is in surrendering to Eugene. But the Eugene schemers who have put this bug in his ear think differently. They are expecting to see a greater Springfield in the immediate future. They are making their business calculations on it. This propaganda is one of the results of these calculations.

There is such a thing as loyalty to one's town. When the object of regard is expanded to include one's whole country, we call it patriotism. There is an obligation that should en

(Continued on page four)

BRESSLER'S STORE LOOTED AGAIN

Raiders Carry off Watches Razors and Knives, Saturday Night

A thief or thieves gained entrance to the hardware store of M. C. Bressler & Son, some time Saturday night probably towards morning. They cut a pane of glass out of a small window in the rear, opening into the toilet. This admitted them into the storeroom through the toilet.

M. C. Bressler came for his mail Sunday morning, went into the store and did some work at his desk. In looking to see whether he had attended to a certain matter Saturday evening, he discovered evidences of the work of the thieves.

They had made efforts to pry into the cash register, at both front and back, and gave it up, probably for fear of noise of the bell. The keys to the register were hanging behind the top. They unscrewed a panel uncovering one side of a case, where pearl handled knives were exposed to view, and took all of these knives. By simply turning a thumb latch on another face of the case, they could have opened a door admitting them into everything in the case. In like manner they left a number of watches in boxes in a case from which they took all watches that were hung for display.

Supposing there was only one thief, it looked as though he had loaded up with what he could conveniently carry, making his selection somewhat hastily, and not always for the best. Quite likely it was some local or transient amateur, caring only to raise a stake quickly and easily. The things taken, so far as discovered up to noon Monday, were chiefly knives, razors, watches, and several gold watch cases and several rings, from an old stock of such goods. The loss, as estimated Monday, was from \$100 to \$150.

An unmarried or widowed farmer or one living apart from his wife must file an individual return for 1921 if his net income for 1921 was \$1,000 or more, or if his gross income was \$5,000 or more. If married and living with his wife on December 31, 1921, a return must be filed if his net income was \$2,000 or more, or if his gross income was \$5,000 or more.

Our copy of the January Food Cost Survey of the 4L Bulletin was marked by the sender, "Springfield still champion of Oregon". Springfield's rating was \$1.47, as the cost of living per day for an average family of five. Her nearest competitors were Portland, Silverton and St. Helens; each \$1.49. Seattle, Washington, was the same, and Tacoma and Whites \$1.45.

New film, an epic of small town life. Hopes and fears laughs and tears of the average family in "No Woman Knows". At Bell Theatre Sunday.

WALNUT CULTURE AND ITS PROFITS

Welby Stevens and J. A. Seavey Planting a Large Tract Near Springfield

Welby Stevens and Jess Seavey have purchased 30 acres in the northwest corner of Seavey's addition to Springfield, and are planting it all to English walnuts of Voorman's Franquette variety. The trees were purchased from Fred Groner, of Hillsboro, who has been engaged in walnut culture for about 25 years, and is considered one of the best authorities on this subject in Oregon, and was one of the first to see the advantage of walnut culture. He is an old time friend and a former schoolmate of Mr. Stevens. The trees arrived on the 14th, and the work of planting has been going on for several days.

The method of preparing and planting the trees is as follows: They are grafted on a two-year-old stock. The grafts are now one year old. The trees had grown to a height of from 12 to 15 feet, but they were cut down for convenience in shipping. They were brought here from Hillsboro in trucks. They are planted 40 feet apart each way. It requires over 800 trees to plant the 30-acre tract. A hole is dug about 20 inches deep and about the same width, to make room for as much of the large roots as possible. An acre, about 27 trees, is about a day's planting to the man.

The cost of the trees and planting will be about \$45 per acre, or about \$1350 for the 30 acre tract. Mr. Stevens has 72 trees, bought from the same man, which he planted on another tract, nearly 3 acres, 12 years ago. They brought him about \$100 an acre this year.

Some other growers of English walnuts in this region, whose experiments are proved successes, are these:

R. A. McCornack, one and one-quarter miles northeast of Eugene, and 4 miles from Springfield, has 5 acres in seedling walnuts 25 years old. Some of them were top-grafted into standard varieties. His 1921 crop brought him a little more than \$1300.

W. H. Lydick, near McCornack's, has 20 acres of Wiltse Mayettes, 13 years old, which bore the past season 6 tons; and about 6 acres, about 100 trees, of Santa Rosa, which bore but little. His crop of Mayettes netted him about 30 cents a pound, or a total of \$3600.

Prof. F. G. Young, one and one-half miles north of Springfield, has 16 acres of Frankettes, planted at the same time as Mr. Stevens' earlier planting, and ten acres of seedlings. The yield of the past season was 4 tons of Frankettes and 2 tons of seedlings.

Kenneth C. Ables, one and one-half miles northeast of Springfield is planting this season 8 acres of Frankettes, bought from Mr. Groner. He expects to plant some more when they are to

SPRINGFIELD CITY WATER REPORTED PURE

Samples of water from the Springfield water plant is sent about once a month to the laboratory at the O. A. C., to be tested. The last report, dated February 17, shows tests of samples received on the 15th, from four sources, the reservoir, raw water, the hydrant at the office here and the hydrant at the Morrison corner. No gas-forming bacteria were found in any of the summary.

This summary was at the foot of the report: "The water is practically sterile in all cases even the raw water."

WASHINGTON'S BIRTHDAY AT THE HIGH SCHOOL

Between 9 and 10 o'clock yesterday forenoon, Prof. Alfred Powers of the extension department of the university, spoke at the High school auditorium, to an audience made up of the High school and the Junior High, on "The Seven Ages of Washington"; his ancestry and the various stages of his life and activities and various phases of his character.

At the same time, the lower grades rendered a simple program in one of the upper rooms of the High school building.

It had been planned to devote part of the afternoon, in place of the regular Arbor Day, to the planting of shade trees about the borders of the school grounds. Not many trees were available. Some were planted, and more will be planted some time next week.

WASHINGTON'S BIRTHDAY SUPPER GREAT SUCCESS

About 215 persons partook of the excellent Washington's birthday chicken supper at Morrison's hall last night. Several who held tickets did not appear. The hall was profusely decorated with the national colors, with table decorations of ferns. The supper was given by the Ladies' Auxiliary of the American Legion. The financial returns will foot up about \$125 gross. This will provide a fund for necessitous cases that may arise in the community.

The Loud people broke ground, Tuesday afternoon, for their new dry kiln. It will have a concrete foundation and walls of triple thickness, of wood and paper. It will be 52 feet long, and will have a capacity of 10,000 feet at first, and will be so constructed as to admit of extension. The blow pipe will be carried over the street and the bid tower will be removed to the new structure.

A large crowd saw the pennant hopes of the Baptist basketball team shattered last Tuesday evening, when they lost to the Methodist team by the score of 20 to 14. The game was close throughout, and each team received noisy support from their rooters.

The demand has been so great that Mr. Groner's stock is exhausted.

Oregon grown walnuts are just beginning to attract the attention they deserve, and are rapidly coming into favor, both in the American and foreign markets. California had access to the American market earlier, and has had the lead in it. Great quantities of French and Japanese nuts are also shipped into this country. Oregon is now coming into such a position of favor, by reason of the recognized quality of her nuts, that if her production were sufficient she could supply a large part of the demand in this country and ship large quantities abroad. But as yet she is hardly more than able to supply the Oregon demand.

Not only is the English walnuts not a native of England, but it is not grown there as much as in France and some other countries. The Oregon Growers association sent small samples of graded nuts of the 1921 product to representatives in the eastern states and in Europe. As a result, a strong demand has already set in for Oregon walnuts. There is especially a great demand from England. They could procure the same varieties in plenty from France; but the dealers say that the greater care in grading and sorting make the Oregon nuts preferable. In the eastern states, since Oregon nuts are becoming known, their quality is regarded as of the best.

Walnuts are not a quick crop, and they need close attention and careful cultivation. But it is only a few years until they begin to bring returns; and a walnut orchard, after it is brought into full bearing, will bring a man a fine income for a lifetime, and to his children after him.

A NEW CANDIDATE AND HIS PLATFORM

E. W. Mathews for Commissioner on a Good Roads Platform

E. W. Mathews, of Pleasant Hill, announces himself as a candidate for county commissioner, on the strength of his experience in road work. His platform, which we print below, makes very interesting reading, without regard to one's views as to the correctness of his structures.

Having been approached by many of my friends, who have knowledge of my eight years' experience in road construction, requesting me to become a candidate for road commissioner in the Republican primaries, I have decided to announce my candidacy, and in doing so desire to state some of my views upon the present situation on the road question as affected by the office of county commissioner.

First, I am not seeking this office to learn road business, and I believe that my road experience qualifies me to speak with a thorough knowledge of conditions in Lane county at the present time.

I am a strong advocate for building good roads and keeping them good, and I maintain that I can reduce the cost of road construction and maintenance and save many dollars of the taxpayers' money now expended in unnecessary overhead charges of supervision and other leaks from the county purse that should be stopped at the commissioners' court room.

For instance, the office of county road superintendent at a salary of \$3,000 per year and expenses, and the county bridge superintendent at a salary of \$2,100 per year and expenses altogether \$7,000 or \$8,000 per year. These officers draw more than the county commissioners. If their offices are the more important, why not elect them and have them appoint the county commissioners?

With all due respect to the above officers, who are personal friends of mine, I maintain that such offices are unnecessary expense and that the county commissioners' court and county engineers should do the supervising, and a foreman under them who could not build a road, run a rock crusher or build a bridge with them to advise him, is not a profitable employe for the county.

As it is at the present time, we have the county commissioners, with superintendents under them; the superintendents have a foreman on practically each job, the foreman has a timekeeper and so on without end, so that when the overhead is paid there is still some balance to be spent on the roads, provided we raise enough through taxation and the funds can be overdrawn at liberty by the county court.

I am in favor of a patrol system that patrols, but not the present system. I deem it unnecessary to have four or five bosses over one man. At present we have the county commissioners, the county road superintendent, the general patrolman, the supervisor, and last but not least, the man to do the work.

When a road of any type is completed, the effects of the elements and the travel tend to destroy it, and those operations required constantly to oppose this deterioration of the road constitute "general maintenance". Without this maintenance the road after a time is partially destroyed and operations necessary to restore it constitute "repairs". The term "general maintenance" means continued maintenance, that is, keep the road up all the time, free from ruts and holes which, if allowed, cause heavy expense for repairs. A road properly "maintained" may not need repairs for an indefinite interval but a road not even properly repaired always needs "maintenance".

The proper way to handle this is to give a patrolman a certain mileage, what he can maintain, and keep him on the job filling ruts, clearing ditches, etc., and pay him from the amount saved on supervision; the amount saved on two officers above named would easily maintain Lane county's share of the Pacific highway from the north to the south line, and we would have good roads all the time, instead of just a few months after the annual repair work, and the saving from the present patrol system would properly patrol many of our side roads.

The patrolmen should be directly under the commissioners and held re-

(Continued on Page 4)

BEGINNING TO RUN

