

# THE SPRINGFIELD NEWS

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### Editorial Program

- I. Make Springfield the Industrial Center of Western Oregon.
- II. Develop a Strong Trading Point; Build a City of Contented Homes.
- III. Improve Living Conditions on the Farm. Promote the Raising of Purebred Livestock and the Growing of Fruit; Work for Better Markets.
- IV. Tell the World About Oregon's Scenic Wonderland.

### THE HARRISBURG FERRY

The Harrisburg ferry is a death trap and a disgrace to the roads in any civilized country. Until such time as Lane county can afford to help Linn county and the state build a bridge across the Willamette river heavy barriers and a gate should be erected at the ferry to prevent further accidents. It is getting to be a rare week when someone isn't killed, hurt or has a narrow escape at the ferry. We imagine Harrisburg would be rather a dull place if it were not for the excitement afforded by the ferry.

A week ago a California tourist walked off the ferry landing into the river on the Harrisburg side. Several days before a young woman was drowned and her body not recovered. Accidents there during the past few years have been too numerous to mention. Everyone is a surprise to the natives who of course know the river is there. But to the tourist, especially to one driving at night, the exact location of the river is often not known until he plunges headlong over the drop-off where the road stops. It's criminal negligence to let the situation at the Harrisburg ferry continue to exist after what has happened in the past.

There are some patriotic men in Great Britain. The British government saved 70 million dollars in pensions last year. The large number of war widows who have remarried again is partly responsible. Since the war, fully 30 per cent of the widows on the pension list have remarried, notwithstanding there are more than two million surplus spinsters in the country. Perhaps it is known-how that counts. One theory is the men prefer the widows to the spinsters because they fear the spinsters hold that men are so self-important that the widows easily ensnare them with

flattery. Seems plausible.

While the number of divorce cases is mounting the marriage rate grows. Dissatisfied couples are afforded a chance to try it again. Marriages per 1,000 of population have increased from 86 in 1887 to 103 in 1922, the census director reports. Divorces have increased from 8.4 in 1906 to 13.6 in 1922 and still are on the upward curve. Much of this unhappiness is preventable.

Marvelous scientific discoveries have been made since scientists began excavating King Tut. Probably none is more interesting than the discovery he had fleas. The mummy of one 3000 years old has been found. If mankind can't get rid of fleas in 3000 years it's no use trying longer.

Henry Ford's Christmas announcement that he was out of the presidential race was a fine gift on the White House tree.

Army experts have just lightened the soldier's pack. Experts are always several years late.

One hardship should teach us to prepare for another.

### Editorial Comment

#### "ISOLATED" AND GLAD OF IT

If America is isolated—and those Americans who keep repeating that it is never take the trouble to explain, how it is isolated—it has been isolated by European madness, not by American ignorance. If Europe prefers war to reconstruction, America will stay at home and let Europe fight. America at least is not ignorant of the fact that Europe is not so utterly ruined but it still can maintain armies greater than those held leashed prior to 1914. If France is ruined because Germany won't pay her, she is managing somehow to support her own military establishment and to contribute liberally toward supporting those of Poland, Roumania and Czechoslovakia. Knowing this much about Europe, America is keeping out. If it knew more it probably would merely have more reason to keep out.—Kansas City Star.

Russia may be the peace-loving nation they tell us she is, but these continued calls for American food seem to prove she still has her thin Red line of heroes.—Philadelphia North American.

We like winter better than summer because flies don't.—Wilkes-Barre Times Leader.

A Californian is now photographing people's thoughts. Think pleasant.—Boston Transcript.

The flames of revolution have burst out now in Greece. In other words, the European fat is in the fire.—Philadelphia North American.

Mr. McAdoo announces his candidacy but is discreet-

ly silent as to platform. Does Mr. McAdoo imagine that he can tunnel his way into the presidency?—Omaha Bee.

It is unfortunate that all the groups and elements, all the "industrial classes" to use the World's phrase, cannot get the real viewpoint of the farmer in a matter so vital to a fair and equitable distribution of the rewards of industry. Failure to get this viewpoint postpones the day of genuine prosperity in the nation. Any reading into the phrase, "Take care of the farm and the farm will take care of the nation" a demand for special privilege, a plea to make the farmer a favored ward of the Government, are regrettable evidences of such failure to get the farm viewpoint and a proper perspective on the whole economic structure of the country.

If such a failure is the result of short-sightedness or of blindness, it is not the less deplorable. What is needed is a spirit of cooperation and broad understanding

with which all our national problems must be approached for proper solution.—Capper's Weekly.

Conditions in Europe are not so bad that the countries over there are unmindful of the fact that the Monroe Doctrine is mighty sound and strong for its age.—Omaha Bee.

"Never in history were so many men and women instructed in the elements of learning," said President Nicholas Murray Butler, "and never before in history were so many men and women walking the streets with starvation and want staring them in the face." Briefly, never before in history were there so many men and women.—F. P. A. in New York World.

Moscow sentences eight government employes to be executed for grafting on public funds. There is that much to be said in favor of the Bolshevik!—San Diego Union.



We make the food of a nation—FLOUR—right here in your own city. Is there anything more worthy? Surely you will think that after trying a sack of

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The story teller's fancy created Hop-o'-My-Thumb and the seven-league boots—the step of twenty-one miles was the limit of his imagination.

Accomplishment as wonderful as the imagery of the fairy tale has followed the vision of Alexander Graham Bell—the instantaneous transmission of the human voice a few feet or thousands of miles.

The seven-league boots exist only in the minds of "the little folks." Over 33,000,000 conversations a day in the United States testify to the value and importance of the telephone in the elimination of distance in the social and business activities of a nation.

Every Bell telephone is a Long Distance station.

## Now, The New Year

What has it in store for you? What are your possibilities of development and expansion? What are you going to do to foster the opportunities that are yours? Put the question fairly and squarely to your self, "What am I going to do about it".

The opportunities are here. The degree to which you obtain success lies within your own power. To expand and grow with the times takes study and hard work. To gain your goal, which should be continually advancing, requires that you reach out, that you press forward stronger than ever. Take advantage of every opportunity.

Use The Springfield News as a means of reaching out for more business. Be aggressive. An investment in advertising brings you greater returns than in any merchandise you may handle.

Your opportunities for 1924 were never greater. Great things are in store for you if you take advantage of them. Resolve to increase your business in 1924. It can be done. It will be done if you have a consistent advertising program for 1924.



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And Telegraph Company

