

THE SPRINGFIELD NEWS

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THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 1925

FARMERS AS MANUFACTURERS

Henry Ford, who makes ten instead of two blades of grass grow where one grew before and sometimes where none grew before has said that farming should be done in twenty days; and this coupled with Edison's vision of twenty years ago, which disclosed a manufacturing rural community, plus the present condition of the farmer, brings sharply to the front a situation of significance.

Every day the farmer is being chased out of the fields by his own machinery. Due to improved methods of operation he can raise more food than the world can eat. The result is he is always selling on a glutted market. Finally he rushes into the city and the city man would rush away from it if he knew where to go or what to do.

Thoughtful review of the farmer's situation leads one to the belief that his relief will come not in palliative legislation, but in the adjustment of his business to the electrical age which is now beginning to take its place in our economic life. There is only one answer to the poor condition of the farmer plus the high cost of living for the urban population, namely the elimination of the idle hour. The times of planting, cultivating and harvesting. For the rest, his time and investment are waste that must be spread over the volume of his product. If our farms were equipped with small manufacturing plants that could be kept busy producing standardized necessities, such for example as screws, nails, bolts, shoe laces, knife handles and a thousand and one other products instead of one of loafing at a loss. One of these days Mr. Ford will work out the problem and the idle hour will be abolished.

A new grade school building is a genuine necessity besides being an economical and wise investment. We all wish for new people to settle in our town in order that we may build a large and prosperous city. Usually the people who wish to settle in any city are those with a family. Naturally one of their first considerations is the school. The overcrowded conditions of Springfield's city schools is not at all inviting to people to bring their children here. The solution of the problem is a new school any way one looks at it.

Now is the time for the passage of a sound building regulating ordinance. People planning on building should know what the community and city expects. No stringent piece of legislation is needed but one regulating the construction along the lines approved by other cities and providing for inspection.

OUR TRADE BALANCE

Uncle Sam closed his trade balance sheet for 1924 with about one billion on the right side of the ledger. The Department of Commerce in figures just made public states that the exports reached the amazing total of \$4,590,146,873, while the imports amounted to \$3,610,552,566. The export total for 1923 was \$4,167,493,080 and imports for that year were valued at \$3,792,065,963. So it will be seen that imports have decreased while our exports have gained in value. Our largest foreign purchaser last year was Great Britain who took \$982,034,509 while imports from that country amounted to only \$336,476,902. Our exports to Germany were valued at \$440,537,797 and imports totaled \$139,257,900. France took \$281,663,972, while we imported from that country \$147,636,972.

Pity the poor printer with an increase of 25 per cent in paper stock prices.

NOT FOR ONE-WAY TRAFFIC

Having in mind the continuation of the Federal aid road policy, there is now before Congress, the Dowell bill, passed by the House and recommended by the Senate committee, which would authorize the appropriation of \$75,000,000 for each of the two years of 1926-1927, the money to be spent in conjunction with several states for the production of better highways. During 1924, 9,900 miles of Federal aid roads were completed at a cost of \$171,544,500. The roads under construction will cost approximately \$395,000,000 of which the Federal government will pay \$176,500,000.

Folks in the small communities such as ours fall often to grasp the significance of acts like these; yet they have a real bearing on community development and prosperity. There are two sides to the road question. In small towns while good roads have been welcomed by the average man, in some places local merchants have suffered from their construction. The complaint is that good roads enable the wife of the farmer to shop in the nearest big city. It should be remembered however that the road that takes people out of the villages also brings them into the villages. While undoubtedly some traders have suffered from the competitive appeal of the city plus the good road, the answer of course is obvious—better merchandising, and better and more advertising. Trade need not leave the small town as a fact the small town with its lower labor cost and lower overhead can give the city merchants quit a run for their money. If the merchants adjust themselves to the changed conditions they can draw as much trade from the cities as the cities take from them, if not more.

The world's advance cannot be stemmed, but the world's tradesmen can at least keep step.

"The worm turns" we often hear. But we have never heard of one chasing a bull dog or a bobcat.

Marrying is a good custom but a bad habit—A Kentucky man got three years in the pen for bigamy.

Cleaver is out of a job as the result of the way the legislature handled the cleaver.

Editorial Comment

FACTS ON TAXES

Several highly-inflated political footballs were punctured and expired into flabby oblivion before the onslaught of a few pointed facts presented at the annual meeting by State Treasurer Kay.

These facts referred specifically to taxes. An examination of Mr. Kay's address, reproduced in its entirety on another page in this issue, will show how thoroughly he has exploded certain popular and prevalent theories on alleged "high-taxes" in Oregon. There are many who may disagree with the State Treasurer on matters of opinion; there are few who will question his authority on the facts of state finance.

Oregon has been grossly libeled in the past on the subject; and these erroneous statements have originated from within the state itself. From January 5th, when State Treasurer Kay presented his deductions before the assembled delegates of the annual meeting and these deductions were subsequently broadcasted via the press through out the state, should date a new attitude on the part of Oregonians toward the cost of state government.—Oregon Business.

DO WE SHIP IN TOO MUCH?

Notwithstanding the fact that Oregon produces a large share of food for her needs, last year 5,128 carloads of fruits and vegetables were unloaded at Portland. Of this number, California shipped 2,355 carloads and Washington shipped 1,681 carloads into the Oregon port city. California has always led in supplying Portland's urban population with fruits and vegetables. Last year the carloads were fewer because of the quarantine against California, but California still remains the prominent shipper to Portland in fruit and vegetable industry.

Of course, Oregon people want certain fruits and vegetables that can not be grown for climatic reasons within her own borders. But it is time to inquire seriously if we should not utilize more of our own products, even though to do so we must sacrifice some of the fine fruits of other states.—The Oregon Farmer.

This Week



By Arthur Brisbane
**HOW RICH IS AMERICA?
100 LITTLE PIGS,
ALSO VASSAR GIRLS,
WORK AND LIVE.**

How much do you think the United States is worth, all together, in thousands of millions of dollars?

According to the Census Bureau, all the property in the United States three years ago amounted to about \$32,503,362,000. That means 320 times one thousand million dollars, with 803 millions to spare.

It's a great deal of money, but you may be sure that it's much less than the United States is worth. Properly developed, the State of Texas will be worth more than the total "wealth of the United States" as now estimated.

Nobody has the faintest idea what the real wealth of this country amounts to. In ten years the total wealth according to the figures above, has increased more than seventy-two per cent. Give its nation fifty million more inhabitants, intelligent, willing to work, and they would raise the value of the nation's property five hundred per cent in half a generation.

A boy sends this information to the United States Agricultural Department. Five years ago, when he was in the public school, he bought a pure-bred pig, female, eight weeks old. Since then his pig has added 100 small pigs to the earth's porcine population. The boy writes: "She paid for my clothes, three years in high school and gave me spending money also. I am now in my second year in college and she is still doing the same."

This boy has joined the "better stock" campaign, and will work hard to improve the pig breed.

If it were possible to improve human breed as easily as we improve cattle or swine, civilization

would progress rapidly. Unfortunately, eugenists make little progress. But something might be done.

That proud mother of 100 little pigs in five years never smoked cigarettes or drank cocktails. And the father or fathers did not set before their sons the example of bootleg law breaking and contempt for the Constitution.

Dear young ladies of Vassar College, with beautiful, tall foreheads, nimble feet and nimble minds, tell what they think of tobacco. 433 say they like cigarettes, 624 never smoke.

No matter what you may think of women smoking, how would you answer this question?

Which will be married first, the 433 girls that smoke cigarettes, or the 624 that don't smoke cigarettes? And which will make the best mothers?

Men have spent most of their time on earth fighting and murdering each other. But the real job of the human race is to fight against and conquer Nature.

Every canal dug, desert irrigated, swamp drained, is a victory in the really important war.

Canada is growing rapidly. Up there they welcome good immigrants. Here we discourage immigration.

What is more important even than immigration is human happiness and independence. Canadians attend to that. In Canada 92 per cent of farmers own their own farms. In the United States, only 62 per cent own their land, the others are tenants paying rent.

The nations in which those that cultivate the land own the land on which they live grow in strength. The power of France is due largely to the fact that Frenchmen own their land. That small country has more than six million land owners, a great improvement on the days of monarchy, when a handful of nobles, ecclesiastics and royal princes were the land owners.

Lorenz Koenig, aged seventy-two, devotes his working hours to stacking shingles in a lumber yard at Omaha. He inherits \$115,000, but goes on packing shingles. "If I quit, I'd die," he says, and he'll give the money to his children. Perhaps the habit of hard work hasn't got as firm a hold on them as it has on him.

Our life depends on the glands. Our happiness depends on habit. We are more like machines wound up and set running than creatures of free will.

ANYBODY wishing milk at gallon rates call Riverside Dairy, Phone 3473

CALL AND SEE Dr. N. W. Emery on prices on plate and other work. 71

Save your feet by having your shoes repaired at the Electric Shoe Shop. F-25

They are Better Managers
Statistics in the hands of the Oregon Public Utility Information Bureau show conclusively that public utilities which are owned and operated under private management are more efficiently conducted than those operated under municipal ownership. The summary of these figures indicate that the privately owned utilities spend only \$65 for operating expenses, but of every \$100 of revenue received, while it costs municipally-owned plants nearly \$75 for operating expenses, or over 15 per cent more than the private utilities.

NOTICE
NOTICE is hereby given that the undersigned Administrator of the estate of Harrison B. Gray, deceased, filed his final account with the County Clerk of Lane County, Oregon, on the 14th day of February, 1925, and by order of the County Court Saturday the 21st day of March, 1925, at the hour of ten o'clock A. M. at the County Court room in the Court house at Eugene, Lane County, Oregon, has been fixed as the time and place for hearing objections, if any to said final account and for final settlement thereof.

All persons having objections to said final account are hereby notified to file the same with the County Clerk on or before the time fixed for final hearing thereon.

H. L. BERGMAN,
Administrator of the Estate of Harrison B. Gray, deceased.
Williams & Bean
Attorneys for the Estate
P-13-26-M-5-12-19

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NOW, HERE'S A CAKE, MRS. HOUSEWIFE, THAT LOOKS GOOD, TASTES GOOD, AND REALLY IS DELICIOUSLY GOOD. SUCH DOWNY, WHITE CAKES OF MELTING FLAVOR AND FINE TEXTURE CAN BE MADE EASILY WITH THE FAMOUS—

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Although there is a knack to making good cakes—you will have the best of luck if you use FEATHERFLAKE flour—it certainly makes wonderful cakes. Just try it—"you'll be surprised" how wonderful.

Only the Best Stores Sell FEATHERFLAKE

"YOU'LL BE SURPRISED"

FOLKS IN OUR TOWN

CORRECT
By Edward McCullough
AUTOCASTER

WHAT'S TH' IDEA CURLY? - IT'S 9:30 - YOU'RE LATE EVERY MORNIN' GETTIN' TO TH' STORE -
BE RIGHT DOWN POP
SAY, HURRY UP AN' GET THOSE ORDERS FILLED
YEA
LATER
WONDER WHAT'S A FIVE LETTER WORD MEANING BLAZES?
FIRED!
BOYS - 8 TO 16 YEARS
ENTER THE NATION-WIDE DRAWING CONTEST
15 BIG PRIZES - FREE
BIG LEAGUE BASEBALL GLOVES BATS AND BALLS
SIMPLY DRAW A PICTURE OF "OLD POP" IN THIS COMIC AND MAKE HIM LAUGH REAL HARD - DRAW LARGER THAN PICTURE REPRODUCED HERE.
WRITE NAMES, ADDRESS AND AGE ON BACK OF DRAWING - ALSO TELL US WHAT KIND OF GLOVE OR BAT YOU WANT IF YOU ARE WINNER - SEND DRAWINGS CARE THIS PAPER.
MY DEAR FRIENDS: I HAVE RECEIVED ALL OF YOUR FINE DRAWINGS - EVERYONE IS GREAT, ALL ARE GIVEN MY CAREFUL CONSIDERATION.
EDWARD McCULLOUGH