

THE SPRINGFIELD NEWS

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H. E. MAXEY, Editor.

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THURSDAY, JANUARY 21, 1926

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.

BUILD THE BRIDGE.

The time has come when a new bridge should be built across the Willamette river at Springfield. It is the duty of the state and county to construct this bridge on the McKenzie highway and the time to do it is now—this year.

The Natron cutoff becomes the main line of the Southern Pacific in July and the railroad crossing on Second street will become a menace. The old structure, the longest single span wagon bridge west of the Mississippi river, is weak and during the last year has showed signs of growing weaker. This is the most used bridge in Lane county not excepting the new Harrisburg bridge. It is dangerous to have it stand longer, besides it is obsolete and not in the proper location.

It is up to the Chambers of Commerce of Springfield and Eugene to say to the state highway commission and the county court—"We want this bridge now."

CHAMBER ON FIRM FOUNDATION.

The Springfield Chamber of Commerce is now on the firmest foundation it has ever been. With a paid up membership of more than 75 the officers can now turn their attention to working for some of the things Springfield needs. There are some capable men in the chamber of commerce and if they give the new president support his administration should accomplish things for Springfield.

What we need most is a new bridge over the Willamette river, some factories located on the city's 250 acres of free industrial sites and a paved highway on the east side of the river. Let's work for these major enterprises and do a lot of smaller ones at the same time.

With one song writer installed as mayor of the city of New York and another installed as husband of a possible heiress to the Mackay millions, we may look for a quick revival in Tin Pan Alley. "Yes We May not Get the Bananas" might be an appropriate title for a new Berlin effort.

London has founded the Institute of the Horse to preserve the equine species. Washington has solved the problem in the production of the iron steel which can only rust out.

Now we are to have an investigation of the Aluminum trust. More headlines in sight. Why not begin an investigation of our professional investigators?

Swearing is about all some people know about golf.

FARMERS TAKE NOTICE.

Farmers, local insurance agents and others interested in the problem of rendering the farmhouse and its tributary buildings a safer place in which to live and work, will find helpful suggestions in fire prevention and protection in the manual on the subject, published by The National Board of Fire Underwriters. It is called "Safeguarding the Farm Against Fire," and may be purchased in any quantity at the less-than-cost price of two cents apiece. Sample copies will be supplied free of charge. Two editions have been exhausted already, and a third, completely revised and brought up-to-date, is now available. Address National Board of Fire Underwriters, 74 William St., New York, N. Y.

Statistics just published by the National Board show that for the five-year period from 1919 to 1923, the total farm fire loss was \$141,157,920. Every farmer should study fire prevention methods. It will help reduce useless farm losses.

English wives are being urged to improve their cooking to lessen drinking among the men.

Tact is that which a girl uses to make a slow man think he is a fast worker.

Where there is light there is less hope said the shiek as he turned off the dimmers.

A pessimist is a fellow who would rather read a funeral notice than a comic section.

Editorial Comment

IDEAL WAY FOR GROWERS TO HANDLE FLAX.

The ideal way for the growers to handle their flax is to band together in each neighborhood and handle it cooperatively—

To install retting tanks and threshing and scutching plants and pool their product and work it together.

Thus they will have a finished product to sell; finished to the point of the needs of the spinner. They will have a product for which there is a certain market value all over the world. They will in fact have two finished products, the fiber and the seed. There is also always a market for the seed, and a well protected market in this country.

The advantage of this way of handling their flax is that the farmers will have winter work for themselves and their help; work at home, at which by good neighborhood management they will be able to pay themselves fair to very good wages—

And there will be another advantage.

This, in such a country as the United States, will lead to spinning, and they will have a well protected market for their product, their "yarn," when they get to that stage. They will be protected 25 to 35 per cent ad valorem, while their fiber will have a protection of only a cent a pound; their flax seed 40 cents a bushel.

Another advantage to the farmer in doing his own retting and scutching is that he will have the bolls for stock feed; especially dairy feed; and the retting water is good fertilizer.

There should be profits all the way up the line in flax growing and manufacturing; but the big spreads will come in spinning and weaving and fine finishing, and doing these things with the smallest possible overhead and with the greatest economy and efficiency.

The writer does not believe the penitentiary can be made self supporting in merely retting and scutching flax—

Though there are those who differ with him.

But with going one step further, to the spinning of yarn, together with carrying on a number of other proper lines of manufacturing there, this can surely be done—

And the time is coming when there will be a market right here for more flax yarn than is dreamed of at present; a market made by various specialty manufacturers who are bound to come as fast as they are certain of getting their raw materials, which are the yarns of the spinners.—Oregon Statesman, Salem.

FREE SHOW ON STREET HERE SATURDAY AT 2

The merchants of Springfield are sponsoring a free show to be staged on the street Saturday afternoon at 2 o'clock. The feature event will be the racing of a dozen carrier pigeons on a flight to Portland. The program is given through the compliments of the Sperry Flour company.

Prof. Rodes will give a short talk on carrier pigeons. It is expected that the pigeons will make the flight from Springfield to Portland in about one hour and 20 minutes. Anyone wishing to send a message to a friend in Portland may do so by carrier pigeon if they bring the message to the show. As soon as the pigeons reach the loft of the Sperry Flour Milling company, Portland, a telegram will be sent here. C. F. Burger, former Lyceum enter-tainer, will give an exhibition of rapid sketching in a chalk talk. Humorous stories will be told by Mr. Burger.

C. W. BLACK INJURED IN AUTOMOBILE CRASH

C. W. Black of Springfield sustained facial cuts and bruises when the light roadster in which he was riding collided with a heavy coupe at Fourth and A streets last Sunday night. The coupe was driven by a Eugene man.

Black was driving south on Fourth street and the coupe was going west on A street. The collision with the heavier machine turned the roadster around and jammed it into the curb, breaking the windshield and doing other damage. Black was rushed to the home of Dr. W. H. Pollard, where his injuries were treated.

FOR SALE—Carbon paper in large sheets, 25x39 inches, suitable for making tracings. The News Office.



Our Mission Is to Serve; That's Why We Are Here!

This town is our home; we live, eat and sleep here. This statement sounds a bit ridiculous but we make it to enlighten anybody who may be thinking to the contrary.

We spend a large share of our income here. We do not spend it all for we try to be thrifty and put some aside for a rainy day.

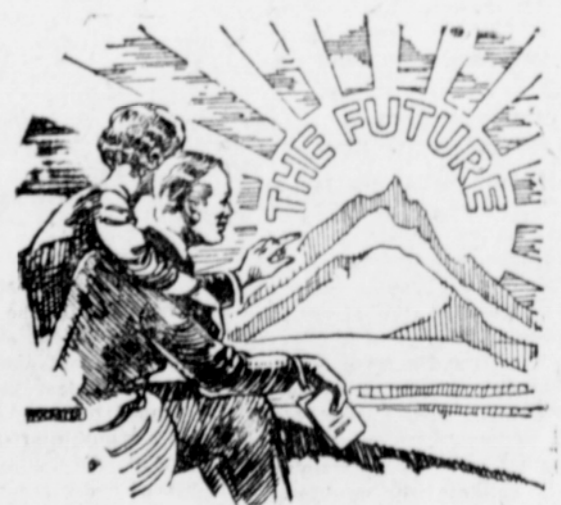
True, we send much money away but in this respect we are no different than other stores. Every store spends by far the largest part of their income out of town for goods they offer for sale. It couldn't be otherwise unless everything you wear and use in your home was made here.

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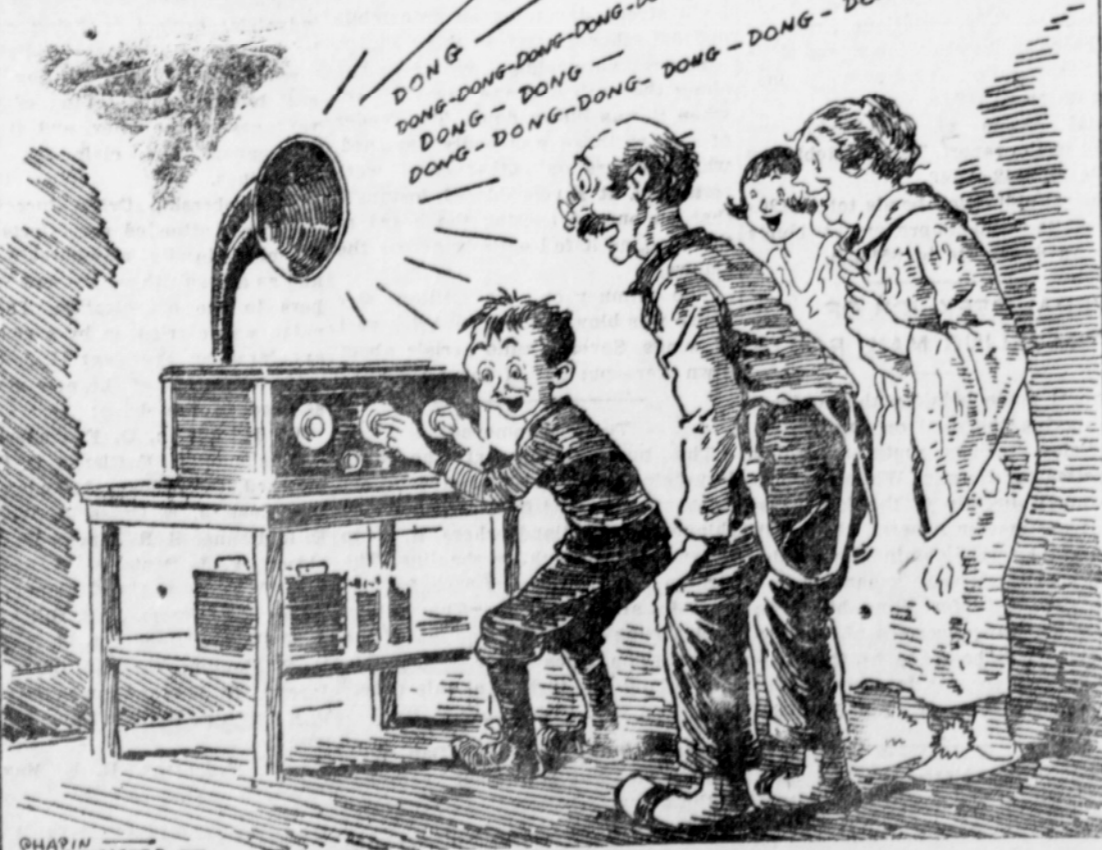
Commercial State Bank

Springfield, Oregon

RED LETTER DAY

By A. B. CHAPIN

THAT NEW YEAR'S EVE WHEN YOU HAD BEEN "TUNING IN" FOR DX AND FISHING AROUND FOR SOMETHING GOOD AND YOU HAD BEEN GETTING MOSTLY AN AIR FULL OF STATIC WHEN — SUDDENLY YOU HEARD SOME BROADCASTER SAY: "THIS IS STATION WIP, PHILADELPHIA, THE LIBERTY BELL WILL NOW RING-IN NINETEEN TWENTY SIX —"



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