

# THE SPRINGFIELD NEWS

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THURSDAY, MARCH 25, 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.

### OUR SCHOOL FINANCES.

The heavy bonded and warrant indebtedness of school district No. 19 and the slow progress that has made in the past toward reducing this indebtedness makes it almost mandatory that some sort of a future financial program be instituted else we will arrive at a time when the school plants will be worn out and with no money or credit to replace them. A school is an institution which must live in the future as well as the present and we have no moral right to levy a burden on the future farther than the present generation will live to pay.

School district No. 19 is in debt more than \$100,000 any way one can figure. Judged by the progress it has made in paying off its indebtedness in the last sixteen years it will be 200 years getting out of debt, provided that no more debts are incurred in the next 200 years. Is this a record for a school district to be proud of or for the taxpayers to take little heed of, especially when we are both bonded and tax to the legal limit?

In 1910 the school district sold \$20,000 worth of bonds; in 1923, \$47,500; in 1925, \$12,500, or a total of \$80,000. In the sixteen years since 1910 only \$8,000 were paid or at the rate of \$500 a year has the bonded indebtedness of this district been taken care of. We surely need some sort of a financial program that will carry us out of debt faster than we are now paying off.

How much of the large warrant indebtedness of school district No. 19 will be taken care of by taxes and how much is a debt against the district without security, it would take an accountant to tell. It looks off hand that at least \$30,000 of this warrant indebtedness is excess over taxes. At the end of this school year there will not have been a single dollar paid on this year's school expenses which according to the budget estimate will exceed \$47,000. Tax turnovers are practically completed and it will be after June 1 before more money will be coming to this district.

On this bonded and warrant indebtedness the district is paying approximately \$6000 interest annually. At the present rate of paying off our debts the three school buildings will cost us more money than if they were built of marble.

We are not trying to blame anyone for the present financial conditions of school district No. 19. But we do contend that in the future this indebtedness should be taken care of faster than in the past. And, so long as we are taxed and bonded to the legal limit there is no other way than to

practice the most rigid economy in the operation of our schools.

In resuming the plan of a city superintendent of school the school board said that it was in the "interest of economy and efficient administration." By the change two half time teachers paid \$832.50 were laid off and the principal of the Brattain school salary cut \$200, a saving of \$1032.50 and at the same time another salary of \$2400 was provided for. We are willing to reserve judgment until all the teachers are elected on whether this was an actual saving or not. We have no objection to the superintendency plan nor the man elected to fill the position so long as the school expense is not increased. We merely want to be shown that the change was in the interest of economy and we fancy that there are a good many taxpayers just like us.

Stating that a thing is in the interest of economy and transacting public business behind closed doors does not increase confidence in the board of directors nor convince the people who are paying the school bills.

This much can be said for Jay Upton, who spoke to a Springfield audience last Friday night, on his candidacy for governor: He is honest and fearless. He does not preach prohibition in public and drink like a fish in private life like some candidates for state offices in this election. Jay is a rare candidate in this respect. He believes law enforcement officers should first observe the law themselves.

The boy scouts have done two good turns by cleaning up the alleys back of Main street and the graveyard on the hill. Now let some of the older folks do a few good turns in the spring cleanup.

The rural free delivery system was carried on by the postoffice department last year at a loss of \$8 million dollars. From the routing of some of the delivery routes in this section we can believe it, especially if this system is universal.

### Editorial Comment

NO CRIME TO DISCUSS LAWS.

The laws of this country are supposed to be like our government, "for the people and by the people." There are laws on the statute books that are never enforced. There are city ordinances that the most law abiding citizens violate almost daily. Some of these laws and ordinances are out of date and entirely wrong. It is absolutely no crime to advocate changing those laws, nor is it a crime to discuss them.

The same conditions are somewhat true of the prohibition law of state and country. While they are on the statute books they should be obeyed and they should be enforced, but it is no crime to discuss whether or not they are doing exactly what the people who voted for them in the first place expected and wanted them to do.

The person who advocates a change may be the finest citizen in the community. He may believe that a change will bring about more respect for laws generally. He may be a temperance advocate of the strongest kind. He may be living up to the spirit and the letter of the law, more than some people who are satisfied with conditions as they are today. It has been repeatedly charged that some of the members of congress vote "dry" and live "wet." There are some people who believe that alcoholic liquors should not be used as a beverage but who believe it should be available for medicinal purposes. In the state of Washington the only place that an alcoholic beverage can legally be used is in a church for a communion or mass service. It can be used as part of the Bible teaching but not to save life.—Ellensburg Record Press.

The house-to-house peddler of merchandise is not a good, substantial asset to any community. He pays neither rent or taxes to carry on his profession. He does not help build or maintain our schools, nor does he share in the responsibilities of the merchant who does business along legitimate lines. He is here today and gone tomorrow.—Roseburg News-Review.

### Fashion's Edict



Paris sends well dressed American women this clever plaid Kasha gown, to which a tan turban, shoes and stockings are a pretty complement. A red suede bag completes the picture.

### UPTON SCORES PIERCE IN CAMPAIGN ADDRESS

Governor Pierce's prohibition enforcement methods were scored by Jay H. Upton, candidate for the republican nomination for governor, in Springfield Chamber of Commerce room last Friday night. The room was well filled with people from Springfield and vicinity.

The speaker declared that Governor Pierce follows the policy that it "takes a thief to catch a thief and therefore it takes a bootlegger to catch a bootlegger." Prohibition enforcement officers now at work in the state are many of them bootleggers or ex-bootleggers, Mr. Upton said, citing one case in which a man, found guilty three times of first degree murder had been paroled by Governor Pierce and is now in the dry law enforcement service. Methods followed in obtaining evidence for dry law arrests could hardly be called ethical, the speaker asserted.

Other phases of the Pierce administration, including the penitentiary situation, were condemned by one gubernatorial candidate. He said that after Governor Pierce took office, the committee which was to make an effort to cut expenses in connection with the governor's promised economy program met and asked the governor to attend but that executive went to Southern Oregon to make a speech instead. Similar stories were related by Upton.

The speaker was introduced by President H. J. Cox of the Springfield Chamber of Commerce. Jack Maglady, candidate for reelection to the state senate, accompanied Mr. Upton to the city and also spoke at the meeting at the chamber.

# J.C. Penney Co.

942 Willamette St., Eugene, Oregon

## Suits for Spring

With Two Pairs  
Pants—Double Service

# \$2.95

There's Individuality in every line. The Extra Pair of pants means double the wear. The patterns, fabrics and colors are Springtime's best.

Two and three-button, semi-conservative and English models for young men in novelty stripes. Cassimeres and unfinished worsteds of the sort we are glad to recommend.



### MAKE EVERY HOME A HOME SWEET HOME



## To Young Men!

Add something next week—then every week—to that Home Sweet Home of yours which is to be.

Did you ever pause to think that you can buy future happiness on the installment plan—just like merchandise of today?

\$2 deposited in our bank every week will buy for you more than \$100 in a short year of time.

We not only keep your money safely for you but add to it a compound interest as long as you leave it here.

Isn't this thought worth considering and acting upon next week, which is Home Sweet Home Week throughout the nation.

## Commercial State Bank

Springfield, Oregon

### SIGNS OF SPRING

By A. B. CHAPIN



## A Progressive Pharmacy

In this progressive age a druggist cannot afford to let ethical ideals blind him regarding the best interests of his business. We believe in modern merchandising methods and apply them in various ways in connection with the practice of pharmacy.

### Advertising

Read our newspaper ads and other forms of publicity which we issue. We keep our space filled with live interesting drug store news, and when you read the ads, watch our window displays. The two work together.

### Window Displays.

Watch our windows for a showing of up-to-date drug store merchandise. These displays are changed regularly and made to conform with our newspaper ads. A limited window space will not permit a showing of all goods so visit our store, too.



## Learn About These Travel Extras

At no additional fare, get extra advantages when you travel.

Profit by stopover privileges on 15-day roundtrip tickets between many Oregon points. Visit at several points instead of only one.

Weekend roundtrip tickets to and from Portland—without stopover—are greatly reduced in cost. Buy them for over-Sunday trips. Return limit is following Tuesday.

Tell our agent your travel plans. He'll gladly advise you regarding a most advantageous itinerary.

# Southern Pacific Lines

CARL OLSON, Agent