

# THE SPRINGFIELD NEWS

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THURSDAY, APRIL 22, 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.

### RESIGNATION OF COX.

The resignation of Councilman Herbert J. Cox is to be regretted, especially at this time. Coming on the council new when city's books were in a haphazard condition and its methods of accountancy obsolete, Mr. Cox, as chairman of the finance committee, spent much time and energy in reorganizing things along business lines. For the first time in years now the city council knows the exact conditions of all its various funds and each regular meeting has a statement of the amount expended from the various funds and the balances as compared with the budget. Liens and assessments for improvements have been gone over and re-entered in a new and up-to-date docket.

Mr. Cox with his knowledge of higher accountancy has proved invaluable to the city. He has also shown himself to be able in handling the various city problems that has come up. If we could continue to have as capable councilmen as Cox in the future Springfield's affairs would be well administered.

### LUTHER BURBANK

Luther Burbank, whose wizardry with plants won him an everlasting name in this world, died the other day, one writer says: "as one of the plants he nurtured might have died had it been subjected too harshly by the elements."

Burbank, whose genius had made the world more beautiful, died in the midst of a battle with the world, so to speak—a battle which really hastened his death.

He called himself an "infidel." "The idea that a good God would send people to a burning hell is utterly damnable," he said. "My religion is a religion of love. I love everybody. I want everybody to be happy."

His pronouncement that he was an "infidel" brought a storm of protests upon him. He sought vainly, at his age, to answer each critic—and there were thousands of them. He clung to his contention that there is no life beyond the grave.

The controversy unnerved him—and his strength failed in the crisis.

And now the entire world lauds him, despite his religious conviction, as a great scientist and a great and lovable man.

### PROSPECTS SEEM GOOD.

With excellent growing crops and a fair market in sight the farmer can go about his work this spring with optimism. The winter and spring has been ideal for both fall and spring grain as well as vegetable and fruits. A little rain will be needed in the next few weeks but it's an even bet we will get it.

After a few lean years, it would seem that the farmer faces a fairly prosperous one. And what is good for the farmer is good for the rest of us.

There are a few sidewalks that need building that were overlooked by the council and property holders last year. A cement sidewalk on a street is as good as its weakest link. Repairing our sidewalks got us mail delivery. Fixing up the rest of the weak links may bring us something else besides general satisfaction.

There is an enrollment of 25,000,000 students in American schools. This country is fast reaching the point where every child of school age will be in school.

### Editorial Comment

#### SENTIMENTALITY FLOURISHES YET.

Another Oregon slayer paid the penalty of his crime on the scaffold today. But he did not go to the gallows without the usual hue and cry among the sentimentalists.

Delegations of organizations that exist for alleged humanitarian purposes besought the governor to exercise clemency. They had no evidence to show that the condemned man had been wrongfully convicted. They based their appeals on their disbelief in capital punishment.

Why will citizens undertake to influence officials who are sworn to uphold the laws of the state to break them? As long as we have the capital punishment law, why not let it take its course when murderers have been proven guilty of first degree murder?

In this case, the crime of the murderer was essentially serious, in that he killed an officer of the law who was discharging his duty. Why should the governor accede to the request of the sentimentalists and by so doing encourage other criminals to shoot down officers? How long would society endure?

It is strange that many minds are so constituted that they are so moved to sympathy for the perpetrators of heinous crimes that they cannot see in the crime a threat against the very stability of society.—Albany Democrat-Herald.

#### WHO PAYS THE PIPER?

Winston Churchill does himself little credit and his country little service by extolling that chimerical but strangely active corpse—the cancellation of war debts. As Chancellor of the Exchequer and a leader in the Tory party he may believe his denunciation of America a clever political move. Actually it serves only to comfort those common enemies who seek to strain friendly relations between the two nations at a time when England may need friends badly.

Churchill's picture of the United States as a land fattening on wealth "drawn from the devastated and war-stricken countries of Europe in an unbroken stream across the Atlantic" may be rhetoric, but it is nonsense.

All Europe is agreed on one panacea for its ills—letting America pay for its war. Why should we? This country was not consulted when the torch was applied in 1914. The war was not of our making. At its conception it was scarcely even of our concern. When we did enter it in the name of democracy, there was no niggardliness in men or money. Yet the politicians of Europe—setting up a claim because of this very aid—would place the whole tremendous financial burden of the war on the back of the American taxpayer.

Nor is this all: damned for his stinginess, the American taxpayer seldom retorts that he is already paying all of his own share and half of Europe's—which he is.

The United States has gone to the very limit in granting concessions and virtual moratoriums, in fathoming "ability to pay," in affixing low rates of interest. We are not (as pictured by the foreign press and politicians) a nation of Shylocks demanding our pound of flesh. There is some thought that Churchill is playing for a breakdown of the British-American funding agreement. If so he is wasting breath; to reduce financial arrangements any further would be equivalent to paying an admission fee for getting into the war.—Dearborn Independent.

One way to get ahead and keep ahead is to do each job as though you were going to be judged by that alone.—Becker's House Organ.

Advertising is the fuel of business. Stint the fuel and your engine runs slow. No fuel, no speed.—Northern Furniture.

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  - Mrs. Westburg, Colton stomach trouble.
  - Mrs. Halvor Nelson, Chinook, Wash., goitre.
  - Martin Jorgesson, Astoria, nerve trouble.
  - Mrs. Chris Hanson, Chinook, Wash., bowel trouble and neuritis.
  - Mrs. James E. His, Coquille, gall stones and colitis.
  - James Suess, Lakeside, ulcers of stomach.
  - J. R. Jenkins, Silverton, circulatory trouble.
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### AIN'T IT THE TRUTH

By A. B. CHAPIN



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