

THE SPRINGFIELD NEWS

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LET'S BE MORE LIBERAL WITH OUR PRAISE.

The annual auditors statement of the town of Springfield had reduced its net debt by nearly \$22,000 during 1926 should be received with satisfaction by the people. The auditors report "this indicates a healthy condition, proving the efficient manner in which the affairs have been handled during the past year by city authorities."

City officials get lots of kicks but little praise for their service to the city without pay. The item above should entitle city officials to a little praise from us all.

The Washington Legislature held a comedy session at Longview the other day in which mock laws were passed providing for aeroplane patrols to keep the Oregon fog on the south side of the Columbia river and tail and headlights were provided for salmon in order that they might get under the proposed Longview bridge, etc. The only difference between this session and the ones held at the state capital is that this one was intended to be comical while some of those at Olympia are just naturally funny.

Nicholas Murray Butler, president of Columbia University is often talked of as president of the United States. His only qualifications so far as we can see is his command of the English language. The third sentence in his annual report as president of the university contained 1,743 words, 125 commas and 32 semicolons. Any man who can write like that ought to be a good diplomat. We suggest he be sent to the next limitation conference.

Well boys when you start kicking about the weather let your memory work back to '17 and '18 when you were thankful to get a chance to crawl under a flapping Sibley tent and open up a can of corn beef and another of tomatoes. Or if it wasn't a tent then a French barn or musty wine cellar. And remember it rained just like it does now and the wind blew like-----

There are a dozen proposed laws before the legislature affecting fish. The poor fish will soon be regulated as much as the humans

Why Not A Knockout?

McAdoo's speech at Toledo, wherein he took up the dry banner against the Smith wets, and started a general rough house in Democratic ranks, could easily be the end toward a final settlement of whether we are to remain dry or go back to the refreshment stand. Senator Walsh, a wet from Massachusetts, made very wise com-

ment on the McAdoo speech. He said: "It is serving an excellent purpose in preparing the way for a definite determination by the Democratic Party as to whether it will line up with Prohibition or against it. It is an irrepressible conflict that cannot be escaped. By throwing down the gage of battle in behalf of the dries, the McAdoo speech serves a useful purpose."

There are thinking men everywhere who are of the opinion that the healthiest thing that could now happen would be for the Republican party to bring the same thing to pass within its ranks. If someone like Senator Wadsworth, New York wet Republican—or Nicholas Murray Butler, a party factor, would force the party to decide the issue—in presenting a wet candidate—and insisting upon a wet plank—as Governor Smith is doing in the Democratic ranks, then we would be getting somewhere. It is conceded by many that there will never be a decisive referendum in a pre-convention or convention decision by the Democrats alone.

GIVE THEM INTELLECTUAL LIBERTY

Radicals opposed to the rights of school teachers to intellectual liberty and free speech received a bloody nose when they went to listen to President S. S. Menken of the National Security League. He said: "No man is good enough to do another man's thinking, and teachers, who are in the main hard-working, self-sacrificing, grossly underpaid public servants, should not be humiliated by being denied the rights of free thought and free speech."

Isn't there a world of truth in those few words? If any class of people should be able to stand on their own feet, hold their heads high, do their own thinking and have the right to express their opinions, it is the teacher. Humiliation such as some of our teachers throughout the nation are subjected to is bad for society, bad for the teachers, bad for the taught. We want no moulding of the minds of youth by sneaks or slaves.

WOULD HURT TOWNS AND INDUSTRIES

A bill was proposed in the Oregon legislature to prevent the "pollution" of the streams, so drastic that it was estimated its compliance would cost Portland alone about \$35,000,000, or \$100 per capita for new sewers. It would cost many other cities almost at the same rate. While it was temporarily withdrawn, it will undoubtedly be considered in the future, and the public should understand the facts involved.

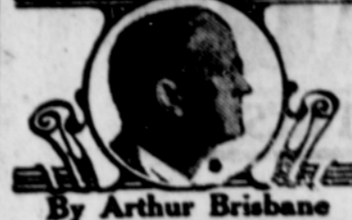
The rivers belong to the public. Navigable or not, they are the highways of trade and the arteries of life. Industries build along the rivers, that cannot live anywhere else. Almost every industry actually "pollutes" the stream, at least theoretically; to absolutely eliminate such contamination is eliminate the industry.

The rivers must be kept safe; but that may be infinitely far from eliminating all contamination. Industrial life must be maintained, even at the cost of some technical contamination. Sawmills, tanneries, woolen mills, paper mills, mines, all tend to affect the streams; and yet, as between stream purity, and a populace with a thousand or a million jobs maintaining that many homes, the jobs must stand.

Mayor Baker of Portland properly refused to support the measure that threatened to extinguish industry and bankrupt his city.

Whatever can be done to preserve the streams, should be done; but always it must be with the thought that in a settled country they are the arteries of industrial life. Drinking water supplies must come from unpolluted sources entirely removed from industrial streams.

This Week



By Arthur Brisbane

A DR. WORK WHO WORKS. BE PATIENT WITH STATIC. 'XMAS' A SACRILEGE. 'CHRISTIANITY A FAILURE?

Dr. Work, Secretary of the Interior, says of the 1927 outlook: "There is not a single distress sign on the whole economic horizon."

Secretary Work doesn't sit at his desk, guessing. He travels over the country constantly, studying opportunities for national improvement. He knows conditions, and his opinion is important and encouraging.

Should millions of women read of the death of Sir Oliver Lodge, Marconi, Millikin and a dozen other great scientists the majority would say, "That's too bad," and be not much interested.

Every one of millions will be interested to hear that Jean Phillippe Worth, the famous dressmaker, has gone to a land where there is no sewing.

His house dressed queens and empresses of state and finance, also young ladies with whom their sons ran around in Paris. His word meant more real authority to the world's women than all the decisions of a thousand high judges.

Be patient with static, when it interferes with jazz music or prize fight news coming sweetly over your radio. Professor Pupin, of Columbia College, says static and "fading," enemies of radio enthusiasts, really indicate that other planets are trying to talk to us. They send powerful messages that interfere with our feeble radio, and Pupin thinks we shall understand these messages within twenty-five years.

If planets millions of years older than our earth could tell us what they know, our science might jump ahead as rapidly as a child advances in knowledge after it has learned to talk and read.

We light little bonfires, heat steam, and thus obtain power. Mars might teach us to harness the power of the sun, and transmit energy without wires, which would do away with engines or fuel on flying machines, and give us unlimited power.

It is said that in this country there is more commercial "flying mileage" than in any other.

For that thanks are due to President Coolidge and Postmaster General New, who have encouraged air mail routes. But flying back and forth by mail carriers, most desirable, does not mean building up national aerial defense.

And for our commercial flying we depend on private initiative, citizens building planes that will "get by" and enable them to make money carrying mail. That isn't a Government programme for promoting aviation.

Clergymen are protesting against the abbreviated "Xmas," which reduces the name of Christ to "X." The abbreviation is disrespectful to the most beautiful word in history, and it is disrespectful to the English language. Anybody who was in too much of a hurry to write out "Christmas" should not use the word.

Wise men in Milwaukee will devote three days to discussing high questions, including this, "Can Christianity be of any parotical use in changing existing conditions?" Christianity has been changing existing conditions for about nine-hundred years, there is no reason why it should break down now. To "love the neighbor as thyself," trying to do him, instead of trying to do him, will always improve conditions if men mean it.

Another suggestion before Congress is to forbid experiment with an scientific study of poison gases. The peak of absurdity is to suggest that we must not KNOW about poison gases. Can we not trust ourselves. Is it not illicy to say that our scientists shall not keep this country informed about important warlike weapons?

Legion Has Meeting The American Legion held a meeting Friday night, at which business of interest to the Legionnaires was transacted. The organization is planning a chicken dinner to be held in March. Here From Sutherland—Miss Flora Whitney is visiting at the Springfield residence of her brother, Harry W. Whitney, and family. Mrs. Kester Returns—Mrs. Eugene Kester has returned after a visit to San Francisco. Garrett's Old Time Dance Dreamland Hall, Eugene, Every Tuesday Night. Tickets 75c. Ladies Free.

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Flowers—Fresh from your own garden A FLOWER garden is the cheapest and easiest-to-make yard decoration you can provide and it is also one of the most enjoyable. Garden annuals will grow in any fairly good soil in a location where there is sunshine the greater part of the day. By a little planning of varieties you can have blooms from early summer to late in the fall—and be sure to choose some for cutting, such as cosmos, calendulas, zinnias, sweet peas, nasturtiums, pinks, petunias, asters, etc. Plant seeds which have a good reputation for producing flowers in profusion and true to type. Northrup, King & Co.'s Seeds have been giving satisfaction since 1884 and no better seeds are sold at any price. Most Of The Standard Size Flower Seeds 5¢ At Local Dealers NORTHROP, KING & CO.'S SEEDS

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