

# THE SPRINGFIELD NEWS

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THURSDAY APRIL 7, 1927

## JASPER-LOWELL ROAD NEEDS WORK

More improvement on the Jasper-Lowell section of the Willamette road is needed and is warranted by the amount of traffic over this highway. While a great improvement was made last year in eliminating the Jacoby hill section there is still much that should be done on this road. In fact it should all be put in the same condition as the stretch built last year.

At present there is an unimproved section leading out of Jasper station and also rough road on the other end of the new section. Two railroad crossings need improvement especially in the face of the heavy through traffic to be inaugurated soon on the Natron line.

People of this city should join those on the Fall Creek neighborhood in making a strong request to the county court for improvement of this road. Not only is there sufficient local traffic to justify the improvement but it is the shortest distance between Oakridge and upper Willamette points to the valley.

## LET'S GET FACTS FOR NEW CANNERY

Farmers should cooperate with the chamber of commerce in getting the facts about acreage and support a new cannery should expect if it were to locate in Lane county. The chamber is making a survey of this vicinity for the cannery people. While nearly everybody professes to believe that there is sufficient acreage to support a new cannery it should be down in "black and white" over the signatures of the farmers. When that is done the cannery will have some foundation to build on. The self addressed postal cards sent out by the Chamber should be filled out and returned immediately even by those who have no acreage as well as those who have so that the facts can be known.

At last an agreement to build the Springfield bridge has been reached by the highway commission. Prospects are that the new structure will be completed this year.

One thing about divorces that has been overlooked. If this country ever gets short of gold it can fall back on the discarded wedding rings.

It's often an economic waste killing a perfectly good sheep to give some college graduates a diploma.

The poorest place to die in is the town where you haven't done your part to make it a better place to live in.

The home-town newspaper is the loud speaker for the community and it costs but little to tune in.

Being in business is a position but keeping in it is a job.

The door that is the hardest to keep the wolf from is in the sedan.

## IN DEATH STRUGGLE—FOES OF DIRECT PRIMARY NEED WATCHING

Die-hards are ever with us. The current species is as tough and as hardy as any the nation has had to exterminate in the last seventy-five years. It is the corrupt political boss or ward-heeler, fighting, in his death struggle, to have us repeal the direct primary.

With a presidential year looming ahead in 1928, there are reasons enough why it would be advantageous to many of the old bosses to return to the convention system, in county, in state, in nation. Of course this is too much for them to hope for, still it is a fact that most determined effort to that end is this year being made. Voters everywhere should be warned of the subtle and indirect methods that are being used, to take from their hands the right to name their respective party candidates.

The attack on the direct primary is being pressed by those forces that prefer a government by money—to one of popular opinion. The scandals within the last year have put a new determination into the foes of the primary. Bosses have learned that money used too lavishly in a primary, defeats its own ends. Under the convention system money can be handled easily, effectively—and attracts no attention.

Right now there are some seemingly very learned discussions being featured by the political-boss directed press which attempt to palm off the old corrupt convention system of nomination as the "indirect convention system."

In a nutshell, it is a joke for advocates of the convention system to talk about "the cost" of the direct primary and compare it in any way with the old convention system. Just remember this. Every real progressive in Congress today comes from direct primary strongholds—and virtually every one is a poor man. Also, investigate and you will find that the drive against the direct primary is headed by public utility officials, old school politicians and corporation lawyers.

## AWFUL BILL BOARDS DISGRACE

There are times when the United States can sincerely regret that she is a young nation. When one is young, one oftentimes does things unthinkingly. So with the nation—and the day we permitted the start in besmearing our beautiful landscapes along our national highways, with huge, lurid billboards and signs, is one of those things, like the follies of youth, which we wish we could undo.

An attempt to disfigure English landscapes with billboards and signs, a la America, is meeting with stiff opposition. Our sympathy is with the challengers and against the vandalism. It is our hope the protest will save the rural landscapes of England from such defacement.

A few successful protests by other nations may some day awaken America, and public sentiment force a removal of all wayside billboards which deface and destroy our nation's natural beauty.

A London scientist says "in twenty years we will have television, no drudgery in the home, sex predetermined and children fed on concentrated food through tubes." Here is a tip for ambitious 1927 school and college graduates to get into the tube business.

Seven Men-o'-War sons and daughters have been nominated for the Kentucky Derby, May 14. Roll them bones—and come seven.

Some women who think they are shining socially find later that it was only their nose.

## FORESTS USED FOR GRAZING MANY CATTLE

Nearly a million head of livestock used summer pasture on the mountain meadows and weed patches of the national forests of Oregon and Washington during 1926, according to the annual grazing report just prepared in the district forester's office, Portland, Oregon.

The national forests of Oregon and Washington thus made important contributions of wool, meat and leather, as well as timber crops in the industrial life of these two states. By this use the annual forage growth, this number of livestock also helped to remove the fire hazard and produced economic contributions from otherwise wasted by-products.

Sheep show the largest number with 612,000 head in Oregon, and 163,700 head in Washington, a total of 775,700 head. The Oregon forests also supported 95,500 cattle and 7,900 horses; while the Washington forests gave summer pasture to 13,400 cattle and 1,760 horses. The Siskiyou national forest in southern Oregon, reports a grazing permit for 10 hogs. The Siuslaw, in the Oregon coast country, reports 48 goats under permit, while the Rainier national forest in Washington reports 65 goats.

## FIRE DRILL TO START APRIL 18, IS PLAN

Springfield's volunteer fire company will begin regular drills on April 18, according to plans perfected by Chief Jess Smitson. Practice will be held twice a month.

Longer days have been awaited before plans for drilling the company in the evenings were completed. Regular attendance at drills will be required of members, the chief said.

Although the volunteer company has been organized for several weeks, not a single blaze has broken out in the city to allow it to demonstrate efficiency.

## POSTAL RECEIPTS IN NOTABLE GAIN HERE

Postal receipts both for March and for the first quarter of the year showed marked increase over corresponding periods of 1926, according to announcement of Postmaster F. B. Hamlin.

March receipts totaled \$707.08, while those of March 1926, ran to but \$672.15, or a gain of \$34.93. This is a 5 per cent increase.

A gain of \$156.76 was shown for the quarter, approximately 7.8 per cent gain. Figures: 1927, \$2110.34; 1926, \$1953.76.

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**Russell Convicted**  
Dewey Russell, alleged accomplice of Albert Brownlee in the Veneta pool hall hold-up, on Monday was convicted by a jury of assault with intent to rob. Russell was given 10 days in which to seek a new trial if he wishes.

## First Game Tomorrow

The first baseball game of the season will be played here tomorrow afternoon, when Springfield will have made the plan unprofitable, he tackle the Junction City nine. This said.

also will be the first appearance of Springfield high school athletes under the tutelage of Leonard Mayfield, newly appointed coach.

## Baseball Plans Dropped

A city baseball team such as has been organized in years past here is not planned for this year, according to Jack Larson, manager of last year's team. Difficulties in holding the players together for the entire season have made the plan unprofitable, he said.

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