

Consolidation Is Not Favored

Continued from Page 1

than a means of creating it. For, without complete understanding and harmony in the first place, the necessary vote could not be mustered, even if all economic and practical factors were found favorable to the consolidation.

Increase Population Figures for Eugene

The merging of the two cities under the name of Eugene would increase the population of Eugene by 1800 to 2250 persons. This means that the 1930 census would show Eugene to have from 8 to 10 per cent more people than without the consolidation.

On the face of it, this would seem desirable. The prestige of a sizable population total, even though puffed by the absorption of another incorporated town, doubtless would attract favorable attention of those who did not take the pains to inquire into all the factors represented in the census figure.

Those persons or agencies who did determine that the absorbed city of Springfield was a factor in the new population figure for Eugene, might minimize Eugene's phenomenal natural growth of the past ten years, and over-estimate the part played by the merger.

Possibility of More Prestige Without Combined Population Figures.

Population figures in themselves do not give a community prestige. While more numbers as represented on the census roll are prima facie evidence of certain parallel business and community conditions in the city, they are not conclusive proof.

For example, Eugene's retail and wholesale volume has been out of all proportion to its size. Instead of being bound by the extent of its city limits, its trade has been determined by the size and population of its large trading area. Eugene merchants are receiving practically all of the retail business of Springfield citizens, with the possible exception of groceries, meats, confections, drugs, some furniture and hardware, and a few other lines. This is due to an economic condition purely, existing in spite of city boundaries.

In other words, Eugene with its present city limits and population is getting the retail business of the citizens of Springfield for natural economic reasons. Eugene, then, enjoys a retail volume out of proportion to its actual population because of the proximity of a neighboring town. The physical merging of the two cities would not be likely to increase the retail business done. It would seem that there would be more prestige in having general business and retail conditions actually better than the population seems to warrant, instead of tending toward an ordinary per capita volume, as would be the case under the new population figures resulting from the merger.

Extension of Eugene's Municipal Water and Light System to Springfield

The proposed merger, if followed to its logical conclusion, would mean the extension of Eugene's municipal water and light system to serve the residents of Springfield.

As Eugene's municipal system is able to produce electricity and furnish water at rates below any city on the Pacific Coast, with the exception of Tacoma, it would seem that the extension of such low rates would benefit the citizens of Springfield.

It is realized, of course, that there are technical and legal difficulties to overcome. There is the matter of the existing franchise which has some years yet to run. There is the matter of the condemnation and purchase of the utility's property by the Eugene Water Board.

There is one very serious objection to the plan, assuming that the above technicalities can be overcome. Transferring of the present utility property from private to public ownership means removing it from the tax rolls. For 1928, the Mountain States Company paid \$22,710.91 on its Springfield property. The total tax levy for Springfield approximated \$86,000. This company, then, paid 26.4% of the total levy for the city.

Of course, some of this property is part of the company's interconnection system and might not be transferred to the Eugene Board, but the major part would be and would remove over \$20,000 in tax payments from the rolls.

There is serious doubt that the reduction in electricity and water rates would offset this material tax loss.

Electric Power and Water.

The cost of 50 KWH in Eugene for lighting is \$2.60 and in Springfield \$4.60 (Ed. note—The average used in Springfield is about 20 KWH per month. This costs \$1.60 while it would be \$1.40 in Eugene. The long complicated tables in the original report are not repeated here).

The cooking rate is \$2.50 minimum both in Eugene and Springfield with 50 KWH in Eugene costing \$2.60 and

charge of \$1.15 for 300 cubic feet and 15c per additional cubic foot on meters. Nearly all Springfield is on flat rate with 75c minimum and \$3.00 a season for irrigation.

EFFECT OF TAXES

*COMPARISON OF TAX LEVIES FOR ALL PURPOSES

| City | Assessed Valuation | Amount of Levy | Rate in Mills Actual | Rate in Mills Equalized |
|-------------|--------------------|----------------|----------------------|-------------------------|
| Eugene | \$14,467,899.00 | \$846,372.00 | 58.5 | 54.6 |
| Springfield | 1,202,791.00 | \$6,000.00 | 71.5 | 66.7 |

TABLE 8

*COMPARISON OF TAX LEVIES FOR CITY PURPOSES ONLY

| City | Amount of Levy | Rate in Mills Actual | Rate in Mills Equalized |
|-------------|----------------|----------------------|-------------------------|
| Eugene | \$245,635.02 | 17.6 | 16.4 |
| Springfield | 28,506.15 | 23.7 | 22.1 |

TABLE 9

*Oregon Voter, May 11, 1929.

The above tables reveal an apparent advantage in favor of the Eugene tax payer. The tax rate in mills is lower for Eugene.

What the tables do not reveal, however, are the differences in assessed valuation of properties in the two communities. According to the county assessor's office and other sources, Springfield is assessed at a lower figure than in Eugene. That being the case, the actual present tax burden for the Springfield tax payer approximates that for the citizen of Eugene and the consolidation would make little change.

SUMMARY OF INDEBTEDNESS JULY 1, 1928 (Report of State Treasurer)

EUGENE

| | |
|----------------------|-----------------------|
| Bonds Issued | \$3,522,871.24 |
| Bonds Outstanding | \$3,386,755.90 |
| Warrants Outstanding | 254,842.83 |
| TOTAL DEBT | \$3,641,598.73 |
| Less: Sinking Fund | 666,371.65 |
| NET DEBT | \$2,915,227.08 |

SPRINGFIELD

| | |
|----------------------|---------------------|
| Bonds Issued | \$221,931.56 |
| Bonds Outstanding | 185,931.56 |
| Warrants Outstanding | 12,694.77 |
| TOTAL DEBT | \$198,626.33 |
| Less: Sinking Funds | 17,035.00 |
| NET DEBT | \$181,591.33 |

TABLE 10

This table reveals the comparative net indebtedness of the two cities as of July 1, 1928. The figures were taken from those compiled by the State Treasurer for each incorporated city of the state.

Per capita figures are not shown because of the difficulty of accurately estimating the present populations of the two cities.

SCHOOL SYSTEMS AND COSTS

RATIO OF NET SCHOOL DEBT TO ASSESSED VALUATION PER STUDENT IN AVERAGE DAILY ATTENDANCE

| District | Assessed Valuation of school dist. | Net debt | Ave. No. Students attending | Assessed val. per stud. | Net debt per student | Percent debt to assessed Valuation |
|------------------|------------------------------------|--------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------|----------------------|------------------------------------|
| 4 (Eugene) | \$14,749,339.00 | \$562,444.24 | 3420 | \$4312.68 | 154.46 | 3.81% |
| 19 (Springfield) | 1,598,878.00 | 98,666.95 | 724 | 2208.39 | 122.47 | 5.58% |

This table reveals that the assessed valuation per school child in average daily attendance in Eugene is nearly twice that for Springfield. The net debt per student is 40% greater in Eugene than Springfield, yet the percent debt to assessed value is less. The territory contained in districts 4 and 19 are slightly greater than the corporate limits in each case.

SCHOOL TAXES

AMOUNT OF LEVY, AND RATE IN MILLS, 1928 TAX LEVY (Spring, 1929)

| District | Assessed Val. | Amount of Levy | Rate in Mills |
|----------------------|-----------------|----------------|---------------|
| No. 4 (Eugene) | \$14,749,339.00 | \$200,591.01 | 13.6 |
| No. 19 (Springfield) | 1,598,878.00 | 32,777.00 | 20.5 |

*County Assessor.

TABLE 12

SCHOOL TAXES

*TAX RATE IN MILLS AND TAX PER CENSUS PUPIL—CITIES OF EUGENE AND SPRINGFIELD

1928 TAX LEVY—(Spring 1929)

| City | Tax Rate in Mills | | No. of Census pupils | Tax per Census pupil |
|-------------|-------------------|-----------|----------------------|----------------------|
| | Actual | Equalized | | |
| Eugene | 20.72 | 19.33 | 4591 | \$66.57 |
| Springfield | 27.62 | 25.71 | 731 | 56.55 |

*Oregon Voter, May 18, 1926.

Table 12 shows the tax levies together with the rate in mills for districts No. 4 and No. 19. The purpose of Table 13 is slightly different. It was prepared by the Oregon Voter, together with tables for every city in the State, and reveals the tax cost per census pupil for the two cities in question. It will be noted that Springfield's pre-census pupil cost is approximately \$10.00 less than the cost for Eugene.

HOUSING

EUGENE—HOUSING (Lane Industrial Survey)

An estimate based upon the 1920 census and residence building permits since, checked by the number of residence water connections, indicates that Eugene had 4481 homes in January, 1928.

In 1920 the percentage of home ownership was 46.2%. While it is probable that the percentage is now slightly lower, no more reliable estimate is now available. The application of that percentage to the number of homes, indicates that there were 2070 homes owned by occupants in January, 1928.

SPRINGFIELD—HOUSING

A comparison of several reliable estimates indicates that Springfield

has about 655 houses. The percentage of home ownership approximates 63%, in contrast to about 46% for Eugene.

NOTICE FOR SALE OF REAL PROPERTY

Notice is Hereby Given: That by virtue of an order of the County Court of Lane County, Oregon of date July 13, 1929, in the matter of the guardianship of Julian F. Miller, a minor, the undersigned, the duly appointed, qualified and acting guardian of said minor and the estate of said minor, will, on and after the 23rd day of September, 1929, offer and sell at private sale for cash, or for cash and credit, to the highest bidder in Eugene, Lane County, Oregon, all the right, title and interest of said minor in and to the real property thereof, being an undivided one-half interest therein, to-wit:

Lot No. Twenty-three (23) in Block No. Thirty-three (33) in the Amended Plat of Fairmont, now a part of the City of Eugene, in Lane County, Oregon.

That said sale will take place at the law office of Alta King, in the Court House, Eugene, Lane County, Oregon.

This notice is published in the Springfield News, first publication being August 22nd, 1929.

ALICE McC. MILLER, Guardian of the person and estate of Julian F. Miller, a minor.

A22-29 S 5-12-19

Turners on Trip—Mr and Mrs. G. H. Turner are on a short vacation and camping trip in the Cascade mountains. They left the latter part of last week, expecting to visit many of the lakes in the mountains. Mrs. Charles Myers is running the Novelty store in their absence.

Birthday Dinner Given
A birthday dinner honoring Mr. M. M. Male was given Sunday at his home by Mrs. Male. Present at the function were Mr. and Mrs. Ivan Male and Miss Grace Male, who is here from Portland visiting with her parents.

Here From Blue River—Bert Vincent, Blue River resident, spent Monday on a business trip to Springfield.

NOTICE OF FINAL HEARING

Notice is hereby given that the undersigned, Oren C. Davis, administrator with the will annexed of the estate of Fanny E. Ware, deceased, has filed his final account in the County Court of Lane County, Oregon, and that September 23rd, 1929, at ten o'clock in the forenoon thereof at the court house in Eugene, Lane County, Oregon, has been fixed by said court as the time and place for hearing said account and settlement thereof, and for any order that may be proper in the premises. Date of first publication August 22nd, 1929.

OREN C. DAVIS, Administrator.
ALTA KING, Attorney.
A 22-29 S 5-12-19

EIGHTH GRADE EXAMINATIONS

Uniform Eighth Grade examinations will be given in districts where pupils are entitled to take them and where application for questions has been made, on Thursday and Friday, September 5-6, 1929, according to schedule. A limited number can take them at my office, by letting me know.

E. J. MOORE, Supt.

S-5

CALL FOR WARRANTS

Springfield, Oregon, August 22, 1929.
Notice is hereby given that School District No. 19, in Springfield, Lane County, Oregon, will pay at the office of the Clerk of said District all warrants to and including No. 525. Interest ceases after August 22, 1929.

W. G. Hughes, Clerk District No. 19

POWERS

August Sale

Continues

Reductions Ranging from 15% to 50%

(Contract Lines Excepted)



Green and tan Fibre Group

A value that invites comparison—for quality, style, and comfort. Offered in green and tan, enamel finish, black and orange trimmed. Auto spring cushions covered with heavy cretonne.

3 PIECES \$39.75



3 Piece Bedroom Set - Bed, Dresser, Chiffonier

This set, finished in ivory, includes full size bed with continuous 2-inch tube frame and half-inch fillers. Three drawer dresser with a 16x24-inch plate mirror and four-drawer chiffonier to match.

SPECIAL \$36.95



Birchfield Davenport

This new davenport is finished in plain mohair and has full pleated arm facing, fine leg base, and shaped bottom board with set-in-legs. It also has the popular reversible cushions.

Was Priced at \$150 \$119.50

Pay as You Earn

POWERS

Furniture Company

Eleventh and Willamette Eugene

Easy Terms