

THE SPRINGFIELD NEWS

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THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 28, 1929

THANKSGIVING

Thanksgiving Day no longer carries, to most Americans, the historical and spiritual significance which it had for the people of New England for nearly three centuries. In a considerable section of the country, however, especially in the smaller communities, it remains a holy day, consecrated to the memory of the courageous little band of pilgrims who first established it as an annual memorial of their deliverance from pestilence and famine. It is the oldest of all American holidays; it has been celebrated for a hundred and fifty years before the Fourth of July acquired significance. In the New England of comparatively a few years ago it was held in wider observance than even Christmas. It was the day for family reunions, when the sons and daughters with their wives and husbands and children came "home."

Those Thanksgiving days at "Grandma's house!" How they live in the memory of every Yankee boy and girl. The services at the church were among the few that the children really enjoyed, for the long sermon was mercifully cut short and the hymns were songs of praise instead of the dirge-like psalms which bored the infant mind to distraction. And then—Thanksgiving Dinner!

Fittingly, because it is America's own, the turkey was then as now the crowning glory of the feast, with its twin Yankee companions, the cranberry sauce. But turkey alone does not make a genuine old-fashioned Thanksgiving dinner. There were home-made bread and cake besides the profusion of vegetables and jellies and preserves; there were "fried-cakes," of the sort the Dutch called crullers and the Yankee doughnuts. And there was pie. Pumpkin pie, mince pie, apple pie, custard pie, cranberry pie, magnificent specimens of the three great species of pie, open-faced, cross-barred and "kivered."

No wonder the New England people are a hardy lot! Any child who survived an annual succession of Thanksgiving dinners and lived to grow up was made of tough fiber.

Clad in old clothes, a slouch hat and slicker, a mud-spattered old man crawled out of a trench in the Argonne Woods in October 1918. We were about to pass him by as an old Frenchman unfit for military duty who was up to the lines on some menial task, when he addressed us in English. He was Clemenceau, not the lowliest, but the mightiest man in France. And now he is dead and is being laid to rest with a simple ceremony fitting his nature—a plain, simple man, yet one which history will never forget.

Tacoma, hailed as the lowest power rate city, is in distress. Low water has closed her light plant and industry is at a standstill. These municipal owned plants are all right in some cases when they work, but the companies which own several plants and some of them steam, are the ones prepared to give continuous service.

The word "tariff" comes from Tarifa, the African seaport, where the Algerian pirates made their headquarters and from which they sailed forth to levy tribute on passing merchantmen. There is some evidence in the senate that the word still means the same thing.

ARE THEY WITH US?

The head of navigation in the Willamette river used to be Springfield. Barges once loaded and unloaded grain at the docks of the Springfield Mill and Grain company. When a request was made last spring for a survey of the Willamette river, with the plan of dredging so that barge transportation might again be undertaken, it was from Springfield to Oregon City. One of the underlying thoughts locally was that such dredging would solve the high water problem in West Springfield. Eugene, the city of brotherly love, appears to have forgotten Springfield and West Springfield in carrying on correspondence with Senator McNary. Her request is for a survey as far as Eugene, disregarding the fact that Springfield is the largest lumber shipping point in Oregon outside of Portland, and that the tonnage which leaves this city is greater than her own.

President Hoover urges continuous yet prudent carrying on of public work that unemployment may be relieved this winter. He also requested that large industries do their best to carry on and has been pledged support in this regard. With co-operation the president's program should be good for everybody.

Henry Ford advises people to quit playing the stock market and go to work. After all, wealth comes from work, and when someone gets it without working then somebody else must work doubly hard.

If you're doing your Christmas shopping early you're at it now.

Editorial Comment

OUR FEMININE AMERICA

The professors are at it again. Our valued friend, Prof. Robert E. Rogers of Massachusetts Tech, who brought down upon his head some miles of newspaper clippings because he told a group of young graduates to be snobs, has discovered that the thinking of the American people is feminine, because America has had too many women schoolteachers.

Already the woman schoolteacher has risen to reply: one leader of education so far forgetting herself as to say: "Professor Rogers is talking through his hat."

Prof. Lewis M. Terman of Stanford seems to feel that America may be turning feminine, but finds a different reason. He told assembled psychologists at New Haven that marriage so alters a husband that before he knows it his wife is doing the thinking for both.

And so far, no woman has risen to tell Professor Terman that he, too, is talking through his hat.

But what glorious material for those who promote and sell the advertising space in the women's magazines! Up to now they have contented themselves with such statements as Dr. Julius Klein's that "41 per cent of our passenger cars are bought by women."

If America is feminine and if wives dominate their husbands' thinking why stop at 41 per cent? Why advertise or sell anything at all except to women? What is man for except to earn money? The poor thing, dominated in youth by a woman teacher and in his subsequent years by his wife, shouldn't be allowed to spend it.—Nation's Business.

THESE DRY CONGRESSMEN

Another congressman who has consistently voted dry, who has always voted for increasing severe penalties for all who sell or have liquor in their possession is charged with conspiracy to violate the prohibition law. It seems that a suitcase shipped to this congressman's office in the capitol building leaked and then when officers investigated they also found a trunk full of liquor.

The arresting of dry congressmen on liquor possession charges is becoming so common that the stories no longer have news value. At that the congressmen are probably no greater hypocrites than are the citizens who talk and vote dry but who have a bottle at home, of course for "medicinal purposes."—Ellensburg Record Press.

MISTAKEN IDENTITY IS DISCOVERED AT HOME OF BANKER RECENTLY

A peculiar coincidence took place at the William G. Hughes' home here a week ago last Sunday when Leonard Jee, Chinese student at the University, who had come over from Eugene to address the Methodist Sunday school, was a guest of Elizabeth and Howard Hughes.

The group was carrying on a conversation in which they were discussing the differences in the people and their customs of the two countries represented when Mr. Jee remarked that his uncle had been in this country for several years and that he had given him an American ten dollar bill as a token when he returned to his native country.

Jee then proceeded to take out a bill from his pocket and showed it to the group. Much to the surprise of the group, the bill which had been carried in the young Chinese student's pocket for several years bore the signature of William G. Hughes, as president of the First National bank.

The bill was given to the boy at the time when Charles Evan Hughes was Secretary of State and it was explained to him that the signature was that of a famous American.

William G. Hughes smiled when he told of the incident. The boy was surprised to find himself a guest at the home of the signer of his bank note.

GRAFTED TREE HAS FINE WALNUT CROP IN TWO YEARS' TIME

Less than two years ago there stood a large black walnut tree in the F. B. Hamlin yard on Fourth street, and this fall the same tree is producing a medium quantity of fine English walnuts. Some of them are on display in the window of the real estate office next door to the post office.

Early in 1928 Mr. Hamlin decided that he would try to graft the black walnut tree, which was then over forty years old. In May of that same year the entire tree was stripped of its branches and Harold Chase grafted over 200 sets of English walnut limbs to the trunk where the old limbs had been cut away.

Of course there were some of the grafts that did not grow, but by looking down Fourth street one can always see the new branches which now number several hundred. They have all grown several feet and most of them have some nuts on them this year.

The Hamlin tree is not the only one in Springfield which has been grafted in this manner, but it is noteworthy because of the age of the tree at the time it was grafted.

LOCAL PEOPLE INVITED TO DINNER AT ALBANY

Mrs. Myrtle Eggimann, accompanied by Mrs. Annie Snodgrass, of Eugene, will motor to Albany Saturday afternoon to attend the turkey dinner which is to be held there that evening, under the auspices of Camp Phillip, post No. 2 of the United Spanish War Veterans.

The dinner will be served at 6:30 and the Albany organization has invited the Springfield and Eugene members of the General Lawton camp to be their guests.

Others may attend from Springfield, but they are not sure of their plans as yet.

WORKS HARD, DANCES, GAINS 3 LBS. A WEEK

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DR. E. C. MEADE
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NEW UNIFORMS COMING FOR LOCAL GUARDSMEN

Requisitions for new uniforms for the members of the local unit of the national guard have been mailed, according to C. A. Swartz, commander, who expects the new outfits to be here by the first of the year.

The new uniforms differ from the old ones in that they have rolled collars on the coats instead of the old style tight fitting coats which were left at the close of the world war and which most guardsmen have been wearing for the past ten years.

The old uniforms are not to be returned or exchanged for the new ones. The old ones are supposed to be used until they are worn out, after which they will be discarded and destroyed. The new outfits will only be used for dress affairs while the old ones last.

TEACHER INTRODUCED TO SUNDAY SCHOOL

Eighteen boys and girls attended the party given Friday evening by Mrs. R. P. Mortensen at her home for the members of her Sunday school class at the Methodist church. The class is composed of students in the freshman and sophomore classes of the high school.

Stunts and games were indulged in by all, after which a lunch was served by the hostess.

The surprise of the evening came with the announcement by the hostess that she had been forced to give up her class due to ill health and that Pearl Nelson would be their new teacher.

Miss Nelson and Mrs. H. L. Gillette were both present for the social gathering.



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Turn Him Loose

By Albert T. Reid

