

THE SPRINGFIELD NEWS

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THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 1931

AN ACKNOWLEDGED DEBT UNPAID

Whether to pay the adjusted service certificates now instead of 1945, when the face value comes due, is perplexing congressmen. The enemies of the plan to pay, most of whom profited by inflated incomes during the war, now wall that it would bankrupt the country and further depress business. They said the same thing on the passage of the bill six years ago and they were wrong then as they are now.

The country spent more money each month of the war than this bill called for and it will not cost the nation any more today than in 1945 to pay off these certificates. The war could easily have lasted another year if the American soldiers had been less aggressive, according to the words of General Pershing. No one will admit that another year of the war would have bankrupt this country.

Why will the payment of these certificates now depress business and industry? If an ex-service man draws a few hundred dollars, of what really is back pay, and settles up his overdue grocery bill, buys the kiddies some new shoes or even a radio or what not for the family.

Will the groceryman be worse off?

Will the shoe dealer go bankrupt and the shoe factory close down?

Will radio and automobile manufacturers lay off their help and further add to unemployment?

You say only a fool would answer yes to those questions. Well that is substantially what the enemies of the measure to pay the adjusted pay certificates are trying to make you believe.

The adjusted services certificates represent an unpaid obligation on the part of this country. They should be met before any more foreign debts are cancelled.

TIME FOR ALL TO HELP

The Red Cross is making good progress in its campaign to raise ten million dollars throughout the nation, to render aid to the hundreds of thousands of people in the lower Ohio and Mississippi valleys who have been rendered destitute by the combination of drought and hard times.

This appeal for funds is one which nobody with as much as a dime to spare can ignore. These are our own people who are actually suffering and in want. More than half a million of them are already being fed and cared for by the Red Cross, which never waits until it has the money but goes ahead and pledges its credit and that of its officials to get aid to the needy without delay. "He give twice who gives quickly" is one of the Red Cross mottoes.

It is to be hoped that there will not be another cold wave in the stricken regions. Observers who have reported on conditions say that a heavy drop in temperature would certainly mean great loss of life. It may well be that the estimate of ten million dollars will not be enough, although the Red Cross has many times proved its ability to make a dollar go farther in helping the helpless than most people can make five dollars go. Nobody need be afraid that his contribution will be wasted if given to the Red Cross, whose workers are trained but unsalaried, giving themselves as well as their money. And do not let the feeling that there will be money enough deter you from giving.

WHO SERVES BEST—ONE MAN OR THREE

The Meier plan to substitute a one-man service commissioner for a three-man public service commission has several drawbacks. But the fact that it is usually harder to corrupt three men than one is its chief weakness, in our opinion, because public service commissions are subjected to all kinds of argument and many subtle methods of pressure. To us the Meier plan sounds more of what one would expect from the utilities than from the champion of the common people.

Governor Meier, elected by the common people, has proposed to the legislature that it should take the election of the Port of Portland commissioners out of the people's hands and vest the power with the governor. This sounds more like Mussolini doctrine than pure George Joseph ultra democracy.

THE WAY OF LIFE BY BRUCE BARTON

WHAT DOES YOUR BUTCHER SAY?

One day last winter I was riding with the gentleman who runs a livery stable and provides food and lodging for my horse. It was some weeks after the stock market unpleasantness.

"How is business?" I asked him.

He answered that he had never known it to be worse. "Only a few of our horses are saddle horses," he said. "The others are owned by the butchers and bakers and candlestick makers who supply the fashionable people on Park and Fifth Avenues. And do you know that those little merchants can't collect enough even to pay my oat bills? It is terrible."

A little later I was repeating the conversation to a friend who makes his home in a fashionable suburb. He has ample means but, compared with some of the multi-millionaires whose estates are in the same community, he is comparatively poor.

He told me that he had been protesting mildly to the butcher about the steady increase in his meat bills. "I do not understand," he had said. "We always pay promptly on the first of the month. We do not eat extravagantly, and yet our meat seems to cost us more all the time."

The butcher confessed that the bills were high. He shrugged his shoulders helplessly. "What am I to do? You and the other people of moderate means are the only ones who pay your bills. The rich men on my lists keep me waiting for six months or even a year. Everybody's meats cost more in consequence."

I suppose the percentage of four-flushers in the Park Avenue district and in New York suburbs is very high. There must be thousands of families struggling to "keep up with the Joneses." But all over the country the same thing occurs to a greater or less degree. It is due not merely to the fact that people are living beyond their means. Much of it is nothing more or less than downright thoughtlessness.

I used to be a great believer in reforms. I enrolled in Causes and supported high grade Candidates, and was generally loud and vigorous.

In my old age I have come to feel that most of our troubles would be washed away if we would only be just reasonably courteous and decent to one another.

MOUNTAIN STATES CO. CONTINUES ACTIVITY DURING DULL PERIOD

Much construction activity during the past quarter is indicated by the quarterly shareholders' bulletin of the Mountain States Power company recently received here by local stockholders. New transmission lines have been constructed in various parts of the territory served and many rural extensions have been built to bring electrical power to numerous farms and home throughout the Northwest.

Among the new projects and extensions completed are several rural extensions in the Willamette division. One of these lines, eleven miles long, provides service to about fifty new farm customers. Another connecting several rural customers was recently completed north of Dallas, while service at Harrisburg and Junction City has been improved by the construction of a new 66-11 KV substation.

The majority of the new construction work is being carried on in the Wyoming division where new lines and new power plants are being constructed. Several new lines in Montana have been completed near Forsyth and are now serving customers. Whitefish, Montana, has had its telephone system rebuilt and all central energy telephones have been installed to take the place of the old magneto phones.

Announcement is also made in the report of the opening of a new merchandise store and office at Douglas, Wyoming, on October 4.

"THE BIG TRAIL" TO BE HAVE THREE-DAY RUN HERE STARTING SUNDAY

"The Big Trail," outstanding spectacle of pioneer life on the talking screen will be shown at the Bell theatre in Springfield on Sunday, Monday and Tuesday of next week according to an announcement made today by Granville McPherson, manager. The other outstanding part of his announcement is that the distributors have agreed to show the film here for an adult admission charge of 35 cents instead of the usual fifty cents charged everywhere else. Friday and Saturday will bring another Buck Jones Western comedy, "Men Without Law." Tonight is the last time to see Walter Huston in the "Bad Man."

Resort Operator Here—A. J. Kuhn, co-partner with Kenneth Sloane in the management of Cascade Resort was a business visitor in Springfield Monday.

CITY RECORDER EXPECTS TO RETURN THIS WEEK

I. M. Peterson, city recorder of Springfield, is rapidly improving from his recent illness and will probably be back in this city next Sunday. Mr. Peterson has been at Portland for the past two and one-half weeks where he underwent an operation. Mrs. Peterson spent the week-end with him and reports that although he is still very weak, yet he is gaining strength rapidly.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that the undersigned has been duly appointed Administrator of the estate of Christ P. Miller, deceased, and any and all persons having claims against the said estate are hereby required to present said claims, duly verified as by law required, at the law office of my Attorney, H. E. Slattery, 717 Willamette Street, Eugene, in Lane County, Oregon, within six months from the date of this notice.

Dated and first publication January 22, 1931.

Date of last publication February 19, 1931.
CHRIS M. MILLER,
Administrator of the estate of
Christ P. Miller, deceased. Address:
R. F. D. No. 1, Eugene, Oregon.
H. E. Slattery, Attorney for Administrator.

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Visiting from Glendale—Mrs. Phillip Bishop of Glendale is in Springfield this week visiting with friends.

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Office hours: 1 to 5 P. M.

Residence 223 B street

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PINKY DINKY

By Terry Gilkison

