

THE SPRINGFIELD NEWS

Published Every Thursday at
Springfield, Lane County, Oregon by
THE WILLAMETTE PRESS
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Entered as second class matter, February 24, 1903, at the postoffice,
Springfield, Oregon

MAIL SUBSCRIPTION RATE		
One Year in Advance	\$1.50	Six Months
Two Years in Advance	\$2.50	Three Months
		\$1.00
		50c

UNCLE SAM TO THE RESCUE

School district 19 should better its finance more than \$4000 as well as have three more weeks of school as the result of the federal relief grant made last week. The gift from Uncle Sam dates from April 2 and includes eight weeks of school that the district would otherwise have to pay for as well as three extra weeks.

School was contracted to run eight months but due to holidays an extra week would have been necessary to get the 160 days to qualify for the elementary school fund and high school fund which furnishes about a third of the revenue for the district. Actually only three more weeks of school will now be taught but pay will be drawn for eleven weeks, without other arrangements are made.

The teacher payroll in Springfield is now about \$625 a week and all but \$80 of this amount will be met by the federal checks. (Married women teachers cannot be qualified to draw federal pay and men teachers drawing in excess of \$100 a month will have to be paid the added amount by the district.)

District 19 cut the operating side of its budget nearly \$13,000 last year but even with this slash outstanding warrants remain at nearly as high a figure as a year ago—\$17,000. Higher bond payments and 50 per cent delinquent taxes makes it nearly impossible to balance expense and receipts even with the curtailment this year. The windfall from Uncle Sam should make it possible to take up about \$4,000 of these old warrants.

Springfield faces another eight months school term and continued low pay for teachers unless one of three things happen next year: (1) the sales tax passes, (2) property taxes are paid up in full or (3) the federal government makes another donation.

Prospects for any of the above situations to be fulfilled seems to be none to good. It appears that the children of the depression may have to suffer along with the adults.

GET OUT AND VOTE

Seven candidates are running for the nomination of governor, five for secretary of state, 14 for the legislature, four for county treasurer, three for commissioner, five for congress, and others for other offices. Surely you are not so hard to suit that you can not pick a suitable candidate from this array. So get out and vote Friday.

In the long run under a democracy the people get just the kind of government they vote for and really that is all they are entitled to. With a long string of offices to be filled and a number of measures to be voted on it is most important that everyone vote.

Certain obligations fall upon men and women in a democracy and one is to exercise the voting franchise. If you do not vote you are a "slacker" just the same as if you refused to go to war in defense of your country or dodge your taxes. The right to vote is already paid for—use it!

VOTE TO RETAIN MOTT

Voters tomorrow will have before them the choice of re-nominating Congressman James W. Mott or voting for his opponent on the Republican ticket. So far as we know his opponent is an honorable and capable gentleman. However, if Oregon and the first congressional district are going to get real service out of their congressman they must retain him more than one term in office. No one could dispute the fact that Senator McNary is more useful to Oregon and the nation than any other new man we might send to the capital.

Congressman Mott is making good in Washington. He has worked hard and faithfully for legislation vital to Oregon. Reports from Washington indicate that he is becoming a leader in congress and the Republican party. Next congress he will be assistant floor leader. To retire him now, to our mind, for an inexperienced man would be poor business. Oregon will benefit most by re-electing Mott.

YOUR SALES TAX DECISION

The Sales tax will be before the voters tomorrow as a school relief and tax reduction measure. To us the voters seem to be about equally divided on the measure. That it will accomplish both school relief and property tax reduction if passed we are quite sure because it is mandatory in the bill itself.

We do not wish to impose our views on anyone who has carefully thought this matter out and arrived at a decision based on their best judgment. We only ask that everyone weigh the measure in light of our present school situation.

District 19 can probably hobble through another school year of eight months and at the present reduced pay for teachers under the present set up. The board has already elected teachers on this plan. School taxes will likely be 18 or 19 mills. Delinquent warrants outstanding will cost the district nearly \$100 a month interest and the teachers 5 per cent discount.

With the sales tax money coming in in cash the district could be put on nearly a cash basis even with continued 50 per cent delinquency in property tax. The school could be lengthened to a nine months term and high school graduates going to college would have no back work to make up. The school property tax would likely be 13 or 14 mills along with the sales tax.

If everybody looks at the sales tax from a strictly selfish standpoint there would not be a ghost of a show for its passage. Collection of the tax would be looked upon as a nuisance by the merchants for which he is not compensated and must make up that part of the tax he cannot pass on. A family with a small home but being liberal spenders might figure out that the sales tax would cost them a few dollars instead of saving anything. The person who pays no property taxes can figure out without any exertion that he is going to have to pay some taxes and if he feels he has no obligations to the schools which have given him an education then of course he will be against it. Those who are rabid about the utilities, (who have contributed about one-third of our taxes in Springfield), will point to the savings these corporations will make by property tax reduction. They will not take into consideration that the railroads and power companies are the state's biggest buyers and probably the tax will cost them more than they save. If the writer were to make his decision strictly on selfishness he would not be for the sales tax either.

The old theory of taxation was that it should be based only on a person's ability to pay. This worked better in the old days when nearly all wealth was invested in property. Now a person's ability to pay is not measured by property alone. People are beginning to realize that all enjoy the benefits of public schools and government equally and everyone should pay something, however small, for that privilege.

Our appeal to the voters is that they analyze the sales tax strictly in light of our own school situation. It is purely and simply a local tax for our local schools and to reduce local taxation on property.

One way to pay the country's indebtedness would be to fine everyone \$1 who does not vote.

LOWER SAWMILL OUTPUT IS DUE

Overproduction Of Softwood; Increasing Number Of Mills Operating Are Factors

It is announced by the West Coast Lumbermen's Association, acting as Administrative agency of the Lumber Code in the Pacific Northwest, that some curtailment in the production of West Coast lumber is due in the near future. Notices will shortly be sent to all Douglas fir mills of their revised allotments of production for the current quarter year, comprising the months of April, May and June. The mills were previously assigned provisional allotments for April and May only.

The 700 sawmills registered with the Association for production quotas manufactured approximately 417,680,000 feet of lumber during April. It is expected that approximately the same rate of production will be continued during May.

Softwood Cut High

The output assigned to the West Coast Division by the Lumber Code Authority for the three months of April, May and June is 1,285 million feet, which is 36 per cent of the entire softwood lumber quota of the United States. To keep the output of West Coast lumber within this allowable volume for the quarter, it will be necessary to somewhat reduce the rate of production during the month of June or to spread the reduction over June and the last half of May—as individual mills may prefer.

A similar situation now exists in the textile industry of the country. All mills have agreed to close down for a week or longer to allow the country to absorb the surplus now on hand rather than shove this on the market at a price below production cost.

The mills registered with the West Coast Lumbermen's Association for June allocations have a total hourly capacity, at normal running, of 4,242,000 board feet. According to present estimates, there will be approximately 345 million feet of national quota left to produce in the four weeks of June. This amount is approximately 17 per cent less than was produced in the four weeks of April.

To make these ends meet, the West Coast Code Agencies have authorized an allotment computed at 82 hours operation for each registered mill during June.

Mills Set Own Hours

This volume of lumber will be in addition to the footage previously allocated for April and May; and every mill will be at liberty to produce its full allocation for the quarter year by any method of operation it chooses so long as the Code maximum of forty hours working time per week for employees is not exceeded.

The best estimates available to the West Coast Lumbermen's Association indicate that more mills are now running in the Douglas fir region than at any time since 1929 while sales are not quite one half of the 1929 average. Under the Lumber Code, every mill able and desiring to operate is entitled to an allocation of production. Some of the 700 mills registered for current allocations did not operate in April; but they are entitled to allocations of production in June.

"The resumption of operation by many mills which went down during the depression," said Colonel W. B. Greeley, Secretary of the West Coast Lumbermen's Association, "compels us to spread out our allocations of production and amount of work in lumber manufacture pretty thin; but it is plain evidence of the revival of the lumber industry in the Pacific Northwest under the operation of the Lumber Code."



BIBLE and accuracy

New proofs of the accuracy of the historical books of the Old Testament come to light every little while. They are not mere traditions, handed down by word of mouth, but ancient inscriptions found in buried cities prove that written records were not unknown in the days of Moses.

Not long ago airmen flying over the Arabian desert discovered the ruins of the Queen of Sheba's capital city. A little later explorers discovered King Solomon's mines of copper near the shores of the Red Sea. The latest of these finds is the discovery of the city of Iadish, whose ruler was one of the five kings who fought against Joshua in the Valley of Ajalon when the sun and the moon stood still.

Some day the human race will learn not to discard old truths merely because they are old. There is a tendency today to believe that the Creed was about day before yesterday; that nothing good existed until the young people of today invented it.

BEAVERS need protection

The curious, interesting and harmless little native American animal, the beaver, has been coming back into its ancient streams in the East in the past few years.

Most state have extended complete protection to these pleasing little beasts, but Pennsylvania this past winter permitted farmers to trap them if they were damaging their land by their dams. As a result, more than a third of the beavers in the state have been killed.

There is nothing sporting about trapping beavers. The only excuse for it at any time was that their pelts were valuable as fur. That value has almost vanished since silk and felt replaced beaver fur for hats. They ought to be protected everywhere for the amusement and entertainment of children. If for no other reason. And, as a matter of fact, their dams are often important measures of flood control.

REGIMENTATION . . . its meaning

I notice a hot discussion going on all around over the meaning of the word "regimentation." To me, as to most people, it means compelling people, more or less against their will, to march in line and submit to discipline. But it makes some folks in Washington mad to suggest that there is any regimentation in any of the New Deal plans.

I heard Rex Tugwell the other night give a new definition of the word. He calls it regimentation when men on a job are required to punch a time-clock and perform the routine of their tasks. To me that is regimentation only when they are forced to it, as in a chain-gang. For no man has to work at any particular job if he doesn't want to, and if he takes the job he is what the boys in the street call a "bum sport" if he complains about the rules.

I begin to suspect that there are more "bum sports" than I used to believe there were. I hear men who haven't had a job in years and probably never will have one again, complaining because they have to stand in line to get their money from the relief fund.

ROOM for President

I think it is a swell idea that David Lawrence put forth, that the old State, War and Navy Building in Washington ought to be converted into executive offices, for

the president and all the members of his cabinet, so that the Administration could function as a unit without being scattered all over the District of Columbia.

The theory of the cabinet is that its members are secretaries to the president. Instead, they have become managers of government departments, doing work which skilled undersecretaries could do better, and they have no time to take much of the load off the president's shoulders. If they were all in one building, with the president, he could unload a lot of visitors and details on them which he now has to carry himself; he could call any or all of them into consultation on a moment's notice and he could give his whole time to the consideration of important things, instead of the trivialities with which any president is expected to occupy much of his attention.

LIBERALISM the idea

I hear a lot of loose talk about Communism, Socialism, Fascism and other newfangled "isms" by people who don't always know what they are talking about. What most people really think they are speaking of is nothing more or less than Liberalism; but Liberalism cannot, exist under their Communism, Socialism or Fascism.

Liberalism is the orderly system of government under which minorities are tolerated and permitted to express themselves, even though the main rules are laid down by the majority. Suppress the minorities and you have the opposite of Liberalism, which is tyranny. And I am not sure which is the more tyrannical, Communism or its opposite, Fascism.

I am only sure that neither I nor most of the people of America want either.

LIONS MEET FRIDAY TO NAME DELEGATES

Members of Springfield Lions club will meet Friday noon for their regular luncheon meeting. New officers of the club headed by E. C. Stuart will have charge for the first time.

Mr. Stuart and Larson Wright are members of the program committee for the meeting.

Reports from the Boy Scout committee and election of three delegates to the state convention scheduled for Eugene on June 3, 4 and 5 will be held.

LEGION MAKES PLANS FOR SIGN REPAINTING

F. B. Hamlin was named chairman of a group to undertake the repainting of the Legion signboard next to Taylor's grocery store at the Legion meeting held last Thursday evening at the Hamlin home. The local post will have the board repainted and the roster of membership brought up to date. Some improvement in the grounds in front of the board is also anticipated.

KENSINGTON CLUB VISITS CHASE GARDENS HOUSES

Members of the Kensington club were guests of Mrs. Clarence Chase at her home in Garden Way for their meeting Friday. During the afternoon the members of the club were taken on an inspection trip through the many greenhouses of the Chase Gardens.

Mrs. J. R. Mitchell of McKenzie Bridge, and Mrs. Stuart Hurd of Cottage Grove were guests of the club at the meeting.

Students Elect 1934-35 Officers

Jack Williams was elected president of the high school student body for the next year at the school last week. Faye Squires is the new vice-president; LaMoyné Black, treasurer; Bernice Smith, secretary; and Wendell Bartholomew, social promoter.

MORE SALES MADE IN REAL ESTATE

Larger Cash Down Payments Reported By Credit Bank; Range Land In Demand

A better trend in the real estate market is evidenced this year than to 1933 in the four Pacific northwest states, according to a report made by Ward K. Newcomb, vice-president and head of the land department of the Federal Land bank of Spokane. There were 159 sales in the first quarter of 1933 for a total of \$562,828. In the first quarter of 1934, 199 sales were made for \$645,937, showing an increase of over \$83,000 of this quarter over last.

Larger cash down payments are made this year on sales than a year ago. Most of the land in the twelfth district is selling for approximately the same price this year except in wheat areas, where the price reflected a better demand in the fall of '33 and the early spring of '34.

Sheep Land Wanted

Range lands adapted for sheep grazing which were practically unsaleable during the past two years, have been in demand during the past few months, which is almost altogether due to the better price now quoted for wool and lambs. Demand for wheat ranches fluctuates to some extent in harmony with the wheat market and at the present time is at a lower ebb than during the previous 60 days.

There is no part of the states of Washington, Montana, Oregon and Idaho served by the Spokane bank which has not produced an increased volume of sales during that period, the irrigation sections, dry land wheat districts and localities adapted to livestock have all enjoyed some measure of prosperity and returning confidence in the future," Mr. Newcomb explained.

Dairy Income Lower

"I am certain that a ten to fifteen cent raise in the wheat market would produce an unprecedented volume of sales on wheat lands in every part of our district and that this combined with a better market for beef cattle, would add an impetus to the sale of pasture lands which have been held already to a considerable extent by the prosperity of the sheepman.

"Quite a volume of our lands are located in territories in which the income is mostly from the sale of dairy produce and the local de-

mand from actual dairymen farmers has been somewhat restricted by the low market for their products. These districts, however, are in most instances located near the large cities and this effect has been offset somewhat by the sale of these farms to investors and city people returning to the land."

EUGENE GLEEMEN OFFER CONCERT THIS WEEK

The Eugene Gleemen will be presented in their annual spring concert to night this week, tonight and Friday. Both concerts will be given at the Music building auditorium on the campus. They start at 8:15.

Jack Carpenter, will be soloist singing, "I'll Sing Thee Songs of Araby." Delbert Moore, violinist, and George Bishop, vocalist, will provide other special numbers. John Stark Evans will direct, and Cora Moore will be the accompanist. Several men in this vicinity are members of this singing organization.

AND DON'T FORGET TO BUY A CAN OF ACME ENAMEL KOTE FOR OUR BREAKFAST SET



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Our store keeps up-to-date and our hundreds of customers appreciate this fact.

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We desire everyone in this community to use home-products from the local creamery and Lane county farms. We believe in the long run you will be better satisfied and we know positively you will have helped your community.

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In the Backyard League

By Albert T. Reid

