

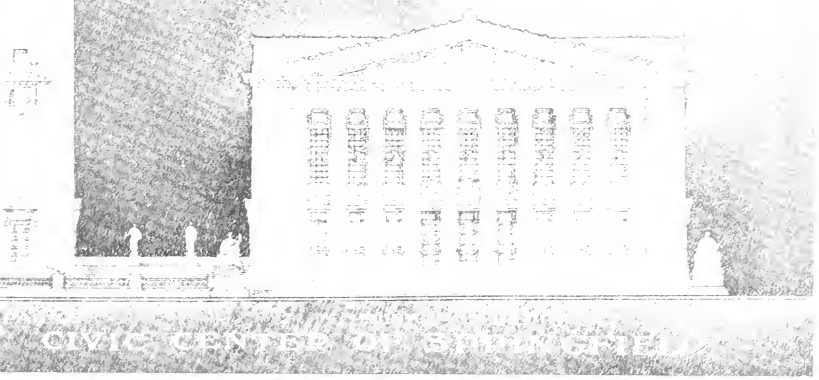
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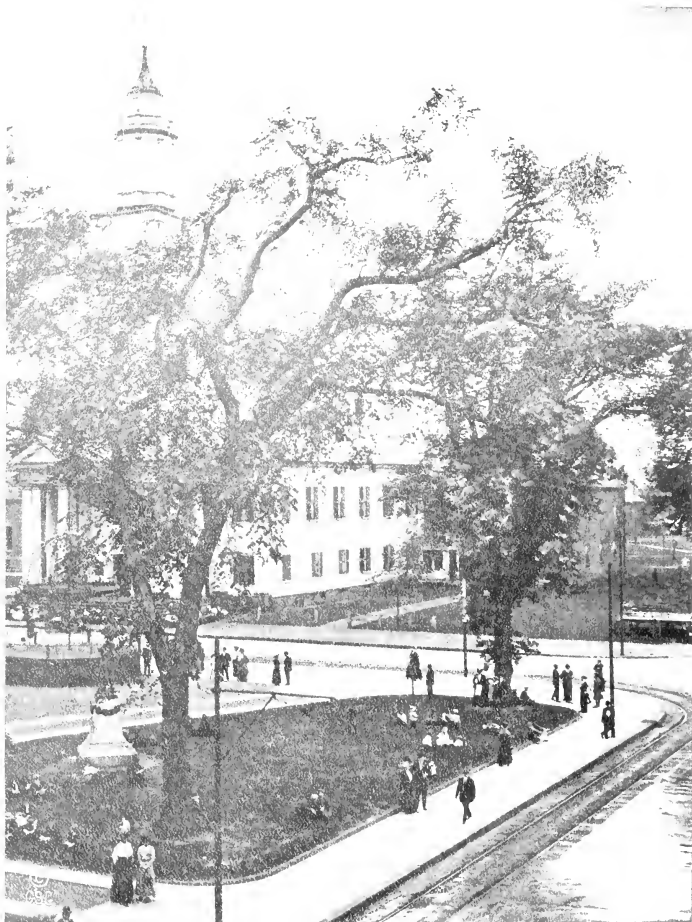
SPRINGFIELD

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COLONIAL FIRST CHURCH FACING COURT SQUARE.

A portion of the foreground of SPRINGFIELD'S NEW MUNICIPAL BUILDINGS AND CAMPANILE. The history of Springfield centers around the First Church, this society being formed in 1637, one year after the town's settlement. The present building was erected in 1819, when Court Square was laid out as a public park, and is the successor of three others, the first being erected in 1645.

# Progressive Springfield

## Massachusetts

A picture conducted tour of sixty views showing the leading features that make this City of Homes attractive for business, residence and pleasure.

GEORGE S. GRAVES, Publisher  
21 Besse Place, Springfield, Massachusetts

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FIFTEEN CENTS A COPY.

## THE METROPOLIS OF WESTERN NEW ENGLAND

### ON THE BEAUTIFUL CONNECTICUT RIVER.

GROWING EVERY DAY

IMPROVING ALL THE TIME

A CLEAN, PROGRESSIVE, THRIFTY CITY OF 100,000 PEOPLE. THE TRADING CENTER FOR 300,000 PEOPLE. STEAM AND ELECTRIC ROADS RADIATE IN ALL DIRECTIONS.

THE UNITED STATES ARMY ESTABLISHED HERE 118 YEARS AGO GAVE SPRINGFIELD THE IMPETUS FOR ITS PRESENT MARVELOUS GROWTH, AND THE SPRINGFIELD RIFLE HAS MADE ITS FAME WORLD-WIDE.

### THE THINGS THAT COUNT FOR SPRINGFIELD

#### A HEALTHY PUBLIC SPIRIT and CIVIC PATRIOTISM.

AN EFFICIENT CITY GOVERNMENT which aims to keep abreast with the best of modern municipal practices.

ITS CLASSIC PUBLIC BUILDINGS elevate the standard of architecture; teach new and beautiful ideas.

THE PUREST FILTRATED WATER supplied from the Berkshire Hills.

ITS FIRE DEPARTMENT LEADS every American city in use of motor equipment.

150 MILES OF TREE LINED STREETS finished like a state road. A RIVER FRONT of 5 Miles.

PARKS AND PLAYGROUNDS covering 600 acres valued at 3 Million Dollars.

A MODEL STREET RAILWAY SYSTEM of 137 miles which radiates through an unrivalled picturesque region.

SPRINGFIELD PRODUCTS valued at 40 million dollars are yearly sold from its 330 factories, employing 15 thousand skilled mechanics.

THE TAX RATE for 1912 was \$15.50 per \$1,000. Of 18 leading cities in New England, only two have a lower rate of \$15.00

#### AT THE FRONT IN EDUCATION AND ART.

ITS NEW CITY LIBRARY, built at a cost of 355 Thousand Dollars, has a capacity for 500 thousand books, free for all to use.

ITS ART MUSEUM is celebrated throughout the world.

THE TECHNICAL HIGH SCHOOL teaches the useful trades.

THE COMMERCIAL HIGH SCHOOL gives our youth a business training.

THE KINDERGARTEN SCHOOL SYSTEM originated here.

#### A THRIFTY CITY RAPIDLY BECOMING WEALTHY.

ITS GENERAL ATMOSPHERE INDICATES THRIFT.

ITS BUSINESS AMOUNTS TO A MILLION DOLLARS A DAY.

ITS SAVINGS BANKS hold 34 Million Dollars for 85 thousand depositors.

ITS NATIONAL BANKS and Trust Companies hold 26 Million Dollars for 40 thousand depositors and have abundant resources for the promotion of any legitimate business.

152 MILLION DOLLARS was Springfield's assessed valuation in 1912. This is an increase of 54 million dollars in 4 years, 75 million dollars in 10 years, 100 million dollars in 20 years.

#### NO OTHER EASTERN CITY SHOWS SUCH A GAIN.

SPRINGFIELD'S VALUATION PER CAPITA of \$1,500 compares favorably with the finest cities of New England.

HARTFORD, our nearest neighbor, with 110,000 population, is generally supposed to be a wealthier city, but its per capita valuation is only 909 Dollars.

WORCESTER, with 160 thousand population, shows 955 Dollars valuation per capita.

PROVIDENCE, with 230 thousand population, shows 1095 Dollars valuation per capita.

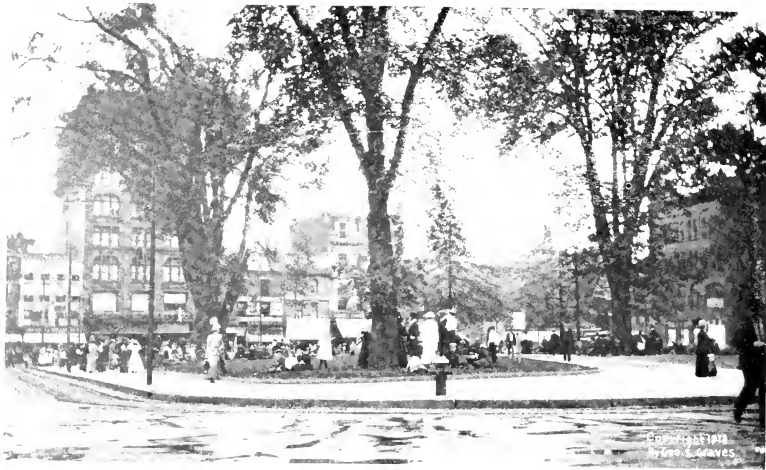
#### THE CITY FOR CONVENTIONS.

OUR MAGNIFICENT AUDITORIUM is now open. Seating 4,500 people and with 22,000 square feet of exhibition room, it offers convention facilities superior to any New England city outside of Boston.

OUR NUMEROUS RAILROADS AND FINE HOTELS offer abundant and good accommodations for thousands.

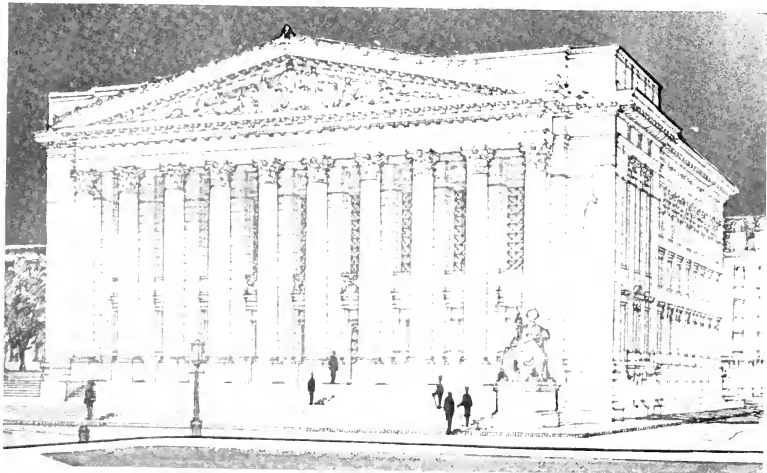
THE TWELVE THEATRES and amusement places are of a high class. Its big stores are the equal of those of larger cities.

The "GARDEN SPOT OF THE EAST," where life's worth living.



COURT SQUARE AT SPRINGFIELD'S CIVIC CENTER.

VIEW TO BUSY MAIN STREET FROM MUNICIPAL GROUP. THIS IS THE STARTING POINT FOR ELECTRIC CARS GOING TO MOST POINTS IN GREATER SPRINGFIELD.



ADMINISTRATION BUILDING OF THE CLASSIC MUNICIPAL GROUP.

This beautiful and commodious structure will house the business departments of the city which have been scattered in various buildings since the destruction of the old City Hall in 1905.



GILMORE'S COURT SQUARE THEATRE FACING COURT SQUARE AND MUNICIPAL GROUP.

This is not only the city's largest theatre, accommodating an audience of 2000, but is the largest business block, and its owner, Mr. Dwight O. Gilmore, is Springfield's largest taxpayer. This block extends to State Street, which side is occupied by COURT SQUARE HOTEL.



WEST STATE STREET LOOKING TO NAVASSET CLUB, ELECTRIC LIGHT COMPANY AND MASSACHUSETTS MUTUAL LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY.

At the left is COURT SQUARE HOTEL.

## THE EVOLUTION OF 277 YEARS.

### FOUNDER OF SPRINGFIELD.



**WILLIAM PYNCHON**, Founder of Springfield, Massachusetts, 1636. The only citizen of the first century the likeness of whose face is known. He was the leading man in the town until 1651, when he returned to England. A memorial to William Pynchon has been placed in the High School hall.

### FIRST CIVIC CENTER.



IN 1645 this little meetinghouse of the First Church Society was erected, and being used for town purposes, was really the civic center. It cost \$100. FROM THE SIXTEEN FOUNDERS of this Church have come thousands of descendants, through each line of which runs THE DISTINCTIVE MIND and heart that was THE MAKING OF SPRINGFIELD.

Here's to the town that Pynchon founded;  
Could he know  
How we've grown  
Wouldn't he be astounded!



Old City Hall

### OLD CITY HALL.

SPRINGFIELD'S FIRST TOWN HALL was opened in 1828 and still stands at the corner of State and Market Streets. In 1855 the City Hall was opened and at that period was the most important structure ever erected in Western Massachusetts. It cost \$100,000; the clock tower was 130 feet high and held a bell of two tons weight. 2500 people could be seated in the hall. During a food fair in 1905, a mischievous monkey saw fit to upset a lamp—result a \$100,000 fire and Springfield minus a city hall.

Now on the old site, Court Street, the new **\$2,000,000 municipal buildings** are erected, that will make Springfield famous.

These buildings rank in architectural circles with the classic buildings of the world, and are typical of PROGRESSIVE SPRINGFIELD. With 100,000 people living here and a trading population of 300,000, the city is growing as never before—no mushroom growth, but substantial and enduring. It is the history of all large cities that they never go back after once gaining the position Springfield has attained. Its citizens can "look backward" with pride, but SPRINGFIELD WILL NEVER GO BACKWARD.

### SPRINGFIELD'S NEW MUNICIPAL BUILDINGS AND CAMPANILE.

Estimated cost of this classic group is \$2,000,000—AND WORTH IT.

Pell & Corbett, Architects; A. E. Stephens Co., Builders.

Width of Municipal Building and Auditorium, each 115 feet. Depth, 175 feet. Corinthian columns 41 feet high. Height to apex of pediments 75 feet. Campanile, 300 feet high. Materials, Indiana limestone, brick, steel and concrete.

The AUDITORIUM on the left, which was opened February 18, 1913, has a seating capacity of 4,500, and 22,000 square feet of floor space for exhibition purposes.

The ADMINISTRATION BUILDING on the right will house the business departments of the city, which have been scattered in various buildings since the destruction of the old City Hall in 1905.

THE UNIQUE FEATURE of the group is the CAMPANILE reaching skyward 300 feet and of which any city might justly be proud. Elevators will carry visitors to the landings, from which grand views can be enjoyed of the unequalled Connecticut Valley. On the 200 foot level, a clock is to be installed with illuminated hands, and a set of chimes in the tower will radiate sweet music throughout PICTURESQUE SPRINGFIELD. At the apex, an immense glass globe is placed, inside of which powerful electric lamps will throw their rays of light for miles around to remind all that "SPRINGFIELD is on the map."

COME TO SPRINGFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS, THE CITY OF PROGRESS AND  
"SEE SOMETHING WORTH WHILE."

## THE MAGNIFICENT CITY AUDITORIUM NOW OPEN.

In its CLASSIC AUDITORIUM Springfield has one of the finest places of assemblage in the world.

TEN GREAT FLUTED LIMESTONE PILLARS line the front, giving the building a majestic appearance. SEVEN ENTRANCES lead to the lobby, each entrance guarded by two sets of doors, the outer set being of bronze, the inner set of oak. From them one steps into the main lobby with its marble floor.

From the lobby you enter the main floor of the auditorium through any of five double doors. These doors are FIRE AND PANIC PROOF, swinging inward and outward. The auditorium floor is of hard maple and 16 pillars around the sides support the balcony.

FROM THE BALCONY, reached by four sets of stairs, one gets a full impression of THE BEAUTY AND MAJESTY OF THE GREAT AUDITORIUM with its seating capacity of 4500 people. The color scheme is French grey and gold. The balcony seats are of brown plush, gold window hangings and brown velvet carpets.

THE GOLDEN CEILING has a wide Grecian frieze, above which are classic faces and Grecian lyres.

Four great cluster chandeliers furnish the light, and electrically driven fans insure perfect circulation of air. Movable seats are provided for the main floor.

## THE MAHOGANY AND GOLD SALON

on the balcony floor is the GEM OF THE WHOLE GROUP. The walls are solid African mahogany and the ceiling is all gold. The fluted mahogany pillars and square and oblong panels are wonderfully put together, not a nail being used. Each piece is held together by wooden pins, all the work being done by the highest class cabinet workers from New York. The ceiling is a mass of gold elaborately decorated and relieved with narrow strips of blue. NO PUBLIC BUILDING IN NEW ENGLAND has a room to COMPARE WITH THIS IN MAGNIFICENCE.

THE BIG EXHIBITION HALL, with 22,000 square feet of floor space, is large enough for a banquet of 1,000 persons. It is fully equipped with kitchens, coat rooms, toilet rooms, etc. Fourteen flights of stairs lead to the auditorium.

## UNSURPASSED AMONG PUBLIC BUILDINGS.



SPRINGFIELD'S NEW MUNICIPAL GROUP AND CAMPANILE.

SPRINGFIELD'S UNEXCELLED LOCATION.



LOOKING FROM MEETING HOUSE HILL, WEST SPRINGFIELD. View to Riverdale Road, Connecticut River, showing college race course and PROGRESSIVE SPRINGFIELD. Its WONDERFUL CAMPANILE, 300 feet high, is easily seen, and in the background the Wilbraham Mountains. This view gives an idea of the scenic effects to be obtained from "our tower."



VIEW FROM LONG HILL SOUTH TO LONGMEADOW BLUFFS. Three miles down the river is Riverside Grove, one of Springfield's great pleasure resorts, where 40,000 people go in a single day.

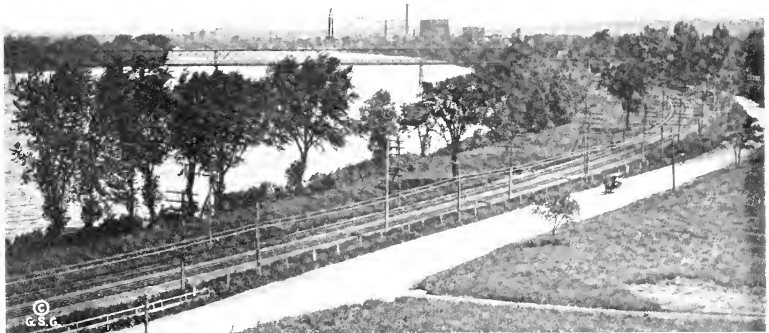


WHAT YOU CAN SEE FROM SPRINGFIELD'S CAMPANILE.



PICTURESQUE WEST SPRINGFIELD, AND CONNECTICUT RIVER as seen from Springfield. In the foreground is the Old Toll Bridge, built in 1816 by the proceeds of a lottery, and B. & A. R. R. Bridge. In the distance are the North End Bridge, from which are commanding views of the beautiful Connecticut, also Meeting House Hill, with its old Colonial Church—a noted landmark.

Have lived in many,  
Liked a few,  
Loved only one—Here's to you, Springfield!



VIEW NORTH TO SPRINGFIELD FROM LONG HILL AT SOUTH END.  
THE CONNECTICUT RIVER IS SPRINGFIELD'S MOST ATTRACTIVE PHYSICAL FEATURE.



**COURT SQUARE EXTENSION.** This is an addition of Court Square adjacent to the Connecticut River, now being developed. Twenty thousand people came here April 25, 1912, to hear President Taft speak.

In the background is seen the COUNTY COURT HOUSE and HALL OF RECORDS. The INSTITUTION FOR SAVINGS, at the right, is Springfield's largest savings bank, holding about \$20,000,000 for 52,000 people—more than half the city's total population.



**SPRINGFIELD'S RIVER FRONT NEAR THE BUSINESS CENTER.**

THIS OLD TOLL BRIDGE, connecting Springfield and West Springfield, was built in 1816 to replace the first bridge over the Connecticut built in 1805. Tolls were collected until 1872.



COURT SQUARE EXTENSION ABUTTING ON THE CONNECTICUT RIVER AND NEW HAVEN RAILROAD, WHERE PRESIDENT TAFT ENTERED SPRINGFIELD APRIL 25, 1912. THE EXTENSION IS NOW BEING IMPROVED FOR A PUBLIC PARK.

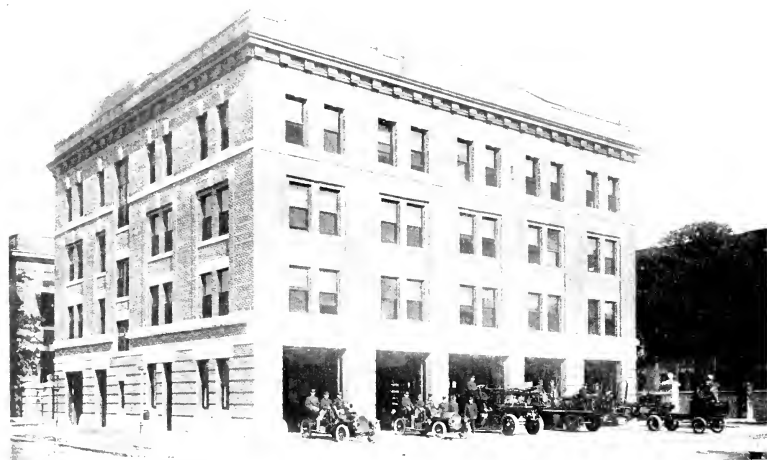


SPRINGFIELD'S RIVER FRONT NEAR THE CIVIC CENTER AND COURT SQUARE EXTENSION.

THE PROPOSED NEW BRIDGE WILL PROBABLY BE LOCATED IN THIS VICINITY WHERE IT IS ALSO PLANNED TO HAVE A RIVER FRONT PARK.

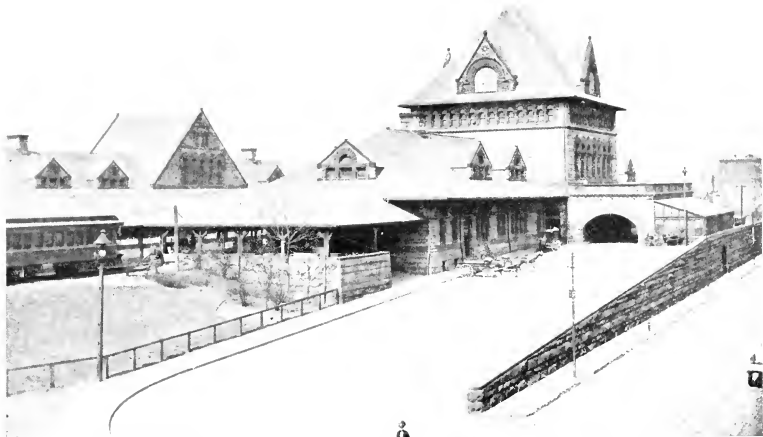


UP-TO-DATE FLYING SQUADRON of Fire Department Headquarters and its \$10,000 MOTOR LADDER TRUCK, the first of its kind, goes twenty miles an hour and climbs any hill in the city. Springfield has 24 pieces of motor driven apparatus and was the first city to use motor trucks. Boston has just woken up on this subject.



NEW HEADQUARTERS STATION of Fire Department, on Court Square Extension.

No city has a more up-to-date fire department and headquarters station than Springfield. The new station on Court Street cost \$110,000. Its apparatus is all motor-driven and has modern conveniences for the force. The top floor houses the new fire alarm system installed at an expense of \$30,000. The flying squadron shown above consists of autos for Chief and Assistant Chief, the Electric Aerial Ladder Truck, Combination Electric Wagon and Hose and Water Tower with Gasoline Tractor. The city expends about \$240,000 a year on this department.



SPRINGFIELD'S UNION STATION, Lyman Street, where 200 trains a day arrive and depart. One of the most commodious in the country for handling large crowds, having over 900 feet of platform room. Its platform extends nearly to the granite arch over Main Street, which is shown elsewhere.



NEW YORK CENTRAL FREIGHT YARDS, WEST SPRINGFIELD.

They are the MOST IMPORTANT EAST OF BUFFALO. It's a GREAT CLEARING HOUSE for the immense business of the New York Central lines.

Here are FORTY-ONE MILES OF SIDE TRACKS on which 5400 CARS CAN BE STORED. Here also are two round houses for engines, and the big shops for repairing engines and cars, for all the New England lines of the New York Central system.



MEMORIAL CHURCH AND TRIANGLE AT THE NORTHERN GATEWAY OF SPRINGFIELD.

On the Left Passing Under the Wide-spreading Elms, the Road Leads To Picturesque West Springfield, Westfield, Holyoke, Hartford and the Berkshire Hills. On the Right, the Road Leads To Chicopee, our nearest city.

Here's to it and from it and to it again  
 What? Springfield! say all the Commercial Men  
 If you ever get to it and don't do it,  
 You may never get to it and do it again.  
 So: Here's to it.



MAIN STREET LOOKING NORTH FROM CLINTON HALL. This, the business section of Ward One, is the only business street in the city blessed with a green in its center. May it always remain a green.



A SECTION OF THE OFFICE, CLINTON HALL.

To the fairest and the rarest happyland in which we dwell,  
Where there's always something doing and the doing is done well!  
Where there always is a welcome for the strangers as they pass,  
In the dear old home we love so well—Springfield, Mass.



CLINTON HALL AT MAIN AND CLINTON STREETS. One of Springfield's newest hotels, catering to commercial and tourist trade, located three blocks from UNION STATION. Trolley cars for all points can be taken right at the door. There are accommodations for 300 guests. Conducted on the European plan only.



THE LOBBY, COOLEY'S HOTEL.

To Springfield,—

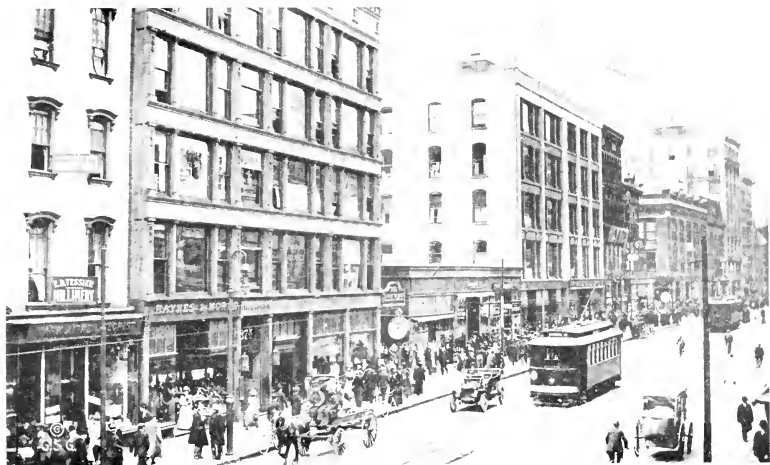
May her greatness be measured not by mere numbers  
But by the character of her citizens and the  
Nobility of their achievements.



MAIN STREET AT COOLEY'S HOTEL AND RAILROAD ARCH. NEXT UNION STATION.

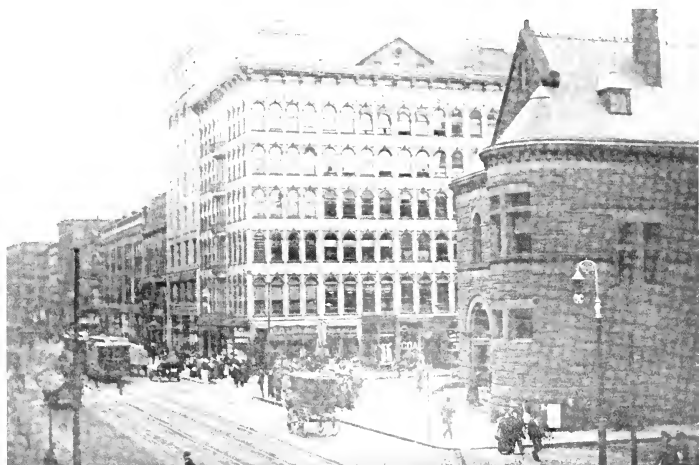
COOLEY'S is conducted on both American and European plan, accommodating 400 guests. A three minute walk takes you to the Post Office and the heart of the shopping district. All lines of trolley cars pass the door.





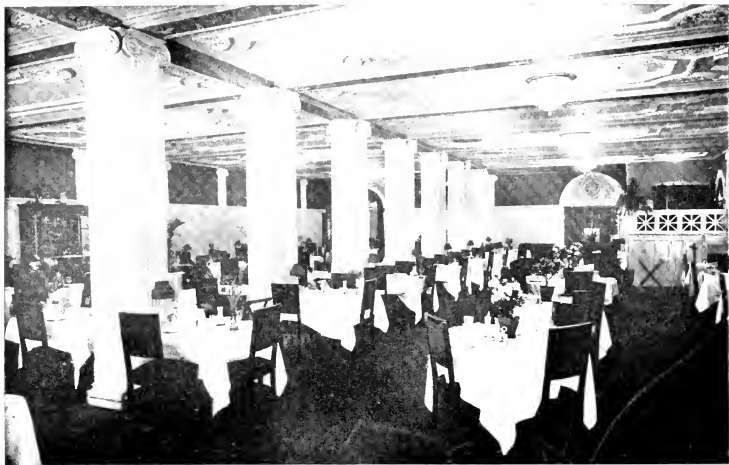
BUSY MAIN STREET, WEST SIDE.

View NORTH from LYMAN BUILDING and THIRD NATIONAL BANK  
to Besse-System Building, Haynes Block, Hitchcock Building and Whitney Building.



MAIN STREET, WEST SIDE.

Looking south from the POST OFFICE and CUSTOM HOUSE to the WHITNEY BUILDING and the HITCHCOCK BUILDING. These two office buildings are among the largest in the city.



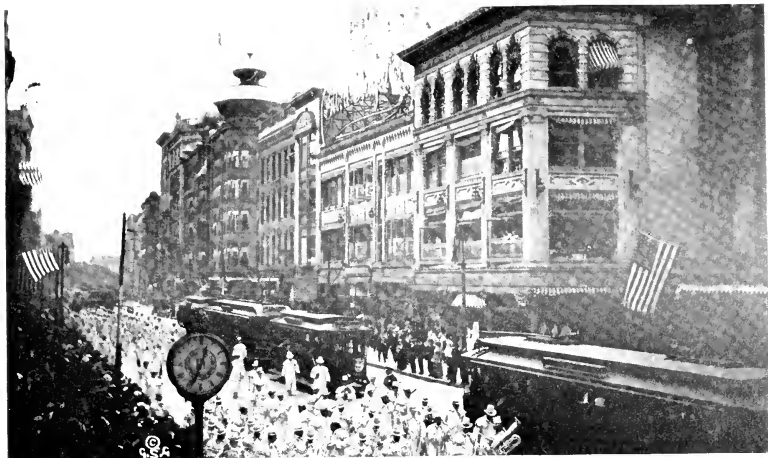
COLONIAL DINING ROOM OF HOTEL WORTHY.

Here's to the city that gave us our birth;  
No finer exists on God's blessed earth.  
May we dwell in her borders through all of our days  
And continue to tell and to sing of her praise.



HOTEL WORTHY, MAIN STREET, LOOKING UP WORTHINGTON STREET.

HOTEL WORTHY, catering to commercial travelers and tourists trade, is centrally located opposite Post Office and Custom House in the shopping and theatre district, two blocks from Union Station. Trolley cars going to all points are constantly passing. Conducted on the European plan, and accommodates 500 guests.



BUSY MAIN STREET, EAST SIDE.

View north to Albert Steiger & Co.'s Department Store, Fuller Building, Phoenix Block and Hotel Worthy. "The Lambs" Parade passing Third National Bank, May 31, 1912.



MAIN STREET, EAST SIDE.

View from HOTEL WORTHY, at corner Worthington Street, to Masonic Building at State Street, the shopping district where 300,000 people trade.

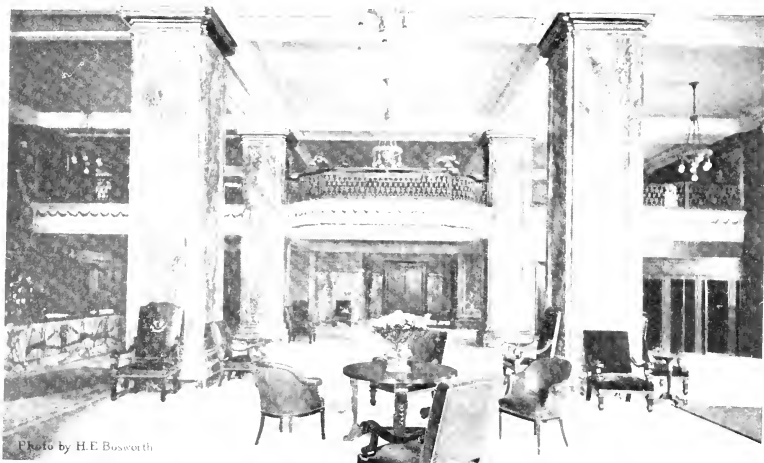


Photo by H.E. Bosworth

LOBBY OF HOTEL KIMBALL.  
LOOKING TOWARD BANQUET HALL AND MEZZANINE FLOOR.

Here's to our city with beauty so rare  
None other on earth is so peaceful and fair,  
May the strong one reach out the weak brother to save  
And the banner of love o'er her citizens wave.

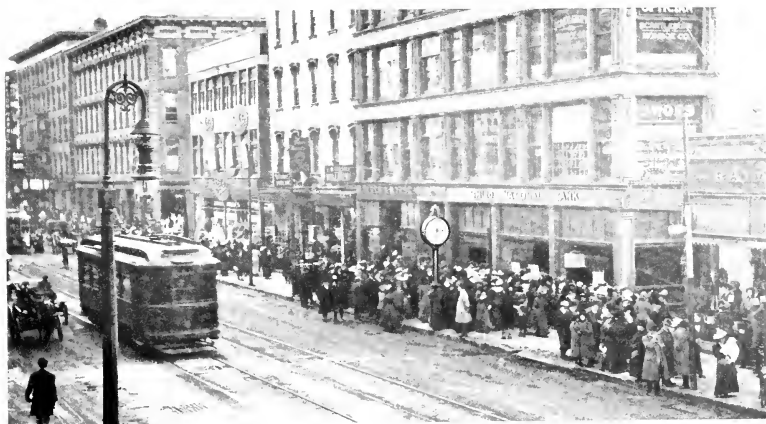


**HOTEL KIMBALL, AT BRIDGE AND CHESTNUT STREETS.** The city's newest hotel, representing an investment of \$1,000,000. Situated two blocks from Main Street, near the residential section, it caters to those who desire quiet and luxurious surroundings. There are accommodations for 500 guests. Conducted on the European plan.



BUSY MAIN STREET, EAST SIDE.

View south from the Big Store of Meekins, Paekard & Wheat. This store employs 350 people and has eight acres of floor space. Its business is not confined to this section, large hotels and public buildings all over the East having been equipped by this firm.



BUSY MAIN STREET, WEST SIDE.

View south from Lyman Building to Forbes & Wallace's and Nelson-Haynes Hotel.

The crowd in front of the THIRD NATIONAL BANK is patiently waiting to join the Christmas Savings Club. 8300 persons joined this club in five days. One fifth of Springfield's population have accounts in the THIRD NATIONAL BANK.



BUSY MAIN STREET, WEST SIDE.

View north from Gilmore's Opera House and Nelson-Haynes Hotel. The Nelson-Haynes, now conducted by D. H. & E. L. Buckley, is refitted and newly furnished; operated on the European plan, and accommodating three hundred guests.



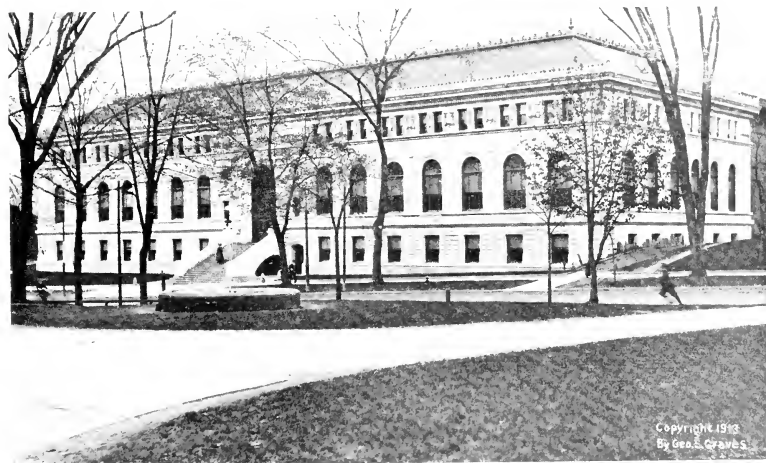
BUSY MAIN STREET, EAST SIDE.

View south from Riker-Jaynes Co. to Flint & Brickett, opposite Court Square.



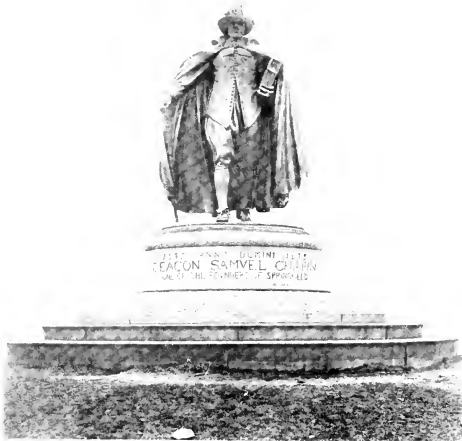
MAIN ARSENAL, UNITED STATES ARMORY GROUNDS, STATE STREET.

Established for military purposes in 1795, when this section was mostly a primeval forest. It is now in the center of the city—one of its MOST ATTRACTIVE FEATURES and known the world over for the Springfield Rifle, made here. The arsenal built in 1846 is modeled after the East India house in London. Five hundred thousand rifles can be stored within its walls, and an equal number in other arsenals.



SPRINGFIELD'S NEW CITY LIBRARY, STATE STREET

Built at a cost of \$355,000, it is ideal for usefulness and attractiveness. It houses 200,000 books and 300,000 pictures all for the free use of the public.



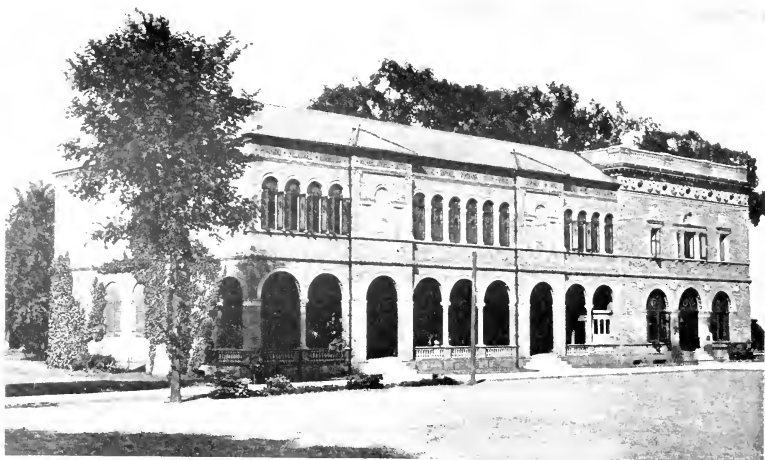
BRONZE STATUE OF "THE PURITAN" by St. Gaudens, located in Merrick Park, State Street.

THIS STATUE OF "THE PURITAN" is the gift of the late Chester W. Chapin, founder of the Boston & Albany Railroad, and in his time, the great captain of industry of Western Massachusetts. It is erected in honor of Deacon Samuel Chapin, the ancestor of a large and important family, whose name and accomplishments are perpetuated throughout the country.

Deacon Chapin was one of the founders of Springfield, one of the first selectmen, a deacon of the First Church, and with John Pynchon and Elizur Holyoke, one of the magistrates.

But with all his good works it is noted that on April 11, 1665, Deacon Chapin, being absent from Town Meeting, and giving no sufficient excuse was fined sixpence. Such was discipline in Puritan Days.

This statue is no portrait of any Chapin, but a composite in the sculptor's mind of the family type. A cast in the Luxembourg ranks it in France with the foremost sculptures of the day.



ART MUSEUM, LIBRARY SQUARE.

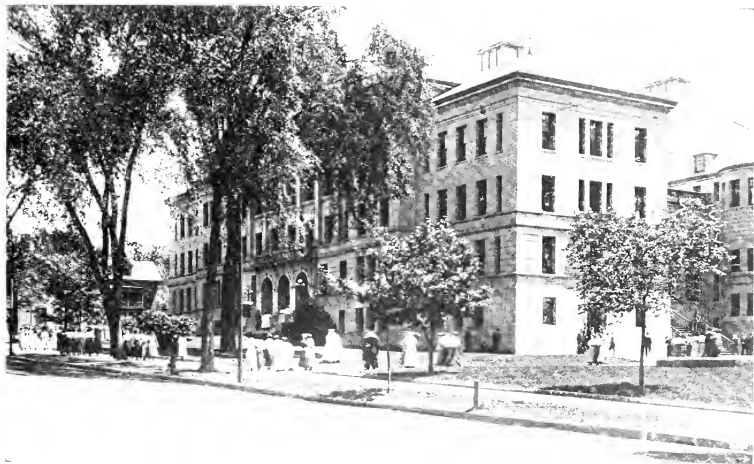
THE ART MUSEUM is famed not only in this country, but throughout European capitals and the far East. It houses the invaluable art collection of George Walter Vincent Smith, whose life has been devoted to the accumulation of a marvelous collection of art works from all parts of the world, a considerable part of which are now in the Art Museum.





TECHNICAL HIGH SCHOOL, ELLIOT STREET.

Where pupils are taught the useful trades. Springfield was one of the first cities to adopt this method of education.



CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL, STATE STREET.

SPRINGFIELD'S EDUCATIONAL ADVANTAGES have given the City a NATIONAL REPUTATION. Our TECHNICAL HIGH SCHOOL for teaching useful trades, and our COMMERCIAL HIGH SCHOOL, are examples of advance in this line. A New Commercial High School is soon to be built on upper State Street to relieve the crowded condition of the present building.

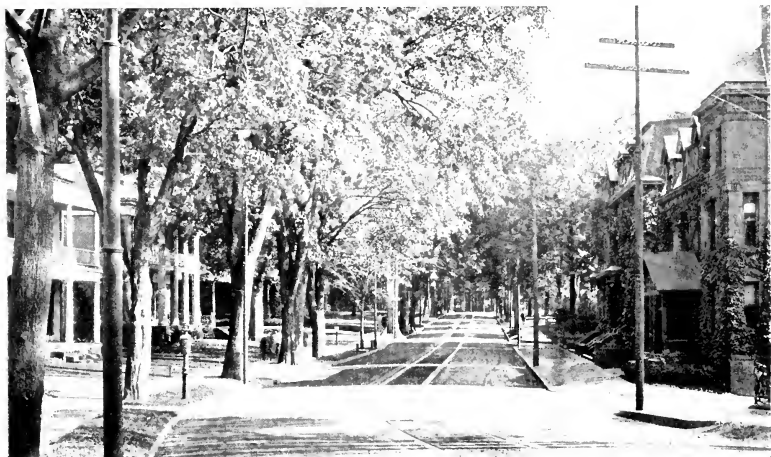
A poet's dream come true,  
Springfield, The Beautiful!

The fairest city beneath the skies:  
A branch office of Paradise.



VIEW DOWN STATE STREET, FROM CORNER OF BYERS STREET

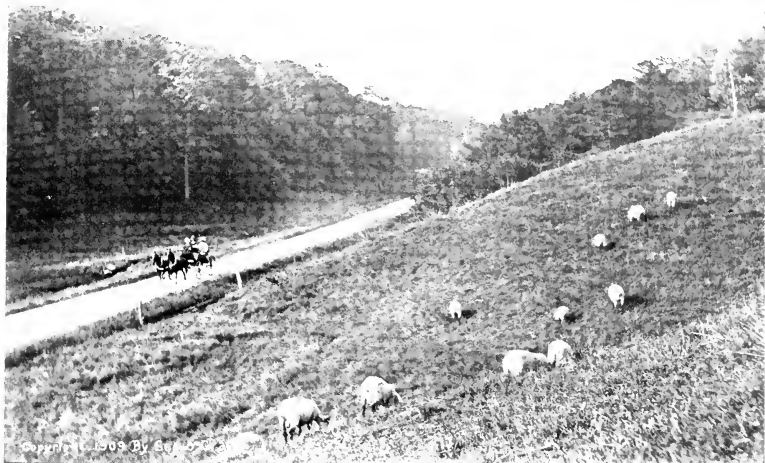
State Street is the finest example of a picturesque thoroughfare to be seen in Springfield. From the banks of the Connecticut River it extends the length of the city. In colonial days it was the "Old Bay Path" and stage road to Boston. Beautiful Elms and Maples line its borders for miles.



MAPLE STREET LEADING TO CRESCENT HILL.

Not only on this street, but on the streets leading from it, the maple and elm trees are a feast to the eye. From Crescent Hill at the upper end of Maple Street, may be had splendid views of the river, city and valley.

IN FOREST PARK. TEN MINUTES' RIDE FROM COURT SQUARE.



THE MEADOW DRIVE AND SHEEP PASTURE, FOREST PARK.



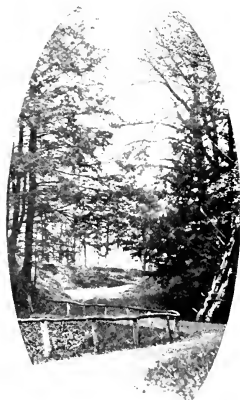
UPPER LAKE AND DRIVEWAY, FOREST PARK.

These views are typical of Springfield's wonderful Forest Park, a large portion of which is in the dense woods left in a natural state, with fifteen miles of modern roads and walks which make it accessible.



AT SUMNER AVENUE ENTRANCE OF FOREST PARK.  
ONE OF THE NUMEROUS TENNIS COURTS,  
WHERE A THOUSAND PEOPLE A DAY CAN ENJOY THE GAME.

FOREST PARK is the largest recreation spot and playground in this section. The park comprises 476 acres of natural forest, picturesque lakes and beautiful ravines. It is valued at \$1,400,000, but it cost Springfield nothing for the land, being presented by public spirited citizens. It is considered one of the finest natural parks in the country. Kept in prime condition and constantly being improved.



THREE PRETTY ROADWAYS AND WALKS WITH WHICH FOREST PARK ABOUNDS.



SKATING POND AT FOREST PARK, where this exhilarating sport can be enjoyed without danger.

The good that is done by playgrounds cannot be denied. Their place in the community and their value in molding the character and lives of the future citizens who play ball and run races upon them, is forcefully summed up in the following verses by Denis F. McCarthy, the Boston poet, which have been frequently used in connection with appeals for support of the playground movement:—

### GIVE THEM A CHANCE TO PLAY.

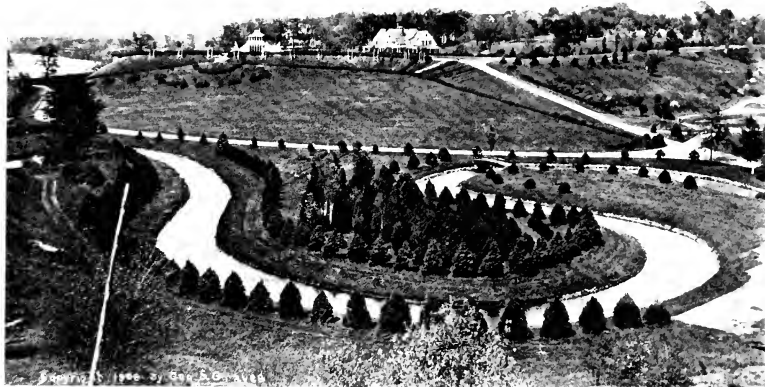
Plenty of room for dives and dens (glitter and glare  
and sun!)  
Plenty of room for prison pens, (gather the criminals in!)  
Plenty of room for jails and courts, (willing enough to pay!)  
But never a place for the lads to race; no, never a place to play!  
Plenty of room for shops and stores, (Mammon must have the best!)  
Plenty of room for the running sores that rot in the city's breast!  
Plenty of room for the lures that lead the hearts of our youth astray,  
But never a cent on a playground spent; no, never a place to play!

Plenty of room for schools and halls, plenty of room for art;  
Plenty of room for teas and balls, platform, stage and mart.  
Proud is the city—she finds a place for many a fad to-day  
But she's more than blind if she fails to find a place for the boys to play!  
Give them a chance for innocent sport, give them a chance for fun—  
Better a playground plot than a court and a jail when the harm is done!  
Give them a chance—if you stint them now, tomorrow you'll have to pay  
A larger bill for a darker ill, so give them a chance to play!

Thirteen well equipped playgrounds and one swimming pool are in operation in Springfield. The total attendance last season was 240,000, a daily average of 4,000. Of course, it costs money to maintain playgrounds. It also costs money to build jails. Multitudes of boys are being kept from forming bad associations and bad habits by the opportunities for wholesome play which our public playgrounds afford.



WADING POND FOR YOUNGSTERS AT FOREST PARK.



PECOUSIC BROOK AND LAUREL HILL ON THE BARNEY ESTATE.



THE BARNEY ESTATE AND AQUATIC GARDENS.

These pictures show the leading feature of FOREST PARK, known as the BARNEY ESTATE, at the southerly entrance to Springfield. In the lower view are the wonderful aquatic gardens, in upper view, Pecousic Brook flowing through to the Connecticut. Next comes Laurel Hill. From the Lookout on this hill can be seen Springfield, the river, the foothills of the Berkshires and the Mt. Tom range, about twelve miles away. On the Barney Estate are cultivated nearly every known variety of plant and shrub indigenous to this climate. Thousands of dollars and work of years have been expended here, for the public to enjoy "without money and without price,"—all within a few minutes' walk of the heart of a hustling city.



LONGMEADOW BOULEVARD, the beautiful suburb, being rapidly built up by Springfield people.



PICTURESQUE WEST SPRINGFIELD, MAIN STREET leading from the Common to Springfield via the Old Toll Bridge across the Connecticut; also to Hartford—leaf embowered like this for miles.

**HERE'S TO GREATER SPRINGFIELD!**

To Greater Springfield, and don't forget,  
 We aim to make it greater yet;  
 City of Homes, love, live and let,  
 Best new old town you ever met.

We'll soon annex West Springfield Street  
 And welcome back old Cabotville;  
 Holyoke will then our needs complete  
 And we'll sell suburban lots in Hartford!



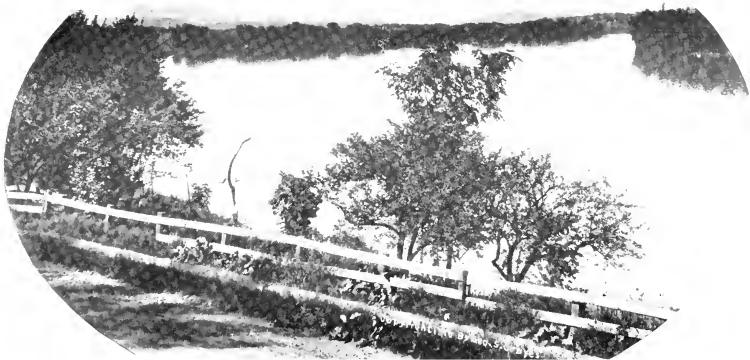
THE COUNTRY CLUB OF SPRINGFIELD,  
ON THE BEAUTIFUL HILLS OF WEST SPRINGFIELD, OVERLOOKING THE CONNECTICUT  
VALLEY.  
THE CENTER FOR SOCIAL LIFE IN THE OPEN AIR SEASON.



THE COMMON OF PICTURESQUE WEST SPRINGFIELD, extending for half a mile from the North  
End Bridge through the town's center.

From whatever direction you come, this beautiful Common or public square at once attracts you. Its generous breadth lined with pleasant homes, the Town Hall, Park Street Church and historic Day house, invites a desire to linger, and get better acquainted with picturesque West Springfield.





VIEW OF THE CONNECTICUT VALLEY FROM MEETINGHOUSE HILL, WEST SPRINGFIELD.  
THE MT. TOM AND MT. HOLYOKE RANGES, TEN MILES AWAY.

Mt. Tom is 1,200 feet above sea level and electric cars take you to the summit where you can spend hours enjoying the finest cultivated views to be seen in the world.



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G.S.G.

WEST SPRINGFIELD'S BEAUTIFUL RIVERDALE ROAD ALONG THE CONNECTICUT, going north after crossing the North End Bridge. This is the oldest and most beautiful river drive in Hampden County. In the early days it was called "Shad Lane Meetin' Road." West Springfield is a perfect delight for touring, with fifty miles of perfect roads, along the beautiful Connecticut through picturesque valleys, open meadow lands, and in the foothills of the noted Berkshires.

A TOAST TO SPRINGFIELD, MASS.

By LESTER E. HERRICK

There's a Springfield in Ohio and there's one in Illinois,  
 There's another in Kentucky where the blue grass waves in joy,  
 Even Hoosier Indiana claims a Springfield as her own,  
 While Missouri boasts her Springfield and is waiting to be shown

GROWING  
 EVERY  
 DAY

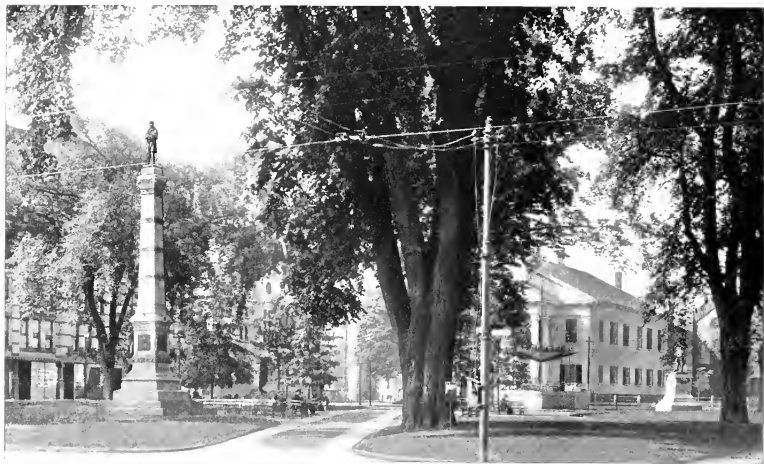
There's a Springfield in Nebraska, and Wisconsin also counts,  
 While the Springfield, Colorado, rears its head among the mounts,  
 Oregon and South Dakota do not have to seek in vain,  
 Washington on the Pacific has its Springfield; so has Maine.

IMPROVING  
 ALL THE  
 TIME

In New Jersey and New Hampshire, in Vermont and Tennessee,  
 Minnesota, West Virginia, there are Springfields three and three;  
 'Way down south in Alabama, Georgia, Florida, as well,  
 Still we find the name of Springfield, still we feel its mystic spell.

But when people mention Springfield, none of these come to mind;  
 There's *another better* Springfield than the others all combined,—  
 Yes, a *bigger, grander* Springfield which in *all ways can surpass*.  
 The score of other Springfields—*Here's a health to Springfield, Mass.*

COURT SQUARE FACING SPRINGFIELD'S CLASSIC MUNICIPAL GROUP.



VIEW FROM MAIN STREET TO HISTORIC FIRST CHURCH, COUNTY COURTHOUSE and COURT SQUARE THEATRE BUILDING, Soldiers' Monument in foreground.

This central breathing spot, laid out in 1819, extends to the Connecticut River, occupying four acres, and is valued at a million and a half dollars.

In colonial days much interesting history was met around it. Parsons' Tavern, built 1776, stood near the present location of the historic First Church, and it was there that Gen. George Washington drank his "flip" when visiting Springfield.

"Beneath you spreading tree" is the statue to Miles Morgan, one of the founders of Springfield. The statue is the work of the late J. S. Hartley, sculptor of "THE WHIRLWIND," and surpassed by very few works in this country or Europe.

"We know him not," perch, me ye say;  
 "Who may this 'stranger' be  
 That he should stand on granite base  
 Beneath you spreading tree?"

"He stands not there for self alone,  
 But for that sturdy band  
 Who, while they planted grains of corn,  
 Held gun in other hand!

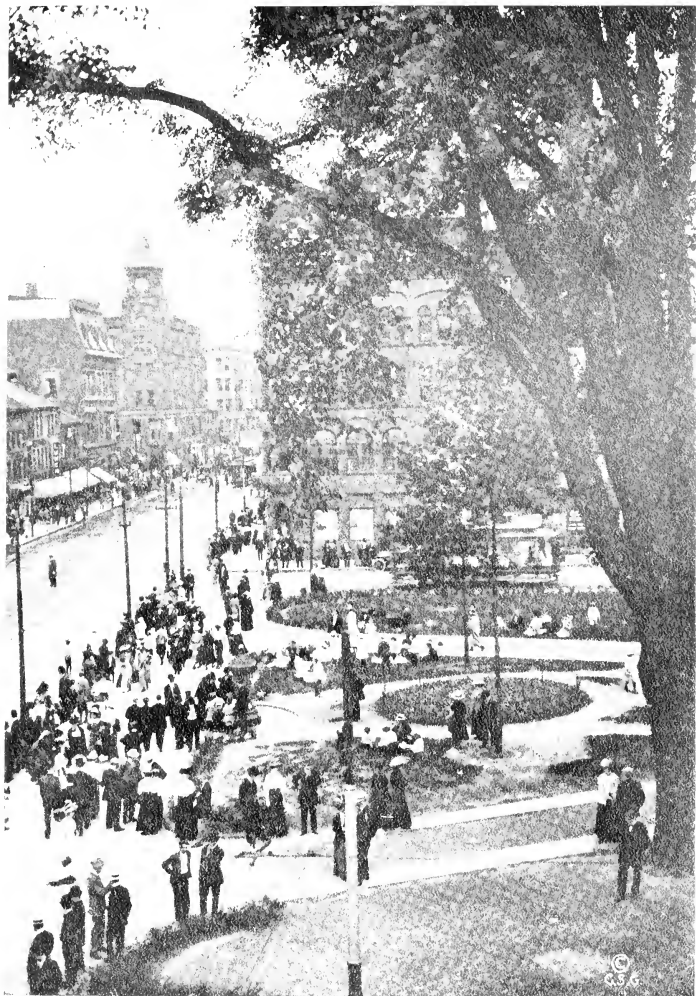
Miles Morgan made his mark here, as others of the family name have done elsewhere, for he is remembered, the world's greatest financier is J. Pierpont Morgan, who was born in Hartford, Ct., one of our principal suburbs.

"He was a tiller of the soil,  
 Of those who won the fight  
 For state, religious liberty,  
 Helped us to our birthright!

"He was alert at warrior's tread  
 At night or early morn,  
 And bore some arguments for peace  
 Within his pouch and horn."

—Henry Deaver

SPRINGFIELD'S CENTRAL PARK



COURT SQUARE AT MAIN STREET.  
VIEW TO CHICOPEE NATIONAL BANK AND MASONIC BUILDING,  
AT STATE AND MAIN STREETS.

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