

TIME PASSES, YET DEMOCRATS DALLY

Action Now Imperative, Declares Sullivan.

REORGANIZATION HELD BACK

Strain Between Factions in Party Handicap.

CHIEFS ARE DISTRUSTFUL

Necessity of Leaders Getting Together and Outlining Programme at Once Made Clear.

BY MARK SULLIVAN.
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WASHINGTON, Jan. 15.—(Special.)—Whenever you talk to any of the democratic leaders and ask them what they are going to do in the way of reorganization, they reply that it isn't time yet. This attitude does not express a conviction. It expresses a mood of doing nothing merely because their circumstances are such that to do something calls for a little trouble.
The real reason why the democratic leaders aren't doing anything is that there is not an amount of strain between two factions of the party which is of sufficient length and intensity to make it seem to them that it is worth the effort to do something now, and it isn't fair to the party or to the country. Any detached observer can see both a need and an opportunity which increases daily and which the democrats ought to meet and meet promptly.
Leaders Are Distrustful.
The present situation with the democrats in this country is that the house and senate in unofficial life there are three democratic leaders, McAdoo, Cox and Bryan. The McAdoo faction and the Cox faction are distrustful of each other and watch each other for the first move. All three of them are busy to a degree but their activity confines itself to watching the other two of the others get an advantage. Bryan, in a way, stands alone as a sort of outsider, but as between the two leans toward the McAdoo faction. He, as well as the two others, has been active recently in some steps toward reorganization which have been too cautious to be useful.
The programme of McAdoo's friends was and is to pull the party together, to infuse it with fresh spirit, to let Chairman White out and to supplant him with some active, strong man with a gift for organization, whose circumstances would permit him to give his whole time to the work. Their programme, of course, included paying off the debt. They were entirely willing to raise this sum if they were permitted to control the organization, but Cox's friends promptly let it be known that they weren't dead broke and were neither papers nor pliers and were entirely willing to take care of the deficit if they were permitted to dominate the organization.
Action Now Necessary.
The McAdoo followers' programme, if they could carry it out, not in the interests of their own faction, but unselfishly in the interests of the party as a whole, is exactly what ought to be done. The democratic national committee should be reorganized. A first-class man who can give all his time to it and who possesses proved organizing ability should be placed in charge and he should begin at once.
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144 EGGS IN MONTH IS RECORD OF 5 HENS

AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE BIRDS WINNING MATCH.

Chickens Average 29 Working Days in Month of December, Says Report to Grower.

OREGON AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE, Corvallis, Jan. 15.—(Special.)—A new world's record is believed to have been set by a pen of Professor James Dryden's Oregon Agricultural College White Leghorn hens, when the five hard-working "biddies" took first place for the month of December at the western Washington egg-laying contest being held at the experiment station at Puyallup.
The college pen laid the remarkable number of 144 eggs for the 31 days of the month. The actual record of the five birds was 25, 25, 29, 30 and 31 eggs respectively, or an average of approximately 29 eggs a hen. This is the best showing known to have been made in any contest by a pen of this size.
The report of the college hens' victory, just received by Professor Dryden, also showed that a pen of Barred Rocks sent from the college stood high in the list, with a record of 135 eggs for the same time. The contest began on November 1, and as the O. A. C. hens were a week late in reaching the scene their record for that month was not so high. For the two months of the contest, however, the White Leghorn pen has jumped from 24th to tenth place, and bids fair to land at the top within a short time, regardless of the handicap in starting, it is thought.
Hens entered from Oregon Agricultural college are all of pedigree, trap-nested stock, having several generations of high-record female ancestors behind them. In some cases records exceeding 300 eggs a year showing in their pedigree. The hen with the highest record for the two months is a Corvallis hen, entered by M. A. Allen. The hen has laid 81 eggs a Puyallup—one every day of the contest.
"The average production for this past month is the heaviest we have yet had in the 14 months of our experience," said Professor George R. Shoop, manager of the contest, in his report to Professor Dryden.

HARDING TO RUSH AID TO ARID WEST

Campaign Pledge Sacred, Says McNary Letter.

MEETING IN FEBRUARY SET

Oregon Senator Then to Outline Reclamation Needs.

SINNOTT TO BE BOOSTED

State's Spokesman Says He Has Something to Say on Next Secretary of Interior.

THE OREGONIAN NEWS BUREAU, Washington, Jan. 15.—Assurances that President-elect Harding intends furthering an extensive scheme of reclamation development in the west, in accordance with his campaign pledges, were received late today by Senator McNary of Oregon. The next president-elect that he will meet him in the subject of irrigation development in the arid west in a personal letter to the Oregon senator which arrived this afternoon.
The letter, which was in response to one from Senator McNary addressed to the president-elect a week ago, in which the Oregon senator, who is chairman of the senate committee on irrigation, to a conference at St. Augustine, Fla., some time next month to discuss a programme of western development.
Conference After February 10.
Senator McNary replied by telegraph immediately telling the president-elect that he will meet him in Florida soon after February 10. Relative to matters to be taken up at the conference, Senator McNary said: "I intend asking Harding as president to get behind a general programme of reclamation which will make possible the early development of the entire west. I have several carefully worked out plans to address, one of them being the Smith-Fletcher bill, now pending before both houses of congress, which would authorize the organization of irrigation districts and the use of federal credit in the development of such projects."
McNary to Boost Sinnott.
"It is also my intention to say something about the appointment of a secretary of the interior. My first choice, of course, is Representative Sinnott, who is chairman of the house public lands committee and is conversant with the problems of the west and he appreciates their proper relation to the interests of the balance of the country."
The Harding letter, written from Marion, follows:
"I need not tell you that I would be glad to see you any time you find it convenient and feel disposed to journey so far as Marion. It is not convenient to give you so much time as I would prefer prior to my departure from here for Florida. I had thought of inviting a number of my friends from the house and senate to meet me in St. Augustine during the middle of the month of February."
Earlier Meeting Satisfactory.
"I had that preference because it seemed to me more considerable of them to journey in that direction as I would prefer to meet and greet you here. I am going to be at St. Augustine during the greater part of February, though I shall not be definitely located there until about the 10th of the month. I am leaving here not later than the 20th. If you had rather come to Marion prior to the 10th, it will be a pleasure to meet and greet you here. I am sure I need not tell you that I want to be in harmony with the aspirations of the western states respecting a forward-looking and effective programme."
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LIVING SINCE JULY DOWN 5.6 PER CENT

FOOD AND CLOTHING SLASHES CUT WHOLE AVERAGE.

Rent Increases Continue to Appear and Costs of All Sundries Rise Slightly.

NEW YORK, Jan. 15.—The cost of living decreased 5.6 per cent from July to November and the decline was brought about by drops in the average prices of important food and clothing articles so great as to offset concurrent increases in other items, the national industrial conference board reported today. The report said:
"Rent increases continued to appear, but were less sensational and less numerous in many months than in the past. The largest advances noted were in Sacramento, Cal., and Bellingham, Wash., where the rise was somewhere between 21 and 40 per cent.
"The average cost of all sundries rose slightly between July and November. Rate increases were allowed in important centers such as Portland, Or., and smaller places. Practically no decreases in car fares were reported. Occasionally newspapers advanced prices. Church and organization budgets were increased. Notable decreases were reported in the cost of furniture, house furnishings and supplies."
The four months' decrease, however, left the cost of living higher than in July, 1914, by the following percentages:
Clothing 128, fuel and light 100, food 92, sundries 92, shelter 86.
The board let a ray of hope shine on its assertions by stating that merchandise dealers seemed to expect a further price drop early in 1921.
The decline of 5.6 per cent in living expenses from last July, said by the board to be the "peak of high."
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CAR DROPS 60 FEET; DRIVER IS CRUSHED

W. D. BURLINGHAM OF DAYTON, OR., INSTANTLY KILLED.

Machine Crashes Through Railing of Structure and Plunges Into Gulch Below.

DAYTON, Or., Jan. 15.—(Special.)—W. D. Burlingham, 55, manager and part owner of the Dayton Box & Lumber company, was killed almost instantly at 8:15 o'clock tonight when he drove his automobile through the railing of a bridge over a gulch at the Dayton city limits and dropped with the machine 60 feet to the ground beneath.
Mr. Burlingham was pinned underneath the car. He died from injuries about the head. The cause of the accident has not been determined. Eye witnesses said Mr. Burlingham was driving at a slow rate of speed.
As the automobile neared the north end of the bridge, which is on the south side of the city, it wheeled suddenly and crashed into the bridge railing. Although the railing was fairly strong, the automobile smashed through it and went off the bridge. There was but little water in the stream beneath and the car, striking the bank close to the bottom, rolled down the declivity. Mr. Burlingham was believed to have been dead before anyone reached the wreck.
Mr. Burlingham came to this section from the east five or six years ago. Until about a year ago he lived on a farm south of the city. He was part owner of the lumber company and about a year ago came here and took personal charge of it.
Mr. Burlingham is survived by his widow, who is superintendent of a hospital in McMinnville. The corner at McMinnville was notified, but had not reached this city at a late hour tonight. Mr. Burlingham, who is believed to be in Portland, has not been notified.

83 BILLS RECORD FOR FIRST WEEK

Most Important Issues Still to Come Up.

PORT LEGISLATION IS DUE

Proposed Measures to Be Submitted Tomorrow.

BONUS ACTION NEARING

Question of Compensation for Service Men to Be Argued in Week or Two.

STATE HOUSE, Salem, Or., Jan. 15.—(Special.)—Eighty-three bills comprise the harvest of the opening week of the 21st session of the legislature. No legislation, within the memory of the present generation of politicians, has worked more expeditiously than the current assembly. Devoid of fights for control, the senate and house effected organization the first day and began receiving bills. This was record-making speed.
Although the list of bills was large, there were none in the list of first importance. The big bills, which are expected to arouse interest and excite oratory to the point of overflowing, are expected to make their appearance in the coming week.
Week Quiet and Dignified.
A more sedate, conservative, quiet and dignified week has never been observed by a legislature than the one just ended. There was scarcely a ripple of excitement. Of course, the first week is devoted to the shakedown process. Most of the members are new and feel their way in a strange garret. The first week was consumed largely in getting acquainted. It was too early last week for any special offensive or defensive alliances to be formed, but these will come with the passage of time.
For the coming week the most important legislation in sight is the series of port consolidation bills which have been prepared and approved by Portland interests, and which will be submitted Monday morning. They have the approval of the Chamber of Commerce, the committee of 15, the Port of Portland commission and the dock commission.
Measures to Be Referred.
The measures, after their introduction will be referred to the Multnomah delegation, as, in a sense, they are local bills, although the development scheme is of benefit to the entire state of Oregon. There may be a number or two of the delegation nourishing a feeling of opposition to the port programme, but the majority favors the group of measures and will lend every support.
These bills will be offered Monday morning. Probably Tuesday night the delegation will hold a hearing, attended by citizens from Portland, who will explain the bills.
For Monday afternoon a surprise is in store. Governor Olcott has requested a joint assembly of senate and house to listen to a special message. The purpose of this message is being carefully guarded against premature publicity. Evidently the governor's office considers the subject of sufficient important to embrace it in a special message, and the governor is not unaware of the publicity advantages of keeping the idea of the message a dark secret until 3:30 o'clock Monday afternoon.
It is the customary rule to hand advance copies of a message to the press, but the governor, so devious is he of surrounding the special message with mystery, that this ancient practice has not been observed in the present instance. The expectations of legislators may meet with disappointment if the message is not as important as they are led to believe.
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AUDITOR MUST TURN IN ALL WEDDING FEES

CLARKE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS MAKE DECISION.

Objection of Vancouver Ministerial Association Brings Action in Resolution.

VANCOUVER, Wash., Jan. 15.—(Special.)—Fees collected by J. L. Garrett, county auditor, for performing marriage ceremonies will be turned into the county fund. This order was issued when the county commissioners adopted a resolution to that effect today.
It was shown that Judge George B. Simpson of the superior court of Clarke county had volunteered to do this, and the first day he was in office he turned in \$15 for marrying three couples. Rev. Mr. Garrett is an ordained minister of the United Brethren church and has been in the limelight to some extent since the Vancouver ministerial association objected to his performing marriage ceremonies and keeping the money. The ministers thought he should not do this, and that if he did the money should go to the county.
Mr. Garrett says he is perfectly willing to follow the resolution adopted by the commissioners but he points out that he can yet marry couples before 8 o'clock in the morning, after 8 o'clock in the afternoon, Sundays and holidays, and can keep the fee so collected for his wife's pin money.

BLACKMAILER TIP NETS ONE SUSPECT

'The Shadow' Believed to Be in Toils.

PRISONER DENIES CHARGES

Luger and 80 Rounds of Ammunition Carried.

DUAL ROLE SUSPECTED

Author of Letters Threatening Murder Thought Probably to Be Also Talkative Burglar.

It was placed under arrest on the street the man made no effort at resistance. He was armed with a Luger pistol, which recalled that Lieutenant of Inspectors Galt, while working on the "Shadow" case on the Base Line road the other day, found a Luger cartridge which had, the police thought, been discharged by the mysterious individual who has been sending threatening letters to Portland men and women for days, demanding money, when he was shot at by possees of policemen and deputy sheriffs.
Pistol Is Fully Loaded.
The Luger was fully loaded and the suspect carried 80 rounds of ammunition. He admitted he was a German. He had been keeping a sort of diary, written in German. He appeared to be about 40 years old, Lieutenant Day said. This was about the only difference in the prisoner's appearance from the description of the so-called "Shadow," who was thought to be 10 years younger. It was said at police headquarters.
Kernal advanced as an alibi that he had worked at an Oregon City paper mill from 12 o'clock Thursday night to 8 A. M. Friday. He was taken to Oregon City last night to give him an opportunity to prove his statements.
Kernal was said to have excited the suspicion of another man yesterday when he offered to sell him the Luger for \$20. He steadfastly denied that he had anything to do with the mysterious letters and telephone calls which have been the cause of more worry in Portland than many people here have known for years, and which have had the police, the sheriff's office and federal detectives on the run in an effort to capture him.
"Shadow" May Be Burglar Also.
Evidence tending to identify "The Shadow" as "the talkative burglar" fell into the hands of the police yesterday and investigation by police detectives of this angle of the mystery of the daring extortionist was begun.
That there is great similarity between the printed writing of "The Shadow's" threatening letters to prominent Portland men and the letter which the talkative burglar addressed to Roscoe C. Nelson, one of his victims, was admitted at police headquarters.
Mr. Nelson declared that he had been informed by headquarters men that there was every indication that the printed writing of these two bold operators is the same.
After the talkative burglar had robbed the Nelson home recently and
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NEWS EVENTS OF THE WEEK AS CARTOONIST PERRY VIEWS THEM.

