



The Evening News

Daily Weather Report

Snow Tonight and Thursday:
Warmer
Highest temp. yesterday 42
Lowest temp. last night 33

VOL. VII.

ROSEBURG, DOUGLAS COUNTY, OREGON. WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 12, 1916

No. 10

DR. SEELY HEADS COM. CLUB

J. F. Barker Was Elected Vice President.

OPTIMISTIC FEELING AT THE MEETING

General Belief That Club Is On Eve Of Great Expansion—Will Start Campaign For Members.

The monthly meeting of the Commercial Club was held in the club parlors last night, and as it was also the annual meeting at which new officials were to be elected, it was more than usually well attended. It was a fairly good representative body of the interests of the city, although far from a full membership of the club itself. President Harry Pearce was in the chair and Secretary Josephson was on hand to make reports and answer questions.

It developed that no regular meeting had been held for several months, the minutes of which would be stale, said the president, so the reading of these would be dispensed with. In a preliminary statement the president said that the club had worked under difficulties during all his administration, as it also had under the preceding, but he felt bound to say that the club was entitled to receive credit for certain matters which were not generally recognized, and he pointed out the fact that the railroad bond issue, and the present splendid outlook for this proposition was largely due to the activities and helpfulness of the committee from the Commercial Club working in harmony with the one from the city council. Attention was also called to the fact that every public meeting of the city and county was held in the parlors of the club. He urged that the organization be kept intact, for the reason that Roseburg and Douglas county were on the eve of a material prosperity. Pledging that he would himself do everything personally within his power to help the new administration the coming year, he asked a like co-operation of individual effort on the part of every member.

Secretary Josephson gave a brief summary of the condition of the finances and some of the work done. He said that expenses had been cut to the very closest limit but in spite of this there was very little, if any, money available for publicity work. The membership should be increased to three or four hundred who would pay the monthly dues with regularity, and he believed this could be accomplished by concentrated effort on the part of the present members. There being no further suggestions, the new business was turned over to the incoming administration, and election of officers called for.

The name of Dr. Seely was placed before the club and the nomination seconded, the name of A. J. Lilburn was announced, but he withdrew in favor of Dr. Seely. No further candidates appearing, the nominations were declared closed, and Dr. Seely was given the unanimous vote of all members present. J. F. Barker was elected as vice-president, S. S. Josephson as secretary and John Throne, as treasurer, all by acclamation. Nominations were then called for three trustees, and the names of Henry Harth, Gene Parrott, Bert Sutherland, B. W. Strong, M. F. Rice and W. J. Weaver were presented. The first ballot resulted in the election of Harth, Rice and Sutherland by a close vote.

The new president was then called to the chair and thanked the members in one of his characteristic talks, and reminded the members that he was not "harkening" after the position, he had held it once before and knew what there was connected with the duties when the proper application was given to them. He had no plans as yet to promulgate, but he was sure that some would be developed by the officials which would produce results and will

found to the credit of the city and club. He wants the confidence and co-operation of the members, and will in return give what of ability and experience he has in assisting to place the club in front ranks of commercial bodies in southern Oregon. In closing, the new president paid a tribute to the secretary for his work, and complimented him on what had been done under so many handicaps. Remarks from members were called for from members, the president stating that if volunteers did not respond, he might have recourse to the same means they are thinking of doing in England, conscription, but in this case no Irish would be excluded.

District Attorney Neuner made an interesting talk on some of the past history of the club when it had big resources, and stated that he saw no reason why some such energy could



DR. A. C. SEELY, Elected President of Roseburg Commercial Club at the Annual Meeting Last Night.

not be again brought into action. There had been something wrong lately with the interest, but now that we have a doctor as president, not doubt he will be as successful in prescribing for this as he is with his other patients.

Perry Foster made a good suggestion in regard to getting ready money, by making a reduction of say two dollars in yearly dues, to any one paying a full year in advance, and it was decided to put this up to the trustees.

A. J. Lilburn said it would be a calamity to have the activities of the club stopped, and made a strong plea for a campaign for new members, said he would give all the assistance in his power, he knew from personal experience how the burden had been placed on officers, and urged every member to buck up and help boost.

J. E. McClintock sympathized with the retiring officers, but said there was cause for the dullness. Money had been scarce and men had cut down expenses, but he firmly believed that the next sixty days will see a revival of business and its effect will be felt by the Commercial club. He thought it a wise plan to keep expenses down at the present time. At the close of his remarks he introduced a vote of thanks to the retiring officers, which was carried unanimously.

Mayor Rice said the club had been of benefit to the city in the railroad work, more than is usually known, he wanted to see it go ahead.

J. E. Sawyers said he appreciated the importance of the club, and was ready to help to the extent of his ability.

Chas. Brand, one of the out of town members present, said he would like to see more co-operation between the country and city and stood ready to do his share, as he has always done, but he could not hold out much hope for the acquisition of many members from the country until money matters were easier, but thought this would come. He appreciated the advantage of this club and was glad that he belonged to it.

S. A. Phillips suggested that it might be a good plan to see the landlord, George Kohlhaugen, and find out whether some reduction from the rent of \$82.50 per month could

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WILSON NOT FOR COMPULSION

Committee on Military Affairs Hears President's Views.

FAVORS CONTINENTAL ARMY IDEA

Plan of War Department Has Entire Approval of Wilson—No Pro- posal to Employ Na- tional Guard.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 12.—That President Wilson is strongly opposed to any measure which favors of compulsory military service is the gist of a statement made to the house military committee by Chairman Hay, Assistant Secretary of War Beckinridge told the members of the committee, who held a meeting today, that the department favored compulsory and not voluntary service, and fashioned along the lines of the continental army.

Beckinridge admitted that Wilson dissents from this opinion.

Friction Sure to Come.

The first definite indication of what a troubled legislative sea the administration's plans for strengthening the army have been launched upon came when Chairman Hay of the house military committee told President Wilson he disapproved the fundamental suggestion of the program, the organization of a continental army of 400,000 federal volunteers.

Secretary of War Garrison, who framed the administration scheme indicated that the attitude of Representative Hay before whose committee the army bill will be resumed tomorrow would not alter the war department's insistence upon its plan, in substance at least.

Hay Has an Idea.

Representative Hay said he favored passage of a militia pay bill under a contractual provision with state soldiers who drew pay from the federal government which would require them to serve in the regular army in times of war. He also proposed that present organizations of the army be brought up to war strength which, he said, would furnish the number of men thought necessary by Secretary Garrison without any large addition of officers or increase of overhead charges.

The administration plan which Secretary Garrison told the military committee had the entire approval of the president, would provide for additional regular army organizations

to bring the total force up to 141,000 as compared with approximately 100,000 at present. This would mean, he said, in his testimony approximately 800 additional officers who would be needed for training of the continental force.

The secretary, as well as Major-General Scott, chief of staff, and other army authorities, has declared that no proposal to employ the national guard as first line troops could be worked out that did not give the federal government absolute jurisdiction over them in peace as well as war times.

Newlands Attacks Administration.

Senator Newlands, of Nevada, democrat, attacked his party's record in the senate, delivering a long prepared speech in which he criticized the tariff and banking reforms—the chief legislative achievements of the Wilson administration. He declared that because there had been industrial and commercial depression continuous with democratic control of legislation, the party would be in danger of defeat at the next presidential election unless the European war continued, and made the president's sagacious and firm handling of foreign affairs the overshadowing issue.

Although he characterized the general trend of democratic legislation as commendable, the senator asserted that the party was too radical, and expressed the conviction "that no political party can hope to remain in power which adopts radical instead of evolutionary methods of reform."

VAIN OFFENSIVE IS MADE BY GERMANS

PARIS, Jan. 12.—With a disregard of life which bordered on recklessness, the Germans sacrificed 25,000 men in a disastrous offensive attempt in the Champagne district.

Dispatches from Chalons stated that the fighting was the bloodiest since allies' offensive in September. Wounded German prisoners confirmed the theory of the French that General von Elnem planned to bend the allied front at Rheims and Verdun. They stated that their artillery failed them at a crucial moment and that instead of silencing the French trenches as they had intended, it merely wrecked advance positions and gave the French ample time in which to bring up reserves.

AMMUNITION EXPLOSION KILLS MANY IN BELLE

BERLIN, Jan. 12.—Reports of a powder explosion in an ammunition magazine at Lille, state that 70 were killed and 50 injured.

MEXICANS KILL 16 AMERICANS

Villista Bandits Responsible For Massacre.

ONE ESCAPES FATE OF COMPANIONS

Washington Officials Denounced By Border Residents, for Methods Pursued in Dealing With Mexican Situation.

EL PASO, Jan. 12.—Official messages from this place today told of how 16 Americans and two Englishmen were dragged from a Mexican & Northwestern train and after being robbed of \$25,000 and stripped of their clothing were shot down in cold blood.

Advices clearly showed that direct orders from Villa were given to kill every American and any other foreigners who were met in Mexican territory and this caused the slaughter.

It is unofficially reported that Villa personally commanded the firing squad which first began to shoot their victims one by one and several seeing that death was inevitable, attempted to escape by flight, but were shot down.

Thomas Holmes, the only American who escaped, owes his life to his quick action in hiding when the train was stopped and boarded by the bandits. He clearly heard the shrieks of the victims as they were murdered, and it was he who brought the first word of the massacre to El Paso. The bodies are expected to arrive in this city today.

The border territory is in a fever heat, over the outrage and the slowness of the Carranzista officials to take action in apprehending the guilty parties resulted in the calling of a mass meeting of mine-owners and ranchers.

The delegates denounced the Washington administration's Mexican policy in terms too strong for publication. They stated that many Americans were lured back to Mexico through passports issued in the national capital and through Carranza's guarantee of protection.

It is positively claimed that the party of Americans and Englishmen were refused a military escort by the Carranza officials, and if this action had been taken it is thought that the lives of the passengers aboard the train would have been saved.

The British consul at Ysabel con-

firmed the news of the massacre, saying that 15 bandits stopped the train at Santa Ysabel, they evidently having knowledge that most of the passengers aboard the train were officials and employes of the Cuzi Mining Company who were enroute to reopen the rich silver mines of that place. After attiring themselves in their victims' clothing, the bandits marched them to a ravine where they were slaughtered in cold blood.

Washington Officials Indignant. WASHINGTON, Jan. 12.—Indignation of the most profound nature swept over official Washington when word of the slaughter of the 15 Americans and two Englishmen was received here.

Prompt action for redress of the outrage in order that a repetition will not occur is promised by both Wilson and Secretary of State Lansing, who say that Carranza will be held responsible for the killing. American consuls in northern Mexico have been ordered to obtain full details of the entire affair.

Names of Killed Given Out. EL PASO, Texas, Jan. 12.—According to the de facto government's announcement, given to representatives here of several mining companies, the following were reported killed:

C. R. Watson, William J. Wallace, E. L. Robinson, George W. Newman, M. B. Romero, T. M. Evans, R. T. McHatton, Jack Hase, Charles Wadleigh, J. P. Coy, Alexander Hall, J. W. Woom, Charles A. Pringle, W. D. Pierce, R. H. Cimmons, Maurice Anderson.

Pringle lived in San Francisco and Pierce in Los Angeles. The others are all believed to be residents of El Paso.

Only Survivor Sends Message.

Dispatches last night said the bodies were enroute to Juarez. First reports were received here in a message from Thomas M. Holmes, the only survivor, to Mrs. Holmes, advising her of his safe arrival at Chihuahua. Inquiries instigated by officials of the American Smelting & Refining Company developed the details.

The ill-fated party boarded a train at Chihuahua City, intending to reopen properties of the smelting company at Cusihuiriachic officials of which had received assurance of protection by the de facto government. According to one account, bandits stopped the train early yesterday and ordered the party to descend. Holmes however, slipped into the lavatory and from his hiding place witnessed the stripping of clothes from the prisoners.

Shrieks Heard, Then Shots.

The party was marshaled down the track, escorted by a firing squad. As Holmes slipped from the car and ran in the direction of Chihuahua City, he declared, he heard shrieks, followed by a volley of rifle shots.

A protest addressed to President Wilson was signed by several hundred mining men in the hotel lobbies of El Paso last night. Advices also were received that numerous expeditions which recently left to reopen properties made idle by the Mexican revolution were returning to the border.

Although the advices given out by the Mexican consulate regarding the killing of the Americans was received in the course of the day, no explanation was offered for the delay. Several previous requests for information were met with the statement that there was nothing to give out.

STRATEGIC POINT LOST BY ITALIANS

VIENNA, Jan. 12.—In an official report to the war office a detailed report of the capture of Mt. Locen from the Italian forces is given. After three days of stubborn fighting between the forces comprising infantry, heavy artillery and ships of the Austrian navy, the bitter resistance of the Italians was overcome.

The fighting is made extremely difficult by the wintery condition of the mountains in which the fighting took place. The Austrians claim to have captured a great quantity of supplies and a number of guns which were abandoned by the enemy.

Cettine, a city of considerable importance, which is dominated by the heights of Locen, is being evacuated by the Italian forces.

DEFENSE SOCIETY ASKS 48 DREADNOUGHTS AND OTHER SHIPS AT ONCE, AN ARMY OF 245,000, WITH 2,000,000 CITIZEN SOLDIERY



New officers, American Defense Society. Left to right, top: Cleveland Moffett, Dr. Lee De Forest, David Jayne Hill (president), Paul Thompson, Henry Reuter, C. S. Thompson, W. K. Starrett, Capt. Lawrence Angell, U. S. A., retired Cushing Stetson, Leslie J. Tompkins, R. J. Emmet, Julian Street. Right center: John F. Hubbard and Joseph H. Coit.

At a recent meeting of the American Defense Society, at which the above officers were elected, a resolution was passed calling upon congress for a strong navy, fully manned, of forty-eight dreadnoughts, and battle cruisers in proportion, a standing army of 200,000 men and 45,000 officers, backed by a national force of citizens trained by a universal and obligatory system, a body of no less strength than 2,000,000.