

STORE APPLES SEIZED

CONSIGNMENT OF THREE HUNDRED BOXES FOUND BAD.

Inspector Condemns Entire Lot and Orders Removal of Bad Boxes.

Three hundred boxes of apples stored in the basement of a local grocery store were confiscated and condemned last evening by County Fruit Inspector Stilwell. The lot was in bad order through the presence of diseased goods and the entire consignment will have to be repacked and sorted. Not all were bad, but the 300 boxes were condemned until the diseased ones were removed.

One of our local fruit dealers and shippers of La Grande, C. O. Ramsey, was arrested yesterday by Lorenzo Stilwell, county fruit inspector for violating the Oregon laws by selling fruit without the growers name stamped on the boxes.

A fine of \$15.00 and costs of trial was passed on him.

LORENZO STILWELL.

WOODMEN SEEK HONORS

LOCAL CAMP IN LINE FOR BIG STATE BANNER.

Election of Officers Held Last Evening During Smoker at Camp.

The Modern Woodmen of America last evening elected officers for the ensuing year, during a smoker attended by a large number of Woodmen. The local camp is well in the front of the race for a head camp banner to be given to the town in Oregon showing the greatest increase in 1910, and the camp is making a whirlwind campaign for new members. Late figures indicate she is in line for the honors.

The officers elected last evening are: Head Consul, E. E. Daniels, Worthy Advisor, Ed Heath; Clerk, Ole Stageberg; Banker, Charles Harding; Escort, George Ball; Physicians, A. L. Richardson, G. L. Biggers and C. H. Upton; Watchman, Zurblick; Guard, L. M. Hoyt; Manager, M. McMurray.

Taft's Message.

In the future, until war comes, but when war does come the methods therein directed are in accordance with the best military judgement as to what they ought to be, and the act would prevent the necessity for the discussion of new legislation and the delays incident to its consideration and adoption. I earnestly urge the passage of this volunteer bill.

I further recommend that congress establish a commission to determine, early as practicable, a comprehensive policy for the organization, mobilization and administration of the regular army, the organized militia and the volunteer forces in the event of war.

I have directed that the estimates for appropriation for the improvement of coast defenses in the United States should be reduced to a minimum, while those for the completion of the needed fortifications at Corregidor in

the Philippines and at Pearl Harbor in the Hawaiian islands, should be expedited as much as possible. The Pacific naval base has been transferred to Pearl Harbor in the Hawaiian islands.

This necessitates the heavy fortifications of the harbor and the establishment of an important military station near Honolulu, I urge that all the estimates made by the war department for these purposes be approved by congressional appropriation.

The president refers to the prosperity and growing trade of the Philippines and Porto Rico, especially recommended the speedy enactment of pending measures for the government of the latter island.

Panama Canal.

At the instance of Colonel Goethals, the army engineer, officer in charge of work on the Panama Canal, I have just made a visit to the isthmus to inspect the work done and to consult with him on the question of certain problems which are likely to arise in the near future. The progress of the work is most satisfactory. If no unexpected obstacle presents itself the canal will be completed well within the time fixed by congress, to-wit, January 1, 1915, and within the estimated cost of \$375,000,000.

Among questions arising for present solution is the decision whether the canal shall be fortified. I have already stated to the congress that I strongly favor fortification and I now reiterate this opinion and ask your consideration of the subject in the light of the report already before you, made by a competent board.

If, in your discretion, we believe modern fortifications to be necessary to the adequate protection and policing of the canal, then it is our duty to construct them. We have built the canal. It is our property. It is also well known that one of the chief objects in the construction of the canal has been to increase the military effectiveness of our navy. Failure to fortify the canal would leave us in the possession of rights we would be powerless to enforce.

In determining what the tolls should be, we certainly ought not to insist that for a good many years to come, they should amount to enough to pay the interest on the investment, of \$400,000,000 which the United States has made in the construction of the canal. The benefit to be derived by the United States from this expenditure is not to be measured solely by a return upon the investment.

In addition to the benefit to our naval strength, the canal greatly increases the trade facilities of the United States. It will undoubtedly cheapen the rates of transportation in all freight between the western and eastern seaboard and it will greatly increase that trade by reason of the reduction in its costs.

In all these cases the question whether the Panama canal is to be used and its tonnage increased will be determined mainly by the charge for its use. My own impression is that the tolls ought not to exceed \$1 per net ton. On the whole, I should recommend that within certain limits, the president be authorized to fix the tolls of the canal and to adjust them to what he believes to be a commercial necessity.

The president recommends that, owing to the importance of the canal to the United States navy, the government should take over the furnishing not only to the navy but to the public, of drydock and repair shop facilities and the sale of coal, oil and other ships supplies.

He adds: I cannot close this reference to the canal without suggesting as a wise amendment to the interstate commerce law a provision prohibiting interstate commerce railroads from owning or controlling ships engaged in the trade through the Panama canal. I believe such a provision may be needed to save the people of the United States the benefits of the competition in trade between the eastern and western sea boards.

Department of Justice.

The duties of the department of justice have been greatly increased by legislation of congress, I am glad to say that under the appropriations made for that department, the attorney general has so improved its organization that a vast amount of litigation of a civil and criminal character, has been disposed of during the current year.

In a special message last year I brought to the attention of congress the propriety and wisdom of enacting a general law providing for the incorporation of industrial and other companies engaged in interstate commerce, and I renew my recommenda-

tion in that behalf.

The president then discusses the need of cheapening the cost of litigation by simplifying judicial procedure and expediting final judgment recommending the bills framed by the department.

He also renews the recommendation made in his last annual message of a law regulating the issuing of injunctions in equity without notice in accordance with the best practice now in vogue.

Postoffice Department.

Discussing postal savings banks the president says:

Arrangements have been perfected so that savings banks will be opened in some cities and towns on the first of January, and there will be a gradual extension of the benefits of the plan to the rest of the country.

The postmaster general has been able to make his estimate of expenses for the present year so low as to keep within the amount the postal service is expected to earn.

Upon the recommendation of the postmaster general I have included in the classified service all assistant postmasters. I think it would be wise to put in the classified service the first, second and third class postmasters.

In my last annual message I invited the attention of congress to the inadequacy of the postal rate imposed upon second class mail matter in so far as that includes magazines, and showed by figures prepared by experts of the postoffice department that the government was rendering a service to the magazines, costing many millions in excess of the compensation paid.

An answer was attempted to this by the representatives of the magazine, I agree that the question is one of fact; but I insist that, if the fact is as the experts of the postoffice department show that we are furnishing to the owners of magazines a service worth millions more than they pay for than justice requires.

With respect to the parcels post, I recommend its adoption, all rural delivery routes and that 11 pounds—the international limit—be made the limit of carriage in such post.

Naval Department.

Of the naval program, the president says:

The estimates of the navy department are \$5,000,000 less than the appropriations for the same purpose last year, and included in this, is the building program of the same amount as that submitted for your consideration last year. It is merely carrying out the plan of building two battle-ships a year, with a few needed auxiliaries I earnestly hope that this program will be adopted.

The president recommends that the secretary of the navy be authorized to make the necessary expenditure to create at Guantanamo a naval station of sufficient size to serve as an emergency naval base.

The president calls attention to Peary's discovery of the North Pole and says:

I recommend fitting recognition by congress of the great achievement of Robert Edwin Peary.

Conservation.

Discussing conservation the president sees no need for radical reforms in the methods of disposing of what are really agricultural lands, adding:

In September last, a conservation congress was held at St. Paul at which I delivered an address on the subject of conservation, so far as it was within the jurisdiction and possible action of the federal government.

I recommended: That the limitation now imposed upon the executive which forbids his reserving more forest lands in Oregon, Washington, Idaho, Montana, Colorado and Wyoming, repealed.

That the coal deposits of the government be leased after advertisement in inviting competitive bids, for terms not exceeding fifty years, with conditions as to maintenance which will prevent combinations to monopolize control of the coal in any one district or market.

That water power sites be directly leased by the federal government after advertisement and bidding, for not exceeding fifty years upon a proper rental and with a condition fixing rates charged to the public for units of electric power, with suitable provisions against assignment to prevent monopolies.

I earnestly request congress to at this session, general conservation legislation of the character indicated be adopted.

With reference to Alaska the president still opposes self government, on the ground that the habitants are few in number and migratory in character. He is opposed to government aid in

the construction of Alaskan railroads. The passage of a law permitting the leasing of government control of lands in Alaska after public competition, and the appointment of a commission for the government of the territory with enabling powers to meet the local needs will lead to an improvement in Alaska and the development of her resources, the president says.

Railroads and Anti-Trust Laws.

For the protection of our own people and the preservation of our credit in foreign trade, I urge upon congress the immediate enactment of a law under which one in good advances money or credit on a bill of lading issued by a common carrier liable for the value of the goods described in the bill at the valuation specified in the bill.

I further recommend that a punishment of fine and imprisonment be imposed upon railroad agents and shippers for fraud in misrepresentation in connection with the issue of bills of lading issued upon interstate and foreign shipments.

Except as above, I do not recommend any amendment to the interstate commerce commission law, as it stands, I do not now recommend any amendment to the anti-trust law. In other words, it seems to me that the existing legislation with reference to the regulation of corporations and the restraint of their business, has reached a point where we can stop for awhile and witness the effectiveness of the vigorous execution of the laws on the statute books in restraining the abuses which certainly did exist and which roused the public to demand reform.

CANDY CANDY CANDY

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