

COST OF WARSHIPS GREATLY INCREASED

WASHINGTON, Jan. 10.—War conditions have brought about an enormous increase in the cost of building warships. Rear-Admiral Taylor, chief of the bureau of construction and repair, told the House naval committee recently in discussing the 1920 naval appropriation bill. He estimated the hulls and machinery of the ten battleships and six battle cruisers authorized in 1918 would cost nearly \$150,000,000 more than originally estimated—an increase of almost 50 per cent.

Admiral Taylor said he did not think it likely the end of hostilities would result in any speedy reduction in costs. After the Civil war, he said, there was no appreciable lowering of costs of labor and materials within three years.

Bank-Road from Hillsboro to Multnomah county line to be paved in the spring.

Lane Says Soldiers Want Opportunity and Not Charity

WASHINGTON, Jan. 10.—"The soldier does not want charity; all he asks is opportunity, and that is what I propose that the American government shall give him," said Secretary Lane this afternoon, in summing up his request for a speedy passage of the \$100,000,000 appropriation to reclaim land for farm purposes for American soldiers. Lane is of the opinion that \$100,000,000 is "absurdly small" in consideration of what is due the doughboys who have offered their lives to the service of their country.

Line Board wants additional \$10,000 from state for Gold Hill plant.

MUCH INTEREST SHOWN IN HERDS

CATTLE FEEDING IS BECOMING BIG FEATURE IN FARMING

Good Sized Party Accompany County Agricultural Agent on Tour of Inspection

A scheme conceived and managed by County Agricultural Agent Paul Spillman this week, stands out as one of the greatest educational features for stockmen that has been introduced for some time, and became at once a stock show in which the many ways of feeding cattle under varying conditions were carefully inspected, says A. W. Nelson, who accompanied Mr. Spillman's party on the trip. It was a plan to take the stockmen to the cattle sheds and feeding yards of the valley or as many of them as could be reached in a day, instead of taking the cattle to the people.

Last Tuesday, after much letter writing and telephoning, Mr. Spillman had marshalled many of the leading stockmen of Union county into a group of inspectors who travelled all of seventy-five miles that day and inspected fully a dozen different yards where good stock is being wintered, fattened or bred. It was a huge success in every way. It gave the few business men of La Grande who accompanied the party and many of the stockmen as well, a new vision of what the stockmen of this valley have done and are doing. About 1000 head of stock, many of the finest kind of pure bred animals and a considerable number of grade herds, were inspected at close range.

Probably the outstanding feature of the trip are: First, that all are here in numbers and have come to stay, and secondly, that corn and other crops are being raised for silage with splendid success in this valley; and, thirdly, that the pure bred stock business of this county is growing rapidly. Fourth that the cattle feeding industry has great possibilities in this section.

It was a revelation to all. The stockmen are to be commended for the way they are expending money to erect the plants and to buy pure bred herd sires. Fully a half million dollars is represented in the pure bred stock the inspector saw that day. Herefords and Short Horns predominate.

The caravan of stockmen and local business men left La Grande at 9:00 and the first stop was at the Grande Ronde Co. feeding yards on the site of the old sugar factory. A considerable number of fine cattle are being prepared for the block and feeders are using almost exclusively a shocked corn ration (this corn has been grown by the company on nearby tracts, and is another proof that corn fodder is practical in this valley. The stock are doing very well on the rations.

The next stop was at the James Dobbin ranch just north of Fruitdale. Mr. Dobbin has a herd of sixty Hereford steers. Mr. Dobbin feeds a ration of one-fourth barley, and one-half wheat. This ration was approached by easy stages and is about the normal basis as it now stands. The above ration is fed at the rate of sixteen pounds per steer per day. Behind the sixty head he is running twenty-five hogs but finds he must reduce to twenty to be economical. Mr. Dobbin has a large yard and feed troughs are well separated.

Bloklund Bros., great Hereford ranch, was the third stop on the trip. The Bloklunds do not feed on a fattening basis, all their stock being pure bred and being used for breeding purposes. The visitors saw only the heifer calves and Repeater 68, one of the famous heifers, who is a half-brother to Repeater's 7th Model, which sold at the Kansas City sale this fall for \$23,000. All told the Bloklund Bros. are feeding 235 pure bred Herefords, and it is recognized as one of the best herds of cattle in eastern Oregon. The ration used on this ranch for these calves consists of chopped screenings and oil cakes.

Walter Pierce's feeding grounds was next visited, and there the inspectors saw the greatest number of cattle in one herd seen on the trip. This herd is mixed as to breeds. Herefords predominate. In the Herefords predominate, and build-up the herd is doing very nicely on a ration of sixteen sacks of mill feed, sixteen sacks of corn and four sacks of cotton seed cake with hay and straw to the full want of the animal. While there are 1200 head on the entire ranch, the special feeding is being applied to a herd of two-year old steers and aged cows that are to be marketed. One feature that favorably impressed everybody was the economical way in which Mr. Pierce has fenced in his straw stack to eliminate waste and yet insure easy access to the straw. Mr. Pierce is credited with being one of the best feeders of big herds in the county, having the faculty of getting the best results from grade herds.

Floyd McKennon's feed yard was the next stop and demonstrated some unique features. He has utilized his sheep shed as a shelter to his 193 head of calves. Mr. McKennon has made the best possible use of corn ensilage that the county has seen, he had soaked the crop and obtained a good "succulent" on the trough. He was watering troughs with a heater and every way has exerted himself towards the comfort of the herd. Not only does this re-

calves but in the general appearance of the whole plant.

From the McKennon yards the party went to G. W. DeLay's of Hot Lake. Mr. DeLay owns a herd Short-horns. His rations are waste oats run through the silo, and he makes use of the weeds for the same purpose with good results. Mr. DeLay has a very fine herd including some extremely choice cows and heifers.

After admiring the De Lay herd and his silos, the party drove on to Hot Lake for lunch. Immediately thereafter the W. J. Townley ranch was inspected. Mr. Townley is one of the pioneer breeders of the valley and his results were closely studied. His herd is Shorthorn. The big feature about the Townley cattle is the ration. His silos are filled with weeds and weedy grain, largely cut from along ditches, fences and where weeds crowded out the grain. There is some grain in it of course, but the ensilage is largely acquired from wastes on the ranch. A year ago he had splendid success with Jim Hill mustard, but "my mustard crop failed me this year" explained Mr. Townley, "and I have to use ordinary weeds." In addition he feeds bald barley hay. Ordinarily he feeds this chopped, but labor was scarce this year and he is now feeding it long. The ration keeps his herd in fine shape, and the cattle certainly long for the weed ensilage.

The Benson Brothers herd of grade Herefords came next. Messrs. Benson a few years ago went over to Bloklund Brothers at Island City and bought several bulls, paying fancy prices for them, and ere long they had built up a fine herd. They are so well pleased with the strain that a few days ago they went back to Bloklund's and for \$625 purchased two bulls that had been weaned on December 11th last and which weighed the inspectors bearing witness, 740 and 760 pounds each, this week. The Benson brothers feed thirteen pounds daily to each steer of a ration of one-third chopped wheat, one-third barley, and one-third oats. Wild hay and alfalfa being also fed. In many respects the Benson herd was much favorable comment. They have 67 in the lot that are being fattened.

From the Benson place the visitors moved on to the experiment station at Union and visited the various pens there. Robert Withycombe, the superintendent, lectured upon the various experiments being carried on. Chief, probably, among these, is one wherein calves of equal weight and fed identical rations are divided into two groups, one under shelter and the other not, with a view of determining at the end of the year what difference, if any, shelter, plays. Another series has to do with the value of alfalfa as alone, with oil cake, or with ensilage. Other experiments were shown the men by the versatile "Bob" and the results thereof, will be interesting matter next spring when the experiments are concluded.

After going over the cattle department carefully the inspectors hurried to the Green ranch near Union where, among other splendid animals they inspected General Hampton, the head of the Green herd. It was about dark by this time and the profitable day was brought to a hurried close and then the party departed, each in his own direction.

Among those in the crowd were: J. Yeach, H. E. Bull, G. I. Wade and F. S. Johnson, of Summerville; Jack O'Neill, a prominent La Grande meat dealer; John F. Williams, lumberer; Frank E. Stillwell and Frank Stillwell Jr., Mae Wood, A. W. Nelson, G. W. DeLay, J. D. Woodell, La Grande; J. W. Townley, Hot Lake; W. E. McClure, Summerville; Frank McKennon, Alsea; Chas. Dunn, La Grande; Peter McDonald, La Grande; I. A. Benson, Union; J. D. Dobbin, La Grande; Wm. Dobbin, Union; C. H. Cole, Summerville; Fred Holmes, La Grande; E. A. Bidwell, Union; Floyd McKennon, La Grande; Sam Benson, Union; Leo R. Childers, La Grande; Duhan McDonald, La Grande; Andrews Bloklund, La Grande; E. H. Miles, Union; John Green, Will Green, Union; Albert Kraus, I. E. Chenault, R. G. Chenault, A. Chenault, Raymond, McKennon, P. H. Spillman, La Grande; Robert Withycombe, Union.

It is said that, notwithstanding the fact that Russia ceased to be an active belligerent about two years before the signing of the armistice, her war casualties reached the huge total of 9,150,000 of which number approximately 1,700,000 were fatal.

Although Austria was in the very center of the struggle, during the entire war, and was, during much of the time, fighting on her eastern as well as her southern and western front, her total casualties up to the end of May, 1918, are reported as only about 4,000,000—or less than half of Russia's.

LIBERTY BOND PAYMENTS DUE

Subscribers to the Liberty Loan who are making the payments on their bonds in installments should remember that such payments are due on January 15th and should be paid up or before that date. The nation's problems in finance are as difficult as ever they were during the year and it still is the part of patriotism for bond holders to make their payments promptly.

Whether you be a laborer man or capitalist, this is your country and it is going to be up to you to decide whether you will with American traditions and principles of free back and adopt the social...

BIG BUSINESS TO PAY MORE

HIGHER TAX WILL BE LEVIED ON CORPORATIONS

House and Senate Confer on War Revenue Bill Have Boosted Income Section Considerably.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 11.—Corporations will pay income taxes of 12 per cent on their 1918 earnings, and 10 instead of 8 per cent thereafter, under agreements reached late Thursday by senate and house conferees on the war revenue bill.

The conferees adopted the 12 per cent rate for 1919 collection, as proposed in the bill as it passed the senate, the house managers agreeing to elimination of the house provision levying an additional 6 per cent on undistributed dividends of corporations. In revising the corporation income tax affecting earnings of 1919 and subsequent years, which the senate had fixed at 8 per cent, the senate and house managers reached a compromise, making the rate 10 instead of 8 per cent.

\$750,000,000 From Corporations

It is estimated that under the new rates the corporation tax will yield about \$750,000,000 this year and \$600,000,000 annually thereafter, as against about \$824,000,000 estimated from the original house rates.

The conferees also adopted, substantially, the senate provision allowing deductions in calculating corporations' income taxes, of dividends received from other corporations. They also approved the senate provisions exempting so-called personal service corporations from the corporation tax rates, but added an amendment to deny such exemptions to corporations where 5 per cent or more of income is derived from profits or commissions on government contracts.

PUTS MEETINGS OFF LONGER

Dr. E. P. Messman of our city for some years past has been an ardent believer in the importance of chorus and community singing and wherever possible has lent support to such movements. It was natural, therefore, when he was approached by a committee last July to accept the office of president of the proposed community chorus the doctor was glad to lend his support and encouragement to a line of endeavor, the success of which means much to our city in a cultural way.

When seen today regarding the future plans of the Community chorus whose activities have been hampered, in common, owing to the influenza ban he said:

"It is not deemed advisable to call our singers together again for renewed activities until a few weeks later. Things are so unsettled with a possible recurrence of closing regulations if health conditions do not improve that a poll of many members of our chorus gives me the impression that we had better wait a while."

"Naturally I am anxious to always be found prepared for any and all calls that may come to us in a public way. When the prospect for uninterrupted rehearsals seems apparent the singers will be called together. We have now or had a lot of new music that all are anxious to begin work on. Our leader, Professor Edwards, has composed the words and music of a patriotic march song which has been published and we are anxious to learn this piece. Being a community organization, he said, it naturally follows that our success cannot but reflect credit upon our city and its citizens. Thus it is our loyal members are working for the upbuilding of the community."

"Now, then," said the doctor, "do not forget our soldiers boys. Many of them have returned, and others are coming. They have been in their various camps, where they have learned the value of songs and have taken part in them. Many of them, we hope, will want to continue the good work they have started. Their own community chorus should appeal to them. We need them and we want them. Under competent leadership, which it is well known we have, they can advance in the art of singing in chorus. We will not ask them how well they sing but only to come and sing with us when we start work again. Let their friends and relatives encourage them to take up this activity with their home town chorus and incidentally they will be helping to boost La Grande musically."

It is the first duty of the state to preserve and extend the primary pr-

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A POET'S PREDICTION OF THE FALL OF KAISERISM The following poem was written by the well-known Scottish poet, Charles Mackay, in 1871 at the time when William I was proclaimed German emperor. The fulfillment of its prophecy has been long delayed, but is now strikingly complete: THE KAISER'S CROWN (Versailles, January 18, 1871.)

The wind on the Thames blew icy breath, The wind on the Seine blew fiery death, The snow lay thick on tower and tree, The stream ran black through wolf and sea; As I sat alone in London town And dreamed a dream of the kaiser's crown,

Holy William, that conqueror dread, Placed it himself on his hoary head, And sat on his throne with his nobles about, And his captains raising the wild war-shout; And asked himself, 'twixt a smile and a sigh, "Was ever a kaiser so great as I?"

From every jewel, from every gem, In that imperial diadem There came a voice and a whisper clear— I heard it and I still can hear— Which said, "O kaiser, great and strong, God's sword is double-edged and long!"

"Aye," said the emeralds, flashing green— "The fruit shall be what the seed has been— His realm shall reap what his hosts have sown, Debt and misery, tear and groan, Pangs and sob, and grief and shame, And rapine and consuming flame!"

"Aye," said the rubies, glowing red— "There comes new life from life-blood shed; And though the Goth o'er-ride the Gaul, Eternal justice rides o'er all! Might may be Right for its own short day, But Right is Might forever and aye!"

"Aye," said the diamonds, tongued with fire; "Grief tracks the pathways of desire. Our kaiser, on whose head we glow, Takes little heed of his people's woe, Or the deep, deep thoughts in the people's brain That burn and throb like healing pain."

"Thinks not that Germany, joyous now, Cares naught for the crown upon his brow, But much for the Freedom—wood, not won— That must be hers ere all is done— That gleams, and floats, and shines afar, A glorious and approaching star!"

"Aye!" said they all, with one accord, "He is the kaiser, king and lord; But kings are small, the people great; And Freedom cometh, sure, though late."

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