

OREGON NEWS OF GENERAL INTEREST

Principal Events of the Week Briefly Sketched for Information of Our Readers.

A. T. Bennett, well-known Oregon pioneer, a member of the first family to settle in Eugene, died there at the age of 76.

Deschutes county may spend \$124,930 during the coming year. It was the amount named in the budget approved by the county court.

Official compilation of the Red Cross membership returns for Oregon, as reported by the various chapters, give the state a total of 226,417 annual members.

A law that voters of the 1918 election and their widows be exempted from taxes of all kinds is proposed by the members of the Albany post of the Grand Army of the Republic.

A. C. Hampton of La Grande was elected president of the Oregon State Teachers' association for the coming year at the close of the annual session of the representative council in Portland.

An increase of tenfold in the number of registered dairy cattle and breeders of registered dairy stock in the last five years is reported from Tillamook county by the county agricultural agent.

A 400-page history of Oregon by J. B. Horner, professor of history at the Oregon Agricultural college, is in type and will be ready for distribution soon. It is profusely illustrated and describes 500 events.

Use of sulphur as a fertilizer on 7000 acres of land in Oregon this season increased the alfalfa yield one ton an acre. At present prices the increase is worth \$140,000. The cost of application ranged from \$2 to \$3 an acre.

Lime corrects the soil acidity that interferes with maximum crop production and a circular telling how to use it to best advantage has just been issued for free distribution by the soils department of the Oregon Agricultural college.

Captain Ivan D. Applegate, a widely known oregonian, and a pioneer of southern Oregon, was fatally burned while standing before an open fire at his home in Ashland. His nightgown ignited, burning the flesh from his shoulders to his feet.

Business men of North Bend and Marshfield again are discussing the plan of consolidating the two cities. By combining North Bend, Marshfield, Eaglewood and Bunker Hill, and possibly Eastside, there would be a city of about 14,000 population.

Two days after celebrating the 57th anniversary of his marriage to Elizabeth E. Butler Christmas day, 1861, Evengous Davis, aged 86 years, died at his daughter's home, 1025 1/2th street, north of Eugene that has been his home continuously since 1857.

After more than two months of comparative inaction, during which the influenza held sway, Rhinehart Mills has again resumed its normal activities. A few among the employees are still in quarantine, but the epidemic is believed to have spent its force.

One thousand employees of the Sumpter Valley railroad, a popular gauge line serving a large lumbering district contiguous to Baker, decided to strike on December 21, following failure of the road's management and employees to agree on a new wage scale.

For the second time in two months the Eugene city officials have lifted the ban on public gatherings made necessary by the recurrence of the influenza epidemic. The health authorities say that danger that the disease will spread to any great extent is now past.

The first car of ground limestone from the state lime plant, ordered cooperatively by Lincoln county farmers through the office of the county agricultural agent, arrived at Felsite. At least half a dozen cars of lime will be ordered for use in the county during the coming year.

Burglars forced the rear door of the McAlister's possession and made an attack on the safe. After knocking off the combination knob, they filled the safe with sawdust, but before discharging the fast they were frightened away and left their tools and the unfinished job.

Appropriation of \$10,000 for purchase of additional land for the south of Jackson county, is a remarkable tribute to the value to agricultural interests, says Dean A. B. Cordley, director of the state experiment stations.

Soldiers from the Pacific coast and northwest states, who are with the 51st division, which was organized at Camp Lewis, Wash., are not slated for early return home, according to a letter received by Governor Withycombe from Maj. Gen. William H. Johnston, commander of the division. General Johnston pointed out that the 51st had been selected as one of thirty combat divisions designated to remain in France for further training and possible service.

Industrial accidents reported to the state industrial accident commissioner during the past week totaled 438, of which three were fatal, as follows: Carlisle W. Holford, Baker, mining; Bert M. Bivens, Ontario, lumbering; Jesse A. Wood, Portland, traveler on public highway (automobile collision).

Nearly 1000 applicants for work, many of them recently discharged soldiers, are being placed daily in Oregon by the United States employment service, despite the surplus of unskilled labor and increasing scarcity of positions, according to statements given out by Wilfred S. Smith, state federal employment director.

Oregon poultry breeders are asked to send data on their breeding stock to U. L. Upson, O. A. C., Corvallis, federal poultry representative. Breeders are asked to give name of breeds carried, number of breeders, incubator capacity, estimated number of hatchlings, eggs for sale and total of chicks to be hatched next spring.

The new milk-condensing plant built at Bandon last summer by Gleibisch & Joplin, and now owned by the Northwest Process company of Portland, will begin operating March 1. The plant has a capacity of 1000 cases a day, and will afford a market for all the milk produced in southern Coos and northern Curry counties.

Following an appeal from the Baker commercial club, the public service commission telegraphed to Director Prouty, of the railroad administration, asking that some steps be taken to save the Sumpter Valley railroad from a threatened strike and possible disastrous consequences to the section which that railroad covers.

The state and local granges and several women's clubs will be behind an effort at the coming session of the legislature to have repealed chapter 331, laws of 1917, establishing certain dower and curtesy rights of wife and husband.

The main argument against the present law is the claim that it interferes with the right to make wills.

Salem has been closed tight again because of the rapid spread of Spanish influenza since the ban was lifted a few weeks ago. Schools, theaters, churches, poolrooms and public places of all kinds have been shut down, the use of pool and card tables being prohibited entirely. In addition restrictions are placed on the entire business section.

F. L. Kiger, a Umapine rancher, was fatally burned when a five-gallon can of distillate which he was carrying into his house exploded, setting fire to his clothing and to the house. He jumped through a window and managed to reach an irrigation ditch, where he was found by a neighbor. He was taken to a Walla Walla hospital, where he died.

While the great majority of the logging camps in the Columbia river district have closed down for several weeks, the Palmer camp, on the Walhuck, is still in operation. The company expects to finish cutting its tract here about the middle of February if the weather conditions permit, and so will continue operating until then without interruption.

Three Portland boys in the United States army in France have been decorated simultaneously with the distinguished service cross for bravery in action, according to information received. They are Major Sereno E. Brett, tank corps; Major Karl J. Swenson, medical corps; Private Ernest C. Kyle, stretcher bearer. Two of them were born in Portland.

Wooden five-masted fore and aft schooners are by far the best type of vessel to be constructed for lumber carriers, contends Captain William I. Eyres, of Astoria, inspector of hulls for the emergency fleet corporation. He urges that coast yards which are practically idle as the result of the cancellation of government contracts be utilized for the construction of that class of vessels.

Failure to make required reports to the food administration has caused the revocation of the milling license of the Fischer flour mills, a large concern of Silverton. This is the first milling license in this district to be revoked. A representative of the grain corporation division of the food administration was placed in charge and will remain at the mill until the ban on further business is lifted.

The report of the fir production board, H. B. Van Duzer, chairman, shows the remarkable record of \$20,000,000 worth of timber, allocated and expedited at an expense of but 14 cents per thousand for supervision and accounting, representing less than half of 1 per cent of the total value of lumber products handled through the medium of the fir production board, with the lumber manufacturers of Oregon and Washington.

J. H. Scott, engineer for the state highway department, has been in Hood River going over the route of the Mosier-Hood River extension of the Columbia River highway with prospective bidders on contracts for the construction of the six-mile unit of the scenic thoroughfare. Bids on the contracts will be opened by the state highway commission January 7. In order that smaller contractors may be given an opportunity to bid on the work, the six-mile unit has been divided into three sections.

WILSON TELLS STAFF ON WORLD LEAGUE

President Tells British That Leaders of Allies Are In Accord.

London.—In the most important speech he has made since he came to Europe, President Wilson declared at Guild hall that the ground has been cleared and the foundations laid for a league of nations, "because we (the American and allied statesmen) have already accepted the same body of principles."

The president's reception at the Guild hall was spontaneous and hearty. When he arose to speak there was a prolonged outburst of hand-clapping and cheering, and his talk was frequently punctuated by applause. At the conclusion the audience rose and cheered, and it kept up the applause and cheering as he passed out.

In the course of his speech the president declared the soldiers had fought to do away with the old order and establish a new one.

The old order, he said, had for its center the "unstable thing" called the balance of power, determined by competitive interests, "jealous watchfulness" and "an antagonism of interests."

The men who have fought the war, he said, "had been men from free nations who were determined that this sort of thing should end now and forever."

The suggestion for a concert of power to replace the balance of power, he remarked, was coming now from every quarter and from every sort of mind. The concert to come, he declared, must not be a balance of power or one powerful group of nations set off against another, but "a single, overwhelming, powerful group of nations which shall be the trustees of the peace of the world."

WILL ORGANIZE TO HANDLE BIG FLEET

Paris.—The United States shipping board has decided to create a permanent world organization for the purpose of handling the government's trade fleet with the greatest effectiveness.

"We will open at once offices in London, Paris and Rome," said Edward N. Hurley, chairman of the board. "From these centers will be directed 10 or 12 other offices, such as Shanghai, Yokohama and Bombay, in the east; Genoa, in Italy; Buenos Aires, Valparaiso, and Rio de Janeiro, in South America, and at Rotterdam and Antwerp."

"The London, Paris or Antwerp offices would have precise information and be able to consign a ship without delay for its most efficient use. The subordinate centers are essential properly to direct our national fleet. They will be managed by practical shipping men who will be assigned to their posts from the United States."

ANCESTRAL HOME VISITED

People of Carlisle, England, Give Warm Welcome.

Carlisle, England.—President Wilson, accompanied by Mrs. Wilson, came to Carlisle Sunday in rain and a cold, penetrating mist to visit the girlhood home of his mother. But the warmth of the greeting of the people of the town and the thousands of strangers from the surrounding country more than offset the dreariness of the weather.

The president visited Annetwell street, where the site of his late grandfather's chapel was pointed out to him and the house in Cavendish place that was built by his grandfather. Later he attended services in the Lowther-street congregational church. Here during the services the Rev. Edward Booth, pastor of the church, requested the president to come into the pulpit and address the assemblage. This the president did, delivering a short speech, in which he touched simply but eloquently on his mother.

Huns Start Battle With Poles at Posen

Warsaw, Poland.—A Polish official report concerning the riot in Posen on the arrival of Ignace Jan Paderewski, who is on his way here, says the trouble began when allied and American flags were hoisted over the city hall. The Germans demanded that the flags be hauled down. The Poles refused to acquiesce, whereupon the Germans brought up machine guns and began firing in the streets, driving back the crowds and dispersing the Polish troops.

Belgium Plans Welcome for Wilson

Paris.—Brand Whitlock, American minister in Belgium, has informed the American peace delegation that elaborate preparations have been made in Brussels to receive President Wilson.

THE SEASON'S GREETINGS
GOOD WILL IS A NATIONAL ASSET. WITHOUT IT OUR COUNTRY'S RESOURCES WOULD BE UNEQUAL TO THE TASK WE HAVE ALL UNDERTAKEN.
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