

DOINGS OF OREGON'S LEGISLATURE

A Brief Resume of Proceedings of the People's Representatives at the State Capital, Bills Introduced, Passed, Rejected, Etc.

House Passes New Bank Bill Except Rise in Salary

State Capitol, Salem—Shall the salary of the state bank examiner be increased from \$3000 a year to \$4000? After an hour of snappy debate the house decided that it shall not. With the exception of this detail the house accepted in every particular the banking committee's bill revising the state banking laws to conform with the new Federal reserve act.

Under the provisions of the bill state banks will be placed in position to become members of the Federal reserve system if they so elect.

One change in the present law will prohibit state banks from investing any of their assets in the capital stock of any corporation with the exception of that of the Federal reserve bank at San Francisco.

All state banks acting as reserve agents need carry only 15 per cent of their total demand deposits and 5 per cent of their savings deposits in reserve. The present law places this limit at 15 per cent in cities of less than 50,000 population and at 25 per cent in cities of more than 50,000. No state bank or trust company can be approved as a reserve bank unless it shall have an unimpaired capital and surplus of \$75,000 or more.

The state bank examiner under the new law will need to examine those banks that are members of a regularly organized clearing house association but once a year. Other banks will be subject to the existing semi-annual examination, however. It is assumed that the clearing house banks will be under constant inspection by the clearing house examiners.

With these few changes in the existing law state banks will be enabled to become members of the Federal reserve system without any trouble or inconvenience.

Bill to Aid Oregon Goods Is Approved

State Capitol, Salem—The senate judiciary committee by unanimous vote decided to report favorably on a bill by Senator Bingham which, the members say, will aid the manufacturers of the state and relieve the unemployed situation to a large extent.

Manufacturers and organized labor leaders, who appeared before the committee, were a unit in urging adoption of the bill, which provides a differential of 5 per cent in favor of Oregon concerns in the letting of contracts for public work and the purchase of materials and supplies for public use.

Senator Bingham explained that under the bill county courts, boards of county commissioners, school boards, city councils and all other public boards and commissioners charged with the letting of contracts for public work may accept bids of Oregon concerns which do not exceed by more than 5 per cent the bids quoted by competitors of other states.

D. M. Dunne, director of the Manufacturers' association, said the passage of the bill would aid employers by keeping their plants in operation and employes by providing them with work.

Prison Fund Enlarged.

State Capitol, Salem—An additional appropriation of \$25,000 for support of the state penitentiary was voted by the house and senate ways and means committee. This action was due to the representations made to the committee that the "population" of the institution would be substantially increased in the next two years, inasmuch as Governor Withycombe does not propose to practice a policy of wholesale pardonings.

Moreover, a little extra money will be needed owing to the desire of the present governor to place the institution, as far as possible, on a self-supporting basis. The committee again discussed several plans through which the prisoners may be employed. A flax plant and a wagon-making plant are under consideration. If either one or both of these plans is adopted, it is probable that further appropriations will be allowed for the penitentiary.

Divorce Ad Bill Is Passed.

State Capitol, Salem—A bill by Representative Littlefield prohibiting lawyers from advertising for divorce business and fixing penalties for violations was passed by the senate Thursday. Senator Strayer, of the committee on revision of laws, in reporting the measure favorably, said the practice was common in Portland. It was thought an encouragement of litigation should not be allowed.

Senator Kellaher said there was no reason why divorce lawyers should not advertise for business if they desired.

No Postal Saving Limit Wins.

State Capitol, Salem—The senate, by a unanimous vote, adopted the joint memorial of Senator Dimick asking congress to remove the limit on postal savings deposits and to use the deposits as a basis for establishing a system of rural credits. It also is provided that interest to depositors be increased from 2 to 3 per cent, and that the provision for depositing the postal deposits in national banks be abolished.

Fair Display Wanted in State.

State Capitol, Salem—Senator Day has introduced a bill providing for an appropriation of \$17,500 for returning the Oregon exhibit at the Panama-Pacific Exposition to this state and making a permanent display of it.

Judiciary Committee Has Bill for New Districts

State Capitol, Salem—Four new judicial districts are provided for in the plan reported to the house by the judiciary committee by substitute house bill 308. This plan will give the state a total of 17 judicial districts and will supersede entirely the system proposed by President Thompson, of the senate, for 24 districts and an appellate court. It also disposes of the numerous independent district division bills introduced by various members of the house and the senate.

The new plan, as worked out by Chairman Olson, and other members of the judiciary committee, moved up a notch when the house passed Senator Thompson's bill creating the Fourteenth judicial district by detaching Lake county from the present Thirteenth district. This leaves only Klamath county in the Thirteenth.

Create the Fifteenth district to consist of Lane, Lincoln and Benton counties, by detaching them from the Second district.

Create the Sixteenth district, comprising Coos county, by detaching it from the present Second district.

Create the Seventeenth district by detaching Curry county from the Second district and Josephine county from the First district. Jackson county alone then will embrace the First district, with Judge Frank M. Calkins in charge.

This plan will leave Douglas county alone as the Second judicial district and the bill provides that Judge J. W. Hamilton shall remain the circuit judge of that district.

Voters to Register but Once.

State Capitol, Salem—House bill 191 providing for permanent registration was passed by the senate without argument. The law provides that as long as an elector resides in the precinct in which he registers and votes at one election held throughout the county within the biennial election period ending November 30 following the regular biennial general election, he shall not be required to register again.

If the elector fails to vote as stipulated he shall re-register or notify the county clerk in not less than 30 days nor more than 60 days after the regular November election that he resides in the district from which he registered and requests in writing that his name remain on the register of electors.

This is the second permanent registration law that has been passed by the Oregon legislature, one passed at the session in 1913 having been declared unconstitutional by the Supreme court. The new law provides that the county clerk shall use the card index system in keeping his register of electors. Each elector shall sign a card giving his name, age, political affiliation, etc., and shall take an oath that he is a citizen of the United States. The cards shall be public records and shall be kept in the office of the county clerks as other public records are kept.

Trading Stamp Bill Dies.

State Capitol, Salem—By agreeing to the indefinite postponement of Representative Forbes' bill to levy a heavy tax on trading stamps, those members who are opposed to the use of trading stamps in the state are centering their efforts on Representative Tom Brown's bill which probably be up for final passage soon. The mail of every member of the legislature has been flooded for the last few weeks with letters from constituents who represent either side of the question. The bill promises to arouse considerable debate.

Road-Merger Act Passed.

State Capitol, Salem—By provisions of Senator Hawley's bill passed by the house the Southern Pacific company will be enabled to proceed with the consolidation of its subsidiary companies, plans for which already have been completed by the railroads affected. The bill amends the present law so that one road may own and operate a competing line. The Southern Pacific plans to consolidate the Portland, Eugene & Eastern, the Corvallis & Eastern, the Salem, Falls City & Western and several other minor roads it owns for the purpose of reducing expenses and promoting efficiency in operation.

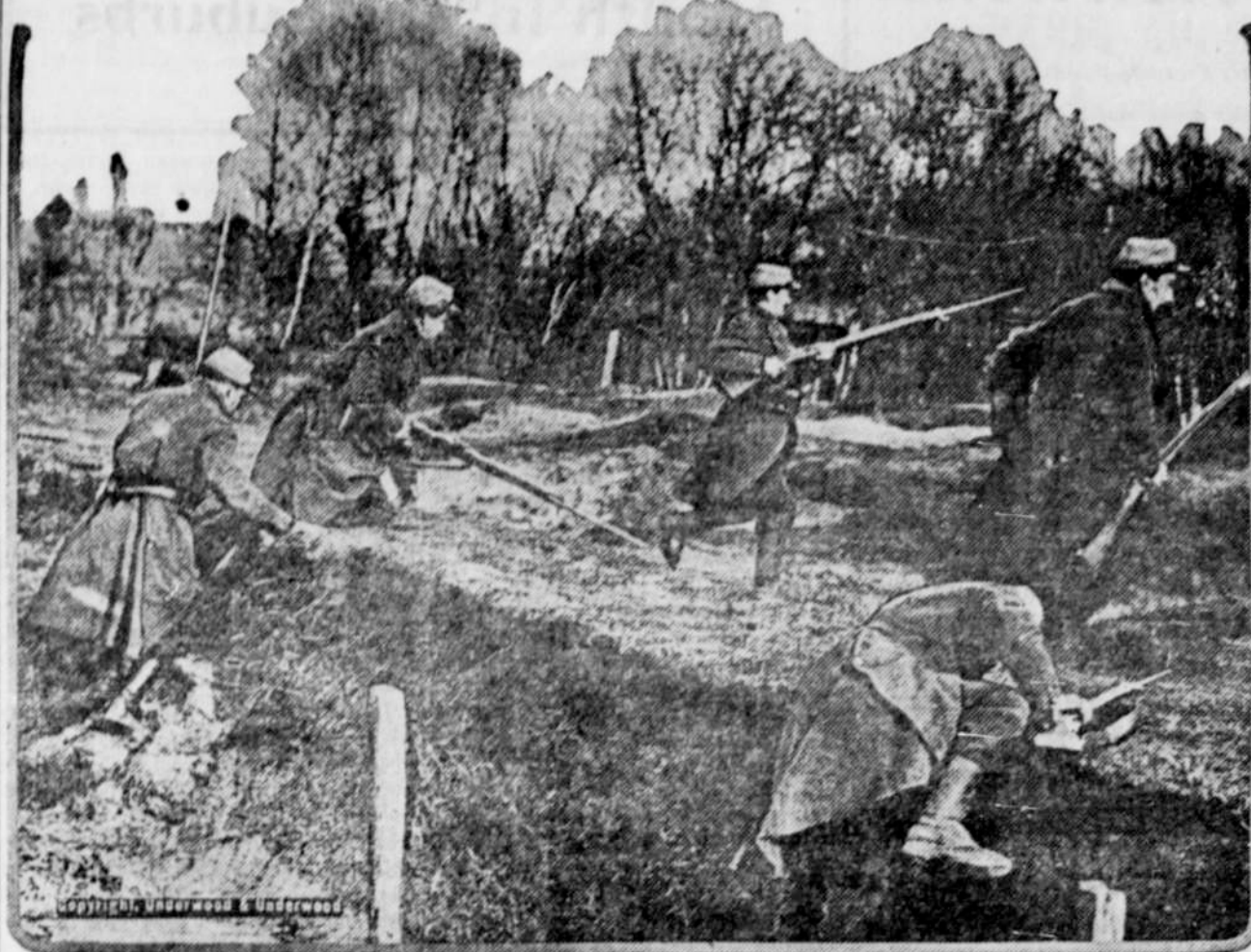
District Road Plan Loses.

State Capitol, Salem—One more road bill was defeated in the house, but another is on its way. By a vote of 41 to 17 the house defeated Representative Sam Browne's bill to provide a system of state, county and district co-operation in road-building. The measure carried a half-mill tax levy and it was this feature to which the house seemingly took objection. The good roads enthusiasts are not discouraged, however, and have prepared another bill to be submitted through the roads and highways committee.

No-Party Bench Act Is Out.

State Capitol, Salem—Representative Tom Handley has consented to the indefinite postponement of his bill providing a non-partisan judiciary. The measure had been indorsed by the State Bar association. The attorneys in the house generally favored the bill, but they were opposed to passing it at this session, for the reason that the people defeated a similar measure at the recent election.

FRENCH CHARGE FROM THE TRENCHES



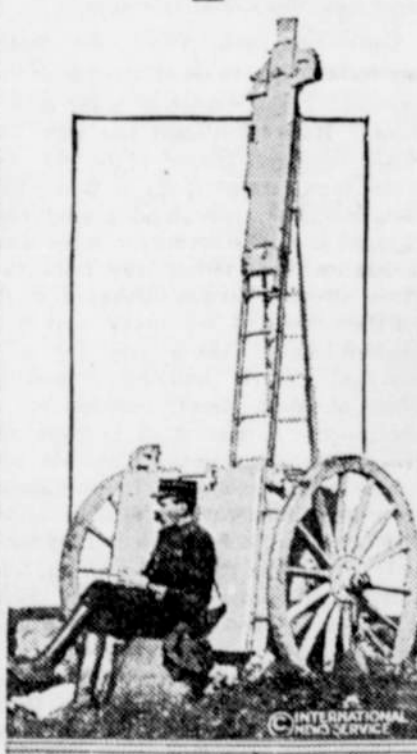
This photograph was taken as the order to charge was given a French force and the men were leaping from their trenches and rushing on the German position that had been shelled by the light artillery.

WOMEN'S VOLUNTEER RESERVE ON THE MARCH



Members of the Women's Volunteer reserve on their first route march through London. The object of the corps is to train a body of women skilled in first-aid, cooking, signaling, riding, driving, the management of horses, and marksmanship. When the corps is fully trained it is the intention to offer it to the war office.

NEW OBSERVATION LADDER



This new observation ladder with a steel shield is used in connection with the famous 75-millimeter gun batteries of the French army.

Population of Cities.

"The New York World Almanac for 1915, just issued, gives the estimated population of Birmingham as 180,000—the same as last year—and those figures are very conservative," said a statistician of Birmingham, Ala. "We probably have between 190,000 and 200,000 inhabitants.

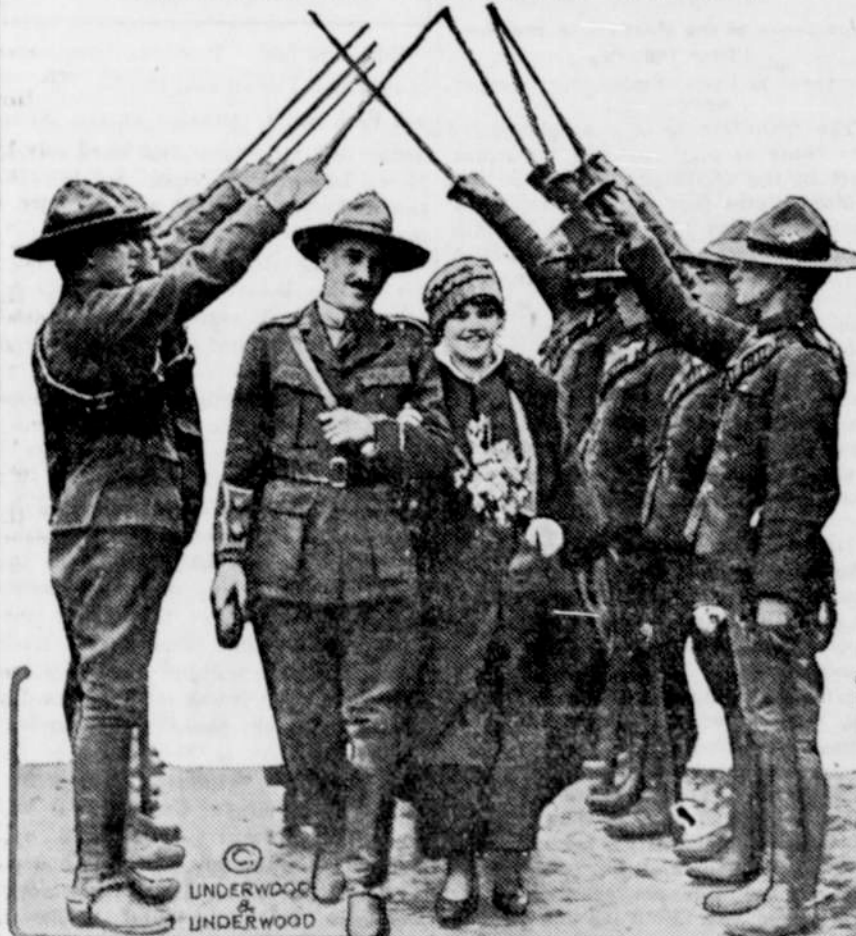
"Atlanta is estimated at 200,000—the same as last year. But the Texas cities, especially Houston, Dallas and San Antonio, have been moved up considerably. In the census of 1910 Texas was without a city of 100,000. Now Houston is credited with 132,000, Dallas with 125,000 and San Antonio with 120,000.

"New York city grows bigger every year and its estimated population is 5,625,000. Chicago, according to the World Almanac, has 2,437,526."

Only Woman Aviator.

The Princess Shapovskaya is the only woman army aviator in the great war. She is said to be in active service at the front in East Prussia. At first her application was rejected, because of her sex, but she demonstrated beyond a doubt that she could manage a flying machine as well as a man, and was finally accepted. She learned to aviate in Germany.

WEDDING OF CANADIAN SOLDIER



There is an interesting little tale connected with the marriage of Lieut. Kenneth Edmiston and Miss Marion Allen. The lovers were planning to be married when the lieutenant, who is attached to the Nineteenth Alberta Dragoons, was suddenly called to England. When he arrived there he found that his company was not to be dispatched to the front for quite a while, so he finally sent all the way to Alberta for his sweetheart. The climax of the romance is pictured here, showing the happy couple passing under an archway made up of the company's swords, after having the knot tied by the regimental chaplain.

FAMOUS "270" BATTERY OF THE FRENCH



The picture shows one of the famous "270" batteries, which the Germans admit have forced the latter to give ground in Alsace.

DEADLY BARB WIRE

European Nations Have Chosen American Design.

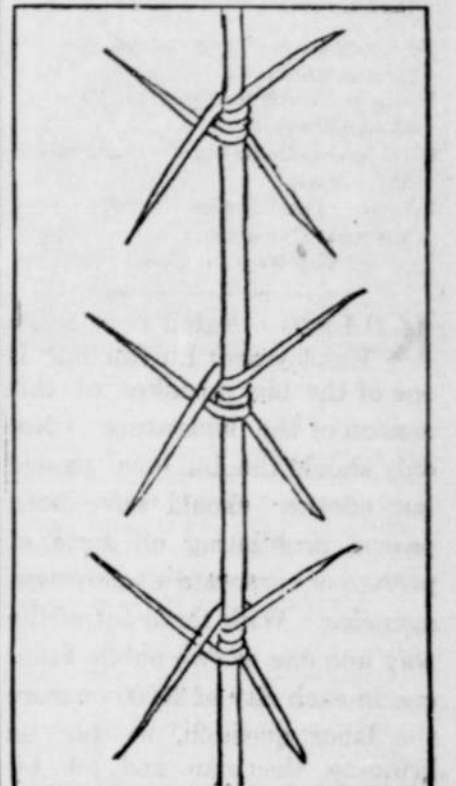
Indiana Firm Expects to Turn Out Enormous Quantities of its Product for Use Before the Conflict Is Ended.

It has remained for an American to devise the most murderous form of fortification that can be used in the present European war.

Since the latest inventions in big sledge guns have made ordnance fortifications not only useless but death traps to their garrisons barbed wire entanglements have come into general use to hold the enemy at bay.

But where was the kind of barbed wire necessary for this work to be found? A Kokomo (Ind.) manufacturer has answered the question to the satisfaction of some of the nations at least.

A plant at Kokomo manufacturing wire has just completed special machinery for turning out a murderous type of barbed wire for use in the European conflict. The drawing shows the wire in its actual size. This special wire has bars more than an inch long, wound on a one-eighth-inch steel rod. The bars are placed in sets of four at one-inch intervals along the steel core, the points standing out at right angles. The bars are sharp-



Here is a Sample of the Deadly Barb Wire Being Made in America for European Use.

er than those on the usual barbed wire and are capable of inflicting severe injury to a horse or man.

In spite of the size of the core rod the wire is flexible to a remarkable degree and is wound on ordinary reels for shipment. The local company expects to turn out immense quantities of this special wire in the near future.

Just Wouldn't Be German.

A German appeared in the naturalization bureau for his second papers admitting him to citizenship yesterday. A comely woman came with him as his witness.

"I am his wife," she said to John Hein, who is in charge of the bureau. "You won't do," she was told, "because only a citizen can be a witness."

The woman bridled and said: "I would have you know that I am a citizen; I was born in New Jersey."

"But when you married a German you became a German yourself."

"But I positively will not be a German," she declared, "and I defy anybody to force me to be one."

"Well, well," said Mr. Hein soothingly, "you will be an American again as soon as your husband gets his papers."

"And I want to tell you," said the woman, turning to her husband, "that you had better be quick about it. Why, that's the most ridiculous thing I ever heard of. It makes me feel like an orphan."—New York Times.

Found Husband on Film.

During a moving picture show at Liverpool, a Belgian woman refugee recognized her husband in a film depicting scenes in the Belgian trenches. The husband appeared in the picture to be in the best of health and spirits. As they had been separated early in the war, and the address of each was unknown to the other, the woman tried frantically to obtain information from the theater, and even wrote to the film agent. But the name of the place where the husband was seen had been deleted by the censor. The film company, however, promised to try to trace the matter through the camera operator.

It Is a Question.

A Boston dispatch says that children of the tenements who search dump heaps, freighting yards, markets and ash barrels for food, fuel and clothes are the subject of a report just issued by the Massachusetts child labor committee, which recommends legislation to exclude these "child scavengers" from the dumps. We wonder if the labor committee recommended any legislation that would help to make it unnecessary for these starving children of the tenements to "scavenge" in order to get food sufficient to live on?—Houston Post.