

OREGON NEWS IN BRIEF

Multnomah county proposes to spend approximately \$500,000 on its roads in 1919.

The annual meeting of the Oregon Irrigation congress will be held in Portland on January 9, 10 and 11.

The service of the Pacific Telephone & Telegraph company has been discontinued at Brooks, Marion county.

Hilliard Bailey, son of Mayor Harry Bailey, and Lane Thornton, son of A. L. Thornton, of Lakeview, were drowned while fishing in Goose Lake.

A recent ruling of the War department prohibiting fraternities from holding social meetings and initiating or pledging new members, has been rescinded.

The fourth Oregon state officers' training camp, which was to have opened at the University of Oregon November 23, has been indefinitely postponed.

Regardless of the fact that 140 convicts at the state penitentiary at Salem were inoculated for the disease, 125 of them are suffering from the Spanish influenza.

According to the figures of the city budget Klamath Falls may have a drop of 3.2 mills in its tax rate. The adoption of an occupation tax by the city is considered.

Storm and high tide last week resulted in greater damage on Coos bay than had occurred in a number of years. The principal damage was to industries, including sawmills, shipyards and allied lines.

A big convention of the Oregon Butter and Cheese Makers' organization will be held in Portland December 11 and 12. In connection with the meet a butter and cheese exhibit will be held in which prizes totaling \$350 will be awarded the winners.

Several hundred Oregon trappers already are at work, according to Carl Shoemaker, fish and game warden, who has issued more than 200 licenses since the trapping season opened the first of this month. The season will close February 1, 1919.

In an effort to provide jobs for soldiers discharged from the United States army upon demobilization, the war department has requested the state highway commission to provide it with information as to how many men can be provided with jobs in Oregon.

As a protest against what they term unsatisfactory wage adjustments by the Macy commission, the boiler-makers' union of Portland will continue to declare Saturday afternoon a half-holiday and quit work at noon, as the men have been doing for a month or more.

Fourth-class postmasters have been appointed in Oregon as follows: Colton, Clackamas county, Charles P. Hunter; Crystal, Klamath county, C. O. Brown; Odessa, Klamath county, Miss May Kinkaid; Redne, Marion county, Mrs. Marie E. Parker; Three-pines, Josephine county, Mrs. Flora A. Corliss.

Sheriff Chrisman and Deputy Sheriff Jarvis made an important arrest at The Dalles when they captured three convicts who escaped from the Shoshone, Idaho, jail November 6. The convicts are C. W. Darcy, Frank Sullivan and Edward Miller. They are said to be three of the most dangerous criminals in the country.

Power extended to the supreme court to call to its assistance three circuit judges of the state to sit as a part of that court when it is deemed necessary and also power extended to the chief justice of the supreme court to direct circuit judges to sit in any county of the state will be asked by the committee on law reform created by the last legislature.

Small railroads are denied 24 hours' free time on interchange of cars with larger lines in a letter received by Public Service Commissioner Corey from Regional Director Aishton. Mr. Aishton states that he thinks the small roads are given very favorable concessions now, considering the fact that they own no cars and what cars they use are turned over to them by the larger roads.

Marion county boasts of about 1200 acres planted in English walnuts, according to a census made by County Fruit Inspector Van Trump, and 10 per cent of these are either yielding or paying big returns to their owners. Many trees this year yielded 150 pounds, the product selling on the market at as high as 30 cents. The walnut industry in this section is steadily forging ahead as a money-maker.

Totals compiled by Henry E. Reed, associate director of the state war savings stamp campaign, indicate that Oregon counties for the most part are well up in their war stamp purchases. Eight counties are "over the top." More than half the remaining counties are in such position as to indicate that they will make the goal on schedule time, December 31.

Five fatalities were reported to the state industrial accident commission for the week ending November 14 among a total of 522 accidents, and in addition there were five fatalities resulting from injuries previously reported. The fatal cases resulting from

accidents during the week were: Frank E. Baldwin, Knappa, logging; Charles A. Brooks, Astoria, iron works; Ray Norton, Coquille, logging; Ellis Pinkerton, Klamath Falls, lumbering; Benjamin L. Ward, Astoria, shipbuilding. The deaths resulting from accidents previously reported were: Frank Dempsey, Bridal Veil, lumbering; George Magill, Lakeside, lumbering; Luther Schumaker, Placer, mining; S. Ota, Westport, lumbering; W. H. Gardner, Portland, steel works.

Aroused over the proposed increase in telephone rates, a mass meeting of business men was held at Albany and a committee was appointed to investigate the possibility of consolidating the two systems.

The annual meeting of the presidents and faculties of the independent colleges of Oregon will be held at Newberg November 29-30. Faculty members from eight institutions of the state will be present.

The Rogue River Valley Canal company, of Medford, recently enlarged its main canals and laterals in order to cover 1000 acres more farm land for next year's crops. The Medford irrigation district board, which recently voted \$1,500,000 for the installation of an irrigation system to cover 20,000 acres adjoining Medford, is prosecuting the work of preliminary surveys for its main canal from Butte creek.

Plans have been made to obtain 300 goats to be used in connection with the new milk goat project which is being added to the boys' and girls' club work department of the Oregon Agricultural college extension service. Mr. Seymour has made arrangements with the Portland clearing house to loan to every boy and girl in the state wishing to be a member of the goat club, money with which to purchase an animal.

Pressure from two sides is being vigorously brought to bear to prevent the Pacific Telephone & Telegraph company from increasing telephone rates. Through the public service commission, which threatens criminal prosecution, steps are to be taken to declare an increased tariff invalid. The Portland city council is taking drastic action which may result in the revocation of the company operating license in Portland.

In line with the general letting up of restrictions following cessation of hostilities, the capital issues committee has given its sanction to the sale of \$590,000 worth of state highway bonds. Already \$2,190,000 worth of bonds out of the \$6,000,000 issue has been sold. The state highway commission will take under consideration the question of whether or not the bonds will be sold at a meeting to be held in Portland Friday, November 22.

The work which the state highway commission plans to complete with the proceeds of the issue of bonds, the sale of which has now been approved by the capital issues committee, is chiefly the Pacific highway in the counties of Douglas, Josephine and Jackson, and the Columbia River highway in Hood River and Wasco counties. With the exception of the section of the Columbia River highway between Hood River and Mosier most of the work will not be undertaken until next spring.

A mixture of barley and cottonseed meal is an excellent substitute for bran and shorts—mill run—so extensively used as stock feed and now difficult to obtain, points out E. B. Pitts, extension specialist in dairying at the Oregon Agricultural college. "This mixture costs more than the wheat feeds but its feeding value, pound for pound, is 1 1/2 per cent greater," says Professor Pitts. "It also provides greater certainty of securing uniform value than the mixtures of bran and shorts sold by the flouring mills as mill run."

Finis was written to the part that spruce and fir forests of the Pacific northwest have played in the war, when orders were issued by the spruce production division to cease at once practically all activities in aircraft work among the camps and mills. All shipments of spruce and fir canals to the huge cut-up plant at Vancouver, Wash., were halted by the order, while no more airplane material shipments are to be made. Similar orders stopped nearly all logging operations, and instructed that falling of airplane timber was to cease at once.

Housewives and all consumers of flour and sugar are elated at the issuance of orders from the food administration, which lift the edicts against these commodities and restore them practically to a pro-war basis. The flour order becomes effective immediately, while the new sugar regulations will be in force December 1. Under the flour order, the four pounds to one rule, of white flour and substitutes, is cancelled, and consumers are now permitted to make their purchases without the handicap of substitutes. The sugar order provides for an additional pound in the per capita allotment, or four pounds per person each month.

Don't fear influenza, but take every precaution to avoid it.

ITALIAN PEOPLE SHOW VITALITY

Survivors of Earthquake Build a New Avezzano.

OLD TOWN HEAP OF RUINS

Disaster That Wiped Out 10,000 Lives Was Lost Sight of in More Absorbing News of War—Ruins of Old Town Provide Material for Building the New—American Red Cross Lends Helping Hand to People.

LIEUTENANT GRIFFIN BARRY.

Who save the Italians in America remembers through three and a half crowded years the earthquake in Avezzano in January, 1915? The great war was six months old. Italy was gathering her forces to enter. The attention of the diplomatic world was focussed on the struggle of the German ambassador to prevent a decision and remain in Rome. Meanwhile soldiers were leaving Italian villages for concentration camps. Suddenly the news was flashed from a populous center near the middle of the peninsula that ten thousand people had been buried beneath their homes in a single convulsion of the earth. A thriving town had disappeared; within its circle, the disaster was complete.

The nations fought on in France and in the East, the American newspapers gave scanty space to the Italian event. Italy herself barely paused. Relief workers in plenty were rushed to the scene, the survivors were fed and housed and all that could be reached of the ten thousand dead were buried. Three months later the nation threw itself into the European conflict, its momentum unchecked.

Example of Vitality.

Today Avezzano is interesting for a host of reasons, but chiefly as a prime example of the vitality of our southern ally. The site of the old town—for a site is all that remains—is still a criss-cross of ruins, covering many acres. The only breaks in the wilderness of tumbled stone are gaunt chimneys here and there lifting broken arms toward the sky. Wisely enough the only attempts to break through the



Many Acres of Ruins Like These Are Still Visible—Mother and Child Who Escaped Disaster.

debris are where roads have been cleared to connect with the highway to Rome. But the vast heap of rubbish has become a series of quarries from which material for a new Avezzano is taken. Just where the old town ended, another is growing. In what was once an open field a substantial hotel has been built, a pink and white municipal building is in evidence at the side of a well-built road. The children go daily to a new school, and thousands of people live today in the rows of small brick dwellings which the government has assisted the Avezzano survivors to build. The surrounding plain is one of the richest grain districts on the peninsula and, more important than all, it still produces its normal yield for Italy—in spite of the declamation of local labor caused by earthquake and war and the difficulty the authorities have had in finding outside help in war time.

Children Are Fed.

An American flag flutters today in a small plaza at the edge of the shattered town, beside the red, white and green emblem of Italy's vitality. Here a group of the needy children of soldiers gather daily, all who need food and care while their mothers labor in the fields. Above them a small American Red Cross sign faces rather grimly the ruins just visible through the trees. Within the small structure a daily meal is served under the direction of a priest who cared for the ill-fed children of the district from his own scanty funds until the American organization answered his appeal for help. For months an American Red Cross worker has made regular visits

to the place, playthings have been provided in addition to food, and instruction in hygiene is about to be started. America is helping to preserve Avezzano's children. But the duty of the foreign workers begins and ends with the suffering caused by war. Beyond that, the Avezzanese are shouldering their own burdens. During the lean years of war, women and boys and old men are building a new town for the men who will come back from the trenches one day.

OLD GAME FOR AMERICANS.

Details of new German tactics and of American success in defeating them suggest that American experience in fighting Indians in the West and Filipinos and Moros in the Orient is proving of value. German success in the early part of the present campaign was won largely by the process of infiltration, which General Pershing described on the authority of a prisoner taken at Vaux. Eight men deployed in skirmish line, immediately followed by other groups, each of which carried two light machine guns, says Portland Oregonian. They were stopped by machine-gun fire from their flanks, and another platoon which deployed on the left was also decimated. The men were then ordered to save themselves as best they could, and they took refuge in a cellar, where 50 or 60 of them surrendered. American defeat of German infiltration is explained by the Army and Navy Journal as having probably been due to incessant vigilance, superiority of fire and outflanking the flankers by regular troops, who thus used their training in fighting Indians and Filipinos. It was a game of sneaking up in small parties, Indian fashion, at which the Germans tried to beat the Americans, not knowing that the latter were past masters at it.

Ever since this terrible war started, a great feathered army has been fighting day and night, summer and winter, to help the allies win. Without the help of these feathered soldiers, our fighting men would not have had sufficient food. Our allies would have been facing starvation, and we ourselves would have been little better off. The margin between sufficient food for absolute necessities and famine has been and still is uncomfortably narrow, but it is sufficient. Have you ever realized that but for the birds, the feathered soldiers, that margin might not, and probably would not, exist today? It is an indisputable fact, says People's Home Journal. Had a great disaster destroyed all insect-eating and vermin-destroying birds two years, or even a year, ago, we would, today, be facing such a food shortage as, in all probability, would have meant the loss of the war. Even as it is, the loss from insects and from such vermin as rats and mice totals a sum so vast as to be almost unbelievable. What, it would be without the aid of birds in keeping the pests in check fairly staggers the imagination.

Foch is stabbing into the very vitals of the enemy at a dozen points. The huge German python that stretches across northern France is recoiling with such thrashings and pain that there is growing panic in Germany. In Berlin and several other large cities the local authorities have decreed something akin to martial law for the purpose of preventing the circulation of alarming reports, says Washington Star. The avowed object is to put a stop to enemy propaganda, but the real object, evidently, is to throttle all sources of news so that the people will be kept in ignorance of the disaster at the front.

Making Columbia university into a military camp is only carrying to the extreme the process of conversion that has been going on at most of the larger universities, says New York Sun. It is clearly a war-time necessity, a wise adaptation of capacity of supply to demand in perfecting man power for the prime need. The change began, voluntarily, long before the government had learned that the war was not 3,000 miles away. Three years ago Yale had almost become a military camp and training school. Harvard, Princeton and others were not far behind.

According to a Berlin professor, the war diet is doing great things in helping the stout Teutons to reduce weight without extra expense, and in curing nerve troubles, as people have no longer so much time to think about themselves. The cheeriness which is appearing in the writings and speeches of public men in Germany is verging on the ghastly.

The newest British airplanes are said to be so adjusted they slide to earth automatically when the engine stops. Next to devising a plan for having them drop up instead of down, this would seem the best that could be contrived in the interest of safety.

Only one Christmas present and that not larger than a brick may go to each soldier in France. The fellow who has two "best girls" wonders which will "get there" first. Temporary expatriation has some excitements that are not born of war.

FINDING NO BOCHES, YANKS CHASE RABBIT

Forget All About the War When Bunny Jumps Up Under Their Feet.

French and American batteries pounded the German lines for five hours preceding the attack against the St. Mihiel salient for the west.

When the doughboys went over the top in Les Eparges sector there was not an answering shot from the German trenches opposite. The gunfire had so shattered the nerves of those who survived the bombardment they could not emerge from their deep dug-outs.

Two American soldiers dashed across "No Man's Land" in the lead, raced through to the enemy's barbed wire entanglements, riven and pulverized by the artillery, and leaped over the parapet into the German trench.

Just then two white rabbits ducked out from a corner and ran round the corner of the traverse. It was all so quiet, with nary a live German in sight, not the suspicion of a machine gun nor an answering shot from the German batteries in the rear that the Yanks forgot all about war, the attack, the Boches and everything else. They just did what any average fellows would do, started chasing the rabbits.

They beat it down the first line-trench, stumbling over the debris where the American shells had caved in the parapet every few yards and finally rounded up the pair of rabbits, nice and fat and tender.

When their platoon commander burst into the trench, having been delayed a little by a patch of barbed wire still standing, he found the two men arguing as to whether they should eat the rabbits or keep them as pets.

CRUELITIES OF BULGARS

Only Quarter of Population in Seres After Two Years' Occupation.

When Seres, in Greek Macedonia, was occupied by the Bulgarians in December, 1916, the inhabitants numbered 24,000. Since that time 5,000 of these have died, 11,000 have been deported, and 2,000 men and boys have been put to work on the construction of roads. Today the population is between 5,000 and 3,000.

Bulgarian documents which have been found in the Macedonian towns show that large numbers of deaths were due to the indifference of the Bulgarian authorities to the condition of the civilian population. Wholesale deportations were made and cruelties inflicted which were not justified by the necessities of war. Not only were the military authorities involved in this work, but the civil officers were tyrannous toward the people.

Churches were looted and private houses were stripped of their furniture, which was placed in officers' quarters. The interment of bodies in the cemeteries were made in a haphazard way, and no inscriptions were placed over the graves, so that surviving relatives do not know the resting places of their loved ones.

YOUNG WAR VETERAN

Lad Only Fifteen Years Old Invalided Back Home.

Wounded and invalided back to America before he was sixteen years old is the record of John Walker Burley, a son of Mr. and Mrs. C. B. Burley of Lynchburg, W. Va. Enlisting in June, 1917, one month before he was fifteen years old, young Burley went in September of that year to Camp McClellan with Company E, First Virginia infantry. Later he was with the company when it was merged into Company L, 116th infantry.

Last March he was one of twelve men picked from that company to go to France. Arriving there, he was assigned to the 60th Engineers and later to the 6th infantry. In July he was wounded and September 10 he arrived at Camp Stuart, Newport News. From there he was transferred to the post hospital at Plattsburg Barracks, N. Y. His mother will go to Plattsburg to see him as soon as she is permitted to do so by the authorities there.

MEMORIAL TO HUN VICTIMS

Hospital Cot Dedicated to Memory of Children Killed in Air Raid.

The residents of Poplar, in the East end of London are dedicating two cots in the local hospital to the memory of the little school children who lost their lives in the first enemy daylight air raid on London. A brass tablet is to be erected between the cots with the following inscription: "These cots are dedicated by sympathetic friends in loving memory of dear little children who lost their lives in the enemy air raid of June 13, 1917."

On the occasion in question two heavy bombs struck an infant school in a poor part of London, killing 52 children and wounding many more.

Self-Accuser Pays Fine.

A. B. Mathews killed a balky horse in the street at Eugene Ore., the other day, had a complaint issued for his own arrest on a charge of cruelty to animals and paid a fine of \$10 in Justice Wells' court. "I was hauling hay," he told District Attorney L. L. Ray. "The horse balked and I picked up a board and struck him over the head. He laid down and died. I know the humane society will be after me and I want to get this thing straightened out."

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