

Saving of Over Half Million Dollars Shown

Salem — Notwithstanding the high cost of living and the increasing demands of the state because of growing population and wealth, the recent legislature made a net saving in appropriations over the preceding one of \$644,569.05, according to a summary of Secretary of State Olcott.

The figures show a total saving under existing laws for the biennium of 1915 and 1916 over the biennium of 1913 and 1914 of \$381,313.41. For 1913 and 1914 the appropriations by the legislature netted \$4,610,175.75, and for 1915 and 1916 \$3,965,615.70. The total appropriations under existing laws for 1913 and 1914 were \$6,691,962.08, and for 1915 and 1916 \$6,310,648.67.

Another important feature of the saving is that several laws passed at the session of 1913 provided for appropriations for only one year, notably the workmen's compensation act and the act creating the state highway fund. The appropriations for these departments for the current biennium for that reason total about \$300,000 more.

While the saving over the former biennium is somewhat less than leaders of the recent house and senate figured it would be, members of the session in speaking of it express gratification and declare that the campaign pledges of the members for economy have been kept.

J. E. Allison, bookkeeper for the

secretary of state, who has had charge of totaling the appropriations of several sessions, declared that the work of this one was the most difficult in his experience. He and an assistant have labored for more than a week on the numerous bills, and, after checking and rechecking, he announced that he was confident no mistakes had been made.

Heterofore, because of a system of grouping departments in appropriation bills, there were rarely more than five or six such measures. Because unnecessary appropriations had been made in the closing hours of former sessions by log-rolling and tacking on items in appropriation bills, separate appropriation measures were passed for almost all purposes at the recent session. The new system virtually gave the governor the single veto power.

The millage tax appropriations and one or two others are estimated in the summary of the secretary of state, but it is not thought they will be far from actual figures. That for the Oregon Agricultural College of about \$760,000, next to the appropriation for the State Insane Asylum, is the largest. The University of Oregon will receive about \$570,000 during the biennium. Because of the creation of Circuit judgeships the appropriation for that service has grown to \$200,000 while for district attorneys and assistants it is \$136,400.

Highway May Open to Astoria by July Fourth

Rainier — Work on the Columbia Highway through Columbia county will be resumed before the end of the month. Major Bowlby, state highway engineer, and a party of his associates, together with a number of Rainier citizens, walked over that portion of the incomplete highway between Rainier and Goble and came to the conclusion that by beginning work as soon as the men and material can be assembled it will be possible to have the road open for traffic all the way from Portland to Astoria before July 4.

The state highway engineer will have available this spring about \$50,000 of the Columbia county road fund for use on the highway that was graded last year and that is unfinished. This he believes will go far toward completing the road through this county.

The party that hiked over the Rainier-Goble link found that the graded roadway had stood the winter well. At a few points the hillsides had slid down perceptibly and covered a portion of the graded surface. The en-

gineers figured that these obstacles can be removed with little difficulty or expense. They had expected such behavior by nature.

One important piece of work that remains to be done between Rainier and Goble is at Prospect Point, where the highway cannot be carried through a solid body of rock about 1600 feet long. Part of the necessary blasting has been done. Major Bowlby estimates that it will require less than \$5000 to do the rest of the work on the strip of highway.

The roadway for the entire distance covered by the party is fully 24 feet wide, in accordance with contract specifications. All the fills and all the culverts in the Rainier-Goble link have been put in place. As the highway commission never was flush with money on the Columbia county job, the work is not finished with the same nicety as in Multnomah county, but it is every bit as substantial and serviceable. The scenic advantages are equal to those of the highway through Multnomah county, with the exception that there are not so many picturesque waterfalls.

Seed Sought for Contest.

Klamath Falls — The Klamath Water Users' association, with President Abel Ady and County Agriculturist H. R. Glaisyer have begun securing the best seed possible for distribution among the children of the water users on the Klamath project who wish to enter the contests announced by the association recently.

The seed grain will be all of the same variety and the best obtainable. The contest is in the way of growing the best vegetables and grains. To the boy or girl growing the best potato crop on a sixteenth of an acre will be given the choice of three colts. The second best grower will have second choice of the colts and the other colt will go to the third best grower.

Mine Commission Named.

Salem — Governor Withycombe has announced the personnel of the new Oregon bureau of mines and geology as follows: H. N. Lawrie, Portland; W. C. Fellows, Sumpter; J. F. Reddy, Grants Pass; R. M. Betts, Cornucopia, and J. L. Wood, Albany.

In writing to members, notifying them of their appointment, the governor urged the desirability of the commission meeting at once, so that steps could be taken to insure a proper representation of Oregon at the San Francisco Exposition in the form of a mineral exhibit.

Telephone Appeal Made.

Salem — Declaring that its long distance service is made available to all Portland patrons of the Home Telephone company by a decree of the United States court, the Pacific Telephone & Telegraph company has asked the railroad commission for a modification of its order compelling an interchange of telephone service in the Hotel Benson, in Portland. The order was made when the building occupied by the Benson hotel was a part of the Hotel Oregon. The Home company objects to a reopening of the case.

Reclamation Work Begun.

Klamath Falls — The Reclamation service, finding little opposition to the proposed enlargement of the Griffiths lateral, have begun work with a force of men and teams. A cook camp has been arranged and supplies will be shipped. It is intended to have the work completed by April 25, so that the irrigation season may open May 1, as usual.

Governor Aids Coast Defense.

Salem — Governor Withycombe was notified of his appointment as second vice president of the Pacific Coast Defense League. He sent the league the following telegram:

"I desire to co-operate in all things which will tend to the ultimate betterment and safeguarding of our coast."

NORTHWEST MARKET REPORTS.

Portland — The local wheat market, for the first time in several weeks, is entirely independent of Chicago. Prices here were firm and higher, whereas in the Eastern market the close found May wheat 1½c lower. The Chicago decline followed a renewal of peace talk and consequent fears of a cessation of export demand, but in the Portland market local conditions altogether governed prices.

There was buying for European account here, as well as inquiry from Japan, and also evidence of support from millers. Wheat in the Northwest is believed to be now generally in strong hands.

Considerable stress is laid by the wool trade upon the possibility that the exportation of wool from Australia to this country is about to be facilitated. The fact that purchases have been made in the commonwealth this season by Boston houses at figures which make the secured cost laid down here ridiculously low, compared with quotations in the American market, is considered important. It is believed that the ability to get the wools coming here would have considerable bearing on the primary domestic markets, in view of the fact that the Australian wools have been secured so cheaply. Some defective wools have been bought at figures which mean less than half a dollar laid down in Boston, the secured pound. Such wools are very cheap, even should they have to be carbonized.

On this basis, therefore, it is not strange that developments in Melbourne, Sydney and London have been watched carefully by wool men, with an eye towards ascertaining the possibilities in regard to shipments of merinos. The latest reports, in connection with the arrangement involving the Textile Alliance, is that the British board of trade, insofar as the requirements of Great Britain and allied countries will allow, will grant licenses to export merino wool, tops, noils and black face wool to the United States, if consignment is made in accordance with an agreement entered into with the alliance.

The assortment of early vegetables, mostly from California, is steadily increasing. Green peas are now being offered at 18@20c. Asparagus was firmer at 18@20c, owing to cold weather in the South. Sweet potatoes have advanced steadily and are now quoted at 3½c. Local hothouse rhubarb was in fair supply at 11@12c.

Millfeed — Spot prices: Bran, \$27.50 @ 28.50 ton; shorts, \$29.50; rolled barley, \$33@34.

Hay — Eastern Oregon timothy, \$14 @ 16; valley timothy, \$12.50; grain hay, \$10@12; alfalfa, \$12@13.

Vegetables — Cucumbers, hothouse, \$1.25@1.50 dozen; peppers, 30@35c pound; artichokes, 75c dozen; tomatoes, \$4.50 crate; cabbage, 1½c pound; celery, \$3.75 crate; cauliflower, \$2; sprouts, 8@9c pound; head lettuce, \$2 crate; hothouse lettuce, 75c box; squash, 1½c pound; spinach, \$1.25 box; hothouse rhubarb, 10@12c pound; asparagus, 18@22c; eggplant, 30c; peas, 18@20c; carrots, \$1.25 sack; beets, \$1.25; parsnips, \$1.25.

Green Fruits — Apples, 75c@1.50 box; cranberries, \$11@12 barrel.

Potatoes — Oregon, \$1@1.10 sack; Yakima, \$1@1.25; Idaho, \$1.10; new potatoes, 10c pound; sweet potatoes, 3½c pound.

Onions — Oregon, selling price, \$1 sack, country points.

Eggs — Fresh Oregon ranch, case count, 18@19c, according to quantity; candled, 20c.

Poultry — Hens, 13½@14c pound; broilers, 18@20c; turkeys, dressed, 20c; live, 16c; ducks, 11@16c; geese, 8@9c.

Butter — Creamery, prints, extras, 34½c pound in case lots; ½c more in less than case lots; cubes, 28@29c.

Veal — Fancy, 11½@12c pound. Pork — Block, 9@9½c pound.

Hops — 1914 crop, 13@15c; 1913 crop, 13@14c.

Hides — Salted hides, 15c; salted bulls, 10c; salted kip, 15c; salted calf, 19c; green hides, 13½c; green bulls, 9c; green kip, 15c; green calf, 19c; dry hides, 26c; dry calf, 28c.

Wool — Eastern Oregon, coarse, 22@25c; Eastern Oregon, fine, 18@20c; valley, 25c, nominal; mohair, new clip, 26@27c.

Cascara bark — Old and new, 4½c pound.

Cattle — Prime steers, \$7.50@7.80; choice \$7.25@7.50; medium, \$6.75@7.25; choice cows, \$6@6.60; medium, \$5@5.25; heifers, \$5@5.25; bulls, \$3.50@6; stags, \$4.50@6.

Hogs — Light, \$6.25@7.20; heavy, \$5.90@6.50.

Sheep — Wethers, \$6@7.50; ewes, \$5@6.50; lambs, \$7@8.50.

Tacoma — Hay — Clover, \$16@17; wheat, \$14@15; Ellensburg, \$17@19; mixed, \$17@18; alfalfa, \$14@15.

Feed — Corn, \$37; wheat, \$48; whole barley, \$35@36; rolled, \$37; shorts, \$33; bran, \$31; oats, \$39; rolled oats, \$40.

Cabbage — Baldhead, 2c; Winingstedt, 2½c; flat Dutch, 2c.

Potatoes — Yakima, \$20 ton; White River, \$17@18; sweets, \$3.50 cwt; Early Rose seed, \$50.

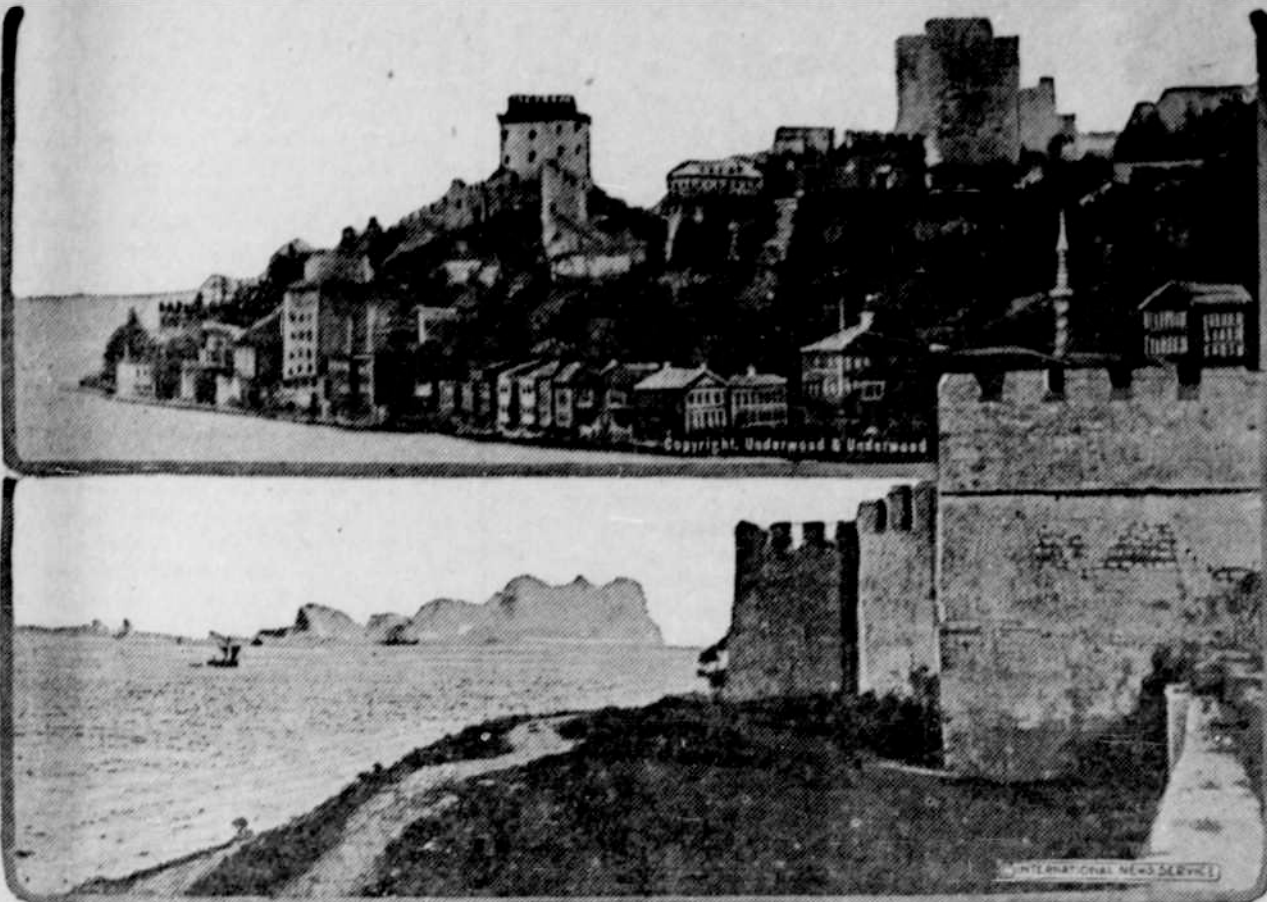
Fresh Meats — Steers, 12½c; cows, 12c; heifers, 12@12½c; wethers, 12½c; dressed hogs, 11½c; trimmed sides, 15½c; combinations, 15c; lambs, 15c; Diamond T. C., 15½c; yearlings, 14c; ewes, 11½c.

Poultry — Ducks, live, 10@12c; hens, dressed, 16@18c; live, 10@14c; springs, dressed, 22c; live, 14@16c; squabs, live, \$2.50 dozen; dressed, \$6; turkeys, live, 18c; dressed, 28@30c; geese, 20c.

Butter — Washington creamery, 33@34c.

Eggs — Fresh ranch, 20@22c.

DARDANELLES' FORTS BATTERED BY ALLIES' WARSHIPS



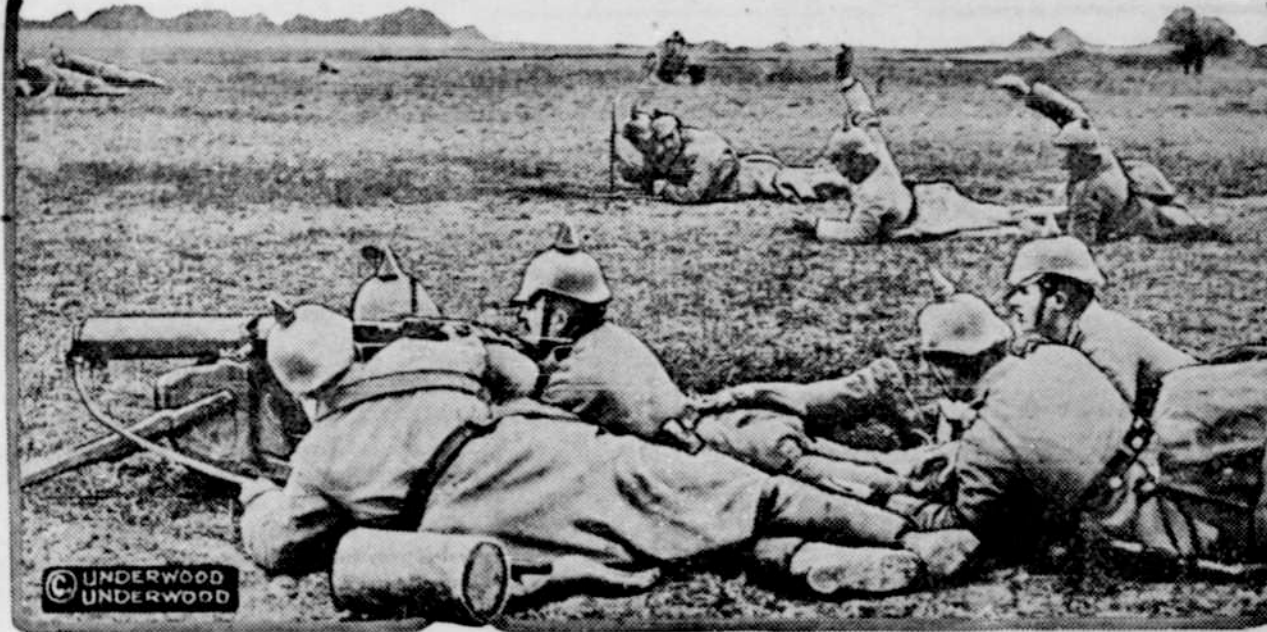
Above—Forts on the European side of the Bosphorus. Below—Part of an ancient fort guarding Constantinople. In the distance may be seen several Turkish warships.

BASE OF KITCHENER'S NEW ARMY IN FRANCE



General view of the military base at Etaples-Pas-de-Calais, in northern France, recently occupied by 350,000 members of Kitchener's new army.

MACHINE GUN MEN CREEP INTO POSITION



This picture, an actual scene on the western battle line, shows a German light artillery and machine gun detachment moving closer and closer to the enemy's lines in an effort to gain a position from which the allies' trenches can be swept with gunfire preparatory to a charge. So effective is the fire of these light machine guns that the few men seen in the picture could withstand an entire regiment if the latter charged them across an open field.

ON THE LOOK-OUT FOR GERMANS



Belgian outposts on the seacoast north of Boulogne.

INVENTOR OF FAMOUS GUN



Gen. Saint Claire Deville, inventor of the famous French 75-millimeter gun.

A back rest for motorcyclists, to be fastened around the waist from the handle bars of a machine, is an English novelty.