

OREGON NEWS NOTES OF GENERAL INTEREST

Events Occurring Throughout the State During the Past Week.

Railroad Laborers Quit Work
 Marshfield.—Excessive charge for inferior fare and accommodations, charges for hospital fees, inflated prices for goods sold by the contractors, bad working conditions and employment under misrepresentation are reasons alleged for the strike of a number of laborers employed on the construction work of the Willamette-Pacific by Copenhagen Bros. contractors, at the Gardiner end of the line. The men quit work this week.

Biehl Found Guilty of Fraud
 Portland.—After brief deliberation, a jury in the United States court found A. Biehl guilty on three of four counts of an indictment charging him with fraudulent use of the mails in exploiting the Columbia River Orchards company. Biehl is liable to a sentence of five years in the federal penitentiary on each of the three counts.

STATE DEBT IS SMALL

Cost of Running Oregon 2 Years Was \$5,240,704.

Salem.—During the biennial period from October 1, 1910, to September 30, 1912, the office of secretary of state issued warrants aggregating \$5,240,704.54, according to the biennial report of Secretary of State Olcott. Outstanding warrants on October 1, 1910, amounted to \$37,171.55, while outstanding warrants at the close of this biennial period amounted to \$20,128.30.

The only outstanding indebtedness is a small amount of "Certificates of evidence of allowance of claims," and "Certificates of indebtedness," issued according to law and for which appropriations will have to be made by the legislature.

The total amount of revenue required for state purposes for 1911 was estimated at \$2,082,909.09, which included \$33,795.50 for the normal school at Monmouth. Of this amount \$697,293 was receipts from indirect sources, such as fees, licenses, etc., and \$1,385,613.59 was raised by direct taxation.

For 1912 it was estimated that \$3,456,633.66 would be needed, of which \$592,817.91 came from indirect sources and \$2,863,815.75 came from direct taxation.

Eastern Oregon Without Mail

Burns.—Burns has been without mail communication with outside points since Tuesday. C. M. Kellogg, contractor on the Prairie City-Burns route and four other routes, all of them centering in this section of Oregon, refuse to handle the mail on the ground that the government violated the present mail contracts by the enactment of the parcel post law.

Lumber Shipments Are Big

Astoria.—During the year of 1912 there were 381 vessels which loaded at the mills in the Astoria customs district and their combined cargoes totaled 290,569,933 feet of lumber. Of these vessels, 51 carrying 60,180,000 feet of lumber went to foreign ports, while 330 vessels with cargoes amounting to 230,389,933 feet of lumber went to domestic points.

INSTITUTE WORK CLOSES

Final Session is Held at Crowfoot Grange, Near Lebanon

Corvallis.—The farmers' institute work of the extension division of the Oregon agricultural college, in which a number of faculty members have been engaged under extension supervision during the Christmas recess, came to a close Saturday—the final day of vacation—with an all-day institute at the Crowfoot Grange, near Lebanon. Three members of the college faculty conducted the Crowfoot meetings, and gave instruction in dairying, field crops and home economics.

Institutes were held Friday at Tuntatin and at Ashland. These institutes marked the suspension of the work until after the close of the winter short courses at the college, which opened when class work was resumed Monday, and will continue until February 4.

Woman Mayor in Office

Warrenton.—Oregon's first woman mayor, Miss Clara C. Munson, was inaugurated at a meeting of the city council, when she and the three newly-elected council members took their oaths of office and succeeded the retiring officials.

Gun Clubs Organize State League

Eugene.—Represented either in person, or by proxy, delegates from the gun clubs of Eugene, Portland, Salem, Albany, Ontario, Joseph and Coquille city met in the rooms of the Eugene commercial club and organized a state league for the promotion of sport.

BRIEF NEWS OF OREGON

John Lee, a pioneer of 1847, is dead at his home in Forest Grove.

The finest poultry show ever held in Oregon City was opened Saturday at the armory.

County Clerk H. D. Allen of Marion county was found dead in the Y. M. C. A. swimming tank at Salem.

Francis H. Irwin of Hood River committed suicide by shooting himself through the head with a revolver.

John Francis Smith, one of the earliest and best known pioneers of Aurora, died at Salem, aged 84 years.

C. E. Ferro, city marshal of Florence, is accused of accepting a bribe and is now under \$300 bail to appear in court.

Charles Meeklinburg, an insane plasterer, who kept officers at bay for two days, committed suicide by shooting himself through the head at his home in Eugene.

Thomas Harding, a prominent writer of the middle west for half a century, and author of the poem, "Remember the Maine," is dead at Oregon City, aged 89 years.

More than 50,000 prune trees, representing an approximate expenditure of \$7500 by the people of Dallas and vicinity, have been received at Dallas within the past three weeks.

Burglars entered two hardware stores and a newspaper office in Springfield, securing loot amounting to about \$300 from the stores, but taking nothing from the newspaper office.

School children of Oregon will join in signing petitions to President Wilson asking that the battleship Oregon be designated to lead the first fleet that officially goes through the Panama Canal.

Judge Galloway in circuit court at Salem granted a writ of mandamus ordering State Insurance Commissioner Ferguson to grant a license to transact business to the Union Life Insurance company, of Portland.

Rev. W. F. Reagor, of Portland, is the first president of the parliament of Christian churches for the northwest, having been elected the official head of the new organization at the business session held in Spokane.

C. F. Rowell, of Dallas, was fatally injured when an engine on the logging road of the Portland Lumber company overturned and plumed him beneath where he was literally cooked by steam following an explosion of the boiler.

Frank S. Fields, clerk of Multnomah county, was honorably acquitted of the charges preferred against him by William L. Finley, state game warden, of failing to turn over to the state treasurer certain game and fish license funds.

The permanent endowment fund of \$250,000 for Albany college was completed on New Year's day. Of the total sum, \$120,000, including James J. Hill's donation of \$50,000, came from the east. The remaining \$130,000 was raised in Oregon.

In the year just closed the Sinalaw Creamery company at Florence, a co-operative concern with 82 patrons, handled 37,718 pounds of butter fat, which brought something like \$34,000, a sum, if equally divided, of \$414 apiece for the patrons.

W. R. Mead and Ed. Hermson have been arrested at Baker on the charge of arson. Mead has confessed to setting fire to the White studio. His supposed purpose was to destroy competition, as he was the owner of the Elite studio, of that city.

Coyote hides to the number of 2725, wildcat pelts 258, with 137 bobcats and 7 lynx, comprise the kill of predatory animals in Malheur county in 1912. Bounty warrants totaling \$6089 have been issued to hunters and trappers in the 12 months.

Private, but authentic, advices from Salt Lake City indicate the transfer, Jan. 1, of all property and construction work vested in the Oregon Eastern railroad company from the ownership of the Oregon Short Line to that of the O. W. R. & N. company.

The supreme court has affirmed the decision of the circuit court of Benton county in the case of George and Charles Humphrey, convicted of murder in the first degree for killing Mrs. Elizabeth Griffith. The men will pay the death penalty for their crimes.

Herman Poch, rancher and hide dealer, was slain at his ranch near Prineville by his 23 year old step son, Gaylord McDaniel. Poch had accused McDaniel of improper relations with his mother, Poch's wife, which so enraged the boy that he rushed into the house, secured a shotgun and fired a charge through Poch's right breast.

An event unique in Oregon annals and the most noteworthy in the history of the state was the tribute paid to ex-governors, their wives and widows, by Governor West at the state house New Year's night. The barren corridors were transformed into places of light and beauty and the rooms were crowded with men and women whose lives have been interwoven with the history of Oregon for over half a century. In the receiving line were the wives and widows of those who have occupied the executive chair from 1856 to the present time. Thousands attended the reception.

WM. G. ROCKEFELLER



William G. Rockefeller, Standard Oil magnate, whom subpoena servers for the "money trust" investigating committee cannot find.

DYNAMITERS' BAIL FIXED

Court Names Total of \$1,100,000 and Hasty Incarceration Criticized

Chicago.—Bail in the sum of \$1,100,000 for 32 of the 33 union leaders convicted of conspiracy to transport dynamite must be forthcoming in order that they may take advantage of the granting of a writ of supersedeas by the United States circuit court of appeals here.

Judges Baker and Seaman heard the arguments and the decision was given orally by Judge Baker. He took occasion to intimate that undue haste was manifested in committing the defendants to prison.

Mexico Declares Embargo on Freight

El Paso, Tex.—Due to the railway shop strike and general unsettled conditions in Northern and Eastern Mexico, the National Railways of Mexico declared an indefinite embargo on all freight entered at the Port of El Paso. Passenger trains, however, will be run.

British Consul Dead

Portland.—James Laidlaw, British Consul at Portland for the district embracing Oregon, Washington, Idaho, Montana and Alaska, and for 42 years a resident of this city, died of peritonitis at St. Vincent's hospital Sunday night, following an illness of ten days.

Fourteen Perish in Sea Collision

Baltimore.—Fourteen members of the crew of the freighter Luckenbach, which was rammed and sunk by the British tramp Indrakuala, lost their lives in the sinking of the vessel, off Tangier island, in Chesapeake bay.

Eight men of the crew were rescued after clinging to the rigging for six hours, until they were taken off by the crew of the steamship Pennsylvania. The Indrakuala was badly damaged and had to be beached.

TAFT PRESIDES AT POLITICAL "WAKE"

New York.—President Taft presided here Saturday night at what he styled his own political "wake." He made the funeral oration over his political corpse, asked modest praise for the deeds that he did while he lived in the White House, recited at length the causes that led to his "demise," and attacked the enemies he held responsible for his taking off.

The president was the only speaker at the republican reorganization dinner, given at the Waldorf-Astoria to more than 1900 republicans from all over the country. He spoke for more than an hour. His defense of his administration was the executive's results it has produced; his reply to personal criticism was that he had been more misunderstood than blemeworthy.

In the course of his speech the president made his first public reference to Colonel Roosevelt since the close of the campaign, asserting that probably 1,000,000 voters, normally republican, cast their ballots for Mr. Wilson, "in order to avert the danger of Mr. Roosevelt's election."

THE MARKETS.

Portland.

Wheat—Club, 86c; bluestem, 85c; red Russian, 78c.
 Oats—\$25 per ton.
 Hay—Timothy, \$18; alfalfa, \$12.
 Butter—Creamery, 37c.
 Eggs—Candled, 32c.
 Hops—1912 crop, 20c.
 Wool—Eastern Oregon, 18c; Willamette valley, 22½c.

Seattle.

Wheat—Bluestem, 86c; club, 81c; red Russian, 79c.
 Eggs—33c.
 Butter—Creamery, 38c.
 Hay—Timothy, \$19 per ton; alfalfa, \$12 per ton.

NEWS FROM OUR NATIONAL CAPITAL

Congress Must Hold Night Sessions to Pass Many Large Measures in Time

Washington.—With final adjournment of the 65th congress two months away, the house is confronted by a jammed calendar and the supply bills which promise weary days and sleepless nights for the legislators.

Only a single appropriation bill, the legislative, executive and judicial supply measure, has been passed by the house. The Indian appropriation bill is now under consideration and it should be completed this week. The big appropriation measures which involve a vast amount of detail likely to cause lengthy discussion, are still to come. The postoffice appropriation bill has been reported from the committee and is awaiting action by the house.

Members of the house are looking forward to about a month of night and day grinding just before the conclusion of the session and the leaders are already making plans to hold a quorum of members that work may be rushed through.

Senator Bailey Says Farewell

The principal feature of the senate the past week was a speech by Senator Bailey, of Texas, long one of the picturesque figures and striking speakers of the United States senate, which he called his farewell address. The galleries were crowded to hear the senator score his critics and deliver a philippic against the initiative, referendum and other popular laws.

Much of Senator Bailey's speech was taken up with a vitriolic attack on his enemies and a drastic criticism of popular legislation, which he declared would eventually overthrow the present system of government. He praised President-elect Wilson and characterized William R. Hearst as "a miserable dog, a moral pervert, a political degenerate, a physical coward."

Tariff Hearing Begun

The ways and means committee of the house on Monday began its series of hearings on the all important subject of tariff revision. The hearings will be by schedule, beginning with chemicals, oils and paints, with subsequent dates arranged for the hearings of the various other schedules and the free list. In this way it is expected that most of the preliminary work may be in hand by the end of February, so that the work may then begin on the drafting of the measure or measures for tariff reduction in readiness for the extra session beginning in March.

During the week another important series of hearings will begin before the sub-committee of the house banking and currency committee, which is seeking a substitute for the Aldrich currency plan. Many noted financiers and economists have been invited to appear before the committee and give their views.

Wood Urges Revival of Army Canteen

The restoration of the army canteen and enactment of legislation for the elimination from the United States army of unfit officers are among the principal recommendations of Major-General Leonard Wood, chief of staff, in his annual report made public.

General Wood recommends the concentration of the army on strategic lines and in areas where it can be maintained more economically. He would transfer all the personnel of the staff corps—excepting engineers, medical officers and chaplains—to the line, increasing the number of the general officers and line officers in the different grades.

"The great majority of the officers of the army," says General Wood, discussing the canteen question, "are of the opinion that the re-establishment of the canteen under proper supervision would tend to improve the health, discipline and efficiency of the service by dismissing intemperance and immorality. I concur in this opinion."

National Capital Brevities.

A democratic caucus of the house was held Tuesday to fill committee vacancies.

The navy department has awarded contracts for eight new submarines to cost \$560,000 each.

The death of Senator Davis, of Arkansas, probably means that Senator Chamberlain will become chairman of the public lands committee when the democrats reorganize the next senate.

The house committee on merchant marine began hearings Tuesday to investigate the methods and practices of domestic and foreign steamship lines, particularly as to any agreements, pools or combinations with railroads.

The inauguration of the parcel post on New Year's day was an unqualified success and so complete had the arrangements been made that not a hitch was reported from any point. Among the articles sent and received were brindle pups, sides of bacon, eggs, fruit, horse collars and like articles. One firm in Chicago purchased \$17,000 worth of stamps.

F. J. SHEPARD



Finley J. Shepard, the St. Louis railroad man engaged to marry Miss Helen Gould.

Brief News of the week

Chicago will spend \$45,000,000 in 1913.

Bradstreet's report 253 business failures the past week, as compared with 322 in the previous week.

During the week legislatures will convene in numerous states and many new governors and other officials will be sworn into office.

The first annual convention of the Women's National democratic league assembled Tuesday in Washington for a three days' session.

Italy has followed the lead of Egyptian railroads, and has placed an order for 300,000 tons of coal in America, while she has also invited tenders for a large quantity from the Yorkshire mines.

News comes from San Francisco that the California-Atlantic Steamship company has failed, with liabilities of \$300,000. A merciless rate war, when freight rates were cut to \$3 a ton, is given as the cause of the failure.

Postmasters in the second, third and fourth-class offices throughout the country are hailing the newly established parcel post service with expressions of delight, for it is sure to increase their annual receipts and consequently their salaries.

The United States steel corporation is to extend the sphere of its manufacturing operations into Canada. Judge Gary has just announced that construction will soon begin on a plant at Sandwich, just opposite Detroit, to cost in the neighborhood of \$20,000,000.

A call has been issued for a progressive conference of representatives of Michigan, Wisconsin, North Dakota, South Dakota and Minnesota at St. Paul January 24. The call was signed by the state chairman and national committeeman from each state named. The object is to decide on desired state and national legislation.

People in the News

United States Senator Jeff Davis died at his home in Little Rock, Ark. James R. Keen, the noted financier and horseman, died in New York. He was 75 years old.

Luther McCarty, of Springfield, Mo., shattered the heavyweight championship ambitions of Al Falzer, the Iowa giant, at the Vernon arena in California.

Louis R. Glavis has resigned from the secretaryship of the California state conservation commission, following charges brought against him by Surveyor-General Kingsbury.

The Russian imperial crown prince, stabbed a few weeks ago by a nihilist, and who it was thought was doomed for life, has completely recovered his health and returned to his studies.

General Edward Merwin Lee, once acting governor of Wyoming, and a relative of Robert E. Lee, died at his home in New York. In Wyoming he signed the first bill giving women the right to vote.

Following funeral services in New York, the body of Whitelaw Reid, late ambassador to Great Britain, was laid at rest in the vault of Ogden Mills in Sleepy Hollow cemetery at Tarrytown, less than 100 feet from that of Washington Irving.

Captain Amundsen, discoverer of the south pole, is to be the guest of honor at the annual banquet of the National Geographic society, which is to be held in Washington Saturday night. Rear Admiral Peary of North Pole fame will act as toastmaster.

George Harbison, a laborer, unearthed \$75,500 in gold while digging a trench near the village of Oglesby, Okla. Harbison's possession of the wealth, however, probably will be of short duration, a state law requiring that such funds be surrendered to the owner of the land.

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