# **OREGON NEWS NOTES OF GENERAL INTEREST**

### Events Occurring Throughout the State During the Past Week.

Verdict in Arson Case "Not Guilty." Portland. -- "Not guilty," was the verdict returned by the jury in the case of Max Albert, charged with arson, whose trial was concluded in Judge Morrow's department of the Circuit Court. The trial was the first of a series of prosecutions of members of the alleged "arson trust," in which it was expected to show illegal activities of a group of Portland shopkeepers to defraud insurance companies. Indictments charging arson were re turned by the August grand. jury that involved nearly a dozen small merchants and one local attorney, David Pepp, who is charged with having counseled the setting of incendiary fires.

Veterans May Be Army Reserve. Albany .- Belleving that it is the first step towards making the members a reserve of the United States Army, Captain F. C. Stellmacher of this city, commander of the departthe commander-in-chief at Washington to take immediate action to recruit camps to the fullest possible number. Similar orders have been sent to every state commander in the country.

### Ex-City Official Guilty.

Astoria,-Dan P. Belcher, former guilty in the circuit court to an indictment charging him with obtaining money under false pretenses by padhim were dismissed. He was sentenced to five years in the penitentiary and paroled.

### STATE TO LEASE LAKES

#### Land Board Will Receive Bids for Minerals In Water.

Salem .- The state land board fixed December 10 as the time for receiving bids for the lease of Summer and Albert lakes, which have value on account of mineral deposits contained in the water.

The bidders will each be required to file a surety bond in the sum of \$10,000 to guarantee that they will carry out the contract and the leases will be on a royalty basis of so much per ton. The bidders will also be reguired to name a minimum annual royalty so that there will be no delay in commencing operations after the contract is awarded.

Jason Moore a few months ago offered the board \$1,275,000 outright for the lakes. Another bidder offered more and the board decided it would be well to decline all the offers and take up later the question of disposing of the lakes.



state, who died in Rome of appendicitis, complicated with peritonitis.

### **BRIEF WAR NEWS**

The most important event of the ment of Oregon, United Spanish War past week on the European battle-Veterans, has received an order from fields was the capture by the Germans of Antwerp and the forts surrounding the city. Although the Belgians stubbornly defended their temporary capital, the fortifications, reputed to be the strongest in the world, were unable to withstand the shells from the great seige guns used by the Germans. It took the Germans ten days to ef-

fect an entrance into the city. The city superintendent of streets, pleaded surrender of the city came only after it was seen that further resistance would mean the utter destruction of the city by the ruinous fire of the ding the July pay roll in the sum of giant guns which had been pouring \$60.50. The other indictments against their rain of deadly shells into it without surcease for three days,

The loss of life is believed to have been large and the destruction of property within the city is said to have been very great. The real extent of the damage will be slow in reaching the outside world from nonpartisan sources, owing to the fact that communication with the city is either cut entirely or in the hands of the military authorities. Among the buildings reported to have been damaged was the cathedral of Notre Dame, one of the most beautiful structures in Europe, dating from the fourteenth century.

Of one thing there is no doubt-Antwerp suffered terribly from the bombardment and the losses among the civilian population have been heavy. The city was crowded, not only with its normal population of more than 300,000 persons, but with other thousands who had sought refuge there on account of the German invasion.

The strategic importance of Antwerp to the Germans arose largely from the fact of its menace to their lines of communication. With the Belgian army withdrawn to a position half way between Antwerp and Os-

### BRIEF NEWS OF OREGON

Stephen Jewell, county judge of Josephine county, died at Grants Pass, aged 67.

Ernest Vosper, of Portland, has been elected yell leader at the University of Oregon.

Ed Barr, of Baker, lost his life in a fire which destroped a small building in which he lived.

After a delay which lasted most the summer, rock is again being delivered at the north jetty of the Columbia.

The Ashland Commercial club will secure \$1000 to be added to the fund for the normal school at Ashland.

The State Editorial association will meet in annual convention in Oregon City Friday for a two days' session.

Oregon City's total debt, excluding ater fund bonds and unpaid warrants on the water fund, is \$461,605.43. Survey stakes of the Pacific highway are being driven on the boulevard directly past the Ashland normal school

With a yield of 71 bushels to the acre, C. R. Kiger has hung up a new record for unirrigated oats in Silver Lake valley

The big mill of the Oregon Lumber company at Dee has resumed operations after being closed more than three weeks.

of the grand lodge of Oregon, Knights of Pythias, convened in Portland Tuesday morning.

Smith-Powers logging company of Marshfield, was killed by being caught between two logs.

Seven hundred and fifty varieties of dahlias were on exhibition at the annual show of the Oregon Dahlia Society at Portland.

The Ben Harrison mine in the western part of Baker county has been compelled to close down on account of the heavy snows,

A plan of establishing an auto bus street car service has been taken up for consideration by a committee of the Commercial club of Baker.

Mail is being delayed because the United States postoffice department refuses to accept bids submitted for the Cottage Grove-Bohemia route,

The sum of \$168,891 was spent in Linn county on road and bridge construction during 1913, according to the report of the Pacific Highway association.

A. B. Gibson, a well-known resident of Sodaville, was shot and fatally wounded by W. C. Angel a Lebanon man. The shooting took place on the street at Sodaville.

Construction work on Albany's new federal building is progressing rapidly and from present indications, the structure will be ready for occupancy soon after January 1.

Governor West will be glad to appoint anyone who cares to attend as delegate the session of the American Mining congress at Phoenix, Ariz., during the week of December 7.

Commencing November 7, all stores, pool and billiard rooms and other places of amusement in La Grande, must observe the Sunday closing law, according to a new city ordinance.

A new species of duck, at least



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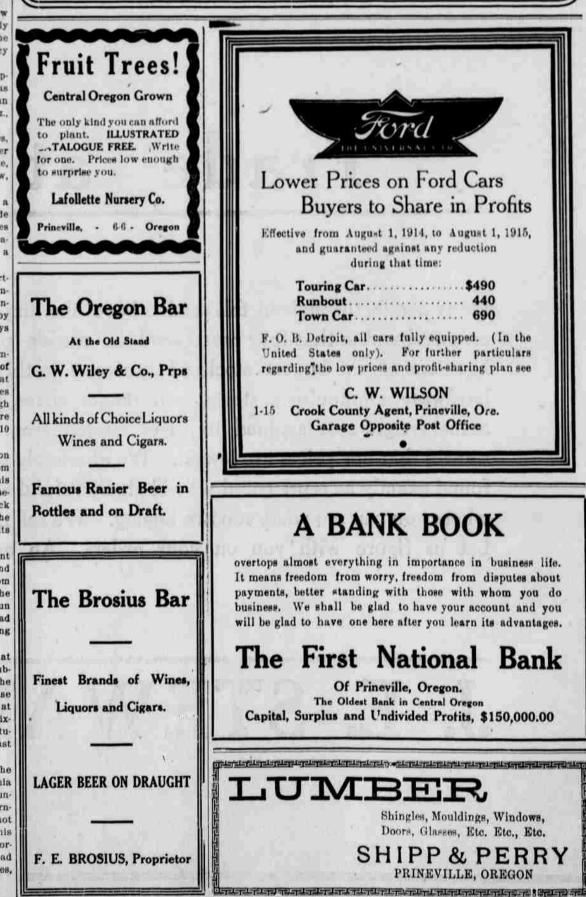
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The thirty-third annual convention

James Tracey, an employe of the

Discussing the problem at the meet ing, Governor West and Treasurer Kay, two of the three members of the land board, favored action by the board, rather than putting the question of developing the lakes over to the legislature. The bureau of mines, which has been making an investigation of the lakes, at the request of Governor West, will have its report ready November 1, said Governor West.

C. M. Sain spent \$75,000 in an effort to develop the products of the Oregon lakes some years ago and he was looked upon as a visionary dreamer by many people of the state. He was forced to drop his plan because of lack of capital. Since then several companies and promoters have offered schemes for the development of the lakes, most of them bearing the earmarks of wild-cat propositions.

#### Shipping Bad Fruit.

River.-Because a large Hood amount of fruit has been shipped from Hood River by private shippers who have placed inferior fruit on the market, the Apple Growers' association is making investigations into the matter of the shipment of diseased fruit and will prosecute the violations of the law regulating the shipment of apples.

#### Baker Cattle Have Blackleg.

Baker .- The first cases of blackleg reported in a long time have been found on the James Fleetwood ranch at Hereford, on Burnt River. Mr. Fleetwood has lost several calves and other ranchers in the vicinity are following the example set by Rouse Bros., prominent ranchers, in vaccination of calves.

### Postoffice Is Robbed.

Dallas .- Safecrackers blew the safe of the postoffice at Rickreall, taking \$150 in cash, but leaving all the stamps. All indications point to the fact that it was the same party that has been operating in the valley some time, and which blew up the safe at Airlie about three weeks ago.

tend, the pressure on these lines will be removed.

The capture of the city was robbed of some of its intrinsic value by the escape of the Belgian field army. When it was seen that the fall of the city was inevitable. King Albert led his field army out of the city leaving only a force sufficient to work the available guns.

The defense of Antwerp, during the last week of the attack, was participated in by three British naval brigades of 8,000 men. In the retreat from Antwerp two of the British brigades reached Ostend safely, but the third was cut off near Lokeren, a town of East Flanders, and 2,000 officers and men entered Dutch territory near Holst and were interned in Holland, according to the laws of neutrality.

The hope of the allies to deliver a crushing blow against the German army in France before the occupation of Antwerp by the enemy is now, of course, a thing of the past. The German right wing, under General Von Kluck, apparently is still intact, and the official communication given out in Paris recorded no change in the situation, merely emphasizing that there was sharp fighting in the region of Roye, nearly 100 miles south of the northern extremity of the fighting line, where opposing bodies of cavalry were clashing almost within sight of the North Sea.

The German and Russian forces on the East Prussian frontier are still fighting stubbornly. The Russians apparently continue to make progress slowly and the Germans, evidently fearing another invasion of East Prussia, according to news from Berlin received through Rome, are sending reinforcements to their army, both by railway and through the Baltic ports.

Germany Jubilates On Antwerp's Fall. Rome .-- Dispatches from Berlin say the capitulation of Antwerp has caused unprecedented enthusiasm throughout Germany, where the general opinion is that the fall of the Belgian city marks the beginning of the end.

new kind to central Oregon, has made its appearance on Lake county lakes with the opening of the hunting sea-The stranger appears to be a son. bluebill-mallard hybrid.

An auto bus line operated by Portland and Linnton citizens has commenced business on the Portland-Linnton line in the fight to compel by means of boycott, the United Railways to grant a five cent fare.

The Oregon Trunk railway has completed its annual transportation of sheep from its southern terminal at Bend to Coleman, about 80 miles north, where they will be fed through the winter. About 55,000 head were handled this year, requiring about 210 cars.

Corporation Commissioner Watson announces that the department from June 30, last year, to June 30, this year, granted 985 permits to sell securities. An authorized capital stock of \$152,743,198 was represented by the corporations to which the permits were granted.

Gus Weisner, aged 70, a prominent farmer of Baker county, was found dead in the road half a mile from Haines. Investigation revealed the fact that Mr. Weisner's team had run away and that one of the horses had kicked him behind the ear, causing fracture of the skull.

Statistics regarding enrollment at the Oregon Agricultural college, submitted by Registrar Tennant to the board of regents indicate an increase of 6 per cent over the registration at a corresponding date last fall. Sixteen hundred and ninety-seven students are enrolled. The number last year was 1577.

As a result of a decision of the county court the Oregon & California grant lands, which are at present under litigation, in which the government seeks their forfeiture, will not be assessed by Douglas county this year. In case the lands are not forfeited to the government the railroad company agrees to pay the back taxes, together with 6 per cent interest.