

PRESIDENT TAKES OVER ROADS

M'ADOO IS APPOINTED AS HEAD OF RAILROADS

WASHINGTON, Dec. 26.—President Wilson announced tonight that he will assume possession and operation of every railroad in the continental United States at noon Friday, December 28, and that he had appointed Secretary McAdoo director-general of railroads.

In a statement accompanying his proclamation the president announced that when congress reassembled he would ask that definite guarantees be given that the railroad properties will be maintained in as good repair and as complete equipment as when taken over, and that the net operating income in each case shall equal the average net operating income of the three years preceding June 30, 1917.

The railroads will be taken over under war authority already granted by congress, through the secretary of war.

Secretary McAdoo, whose appointment is made by formal proclamation, is expected to direct the unification and operation of the roads through their present managements. He will retain his place in the cabinet as secretary of the treasury.

The president makes it clear that his decision was not made because of any failure on the part of the railroads to perform their whole duty insofar as they could while hampered as they were by legal restrictions.

"The committee of railroad executives," said his statement, have done the utmost that it was possible for them to do, but there were difficulties they neither could expect or neutralize. In mere fairness to them the full authority of the government must be subuded."

The plan of control as outlined in the proclamation is not extended as to details, but the general scheme appears to follow closely the British system. In England, however, government freight is carried free and the guaranteed earnings require an enormous amount of money from the government funds, while in the United States the government will pay for its freight as in the past and will stand its part of increased freight tariffs if they are found to be necessary.

DIVORCE GRANTED RICKABAUGH.

Charles E. Rickabaugh was given a decree of divorce against his wife, Rosetta Rickabaugh Wednesday in the circuit court.

REV. WETTLAUFFER STICKS TO JOB AND CAUSES DEADLOCK

Timber Grove School Director of Fighting Fame Withdraws Previous Resignation And Situation Remains Tense

Rev. W. F. Wettlauffer will not resign as clerk of the Timber Grove school district, so those who anticipated such action as a solution of the long standing fight between Wettlauffer and B. Sullivan, a fellow member of the board, must sit tight and await further developments.

In spite of two written offers made by Mr. Wettlauffer to resign providing Sullivan would also step down and out of office, hardly had the latter's resignation been tucked away in County Superintendent Calavan's files, when a letter came from Rev. Wettlauffer in which he 'revoked his former offers to resign.'

The trouble which culminated in a fist encounter between the two at a board meeting a week or so ago, and which resulted in Sullivan being convicted of assault and battery in Justice Stovers' court last Tuesday, is evidently not finished. Following his conviction Mr. Sullivan paid his fine, and immediately sent in his resignation along with that of School Director A. P.



WILLIAM M'ADOO. Secretary of the Treasury, who has been appointed Director-General of Railroads.

JOY WATER SMUGGLED INTO TOWN FROM TRAIN

"That's a heavy grip you have there," suggested Sheriff Wilson to a dark skinned gentleman wending his way along Main street Thursday morning.

"Yes sah, boss, but it don't belong to me" came the prompt answer.

Sheriff Wilson gave the suitcase the official wriggle with the resultant clink of glass and gurgle of joy water. The man gave his name as A. Hankins, claimed to have stepped off the local north bound Southern Pacific train simply as an accommodation to the negro porter, whom he had promised to meet with the suit case later in Portland. The suit case contained eight quarts of whiskey neatly wrapped between the folds of two Pullman car sheets.

Deputy District Attorney Burke arraigned the dusky gentleman before Justice of the Peace Stivers on charge of unlawfully possessing intoxicating liquors. He pleaded guilty and was sentenced to thirty days and costs.

Hankins claimed to be a resident of Seattle giving his address as 1217 Jackson street.

STOCKHOLM WILL BE NEW THEATRE OF PEACE PLANS

LONDON, Dec. 26.—M. Borovsky, the Bolsheviki representative in Stockholm, a dispatch to the Morning Post from the Swedish capital says, confirms reports that Stockholm will be the scene of the continuation of the Russo-German peace negotiations. He says that the sessions in Stockholm will begin early in January, when all the delegates now at Brest-Litovsk are expected in the Swedish capital.

PETROGRAD, Monday, Dec. 26.—Ensign Krylenko, commander in chief of the army, reported to the Bolsheviki headquarters Sunday that the Germans were transferring troops in very large numbers and as quickly as possible to the western front against the allies and also to the southwest-

tern Russian front. Leon Trotsky, the Bolsheviki foreign minister, has called the attention of the peace delegation to this fact. A special dispatch from Brest-Litovsk announces the Germans were not ready to reply to the Russian peace terms, and consequently the meeting of the peace delegates was postponed until Monday afternoon. It is reported that the refusal of Germany to issue passports to the German socialists Haase, Dedehour and Kautsky, who desire to go to Stockholm to acquaint themselves with the Russian revolutionary conditions, has produced in Russia an impression which may hamper peace negotiations.

Minister Trotsky has sent a telegram to his delegates at Brest-Litovsk in this connection, declaring that if the Germans refused their socialist passports this would create such a bad impression at Petrograd that it was deemed necessary that the German official delegation, which is expected here Thursday, should go to Stockholm instead.

The Bolsheviki commissioners have issued a manifesto to all Russian workmen declaring that, as the armistice probably will be transformed at an early date into a general democratic peace to all the European peoples, preparation of military equipment is a waste of financial labor and funds, and that consequently the output must be stopped immediately and replaced by the production of peace supplies, which the country needs.

FOOD CARD PLEDGES SHOW HIGH PER CENT THROUGHOUT STATE

Ninety-five percent of the families of Oregon have signed conservation food card pledges, according to Arthur M. Churchill, chairman of the state-wide movement.

Some difficulty is being experienced in getting the farmers of the state into line. Those who have been accustomed to raise their own hogs and make their own butter are slow to realize the benefits to be derived, says Mr. Churchill.

"We have plenty of food but the people must learn to use substitutes for exportable articles," he said. "Our surplus of wheat has already been shipped to Europe this year. Economy should be the watchword now. The Italian situation and decreased crops in Europe have become serious factors."

CARVER INDUSTRIAL BODY INCORPORATED WITH \$1500 CAPITAL

SALEM, Or., Dec. 20.—Articles of incorporation for the Universal Nut-Loek company of Portland were filed Wednesday by J. W. Butler, E. H. Butler and John A. Stubbins. The company has a capital stock of \$100,000. Articles were filed for the Carver Industrial association of Clackamas by R. L. Peaker, J. G. Mumpower, A. R. Smith and T. E. Brown. The association has a capital stock of \$1500.

RED CROSS LEADERS ASKED TO RENEW EFFORTS TO INSURE CLACKAMAS QUOTA

Red Cross campaign captains throughout Clackamas county will be asked today to renew their efforts to secure 12,000 memberships, and to use every endeavor to make up the present deficiency of approximately \$4,000. Chairman Eby said last night that he would today make a personal appeal to every district leader to bring the big drive to a successful termination without delay. Douglas and Umattila counties have exceeded their respective quotas, and it is up to Clackamas to harness its forces and make further efforts to land the state first among those of the union in securing its membership.

Hush! the Bogy Man He's Coming to Town Income Tax Is Next

During the months of January and February income tax forms must be executed and sent to the collector of internal revenue. Single persons are exempt \$1,000 on income taxes. Married persons are exempt \$2,000 on income taxes.

A representative of the United States treasury department will be at the court house in Oregon City from February 2 to February 23 and he will have tax forms and other data pertaining to his office.

The 1918 tax may affect you and we would suggest that you take advantage of his presence and call on him early and thereby save yourself much inconvenience.

GLADSTONE FINANCES FACING SOLUTION BY SUBURBAN RESIDENTS

For the purpose of devising some scheme of bringing about a solution of Gladstone's financial problems, and at the same time working out a plan of proper sewerage for the city to prevent a recurrence of the flood troubles of the last few days, well attended citizens' meeting was held Thursday evening in Goodman's hall.

The city has a large number of outstanding street assessments for work done three or four years ago, which have never been collected, and which, it is rumored, some property owners have refused to pay, of the ground the assessments were illegal. A committee was appointed to investigate this matter and report at a subsequent meeting to be held in January, at which time a report may be made to the city council outlining a plan for handling the assessments. This committee consists of R. Freytag, T. J. B. Williams, W. W. Leete, A. D. Paddock, C. A. Frost and S. E. Lowe.

The flood committee appointed to present a scheme to the council for making proper drainage for the city, consists of F. A. Miller, T. J. B. Williams, L. A. Read, Ed Harrington, J. H. Prater and Ed Carter. The high water this week has done considerable damage and Wednesday morning the lowland on the east side of the track was one big pond with the water over the sidewalks and into the stores in some places.

BAILEY WOULD BE CITIZEN.

Arthur S. Bailey of Oregon City, has filed application for citizenship papers with County Clerk Harrington. Mr. Bailey came to the United States from Liverpool in 1891 and is a subject of Great Britain.

New President General of Daughters of Confederacy



MISS MARY POPPENHEIM. Miss Mary Poppenheim of Charleston, S. C., has been elected president general of the United States Daughters of the Confederacy. The Daughters of the Confederacy have authorized the creation of a general committee for war relief work, its activities to be in co-operation and under the direction of the American Red Cross.

RED CROSS DRIVE WILL BE A SUCCESS

Clackamas county will be 100 per cent Red Cross before the end of this week, according to O. D. Eby, chairman of the drive for 12,000 memberships, the quota of this county in the national campaign. He received authority Tuesday from state headquarters to continue the drive until the quota for this county had been subscribed.

From the best information obtainable Christmas day, the county is approximately \$4,000 short of its quota. Workers in scores of districts have labored diligently, and some of them have been very successful. The local factories are expected to become 100 per cent efficient in Red Cross subscriptions, the woolen mills having solved the problem by taking out a membership for every one of its 400 employees.

The recent high water has had its effect in retarding the progress of the big drive. Many of the meetings scheduled for last week in the country districts had to be postponed, as the roads were impassable.

The quota for this county means that practically every adult male and female resident must become a member of the organization, in order to make the drive successful.

In the several campaigns conducted here since the outbreak of the war, Clackamas county has given its full quota and the leaders of the Red Cross drive are determined that the present campaign must be vigorously prosecuted until the goal is reached.

BOLSHEVIKI LEADER IS PREPARING FOR BREAK

STOCKHOLM, Dec. 25.—Nicholai Lenine, Bolsheviki leader, is preparing to flee from Petrograd, according to information from an authoritative source today.

Seeing the power of the Bolsheviki crumbling about him, and with fighting breaking out hourly in Petrograd, Lenine is said to have despaired of gaining the success he had dreamed was ahead of the radical regime and is about to seek safety.

Leon Trotsky, minister of foreign affairs in the Bolsheviki cabinet and co-worker with Lenine in the revolt which overthrew Kerensky, is said to have determined to remain in Petrograd, regardless of consequences.

The Bolsheviki leaders realize that the peace negotiations which they planned are likely to fall unless the allies join in the parleys. They also realize that with failure of these negotiations the majority of the people and the army will be against them.

LIBERTY LOAN BONDS HERE FOR CUSTOMERS AT THREE CITY BANKS

Bonds of the First Liberty Loan—convertible 4's—were received by all of the banks in the city Friday. The First National Bank and the Bank of Commerce have received all of the bonds of the Second Liberty loan where the subscriptions were paid in full and these can be had at the respective banks as asked for.

The banks announce that they are in receipt of circulars to the effect that the government has been unable to keep up with the demand for the paid up bonds and this accounts for some banks in the same town having received their bonds while others have not.

BOYS IMPLICATED IN FATAL "DUEL" PAROLED TO PARENTS

Severely Lectured By Judge Anderson And Forbidden the Use of All Fire Arms Until 18 Years of Age.

Cecil Green and Lake Smith, two of the youthful participants in the Park place "sham battle" which resulted in the killing of Leslie LaDoux last Saturday were arraigned before County Judge H. S. Anderson Monday on juvenile delinquency charges preferred by the state.

The court, after exacting solemn promises from the lads that they would neither possess nor use firearms of any description until they became 18 years of age, took the case under advisement pending final disposition of the delinquency charges, paroling young Green to his grandfather, Joe LaDoux, father of the boy who was killed and turning young Smith over to the care of his father, Wm. Smith. No charges were preferred against Cecil Shaw, the 8-year-old Parkplace school boy who was the fourth member of the party, which a week ago Monday, went up on the hills above Parkplace,

and staged what they termed a "duel" with the result that young LaDoux was shot in the forehead and instantly killed.

The lads stated before the court that they did not know which one of them fired the fatal shot that snuffed out the life of their young companion. The details of the tragedy were briefly gone into before the court by Sheriff Wilson and Deputy Frost.

Judge Anderson talked to the boys for perhaps half an hour, and all present in the court room, including officials and the parents of the lads, were visibly affected by his words. In taking the matter under further advisement, the court declared he would keep in personal touch with the lads, and see that they lived up to their promises of future good behavior and truthfulness in all matters, and that they kept their word regarding the use of fire-arms.

AMERICAN ENGINEERS NOW IN ACTION ON BRITISH FRONT



Official British Photograph of American Engineers in Camp. That our American engineers are already in action in France is indicated by news from the front telling of their activities with the British. Our men in this division of the service have been given very high praise by the leading military authorities abroad.