

HAY BILL YIELDS ARMY MINUS MEN

Secretary Baker Exposes Pre- tence of Preparedness in Military Measure.

RESULT IS INADEQUATE

Proposed Increase Would Be Suf- ficient to Man Trench Half Length of Manhattan Island, if All Were Well and Strong.

OREGONIAN NEWS BUREAU, Wash- ington, March 22.—The Hay bill is a conscientious effort to build up an army without men," declared Rep- resentative Gardner, of Massachusetts, in demonstrating to the House of Repre- sentatives that the Hay bill is con- ceived to fool the people by making them believe that Congress is sincerely undertaking to strengthen the Ameri- can Army.

That Representative Gardner, aided by the new Secretary of War, struck a deathblow to the Hay bill gener- ally believed in Washington. His ex- posure of the fraud which Mr. Hay attempted, with the connivance of Democrats on his committee, to put over on the country, and the fact that Secretary of War Baker was not averse to stating the facts, make it reason- able to believe that the Hay bill will be displaced by the Chamberlain bill or some measure that provides for actual strengthening of the land forces.

Baker Letter Is Surprising. Representative Gardner took the House by surprise when he read a let- ter from Secretary Baker, showing the utter ineffectiveness of the Hay bill, and this letter proved the greatest kind of a surprise to those Adminis- tration members who had snuffed themselves on his committee. The fact was standing back of the Hay bill. Whether Secretary Baker acted with the knowledge of the Administration, whether on his own responsibility he frankly exposed the Hay bill may re- main an unanswered question.

Representative Hay, of Virginia, in- and always has been a "little Army man." He cannot change his views on that question any more than he can become a Republican and a protection- ist. But there was much rejoicing in Administration circles a few months ago, after the figures of the Hay bill were converted to a programme of prepared- ness, when Mr. Hay announced himself publicly to be "in full accord with the President." Time may disclose what Mr. Hay meant.

Army Without Men Is Result. Secretary Baker in his letter said, among other things, that the 20,000 men in the militia is hard to "guess how many effectives we could depend on in the event of war." He adds: "The outlook is disheartening for anyone who has watched the militia records for target practice and camp attendance. Even in this last year, with the European war in progress, over 43,000 militiamen failed to go to camp, according to the figures of the Chief of Staff, United States Army. Further- more, in his annual report, the Chief of Staff tells us that out of 91,000 militiamen armed with rifles, not less than 41,000 were so indifferent to their duty that they failed to show up for a single day of target practice throughout the entire year."

Of the effect of the Hay bill, the Sec- retary says: "The Hay bill is a conscientious effort to build up an army without men. Counting the 20,000 men we voted the other day, the Hay bill adds 40,000 soldiers to the regular establishment, pro- vides for playmate payments to mil- lions in 45 different little armies, de- votes a few paragraphs to regularizing instruction camps of the Plattsburg kind and to the formation of cadet com- panies, and in the end, the number of cadets at West Point.

One Provision Worth All Rest. "The West Point provision is worth all the rest of the bill put together and a lot more besides. So far as the in- crease in the regular Army is con- cerned, the bill is a dilution step in the right direction. To regard this step in the right direction, as an ad- vance of the Nation's demand for preparedness is about as sensible as to regard the peanut tendered by some child's hand at the circus as an ade- quate satisfaction of an elephant's de- mand for food. What do 40,000 ad- ditional men amount to? If they were all well and strong, they might man a trench half the length of Manhattan Island, on which a part of New York City is built.

"Out of approximately 100,000 men in the regular Army today we have some 35,000 available for a field or mobile army, as it is called. The rest of the men are in overseas garrisons or in the coast defenses or in the non- combatant corps. If we add 40,000 new men to our field force we shall ulti- mately have 75,000 regulars for the field army of the United States, and that is all. Remember, however, that the Hay bill allows us four years' time for the recruitment of these 40,000 new soldiers. If we pass the Hay bill we shall ultimately have a force of regulars in our field Army sufficient to man the trenches of the Rio Grande, or about one-fourth of the Texas frontier along the Rio Grande."

36 BLOCKS ARE BURNED

(Continued From First Page.)

Some of the notable buildings in the beautiful residence section de- stroyed are the Tulip-Street Methodist

ECTEMA

with its distressful itching, may be soothed at once, healed quickly, and all its ugly mani- festations driven away.

thanks to DOSLA

FOR AILING SKIN (At All Druggists)

BELL-ANS Absolutely Removes Indigestion. One package proves it. 25c at all druggists.

Church and the Edgefield Baptist Church. At 4 o'clock there was no sign of abatement in the fire, which had been burning since early afternoon. Not less than 1000 people then were home- less. The Governor called on all semi- military organizations to join the militia in aiding the fire sufferers and protecting their property. The Chamberlain River separates the fire swept section from the business district. Knoxville, Chattanooga and Louis- ville have been asked for fire ap- paratus. One negro was burned to death.

PRAIRIE FIRES - WIDESPREAD

Many Farmhouses in Kansas and Missouri Are Destroyed.

KANSAS CITY, March 22.—Fires which ravaged the prairies of Western Kansas and parts of the wooded sections of Missouri south of here early today were believed to be extinguished or under control tonight. Only one fatality in any of the fires was reported, that of Fred Sim- mons, a farmer of Fairplay, Mo. He was awakened in the night, found that his barn had been ignited from a forest fire, which swept Polk County. In his efforts to remove stock from the build- ing he received burns from which he died tonight.

Mrs. Bert Babb, wife of a rancher near Sharon Springs, Kan., received se- verely burns yesterday. Kansas City and vicinity last night and today was torn by a wind which reached hurricane proportions. A brick wall of a residence in the northeast part of the city was blown in, sending the occupants fleeing in terror. A sleeping room, where a little girl was struck on the head. She is not believed danger- ously injured. Numerous fires have been reported, but none has been of dangerous size.

THREE DEAD IN PARIS FIRE Loss in Texas Town May Reach Total of \$10,000,000. PARIS, Tex., March 22.—Three known dead, one missing, a total loss of from \$5,000,000 to \$10,000,000, with all the business district and most of the residential district destroyed are the re- sults of the fire which swept Paris last night. The dead: John Straub, burned in his home; Mrs. W. J. Bailey, 50 years old, died from fright; unidentified negro, found burned in home. Missing: Mrs. A. G. Poul, an aged woman, whose home was burned, and who has not been seen since before the fire.

The fire destroyed from 1500 to 2000 homes. About one-third of the city was untouched by the flames. Brick walls, blackened by heavy smoke and extending into the air five and six stories, were being razed by dynamite, with a safety zone roped off that passerby might not be endangered by falling walls. The work of dynamiting the build- ings commenced early today. One by one the buildings, which cost from \$100,000 to \$200,000, already gutted by the flames, tumbled with a roar to add to the debris in the streets. In the business section there are left only smaller stores on side streets radiating from the public square.

In these stores Paris business men opened establishments this morning to care for the needy. There was apparent a feeling of re- pentment among some citizens in the matter of asking for outside aid. In spite of the calamity, the bulk of Paris residents felt that they could depend upon their own resources for taking care of themselves.

10 BLOCKS IN AUGUSTA BURN

Flames Are Spreading Toward Principal Business Houses. AUGUSTA, Ga., March 22.—Fire caused damage estimated at more than \$2,000,000 in the downtown section of Augusta tonight, and at a late hour was eating its way unchecked down Broad street, where the city's principal business houses are located. Ten blocks had been destroyed or were burning and the flames were threaten- ing to spread to residential sections.

Shortly before midnight the flames were carried by the wind into the resi- dential section, where a new conflagra- tion was making rapid headway. The outbreak started in a late hour block from the blaze in the business section. The Dyer Bank building was among the structures destroyed and the Union Bank building, the Western Union building and the buildings housing the Augusta Chronicle and Argus were among those damaged. Fire com- panies with equipment were rushed here on special trains from Macon and Atlanta.

OIL FIELD IS BURNED OVER

Loss of More Than \$200,000 Caused by Oklahoma Prairie Fire. TULSA, Okla., March 22.—A prairie fire, started by burning waste oil and which burned over four sections of land in the heart of Cushing, Okla., last night and this morning, was under con- trol today, although several tanks of oil still were burning.

The fire, which covered tanks of oil ranging in size from 250 to 1500 bar- rels, filled with oil; one 55,000 barrel tank, partially filled, two 40,000-barrel several bunkhouses, one pumping sta- tion and one boiler-house were de- stroyed. The actual property loss was estimated tonight at \$200,000, although the loss through shutting in of nearly 100 wells will considerably increase this figure.

Spray, N. C. Not Burned.

GREENSBORO, N. C., March 22.—The burning of a building at Spray, N. C., in which the telephone exchange was located, gave rise to reports today that the town was being swept by a dis- astrous fire. When wire communica- tion was restored, it was learned that only the one building had been de- stroyed.

JOE HOWARD LOSES \$6833

Award Made to Mrs. Witherspoon for Breach of Promise. Judgment of \$6833 was awarded Mrs. Edah Witherspoon in her \$50,000 breach of promise suit against Joe Howard, Orpheum headliner and play- ight, by Circuit Judge Morrow last night. A default had been entered in the case, and the only evidence before the court was to support the conten- tions of the plaintiff.

On the stand Mrs. Witherspoon said that Joe Howard had proposed to her in the Rainbow Grill, the second time she had met him, and wanted to marry her at once. He kissed her good-bye two days later in front of the Owl drug store, she said, and was to be married to her the next day, but that was the last time she saw him.

Sipman Wolfe & Co. Merchandise of Merit Only Sale of Black Silks The Season's Most Fashionable Weaves In a Three-Day Event UNEXAMPLED

The most fashionable, the most wanted, and at the same time the scarcest of black silks will be found in this three-day sale. Messalines, Duches Satin, Suiting Satins, Regina Satin (imported), Peau de Soie, Chiffon Taffeta and Faille. Silks in the identical weaves that are most fashionable for the making of the Easter suit and dress. Consequently, Thursday, Friday and Saturday, women who wish the highest grade of black silks will have the opportunity to save considerable on the dressmaker's bill.

35-Inch Black Mes- saline 89c 40-Inch Imported Regina Satin \$1.49 35-Inch Extra Quality Black Messaline 95c 35-Inch Black Duches Satin . . . \$1.19 35-In. Extra Qual- ity Duches Satin . \$1.39 35-In. Black Suit- ing Satin \$1.49

Free Instructions in Lamp-Shade Making By Mrs. C. E. Wilkinson, every day from 9:30 to 12 and 1 to 5, to everyone purchasing their silk or other material and wire frame in the store. We have a complete line of every kind and size of wire frames and a wonderful showing of loveliest materials to cover.

Sipman Wolfe & Co. Merchandise of Merit Only Art Needle Work Contest Silk Embroidering Cotton Embroidering Cotton Crochet and Knitting Wool Crochet and Knitting Open to the Public Cash Prizes Given in Each Class Contest Under the Direction of Mrs. V. M. Patterson

Who has recently arrived in Portland from the East to personally conduct this very interesting and instructive event. Contest Starts Monday, March 27

Any customer purchasing \$1.00 worth or over of Art Needle Work is entitled to enter this contest. The following prizes will be distributed to those whose art needle work shows the greatest skill: \$30.00 in gold for best silk embroidery work. \$20.00 in gold for best cotton embroidery work. \$25.00 in gold for best wool crochet and knitting. \$15.00 in gold for best cotton crochet and knitting.

CORN GOSPEL HEARD

Farmer Smith's Message Well Received at Napavine. DAIRYMEN REALIZE NEED Lack of Feed for Cattle, Caused by Recent Hard Winter, Brings Home Truth of Statements That Should Be Built Freely.

BY ADDISON BENNETT. NAPAVINE, Wash., March 22.—(Special.)—The wide-awake people of this town and vicinity turned out in goodly numbers to the O.-W. R. & N. agricul- tural meeting last night at the ap- pointment of the Citizens' Club. Dan W. Bush, the club's president, took the chair at 8 o'clock and introduced as the only speaker of the evening Farmer Smith, the O.-W. R. & N. agricul- turalist. Mr. Smith was in excellent voice and a happy mood and he made a splendid talk, which seemed to meet with the approbation of everyone in the audience, which, happily, com- prised a large number of farmers.

It seems unnecessary to say that, as usual, the speaker dwelt largely on the corn question, which is becoming a vital one all over the Northwest, particularly in Southwestern Washing- ton—more particularly, probably, in Lewis County, of which Chehalis is the county seat. This is by no means the first time the O.-W. R. & N. has es- sayed to teach the citizens of this section the value of corn in connection with the dairy business; but each year Farmer Smith and his associates bear on a little harder and talk a little plainer for the reason that they can now say that corn can and is being raised here in paying quantities—there is always some progressive farmer in the audience who has made a brilliant success with corn raising.

Time Ripe for Gospel of Corn. This is an opportune time to preach the gospel of corn, for during the last couple of months there has been a great shortage of feed for all manner of livestock hereabouts, and more feed is a slogan that goes right home to the dairymen, especially those who get caught with lean feed bins and empty haymows during the bad weather of January and February. So it comes about that Farmer Smith is listened to with marked attention and the audience who has made a brilliant success with corn raising.

Lewis Timber to Be Sold. CENTRALIA, Wash., March 22.—(Special.)—State Land Commissioner Clark V. Savidge yesterday advertised a sale of timber lands to be held at the Lewis County Courthouse on May 2. The timber is located on about 150 acres of land and is appraised at \$10,275.

Argentine last year produced 275,000 bar- rels of oil. The meeting was called to order on time, but without any formality or in- troduction, Farmer Smith began his talk before a rather large audience, considering the weather, and everyone was from the farm, several being women. Mr. Smith's remarks were listened to with marked attention and there is no doubt about the results for this is the center of a good farming section and the landowners, as a rule, are of the progressive order. It is re- ported that the number of silos will be more than doubled during the present year. A meeting was scheduled tonight at Pilsford, a little town situated about 14 miles southwest of Chehalis. It is not on a railway line, but is situated in a fine farming section. Tomorrow evening the meetings will be held at Mossy Rock and Silver Creek, both of which places will be reached by auto. The car will remain at Chehalis until Sat- urday.

Sipman Wolfe & Co. Merchandise of Merit Only Six Beautifully Designed New Models in Women's Semi-Tailored and Novelty Suits Are Offered at \$24.85

—Splendidly meeting the demand for Spring suits, this special assortment features the belted, tailored, flare, novelty-Norfolk and combination silk and wool suits. —Rather unique trimmings, whether leather, buttons or silk, accentuate the clever lines of these smart suits. The Fabrics— Gabardine, Serges, Taffeta, Navy Blue, Hague, Rookie, Black and Checks, Reseda. Poplins and Whipcord. —Excellently tailored and finished with coat linings of fine quality. These splendid suits at such a figure strongly emphasize the advantages of early selections. —The illustration was made directly from models on sale. —Third Floor

Wynall Blouses \$1.50 Are Distinctive—Individual—Unequaled in Style —They are particularly worthy of notice this week—daintiest models of sheer voile, simply tailored, and with touches of hemstitching or clusters of tiny tucks. Then there are more dressy blouses adorned with sprays of embroidery, or allover embroidered effects. They show the very latest collars and cuffs and are cut full and blousy. Third Floor.

Economy Basement Store "Where You Spend the Least and Get the Most For It"

Swissalu Aluminum Utensils IN A ONE-DAY SALE 1200 Pieces—Pure Heavy Weight Articles Today 98c For Pieces Worth From \$1.40 to \$3.00

—The last shipment under contract of this famous make, that en- ables us to make this remarkable price. The excessive advance in price now in force makes it absolutely impossible for us to repeat this sale. —This offer includes dish pans, rice boilers, water pails, mixing bowls, Berlin kettles, straight covered sauce pans, lipped sauce pans, straight covered pots, Berlin sauce pans, lipped kettles, griddles, waffle irons, skillets.

—At this remarkably low price we will positively not fill phone or mail orders. None will be sent C. O. D. or on approval. None sold to dealers. See Alder Street Window Display Sipman Wolfe & Co. Merchandise of Merit Only See Alder Street Window Display

LOG LINE TO EXTEND

Sutherland Timber Railroad to Tap Coos Bay Country. MILL TO RISE THIS YEAR UMATILLA PIONEER PASSES

Thomas Brewster, of Pendleton, Is Survived by Widow and Children. PENDLETON, Or., March 22.—(Special.)—Thomas Brewster, pioneer Umatilla County stockman and farmer, died last night from old age compli- cations. He was born in Yorkshire, Eng- land, in 1848, and came to Umatilla County from Southern Oregon 25 years ago.

He is survived by a widow, three sons, George, of Lewiston, Idaho; Thomas, Jr., and Henry, of Pendleton, and five daughters, Mrs. C. W. Steen, Milton; Mrs. Amos Myrick, Adams; Mrs. James Brown, St. Louis; Mrs. Martha Henderson, Camas, Mont.; and Mrs. Emily Cecil, of Flat River, Ia.

Increased Facilities for Preparing Lumber Will Be Added at Sutherland as Market Warrants. Sites for Plants Donated. SUTHERLIN, Or., March 22.—(Special.)—S. M. Fox, Sutherland manager of the Douglas County timber holdings of the Roach Timber Company, of Mus- catine, Ia., will return to Sutherland from Spokane to take charge of the railroad construction of his company here by April 1. The timber people have completed five miles of the grade of their line, which extends east of Sutherland 15 miles to the edge of their 5,000-acre tract of timber. Ultimately the company plans to extend its road 50 miles west to Coos Bay. Just as soon as the steel can be laid on the finished grade work is expected to begin on a sawmill of a capacity of 250,000 feet per day. One mill will be built this year and others will follow as the lumber market justifies.

The Sutherland Railroad and prospec- tive mills are in no way affected by the failure of the Roseburg bonding project with Kendall Bros., which was defeated by the Supreme Court of Oregon yesterday. The Roach Timber Com- pany is still ready to fulfill its agree- ment, made with the local people two

Red Crown Gasoline the Gasoline of Quality For More Power, Insist on the Straight Distilled, All-Refinery Gas NOT A MIXTURE Standard Oil Company (California) Portland