

# Morning Oregonian.



## INTERIOR ARGUES FOR LOWER RATES

### Panama Canal Closing Given as Reason.

### Steamship Line Officials Say Coastwise Traffic Is Dead.

## RAILROADS OPPOSE CHANGE

### Pacific Coast Cities Join in Fight to Keep Tariffs as They Are. Witnesses Aver Competition by Water Is of Distant Future.

WASHINGTON, April 24.—Whatever promise the Panama Canal may hold for steamship competition with so-called transcontinental railways, the Interstate Commerce Commission was told today it lies in the somewhat distant future. Officials of the chief steamship lines which used to ply from coast to coast, testifying in the reopened West-mountain rate case, declared that not only had they ceased to operate their vessels via the Canal, but that there would be no resumption of the traffic certainly for one year, probably for two and maybe for much longer.

The Commission heard two witnesses—E. Hamilton, general manager of the Luckenbach Steamship Company, and H. E. D. Jackson, vice-president of the American-Hawaiian Steamship Company. To these companies, the former with 19 steamers, the latter with 24, went much of the trade between American ports before the European war. The fleets of both companies are now scattered all over the world. The Luckenbach Company will not resume coast-to-coast business before two years. Mr. Hamilton said that the American-Hawaiian line will not within one year, if not, according to Mr. Jackson.

### Coast Points Join in Fight.

Messrs. Hamilton and Jackson testified on behalf of the organizations in inter-mountain territory—virtually the entire strip of the United States extending from a line drawn north and south through Denver to the Pacific Coast—who seek to prove that there is no longer reason for permitting the railroads to charge less for shipments from Eastern manufacturing and industrial centers to Pacific points than to interior ones. The railroads now oppose any change in rates and in this stand are joined by trade and other organizations of Seattle, Tacoma, Portland, Or.; San Francisco, San Diego, San Pedro and other Pacific Coast cities to which the low rates now apply.

Three things, the witnesses said, had impelled them to discontinue the coast-to-coast operation of their vessels—the closing, last September, of the Canal by slides, the much greater revenue to be obtained by placing their vessels in foreign trade and the prevailing low rates by rail.

### Vessels Chartered for Off-Shore Trade.

"We chartered three of our vessels the other day to the United States Steel Corporation for a year," Mr. Jackson said, "at much higher figures than we had ever obtained by operating them. Four of our vessels are under charter until December, 1917; three are chartered for a year and the others are chartered for three to six months each with ample opportunity for renewing the charters as they may expire."

Vessels now building at Seattle, San Francisco and other Pacific Coast ports will hardly go into the water, Mr. Jackson added, because they can make much more money by going into the foreign trade. The last American-Hawaiian Company vessel to sail east in the coast-to-coast service left San Francisco last October, he said, and the last westbound vessel of his line sailed from New York February 17. No other sailings are scheduled.

### Old Contracts Cared For.

Of the Luckenbach steamers none has been in the service for two months, Mr. Hamilton said, with the exception of one or two which sailed to carry freight already contracted for. No other sailings were scheduled on this line, and the witness thought that for at least two years the only steamship traffic, so far as freight carriers were concerned, from coast to coast via the Canal, would be by tramp steamers, whose movements went by no schedule.

Mr. Jackson probably will be the last witness. He will continue tomorrow and at the conclusion of the hearing counsel will argue the proposal to adjust rates.

J. N. Neal, of Portland, who is taking an active part in the proceedings, sought to secure from the witnesses admissions that their discontinuance of traffic is due solely to the closing of the Panama Canal by slides, and that when the Canal is again open there will be actual and active water competition. The witnesses, however, insisted that there will be no water competition of moment for some years to come, because they can find more profitable business elsewhere. They admitted that when normal conditions are restored throughout the world of commerce that there may be some water competition from coast to coast, but while water competition does not exist, they argued that water rates should not govern transcontinental rates on coast-to-coast shipments.

Among those attending the hearing are: J. W. Campbell, Spokane; J. P. Wetrich, Seattle; Jay W. McCune, of Tacoma, and Seth Mann, San Francisco.

## VILLA REPORTED TO BE LOCATED AGAIN

### GENERAL PERSHING HEARS OF PRESENCE NEAR PARRAL.

### Bandit Is Wounded, but Not Seriously—Carranza Said to Have Large Force on Trail.

SAN ANTONIO, Tex., April 24.—Reports from General Pershing today indicated that Francisco Villa had been located again, this time west of Parral, in the mountains of Western Chihuahua. He was last reported at Nonoava, 85 miles from Stateo. The report also indicated that Villa was wounded, but only slightly, and that he was far from being incapacitated.

General Pershing regarded the information that General Pershing had secured as authentic. No troops have been sent out. It was realized that pursuit of Villa in the locality he had chosen could be successfully conducted only after many more troops had been sent into Mexico.

Unofficial reports today indicated that Carranza had sent gradually into the north an army much larger than that of the American force, and a great part of the Mexican force is in a position to conduct a pursuit of Villa and his scattered organizations that would be more effective than would be a continuation of the American campaign if conducted along the present line.

## MOST PUPILS LIKE MOVIES

542 Salem High Students Attend and Only 30 Do Not.

## RULERS SEND GREETINGS

### King George and Czar on Easter Predict Allies' Success.

LONDON, April 24.—King George sent the following telegram on Easter day to Emperor Nicholas: "Today, when by happy coincidence our two nations are celebrating Easter, and we are commemorating St. George, I cannot refrain from sending you congratulations, in renewed confidence in the victory of the allied armies." It followed with delight the recent victorious achievements of your gallant army."

## AD FRAUDS ARE DEFINED

### Supreme Court Decision Opens Way to Stringent Supervision.

WASHINGTON, April 24.—In defining today more clearly than ever before what constitutes dishonest advertising through the mails, the Supreme Court held in effect that advertisers, even though they give purchasers value received for their money, are guilty of fraud if by exaggerated advertising propaganda they have led clients to expect more.

## NEGROES TEST EXCLUSION

### Nuns are Arrested for Refusal to Teach Colored Children.

ST. AUGUSTINE, Fla., April 24.—To test the new state law making it illegal for white persons to teach negroes, three nuns from St. Joseph's convent today were placed under technical arrest here. They were released on their own recognizance.

## INQUIRY TAKEN TO BERLIN

### Dutch Officer to Find Out if German Torpedo Sank Tabantia.

BERLIN, April 24.—(By wireless to Sayville, N. Y.)—A representative of the Dutch Admiralty came to Berlin today to determine by investigation whether the portions of a torpedo found after the sinking of the Dutch steamship Tubantia are fragments of a torpedo of German make.

## PRICES SOAR IN DENMARK

### Charges for Food and Other Necessaries Up 30 Per Cent Since War.

WASHINGTON, April 24.—Sharp rises in food prices in Denmark have alarmed the people, who fear further increases if the war continues, say consular advisers reaching here today from Copenhagen.

## IRISH KNIGHT IS CAUGHT AIDING FOE

### Sir Roger Casement Captured on Ship.

## ARMS BEING LANDED IN ERIN

### German Vessel Attempts to Put Munitions in Ireland.

## ENEMY CRAFT IS SUNK

### Noted Leader of Separatist Faction Aboard Vessel Disguised as Neutral Merchantman—Career as Diplomat Is Notable.

LONDON, April 24.—Sir Roger Casement has been captured on a German ship which attempted to land arms in Ireland and was sunk. This official announcement was made to night as follows:

"During the period between the afternoon of April 20 and the afternoon of April 21 an attempt to land arms and ammunition in Ireland was made by a vessel under the guise of a neutral merchant ship, but which in reality was a German auxiliary, in conjunction with a German submarine. The auxiliary was sunk and a number of prisoners were made, amongst whom was Sir Roger Casement."

Sir Roger Casement, before the outbreak of the European war, was in the British consular service, having held posts in Portuguese West Africa, the Congo Free State, Haiti, San Domingo and Brazil.

In November, 1914, it was reported that Sir Roger, who was the leader of the separatist faction in Ireland, had gone to Berlin and conferred with the German imperial authorities, his intention, it was said, being to open negotiations between the German government and the anti-English party in Ireland.

### Work in Brazil Notable.

Sir Roger was created a Knight in 1911. He is 52 years old. It was Sir Roger who, in 1912, while Consul-General in Rio Janeiro, made a report on the torturing and killing of natives of Brazil by employes of the British company operating the Putumayo rubber field. As a result of his report a British royal commission, headed by him, investigated the situation and brought to light the following facts:

## THREE ZEPPELINS RAID IN ENGLAND

### AIR FLEET SWOOPS UNDER COVER OF DARK NIGHT.

### Incendiary Bombs Dropped in East Counties—Attack Unexpected on Account of Breeze.

## FRENCH LINER CARRIES GUN

### Vessel at New York Armed Only for Defense, Captain Says.

NEW YORK, April 24.—The French Line steamship Rochambeau arrived here today from Bordeaux with a gun mounted on her stern. She is the first French passenger ship to reach this port thus armed.

According to the Rochambeau's commander, Captain Juhau, all French passenger ships plying to the United States will henceforth be armed, but solely for defensive purposes. French freighters will also be armed, said Captain Juhau.

## RURAL CREDITS COMES UP

### Senate Considers Long-Pending Farm-Loan Bill.

WASHINGTON, April 24.—The Senate today considered the long-pending rural credits bill to establish farm loan banks.

## JAPS REPORTED IN FRANCE

### Returned New Yorker Says He Saw Nipponese Troops Entrain.

NEW YORK, April 24.—Fred Coszen, an importer of this city, asserted on his arrival here today aboard the French Line steamship Rochambeau, that he had witnessed the entraining at Marseilles two weeks ago of a force of Japanese soldiers, 200 strong.

## ARMY INCREASING RAPIDLY

### 4699 Enlist in Six Weeks and Net Gain Is More Than 2000.

WASHINGTON, April 24.—While 4699 men have enlisted in the Army since March 15, when Congress authorized an increase of 20,000, Army officials today estimated that the actual net gain has been something over 2000.

## Health Lectures Will Be Heard

Under the auspices of the Naturopathic Health League Dr. H. A. Stockdale will speak on "Exercise," and Dr. Virgil MacMickle will lecture on "The Science of Fastings" at 8 o'clock tonight in room G of Central Library.



## REGISTRATION IS BETTER THAN 1914

### REVISED TALLY SHOWS 77,468 VOTERS IN COUNTY.

### Aggregate Enrollment Two Years Ago Recorded as 75,378, or 2090 Below 1914 Figures.

Optimistic though it was in the face of the discouragement of the early months of registration, the estimate of the total registration by Multnomah County given in The Oregonian by County Clerk Coffey at the closing of the books on April 18 was 528 short of the final total.

The total registration before the primaries for 1916 is 77,468. The Oregonian estimate was 76,940. The final total, far from being below the total at the close of 1914 pre-primary registration, as was predicted, exceeds that of 1914 by 2090 registrations. The total in 1914 was 75,378.

## CHARGES OF STRIKERS IS LED

### Westinghouse Company Guard Helpless in Fight.

## HOT WATER STREAM USED

### Two Are Injured in Fray After Meeting Is Broken Up, but Even Rioters Deny Knowledge of Identity of Modern Joan.

## BRITISH STEAMSHIP SUNK

### Parisiana, En Route to America, Is U-Boat Victim; Crew Landed.

## ALAMO HEROES HONORED

### Lone Star Flag of Texas Flies Over Historic Independence Hall.

## COCAINE CACHE IS FOUND

### Drug, Valued at \$5000, Stored in United States Army Transport.

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- Report of Conference Awaited. The State Department tonight was awaiting a dispatch from Mr. Gerard reporting the results of a lengthy conference today with Dr. Von Bethmann-Hollweg, Imperial Chancellor. Press dispatches announcing that the conference had taken place were closely read. Officials expressed interest in the report in that part of the press reports which indicated that the reply to the American note would not be made until after the Chancellor has another opportunity to confer with the Emperor, who is at the front. The fact that the conference lasted more than an hour was regarded as being a hopeful sign, it being pointed out that if the German government was disposed not to meet the American demands, it was improbable there would have been a discussion of such length. A report from Mr. Gerard is expected tomorrow.
- Dispatches All Confidential. All of Mr. Gerard's dispatches received since the present situation arose are held by Administration officials to be of a highly confidential nature. Consequently only a general knowledge of their contents is obtainable.
- MISSISSIPPI BREAKS DIKE. Thousands of Acres Flooded and Some Farmhouses Caught. LACROSSE, Wis., April 24.—Three hundred feet of the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad at East Winona was carried away by the rise of the Mississippi River Sunday and water rushed over thousands of acres of land and inundated several farm homes on the Wisconsin side of the river.
- Snow Heavy at Crater Lake. KLAMATH FALLS, Or., April 24.—(Special.)—H. E. Molyer, assistant superintendent of Crater Lake National Park, reports nine feet of snow at the rim of the lake, which is double the amount there at this time last year. He says that thus far this year there have been 69 winters registered at headquarters.