

OREGON TROOPS GET BIG WELCOME HOME

Family Reunions Take Place at Depot.

MEN GO ON TO VANCOUVER

Returned Soldiers Will Parade Here This Afternoon.

PUBLIC RECEPTION TONIGHT

Members of Troop and Battery Greeted All Along Line After Entering State—Muster-Out Will Soon Take Place.

HOW PORTLAND WILL WELCOME RETURNED TROOPS FROM BORDER TODAY.

Parade this afternoon starting from Armory at 2:15. Patriotic organizations and civic bodies will serve as escort. State, county and city officials will review parade from stand on Central Library steps.

Line of march—South on Eleventh to Alder, east on Alder to Broadway, south on Broadway to Yamhill, east on Yamhill to Sixth, north on Sixth to Washington, east on Washington to Third, north on Third to Pine, west on Pine to Broadway, south on Broadway to Washington, west on Washington to Tenth, south on Tenth to Taylor, west on Taylor to Eleventh.

Between close of parade and 6:30 visiting with relatives and friends will be enjoyed by troops. Banquet at Multnomah Hotel at 6:30, followed by reception. Dance at Multnomah Hotel at 9 o'clock.

Fit as fiddlers, sun-burned and sturdy, the last Oregon troops to leave the Mexican border, Troop A and Battery A, reached Portland from the South yesterday morning.

At the Union Depot wives, mothers and sweethearts opened wide their arms and hugged the returned troops to their bosoms. Many a fervent kiss resounded beneath the gloomy old train sheds, and the usually dull place was enlivened as seldom before. Men relatives and friends gripped the hands of the returned soldiers hard, and made their greetings warm.

Soldiers Get Dainties.

Sandwiches, coffee, doughnuts, apples and other dainties were served to the soldiers in the train yards, and packages of good things were given the soldiers, that when the troop trains pulled out for Vancouver Barracks the men were well supplied.

Two special troop trains, bringing the men, their horses and equipment, and 180 Washington troops, reached the Union Depot just before 8 o'clock yesterday. The scheduled stop of one hour was lengthened to two, to give the men a chance to visit with the home folks. It was 10 o'clock before the buglers sounded "assembly," and the train pulled out for Vancouver.

Parade This Afternoon.

This afternoon the Oregon and Washington troops will return to the city and will parade through the principal streets at 2:15. Tonight they will be guests of honor at a big banquet spread for them at the Multnomah Hotel. This will be followed by a public reception and dance.

When the two mixed trains bringing home the brigade guardsmen pulled to the Depot yards yesterday morning, it was a welcome sight to hundreds of waiting relatives and friends. Many an eye was moist as loved ones were greeted. There were many expressions of thankfulness that the soldiers reached home safe and sound, and everyone of them probably better off physically than when they left, and all agreed that the training has been a decided benefit.

Big milk cans full of steaming coffee, great quantities of sandwiches and doughnuts and boxes of dried Oregon apples were taken to meet the troop trains by the joint committee of the troop and battery auxiliaries, and complete justice was done to the spread by the soldiers. But every family that hosted a member of either of those organizations was not content to allow their boy to take a chance on the rations running short, so they brought additional dainties, and there was more than sufficient for all.

Reception is Happy One.

The morning greeting of the guardsmen was a remarkably big and happy reception. Mayor Albee, of the Police Band were there, the former to welcome the boys to the city and the latter to supply music that gladdened the heart. Mrs. Eva Patterson was head of the joint auxiliary committee of welcome that supplied the edibles. One of the happiest of the returning soldiers yesterday was Sergeant P. E. Penman, of Troop A, who was greeted by a young baby he had never seen. Sergeant Penman pitched camp at Balboa Park, San Diego, on July 3 last, and the story arrived at his home in Portland on July 14.

But every face yesterday was (Concluded on Page 9, Column 2.)

WEBFEET PECULIAR TO OREGON STATE

SCIENTIST PROVES RELATION ACTUALLY EXISTS.

Theory Demonstrated by Difference in Size of Feet of Frogs of South and North.

BERKELEY, Cal., Feb. 12.—(Special.)—That there actually is a relation between webfootedness and life in Oregon has been scientifically demonstrated by the University of California. Here is the way it was proved:

Three hundred and seventy toads of one species from the University of California museum of vertebrate zoology were examined by Charles Lewis Camp. Of the hundreds of species which came from the region between Tia Juana on the south and Orville and the Cusiala River in Sonoma County on the north, all were found to have comparatively small hind feet, the spread from the end of the first toe to the tip of the fifth toe being usually less than 25 per cent of the total body length.

But toads of this same species from Oregon, Washington and Vancouver Island, and also those from the region between Suisun and Eureka and the northern boundary of California were found to have a remarkably greater development of webfootedness, the hind feet being larger, and when expanded stretching out for a distance of more than one-third as great as the total body length.

So marked is the difference that for more than half a century those toads of a relatively greater webfootedness had been regarded by scientists as a perfectly distinct species.

Now, however, Mr. Camp has demonstrated that all of these toads are of a single species, with the webfooted amphibians dominating the north.

POTATO BOYCOTT BEGUN

Wisconsin Women Will Eat No Tubers Until Price Declines.

MONROE, Wis., Feb. 14.—Women of this city who conferred on the high cost of living decided today that they will institute a potato fast unless the price of tubers declines by the end of this week. It is proposed to abstain from potatoes until the price recedes. The women declare that in blockaded Germany 60 pounds of potatoes can be bought, if any are available for 75 cents, while in Wisconsin, one of the greatest potato-raising states in the Union, consumers are paying four times that price.

SUFFRAGE BILL IS PASSED

Measure Giving Vote for President Is Up to Ohio Governor.

COLUMBUS, Ohio, Feb. 14.—The Ohio State Senate today passed a bill giving women the privilege of voting for President.

The bill already has passed the House and Governor Cox has intimated he will sign it.

INDEX OF TODAY'S NEWS

The Weather.

YESTERDAY'S—Maximum temperature, 47 degrees; minimum, 33 degrees.

TODAY'S—Fair, with winds.

Legislatures.

Orrin's teachers' bill passes House. Page 7.

Bill is passed placing grant lands on tax rolls. Page 6.

Insurance code now ready for Governor's signature. Page 7.

Senate passes bill to stop petition fraud. Page 8.

Olympic Senate passes bone-dry bill, 33 to 8. Page 6.

Fighting fight breaks out again in House. Page 7.

Submarines.

Submarine sinks American ship. Page 3.

Ex-Ambassador von Bernstorff says. Page 3.

China expected to join entente. Page 1.

Wilson preparing to ask Congress for authority to protect Americans before they are attacked. Page 1.

British officials say submarine terror is phantom. Page 2.

War.

British Minister pays tribute to Americans of Belgian Relief Commission. Page 3.

Mexico.

Four Americans held for ransom by Villa bandits. Page 4.

National.

Cuban revolt spreads; Lansing sends another warning. Page 2.

Domestic.

All women evicted from San Francisco red-light district. Page 13.

Science proves webfeet are peculiar to Oregon. Page 1.

Sports.

Beavers sail for Honolulu. Page 14.

Baseball strike definitely called off. Page 14.

Donny White wants one more trial with majors. Page 14.

Pacific Northwest.

Four officers of trading company guilty of fraud. Page 8.

B. L. Steeves elected president of board of regents of Willamette University. Page 1.

Commercial and Marine.

Good demand from East for wheat for prompt shipment. Page 13.

Traffic demoralization in East weakens Chicago wheat market. Page 19.

Stock trading professional with last prices lowest. Page 19.

Harbor at Municipal Dock No. 2 being deepened. Page 18.

Portland and Vicinity.

Columbia Interstate bridge formally opened. Page 1.

Speakers at Laymen's Missionary Movement large attach vision for P. O. Oregon troops warmly welcomed. Page 1.

WILSON PREPARING TO ACT DEFINITELY

Shocking Disaster May Not Be Awaited.

MOVE WILL BE DELIBERATE

Congress to Be Asked for Authority to Protect Lives.

DEFENSE COUNCIL ACTIVE

Action as to Arming of Merchant Vessels Not Decided On, Desire Still Being to Give Germany No Excuse.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 14.—The steady accumulation of violations of American rights by Germany made it appear possible today that President Wilson would go before Congress to ask authority for further protecting lives and property without waiting for a serious disaster which might shock the country.

There were no indications, however, that he believed the time for such a step had come, and it again was said authoritatively that he would move deliberately and with full appreciation of all the consequences involved.

Tension Only Slightly Increased.

Official reports of the sinking of the American schooner Lyman M. Law in the Mediterranean by an Austrian submarine added only slightly to the tension for while the act is believed to have been illegal, no lives were lost and the vessel apparently was warned. The incident was not looked upon as one itself sufficient to hurry the development of the situation.

Preliminary reports began coming to Government departments showing the piling up about the Atlantic seaboard of goods destined for export to European ports. No serious effect from this condition will be felt, however, until lapse of sufficient time for ships remaining in American ports to have gone to Europe and return.

Industrial Life Threatened.

While only approximately 10 per cent of American commerce with Europe is carried on American ships, the sailings of vessels of other nationalities in many instances have either been cancelled or postponed, and therefore the result of the ruthless submarine campaign in time will result in far-reaching disturbance of the industrial life of the United States.

Preparations by the Government for any eventualities still are going forward without interruption. Much importance is attached to the work of the Council of National Defense, which is holding daily sessions for the purpose of obtaining at first hand from Americans of experience information as to what provision must be made to coordinate American resources. E. S. Stettinius, of J. P. Morgan & Co., New York, was again before the Council today, furnishing information gained (Concluded on Page 2, Column 4.)

B. L. STEEVES HEADS WILLAMETTE BOARD

UNIVERSITY TRUSTEES FIND REQUEST MAY BE \$100,000.

All Members of Faculty Are Re-elected for Another Year—G. F. Johnson Is Vice-President.

Dr. B. L. Steeves, of Salem, was elected president of the board of trustees of Willamette University to succeed the late T. S. McDaniel at a meeting of the board held in Portland Tuesday at the First Methodist Episcopal Church. Dr. Steeves has been vice-president of the board. A member to fill the vacancy was not chosen.

G. F. Johnson, of Portland, for several years a member of the board, was elevated to the vice-presidency to succeed Dr. Steeves.

A preliminary canvass of the request to Willamette University as residuary legatees of the late A. E. Eaton, of Union, Or., indicates that Willamette University will receive probably as high as \$100,000 instead of \$33,000, as originally estimated.

The only other business of importance transacted was the election for another year of all members of the Willamette faculty.

Among those present were Dr. Steeves, Dr. J. W. McDougall, of Spokane, formerly of Portland; Dr. Wallace Shipworth, of Hillsboro; Rev. A. R. McLean, of Portland; Rev. Walter Lee Althart, of Portland; Rev. Robert Brumblay, of Spokane; R. A. Booth, of Eugene; A. B. Lee, Dr. Moore, of Eugene; Burgess Ford and Rev. Nathan Evans, of The Dalles.

RUSSIANS DIE OF PLAGUE

Epidemic Sweeps One Province, Says Berlin Report.

BERLIN, Feb. 14.—(By wireless to Sayville, N. Y.)—Reports of an epidemic in Rostov-on-the-Don have been published in Russian newspapers, according to information received in Copenhagen, says the Overseas News Agency.

"Despite the deletions of the censor, it is evident that the epidemic has spread through the whole government of Telerostovskiy and has caused the death of a tremendous number of victims," says the agency. "Physicians are unable to identify the plague. The bodies of its victims are covered with boils."

FARM LOAN WARNING OUT

Federal Board Unfavorable to Bodies Organized for Profit.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 14.—The Federal Farm Loan Board today issued a warning to farmers against persons reported to be organizing farm loan associations for the sake of private profits.

"Any association which gives evidence of having been organized for purposes of private profit will be given very careful scrutiny before a charter is granted," said the Board's statement.

POPE PLANS NEW MOVE

Appeal to Be Made to Neutrals to Act Jointly for Peace.

LONDON, Feb. 14.—According to an Exchange Telegraph message from The Hague, it is reported from Munich that the Vatican has informed the Nuncio at Munich that the Pope contemplates an appeal to all neutral governments to take joint action in favor of peace.

Opponents Are Appeared.

House bill 599 passed by a vote of 23 to 5. Senators Olson, Hawley and Lewis championed the measure, and but little opposition developed.

House bill No. 21, by Bean and Barrett, authorizing issuance of bonds up to \$1,800,000 necessary to match any portion of the Federal fund not otherwise provided for.

The House bill increasing salaries of Multnomah County Commissioners from \$1800 to \$1900 went through the Senate by a close shave, having just the necessary 16 votes.

Senator Farrell's bill limiting the Portland School Board to a tax levy of 6 mills passed the Senate without opposition.

Still another important measure passed by the Senate was the Gordon House bill amending the law to safeguard initiative petitions against fraud.

The House today passed some of the most important measures proposed at this session. Principal among them were Representative Bean's bill authorizing the County Assessors to restore the Oregon & California grant lands to the tax rolls regardless of the status of the pending legislation; the military code, the trust company code, the certificate of convenience bill and the fire marshal bill.

The House also passed Senator Orrin's bill amending the teachers' tenure of office as it applies to Portland.

Senator Gill's bill removing the dead-line on commercial fishing in the Willamette River from the suspension bridge in Oregon City to Stony Rock passage also went through the House after a little debate.

The House engaged in another sensational fight over fishing rights in the Rogue River. The fisheries committee presented a divided report on Senator Smith's bill extending the season for commercial operations at Grants Pass. Representative Thomas and Speaker Stanfield clashed. The Representative favored the bill unamended as adopted.

Representative Gordon's bill creating a Public Revenue Commission near Multnomah County also was passed. It gives the Commission power to fix the tax rate and pass on appropriations.

ROADS LEGISLATION RUSHED IN SENATE

Emergency Bond Issue Bill Passed.

AUTOMOBILE TAX IS DOUBLED

Sentiment for \$7,900,000 Bond Issue Crystallizes.

OBJECTIONS WIPED OUT

Study of Olson's Constructive Highway Programme Leads Legislators to Turn to It as Means of Aiding State.

SALEM, Or., Feb. 14.—(Special.)—Good roads legislation went through with a rush in the Senate today when House bill 21, by Bean and Barrett, and 509 by the House highway committee, passed the upper body. House bill 509 provides for doubling the automobile tax after August 1, this year, and converting the funds so raised into a state fund to be used in matching the Federal aid in the Shackleford act.

House bill 21 provides for an emergency bond issue of \$1,800,000, the funds to be raised to match the Federal road fund only in event money is available from no other sources.

It is noticeable that the two bills dovetail in well with the programme outlined for the larger bond issue of \$7,900,000, which is proposed in the bills of Senator Olson, which also will be introduced in the House.

Bond Issue Precedent Set.

No conflict is found in the proposals and in addition, by the passage of the Bean-Barrett measure, the Legislature, for the first time in its history, has committed itself to a programme of bonding the state. By the passage of that act it seems apparent from the talk heard that few legislators will object to the larger bond issue on the broad ground that they are unconstitutional as to bond issues, when the body already is committed to such a programme.

The necessity for the use of a portion of such bond issue also seems to arise on the face of the figures presented under the terms of the Shackleford act. The state, on July 1, 1918, will need to raise \$91,650 if it meets the Federal aid provisions, and with \$220,000 raised from the millage tax will be \$271,000 shy of the amount this arises largely from the fact that the provisions of House bill No. 509 relative to the automobile tax do not become effective until August 1, and as a result the \$150,000 net to be raised on vehicle taxes for this year before August 1 will go back to the counties under the present law.

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CHINA IS EXPECTED TO JOIN ENTENTE

PROTEST REGARDED AS PRELUDE TO PART IN WAR.

Japan Promises Support, Including Maintenance of Order Where German Influence Prevails.

TOKIO, Tuesday, Feb. 13.—In connection with the Japanese approval, now confirmed, of China's action in supporting the attitude of the United States toward Germany on the submarine question, it is further stated that Japan has promised China all possible support, including the maintenance of order in China, where German influence is considerable.

China's protest to Germany, says the Japan Times, may be taken as a prelude to China's eventual participation in the war on the side of the entente. Japan's special rights and interests in the Far East, adds the newspaper, have been affirmed by the entente.

KIDNAPED GIRL IS HUNTED

White Child Disappears From Home After Being Found Once.

DETROIT, Feb. 14.—Private detectives were today searching negro boarding-houses in Detroit for 11-year-old Marjorie DeBridges, a white girl from Chicago, who has been missing since January 26. She was found here yesterday at the home of Enoch Taylor, a negro. She disappeared last night from the Taylor house, and, according to Mrs. Taylor, was taken to Canada.

The DeBridges girl, daughter of an actress, was reared in Chicago by a negro woman named Mrs. Camilla Jackson. Mrs. Taylor denied that she knew Mrs. Jackson, and said that a white woman brought the girl to her house, after "a friend" had called up and arranged for a room.

MINES TO BE TAKEN OVER

British Board of Trade to Create New Department.

LONDON, Feb. 14.—The Board of Trade will take possession of the coal mines throughout the kingdom for the duration of the war, according to an announcement made today.

It will create a new department for the administration of the mines, headed by Guy Calthrop, now general manager of the London & North-Western Railway, as controller.

SWISS GO ON RATIONS

Use of Illuminating Gas Curtailed to Save Coal.

BERNE, Switzerland, via Paris, Feb. 14.—Meatless days, sugar cards, rice cards and restricted hotel menus are being resorted to by the Swiss government.

Foodstuffs are becoming more scarce as a result of the new naval blockade. Measures are being taken to reduce everywhere the use of illuminating gas to save coal.

Yesterday in the Legislature.

The Senate sustained its reputation for putting freak bills to sleep without wasting time, paused just long enough yesterday to laugh and then snuffed out the anti-snuff bill that had come over from the House. It was one of eight bills killed and 32 passed in the course of a busy day.

Among the important bills passed in the Senate were the House measure doubling automobile licenses so as to provide a fund to match the Shackleford Federal road fund, and the Bean-Barrett bill authorizing issuance of bonds up to \$1,800,000 necessary to match any portion of the Federal fund not otherwise provided for.

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COLUMBIA SPAN IS FORMALLY OPENED

Dream of Half Century Is Realized.

PORTLAND-VANCOUVER LINKED

Traffic Starts With Brilliant Ceremony on Bridge.

THOUSANDS ATTEND AFFAIR

Old Ferryboat Toots Last Mournful Salute as Gala Day Crowds Begin to Surge Across Big \$1,700,000 Structure.

With brilliant formality, the Interstate bridge yesterday swung into its niche in the great scheme of commercial and industrial development of the Northwest.

Oregon extended a big, brotherly hand to Washington, and Portland welcomed with open arms her old neighbor, Vancouver. They all fell into each other's ardent embrace, happy over the final realization of an improvement that had been a dream for a half century or more.

Thousands Enjoy Gala Day.

Oregon was out thousands strong and Washington in equal thousands. Together they made a gala day of the opening. Fred Clark and about on every side except on board of the old ferry-boat which has plover a troublesome course over the river, struggling for years to keep pace with the onward march of development and growth. It tooted a mournful salute to the cheering thousands crowded on the bridge as two little girls pulled apart a ribbon bow that opened the bridge to traffic.

Ceremonies on Lift Span.

The formal opening was on the lift span near the Vancouver side. Two girls, the daughters of officials of Multnomah County, pulled apart the ribbon and dropped a rope that separated the surging crowds from Portland and Vancouver and Washington on the other. At the same time Mayor Albee, of Portland, shook hands with Mayor Evans, of Vancouver, Governor Withycombe, of Oregon, shook hands with ex-Governor Moore, of Washington, and to the strains of "The Star-Spangled Banner" by the Portland Police Band, flags were hoisted to the tops of the lift span.

With the making of the official link between the two states the bridge was opened to traffic. The Vancouver crowds, including about 200 automobiles and other vehicles, moved over the bridge into Oregon, and the Oregon contingent, with upwards of 300 automobiles, moved into Vancouver.

Programme Follows Parade.

Following a parade through the streets of Vancouver a dedicatory programme was carried out in Vancouver Park. City, county and state officials of both states and officials and others who have had a part in the bridge building in one way and another, and the speakers. Music was furnished by the Portland Police Band and by Mrs. Fred L. Olson, of Portland.

The bridge opening ceremony was conducted promptly at the scheduled hour of 12:30. At 11:15 more than 100 automobiles with Portland and Oregon people assembled in Sixth street in front of the Portland Hotel. The cars were all lavishly decorated with American flags and the Police Band rendered several lively selections. Headed by the band a parade moved north on Sixth street.

A special car was on hand to take the band. The procession of automobiles headed by city, county and state officials moved over Broadway bridge to Broadway and Union avenue, where more than 100 other decorated automobiles joined in. They went directly to the south