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**OREGON WINS FIRST
RED CROSS HONORS****State Leads U. S. in
Drive for Members.****30 PER CENT QUOTA FILLED****Campaign of Elks Big Factor
in Success.****MORROW COUNTY CHAMPION****Challenge to Entire Nation to Equal
Record of 175 Per Cent of Allot-
ment Has Disclosed No Show-
ing of Equal Distinction.**

Oregon has gone "over the top" with 240,000 new members of the American Red Cross. This is more than 30 per cent of the entire population of Oregon. It is probable that final returns will bring this figure to 250,000 members.

Unofficial reports from division headquarters at Seattle indicate that Oregon's record in the membership drive is ahead of that attained by any other state in the Union.

The final showing made by Oregon can be attributed to the outside counties and to the patriotic drive carried out last night by Portland Lodge, No. 142, B. P. O. Elks.

Double on 15 Basis.

With 15,000,000 Red Cross members enrolled throughout the Nation, the average for each state is 15 per cent of its population. Oregon has thus made twice as good a showing as that of the average state.

Morrow County leads the state of Oregon with 175 per cent of its quota, based on 30 per cent of its population. 2425 members over a quota of 1500, or 63 per cent of its population of 1900.

Challenge Left Unanswered.

Morrow County's telegraphed challenge to National headquarters of the American Red Cross for any other county in the country to equal this performance, is as yet unanswered. The latest reports were that no other state could equal either Morrow County's showing or that made by the state of Oregon.

The quotas for all the Northwestern states and for Alaska were 15 per cent of the population. No other state to the entire division, including Oregon, Washington, Idaho and Montana, has attained this quota. Washington probably comes nearest to it.

Patriotism Basis of Estimate.

The quotas were fixed in different parts of the United States by the 17 division campaign committees of the American Red Cross, and varied in the different sections according to the estimate placed upon the patriotism of the population.

That Oregon alone of all the states in the 30 per cent division has attained its quota is regarded as constituting one of the most remarkable records yet attained by this state in its patriotic endeavors.

In the table published here an estimate of 3250 members is made, which is one-half the estimate made by counties of their members yet to be reported, but not reported officially.

Elks Credited With 10,000.

An estimate of 10,000 members is made for the Elks' drive in Portland, and C. T. Haas, Elks chairman, asserts this is far too conservative, especially in view of the fact that at an early hour last night almost 5000 members had been listed at Elks headquarters, and the main drive of the evening had not begun.

Should the Elks reach their estimate of 20,000 members, Portland will be 100 per cent, or one-third of its population. Allowing only 10,000 for the result of the Elks' drive, Portland has a standing of 30 per cent.

St. Paul Alone Responds.

Just what this showing is when compared with cities of the same size may be gauged from the fact the total number of members last night in St. Paul was 40,000, or less than one-half the Portland total. The campaign committee sent out telegrams to all cities in the Portland class, asking for their figures, but St. Paul was the only one to respond. Campaign headquarters takes this as an added proof that no city in the Portland class can compare with the Portland showing.

Seattle apparently has a few more members than Portland, yet when it is considered that its campaign began a month before Portland, its showing is not so fine, nor does it make so good a showing on a percentage basis.

Outside of Portland, Umatilla County heads the state numerically, with Lane County a close second. Umatilla County is the second county in the state.

Only One County Fails.

Twenty Oregon counties out of 36 made or more than made their quotas, as represented by 30 per cent of the population, but on the basis of the 15 per cent quota, which seems to have been general in the United States, every county in Oregon save Jefferson, which is severely handicapped by bad crops and other hardships, has made, or more than made, the quota.

With their last report, the "people of Morrow County" telegraphed: "Our remarkable showing due entirely to the self-sacrificing patriotism of the citizens of Morrow County, who have worked unceasingly since the opening of the campaign, and especially to me."

(Continued on Page 14, Column 1.)

**MR. WILSON VISITOR
AT SHIPPING BOARD****PLANS FOR SPEEDING UP WORK
PLEASE PRESIDENT.****Chairman Hurley Announces Ar-
rangements for Providing
Additional Laborers.**

WASHINGTON, Dec. 31.—President Wilson today paid a personal visit to the offices of the Shipping Board and conferred for half an hour with Chairman Hurley. He left apparently well pleased with the way affairs are going. Mr. Hurley outlined to the President the Board's plans for speeding construction by putting into shipyards double and triple labor shifts and other measures for hurrying the work. The Board has just arranged for installing electric lighting systems in all yards to make night work possible and is about to start its campaign for obtaining additional labor from other industries.

The board will use the services of the committee on information's four-minute men who, speaking in theaters in all the industrial centers, will urge men to enter the shipyards to render patriotic service to the Government.

A committee of six experts will be sent by the board to the Pacific Coast yards to study means of speeding construction. Three of its members will be construction experts and three will be practical shipbuilders.

HARDY SURPRISES JAPS**Member of Perry Expedition in
1853 Turns Somersault at Dinner.**

TOKIO, Dec. 31.—W. H. Hardy, of Portland, Or., an 82-year-old American sailor, the sole survivor of Commodore Perry's expedition to Japan in 1853, who now is revisiting Japan, recently surprised Japanese nobility at a dinner by turning a somersault to elate their concern for his well-being. Hardy continues to be lionized by all classes, high and low. His years rest on his lightly, and thus far he has been able to keep up a steady succession of lectures, interviews and sermons, in which he joins the reminiscences of his visit with Perry's fleet to a simple earnest plea for a warm friendship today between America and Japan.

Reverence for old age is almost instinctive in the East and Mr. Hardy meets with a warm welcome and a sympathetic hearing everywhere. He styles himself "the grandfather of Japan."

COOS HAS NO HOLIDAY**Nearly All Plants to Keep Busy on
Government Orders.**

MARSHFIELD, Or., Dec. 31.—(Special.)—All Coos Bay industries, with the exception of the Coos Bay Shipbuilding Company yard and the Bay Park sawmill, will not observe New Year's day, but will continue work on Government orders.

The plants that will operate are those of the Buehner and North Bend Mill & Lumber Company at North Bend; the Kruse & Banks shipyard, of North Bend; and the two C. A. Smith mills, at Bunker Hill and Bay City. The Bay Park mill is closed for repairs.

PARTIES NEARLY BALANCED**House Alignment Shows 209 Repub-
licans and 211 Democrats.**

WASHINGTON, Dec. 31.—How close the political balance in the House will be when Congress reconvenes on January 3 is shown by this summary made by South Trimble, clerk of the House:

Total membership, 435; Democrats, 211; Republicans, 209; Independents, 6; vacancies, 8.

The vacancies are by resignations, deaths and absence on Army service.

HOLY CITY WELL GUARDED**Britons Have Four Positions Be-
tween Enemy and Jerusalem.**

LONDON, Dec. 31.—The British now have four strong positions interposed between the enemy and Jerusalem instead of the one that existed before the recent serious Turkish attempt, with German assistance, to retake the city, says today's War Office statement on the Palestine operations.

The British advance scored northwest of Jerusalem in these operations represents a gain of seven miles.

BOLSHEVIKI ARMY ROUTED**Ukrainians and Cossacks Win Great
Battle, Taking Prisoners, Guns.**

STOCKHOLM, Dec. 31.—Ukrainian and Cossack forces in a great battle on the southwestern front have defeated Bolshevik troops, taking 400 prisoners and capturing eight big guns and 325 machine guns, according to a dispatch received by the Dagens Nyheter from Petrograd by way of Haparanda. The Cossacks are in hot pursuit of the Bolsheviks.

BISHOP'S FIANCEE ARRIVES**Miss Mitchell to Wed Rt. Rev. Wal-
ter T. Sumner.**

CHICAGO, Ill., Dec. 31.—(Special.)—Miss Myrtle Mitchell, of Nagsaunee, Mich., arrived in Chicago today for her wedding tomorrow to Bishop Walter T. Sumner, of Portland, Or. The wedding will take place in the cathedral of St. Peter and Paul, where the bishop was dean for several years. Miss Mitchell is widely known for her philanthropic activities.

**PEACE BY 1920 IS
EDITOR'S FORECAST****H. W. Patton Says Allies
Are Sure of Victory.****SOLDIERS ARE ALL WELL GLAD****Tobacco in Great Demand by
Americans in France.****TRENCH LIFE IS EXCITING****Member of Committee Sent Abroad
to Investigate Conditions De-
clares Kaiser Will Have Little
Voice in Peace Negotiations.**

BY H. W. PATTON.

Seventh and Last Article.

Their account of the trip to the Belgian trenches was thrilling. It seems that in Belgium along the front the water is near the surface, and the trenches are only a couple of feet deep. They are built up with parapets of sandbags. The Hun trenches and those of the Belgians are only about 100 yards apart. The party was divided into three groups, and while one of them in which Congressman Timberlake, of Colorado, who is a very tall man, were passing along a trench, they came to a place where a shell had mowed down a section of the sandbags. They all managed to stoop low enough to escape observation with the exception of Mr. Timberlake, whose head projected above the sandbag, and at whom a Hun sniper took a shot. It was told that the exodus of these Congressmen from the trenches after this shot resembled the celerity with which rats leave a sinking ship.

Bullet Ticks Congressman.

On the boat returning to America Mr. Timberlake was rubbing his ear one day, and I asked him "What was the matter?" "Well," he said, "it is that shot. It did not strike me, and it did not draw blood, but it tickled me and I have been feeling it ever since." Hon. John P. Miller, of Seattle, who was in the party with Mr. Timberlake, told me that he saw the bullet fired from the deadly rifle of the Hun strike, and that it hit a sandbag at least 150 feet from Mr. Timberlake.

Social Engagements Canceled.

After I joined the party we embarked for England, arriving at London that night. The members of the party were tired, and some of them almost exhausted. Before going to France numerous social engagements had been arranged, including a tea to be given by Mrs. Carnegie, wife of the canon of Westminster; a dinner at the American Officers' Club, and a series of speeches to be made by the Congressmen in outlying English towns. As a boat was to sail for the United States the next day, all these engagements were canceled.

(Continued on Page 4, Column 1.)

**RESOURCES EQUAL
TO WAR DEMANDS****TRADE BALANCE SHOWS NATION
HAS PLENTY OF SINKS.****Exports for Year Total Six Billions.
Imports Less Than Three Billions.
Much Gold Is Sent Abroad.**

WASHINGTON, Dec. 31.—America's exports were estimated today at the Department of Commerce to have passed the \$6,000,000,000 mark in 1917, a new high record. Imports were less than \$3,000,000,000 and the trade balance in favor of the United States probably will be more than \$3,150,000,000.

The country's gold supply showed less increase than last year because of the substitution of credits for cash in handling allied purchases after the United States entered the war. Imports of gold in March amounted to \$129,000,000, but in November were less than \$3,000,000. The total for the year was estimated at \$537,000,000, compared with \$686,000,000 in 1915.

Exports of gold showed a heavy increase over the preceding 12 months, due chiefly to the large movement to Japan, Spain and South American countries. The total was estimated at \$374,000,000, compared with \$155,000,000 last year.

The trade balance of more than \$2,000,000,000 with the country at war was regarded by officials as the best evidence that this country has the economic resources necessary to defeat Germany.

JANITOR HELD SLANDERER**Alleged Charge Against Red Cross
Is Being Investigated.**

Because, it is alleged, he slandered the Red Cross while employed at his duties as janitor at the Courthouse, Charles Swanson is under investigation by both the Federal and county authorities. Swanson is said to have characterized the Red Cross as a "craft and crooked."

Attention of the County Commissioners was called to the janitor's alleged statements yesterday by Deputy United States Attorney Goldstein, who asked that Swanson at least be severely reprimanded. The County Commissioners ordered a full investigation of the affair before taking any definite action.

SPRING FLOWERS IN BLOOM**Cove Has Most Remarkable Season
in History.**

COVE, Or., Dec. 31.—(Special.)—Cove's oldest inhabitant never witnessed a Spring season in the month of December until now.

Fruit trees and shrubs are on the verge of bursting into leaf. April and May bulbs and flowers are here, and daisies and pansies and other garden flowers have not ceased blooming. Orchards are alarmed for the safety of the fruit crop. So open has been the Fall weather throughout, so abundant the growing grass on meadow and range, holders of hay for prospects of \$40 a ton are offering freely at \$15.

(Continued on Page 2, Column 1.)

DAVID AND GOLIATH.**VANCOUVER GETS
STANDIFER PLANT****PLACE TO BUILD \$17,000,000
WORTH OF SHIPS CHOSEN.****Port Options 50 Acres and Bond
Election Called—Plant Will Cost
\$1,000,000, Employing 5000.**

VANCOUVER, Wash., Dec. 31.—(Special.)—The great steel shipyards of the G. M. Standifer Construction Corporation will be located in Vancouver, below the North Bank Railroad bridge. The company already has contracted to build 10 steel ships of 9500 tons each for the United States Government, at a total cost of \$17,000,000. This contract is more than \$1,000,000 greater than the assessed valuation of Clarke County.

Options were closed today for about 50 acres and immediately afterwards a special election was called for Wednesday, January 16, to vote on a proposal to bond the Port of Vancouver for \$250,000 to pay for the land. This site will be leased to the G. M. Standifer Construction Corporation for a nominal consideration.

The plant will cost more than \$1,000,000 to build and work on the construction will begin soon.

It is said that at least 5000 men will be employed by this big concern and it is believed that the population of the city will reach 25,000 within two years.

The G. M. Standifer Construction Corporation has its main offices in Vancouver and is now building six ships here, each of 3500 tons deadweight, in addition to four more ships in North Portland which will be completed and outfitting in this city.

POTATO TO HELP WIN WAR**Dependable Spud on Every Table
Every Day Is Programme.**

WASHINGTON, Dec. 31.—The Irish potato on every table in America every day in the year is the object of a campaign begun today by the United States Food Administration. Grocers will be asked to inaugurate a "potato day" each week, selecting whatever day is slack in deliveries and making a special price.

"Germany's wise use of potatoes helps her hold out against the allies," the Food Administration says, in urging that the enemy's own methods be turned against him.

PAUL DAVIS IS SHORTER**Greek, Naturalized, Casts Aside
Name Given by His Parents.**

There's one man in Portland at least who will appreciate the birth of the new year. He is Paul Davis, a Greek by birth, but now a naturalized American citizen. A few weeks ago he petitioned County Judge Tarswell to have his Greek name changed to Paul Davis. Yesterday the Judge signed a decree granting this petition. As the old year died the new Paul Davis threw the following name which he had carried for 26 years into the discard: "Apostolos Panagiotis Triantafyllou."

ITALIANS LAUD RED CROSS**Queen Helena Telegraphs Committee
Expression of Appreciation.**

ROME, Sunday, Dec. 30.—Queen Helena today telegraphed to the Red Cross committee at Genoa in the name of the King as well as herself, an expression of appreciation of its work in opening a canteen there.

The message says all classes of the people are grateful to the Red Cross and that the desire has been expressed by many to send greetings for the New Year to their benefactors from the United States.

JUDGE ROSSMAN HELPS**Attorneys and Officials Rounded Up
and "Fined" for Good Cause.**

Through the good offices of Lou Wagner, Seneca Felle and Deputy District Attorney Ryan, aided and abetted by Municipal Judge Rossman, the Red Cross is ahead just \$115.

From various "victims" before him, including some attorneys, Judge Rossman extracted through fines that sum of money, which he ordered turned over to the Red Cross yesterday afternoon. All of the persons fined paid willingly and seemed glad of the opportunity to help such a worthy cause.

SQUIRRELS SEEN IN BAKER**Lilac and Cherry Tree Buds Swell
in Springlike Weather.**

BAKER, Or., Dec. 31.—(Special.)—Declaring that Eastern Oregon has never experienced as mild weather in December as it is now having, F. C. Oxman, a Durkee farmer, who was in town today, said: "Farmers are still plowing, squirrels have been seen out, lilac and cherry tree buds are swelling and lawns and meadows are growing. Many of the cattle are still on the range, which is saving thousands of tons of hay."

MILITARY PLANE KILLS 2**H. R. Gladback, Civilian, and Cadet
R. A. Sequin Fall at San Antonio.**

SAN ANTONIO, Tex., Dec. 31.—H. R. Gladback, of Port Wayne, Ind., civilian aviation instructor, and Cadet R. A. Sequin, of Rouse's Point, N. Y., were killed when their machine fell 300 feet this afternoon.

**COLDEST DAY-AT
NEW YORK KILLS 16****Hundreds Prostrated
by Frigid Conditions.****FUEL AND FOOD RUN SHORT****Coal Teamsters Threaten to
Strike for Rise.****GREAT CITY'S POOR SUFFER****Fire Records Broken and Thousands
of Persons Are Forced by Flames
From Their Homes Into
Icy Streets.**

NEW YORK, Dec. 31.—(Special.)—Sixteen dead, hundreds requiring medical attention and thousands suffering acutely because of the lack of sufficient fuel and food. This was the situation in New York City today as a result of the coldest weather ever known in the metropolis.

The Weather Bureau declined to make any definite forecast regarding the approach of higher temperature, but the mercury, after having been blown down to 13 degrees below zero last night made a commendable effort to rise. The best it could do was 8 degrees below.

The biting wind, however, showed signs of diminishing and this was regarded as a hopeful sign.

Coal Supply Dwindling.

Unusually heavy coal consumption by private houses and apartments in combating the zero weather had made such deep inroads in the surplus supply that today a coal famine is impending in this city.

Across the Hudson River are thousands of tons of coal, but the severe weather made its transfer to distributors a matter of extreme difficulty.

Workmen refuse to work in the Arctic temperature, and the few that can be induced to remain are unable to make much headway in thawing out the frozen coal in the cars, transferring it to barges and repeating the thawing out process when the coal reaches this side of the river.

Railway officials at New Jersey terminals said today that there were about 70,000 tons of coal at tide water waiting transportation to the city.

Hundreds in Fuel Line.

Coal merchants kept these places open as relief stations all day yesterday, and many of them all night, to accommodate applicants, who were allotted amounts from 50 pounds to a quarter of a ton. Hundreds of men and women waited hours in the long line to obtain even this scanty amount.

Crowds became so large in front of two North River relief stations the police reserves had to be called to maintain order.

To increase the seriousness of the coal situation, the coal teamsters have threatened to strike for higher wages.

Much Distress Disclosed.

The city officials and charity workers found there was more widespread distress than yesterday, when thousands, enabled by the Sabbath idleness to remain indoors, were forced into the open.

All records for the number of fire alarms answered in a period of 24 hours had been broken early today, when a total of nearly 400 alarms was recorded throughout the greater city.

Thousands of persons were forced into the bitter cold, and the firemen worked under severe handicaps in many cases, due to bursting hose and frozen water plugs.

The biggest blaze raged a freight transfer station of the Long Island Railroad at Sunnyside yards, Long Island, destroying more than \$25,000 worth of Army material destined for cantonment camps. The total damage is estimated at \$200,000.

MILDER WEATHER PREDICTED**Recent Cold on Atlantic Coast Most
Severe Since 1880.**

WASHINGTON, Dec. 31.—Some moderation of the cold wave, beginning (Continued on Page 3, Column 1.)

CARMAN MANUFACTURING**COMPANY TAXED TO
FILL ORDERS.**

One year ago the Carman Manufacturing Company had on its payroll 200 people and disbursed in wages \$14,000 every month. This concern today has 250 employees and its monthly wage roll aggregates \$16,000.

This increase in the number of employees was made necessary the continual operation of its sawmill plant, day and night crews now being employed.

At its Portland plant this company manufactures only the best grade of furniture, the cheaper quality of goods being turned out by its Tacoma factory.

With its present equipment the company finds it impossible to keep up with its orders. The management has decided, consequently, during the year 1918 not only to increase the capacity of its local plant, but to provide additional warehouse facilities as well.