

SOLDIER SETTLERS' BILL GETS APPROVAL

Senators and Representatives in Conference With Secretary.

LANDS TO BE IMPROVED

Authorization Given in Measure to Prepare for Cultivation and Make Loans to Buy Livestock.

OREGONIAN NEWS BUREAU, Washington, May 15.—Tentative approval of a soldier settlers' bill, appropriating money to reclaim lands for homes for returning soldiers was given today at a conference called by Secretary Lane and attended by Representatives Sinnott, chairman of the house public land committee, Mondell, house majority leader and Kincaid, chairman of the house irrigation committee, Senators Smoot and Myers and A. F. Davis, director of the reclamation service.

The bill, which was drafted by Representative Mondell, combines features of numerous bills for this purpose introduced in the last congress. Secretary Lane, by the terms of the bill, is authorized to use public lands and to secure other lands by agreement. The price paid for private lands to be approved by the governor of the state where they are situated and by an appraiser for the farm loan board. The reclamation of the lands and all preparation for cultivation is left to the secretary of the interior. Discharged soldiers to be utilized as much as possible in the conversion of the land. Improvements not to exceed \$1,000 may be provided on each tract of land and a loan not to exceed \$500 is to be made available for each settler for the purchase of livestock. This amount to represent not more than 50 per cent of the value of livestock purchased.

The land is to be sold on a payment of 5 per cent cash and the balance amortized over a period not exceeding 40 years. On improvements a cash payment of 10 per cent is required. The balance in payments covering not more than 20 years. Another feature of the bill is a provision to match funds with the states on reclamation projects, which is of particular interest to Oregon because of the measure being voted on in the state in June which will make \$2,000,000 available for joint projects. All deferred payments draw 4 per cent interest.

In reply to protests from western Oregon that Forest Supervisor Seltz was opposing the highway, E. A. Lennan, acting chief forester, wrote Senator McNary today saying that Mr. Seltz' position was misunderstood. Mr. Lennan wanted it understood that the forest service is heartily supporting the Roosevelt highway project.

Senator Poindexter of Washington took an airplane voyage this afternoon, accompanied by Colonel Hartz, commandant of boiling field. Senator Poindexter, it was learned today, will probably be made a member of the senate foreign relations committee.

Shriners in Oregon will be granted a fare of one and one-third to the convention at Indianapolis in June. Edward Chambers, traffic director for the railroad administration advised Senator McNary today, which reverses a decision of several days ago. The order for the lower rates will be issued at once, effective for all fraternal, religious and educational conventions of national character.

Acting Secretary of the Navy Roosevelt decided today that the proposal to turn the battleship Oregon over to Hill Military academy, Portland, could not be further considered. He told Senator McNary that he expects the state of Oregon to take the ship over after it has been taken out of commission at Bremerton navy-yard.

WOOD CONTENDER IN RACE

(Continued From First Page.)

progressives, or he has the support of the conservatives, but as to Wood it is generally agreed that his support comes from all elements of the republican party. A native of New England, now domiciled in Kansas, he has been able to grab two important objectives, the almost united support of republican New England and the indorsement of leading men of the progressive west.

Senator Lodge, the only other man from New England regarded as a presidential equation, will not be a candidate, which leaves a clear field in that populous corner of the United States to General Wood, a native of New Hampshire, with Major Frank Knox, editor of the Manchester Guardian, singing the general's praises to tunes that are telling. Out in the middle west, Governor Henry J. Allen, of Kansas, popular wherever known and every where known, especially among the soldiers, because he reflects the foresight of Colonel Roosevelt, has removed himself from consideration by declaring that General Wood is his choice. Virtually all of the Roosevelt strength appears to have gone to Wood, which, to use some every day slang, makes the situation "look a little binding."

Indiana Idea Suggestive. In Indiana, friends of Governor Goodrich have thought to promote the latter's chances for getting into the next national republican ballot by proposing the following ticket: For president, Leonard Wood; for vice-president, James P. Goodrich, which shows what

Indiana, the state of shrewd politicians, thinks of the outlook at this time. Instead of there being a score or more of candidates as was indicated only a few weeks ago, the field is reduced to less than a half-dozen. Within the last two or three weeks reports from the east and middle west say that Governor Frank O. Lowden, of Illinois, has moved toward the front to the extent of going somewhat ahead of Senator Harding. Both Harding and Lowden have organizations working energetically in their behalf and Senator James E. Watson, of Indiana, presents a report widely circulated that he is out of the race. Senator Poindexter, of Washington, has an organization going which undoubtedly has made some headway. The Poindexter support, like Watson's, is Wood strength in the last analysis.

Party Harmony in Sight. The sudden slump in the number of republican presidential contestants is accepted generally as an indication that party leaders feel a satisfactory candidate and party harmony can be obtained from the present assortment of candidates.

Just as the republican contest begins to take tangible form, the democrats of the nation find all of their dreams of six months ago disturbed and their plans upset. At that time they had a candidate in the then secretary of the treasury, director-general of railroads and son-in-law of President Wilson, William Gibbs McAdoo, "strong and right at a time when other citizens were being begged to give all of their time and money "till it hurt," Mr. McAdoo grew up his sturdy and important jobs with the shamefully sorry acknowledgment that he could not serve his country for \$12,000 a year because he could not live on that amount.

Mr. McAdoo, who boasted while campaigning for the liberty loan that he wore patches on his trousers and was proud of it, could not live on \$12,000 a year. Think of it.

Ship of State Deserted. He deserted the ship of state just at the period when strong men were needed, such as he was presumed to be, and stepped out for no other published reason than a desire to make money.

The financial condition of the railroads as revealed since his departure for the business world, where he is trying to corral Charlie Chaplin, Mary Pickford, Douglas Fairbanks and other stars of the screen into one giant trust, has perhaps shown the real reason for his decision to get from under.

He disappointed the democratic party and himself, politically, and is regarded as beyond consideration. Government ownership, which he had hoped to make the issue, will not be mentioned by the democratic party in the next campaign, although it is a safe wager that the republicans will have something to say about McAdoo's conduct. The genius of this superman has developed the fading qualities of a certain extinguished monarch across the seas who once claimed partnership with a supreme being, and it is estimated now that an expenditure of several hundred millions of dollars will be required to put the great railroad systems back on something of the stable basis that marked their course before December 30, 1917.

Democratic Leaders Wanting. On the democratic side, therefore, it is a third run for Wilson or the choice of someone else who lacks the advantage of a running start. The striking aspect of this six years of democratic reign, the latter term being used advisedly, is that, notwithstanding the colossal proportions of all the affairs handled, no real leaders have been brought out.

With the single exception of Senator Chamberlain of Oregon, who doubtless will leave his impress upon the history of America's part in this terrible world war by reason of his stubborn refusal to remain silent for party expediency while executive mismanagement and brutal military abuses ran riot, not one democratic name will be perpetuated aside from that of Woodrow Wilson.

Eliminating Mr. Wilson and Mr. Wilson's son-in-law, one could rack his brain all day without gaining even a clue to a possible winning democratic candidate. Champ Clark is out of it because Mr. Wilson will have none of him and because he is referred to as selective draft soldiers as "conscripts" and as on a par with "convicts." Governor Cox of Ohio has some boosters at home but he has nothing to distinguish him as measuring to anything higher than his present job.

Brand Whitlock Socialist. The man now being groomed in some quarters, and especially since General Wood has come to the front on the republican side, is one of whom, it is safe to venture the guess, nobody has ever thought except those who are doing the grooming.

This man, put forward by several individuals prominent in the democratic party as the only hope if Mr. Wilson says no to a third-term nomination, is Brand Whitlock, minister to Belgium, former mayor of Toledo, Ohio, and author, always understood to have been a socialist until he was sent to Belgium as a deserving democrat by the president.

ANGLERS PLAN LAKE CLUB

BUILDINGS WILL BE ERECTED NEAR STEVENSON.

Portland Fishing Enthusiasts Sign for Stock—Membership to Be Limited.

First steps in the formation of what will be known as the Wauna Lake club were taken yesterday at a luncheon given at the Oregon hotel. About 15 of the most prominent anglers of the city will whip the ripples of Wauna lake Sunday, ascertain just how extraordinary it is, and then the new organization will move forward. Among the Portland anglers interested in Wauna lake are listed some of the most prominent banking, business and professional men of the city. Those who have said that they will subscribe to stock are Elliott E. Corbett, Judge Earl C. Bronaugh, E. G. Crawford, Dr. Robert B. Brown, Walter B. Honeyman, Drs. E. B. and R. C. McDaniel, Treve Jones, C. B. Stevens, Floyd Dorris and Dr. E. DeWitt Connell.

Most of them have fished the lake and know its qualities. Wauna lies three miles this side of Stevenson, Wash., on the traditional site of the bridge of the Gods. It is planned to take in 100 members into the club. Each share of stock will cost \$200. The lake will be restocked and a hatchery installed. Not only Portland business men, but San Francisco lovers of angling are interested. A large tract around the lake will be purchased at once and a clubhouse and cottages erected.

SHRINERS GET LOW FARE

Special Rate Granted Lodgers Attending Eastern Session.

Shriners will ride to Indianapolis this year to attend the imperial council a fare of one and one-third the cost of a one way trip ticket. Senator McNary, representing one-

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HOME BUILDING IS PLANNED

Vancouver Business Men Plan to Aid in Financing Construction.

VANCOUVER, Wash., May 15.—(Special.)—A meeting of business and professional men interested in the "Own your home" movement was held in the Commercial club rooms last night. Chairman J. J. Padden of the finance committee reported that sufficient funds had been pledged to insure the success of the movement. The movement to establish federal home loan banks was discussed. The club is not a profit-making venture but organized in the interest of workingmen. The plans contemplate raising about \$50,000 which will be loaned to those contemplating building homes, to be paid back like rent. The committee will submit a definite report on the plans to the Commercial club tonight.

Chehalis Salaries Increased.

CHEHALIS, Wash., May 15.—(Special.)—At the last city commission meeting the Chehalis commissioners voted to raise the salaries of the various city employees from \$5 to \$10 a month each. Albers & Son were awarded a contract for paving an alley from Cascade to North street, in Sunnyside addition, and a contract for paving an alley between Washington and Adams streets went to Elmer Peterson. The former job is for \$1332 and the latter \$918. The Bee-Nugget was made city official paper for the coming year. Support was assured the Chehalis May music festival, May 22 and 23.

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