

Morning Oregonian



COMMISSION TO GO, DECLARES COTT

Fish and Game Interests Held Neglected.

BOARD BICKERING DEPLORED

Governor Issues Statement as to His Intentions.

CLEAN SLATE IS WANTED

Whether Legislature Creates Two Bodies or Not, Present Regime Is Held Impossible.

SALEM, Or., Dec. 29.—(Special.)—Regardless of whether the legislature, at its special session here in January, creates two commissions to handle the game and fish affairs of the state, the present members of the commission are doomed to removal, according to a lengthy statement issued by Governor Ocott today.

In making his decision Governor Ocott said his contemplated action was solely in the interest of game and fish propagation, which under the present regime, he declares, is endangered by squabbles and bickerings which have caused dissatisfaction, distrust and lack of confidence.

Commissioners Must Go.

As explained by the executive, if the legislature follows his recommendations and creates two commissions—one to handle the commercial fishing interests and the other to administer the affairs of hunters and anglers—the terms of the present commissioners will automatically expire. If on the other hand the legislature rejects the recommendations of the governor, he will remove the present commissioners at the termination of the special session.

In connection with his statement, the governor says he has even gone so far as to outline the personnel of the commission in the event the legislature rejects his recommendations and that the men in question are citizens of the highest type—citizens whom the people of the state may trust, men who have a deep interest in the fish and game interests of the state.

Factions to be Avoided.

Because of the fact that the state game warden and master fish warden, respectively, Carl D. Shoemaker and R. E. Clanton, are employed by the fish and game commission considerable speculation attaches to the future of their respective positions. In case the entire present commission is wiped out as proposed in the governor's announcement, it is not improbable that both Mr. Shoemaker and Mr. Clanton will be displaced and succeeded by some persons not at present connected with either faction to the game and fish controversy, according to Capitol gossip.

As to the status of William L. Fisher, deputy state biologist, the governor says a majority of the members of the commission have expressed themselves as opposed to his reinstatement and consequently the incident is closed so far as the commission is concerned.

Clean Slate Necessary.

"Fish and game propagation and conservation cannot be carried to the fullest effectiveness under present inharmonious and unsatisfactory conditions," said the governor today. "There must be a definite ending of squabbles and bickerings which in themselves have caused dissatisfaction, distrust and lack of confidence. Whatever may be the merits of the various controversies, they can be ended in but one way, and that is by wiping the slate clean and starting anew.

"Having studied the situation from all angles, I say I am actuated only by the sincerest and conscientious belief that Oregon's wild life is not receiving the greatest possible benefits.

"As previously announced, I will ask the legislature to create two entirely new commissions, one to supervise the commercial fishing interests and the other to administer affairs for hunters and anglers. Should the legislature see fit not to act upon such suggestions, I shall ask the members of the present commission to resign and immediately a new commission will be appointed.

New Commission Assured.

"Which I intended upon the duties of the governor's office I found the fish and game situation at a boiling point. Charges, counter-charges, recriminations, allegations and counter-allegations, all showed plainly that discussion and strife were marred the effectiveness of the commission's work. These discussions have continued and have shaken public confidence, open-

LEGION FAVORS WAR ON GERMAN OPERAS

STAND OF LOCAL POSTS IS INDOERSED BY NATIONAL BODY.

Effort to Spread Enemy Propaganda Is Discerned in Attempt to Produce Enemy Music.

INDIANAPOLIS, Ind., Dec. 29.—The stand of various posts of the American Legion in opposing performances of German opera and concerts by German or Austrian artists is endorsed by the executive committee of the organization in a telegram sent to the Americanism commission of the legion in Washington today.

The Americanism commission was established at the Minneapolis convention of the legion to combat all anti-American activities or tendencies, to advocate the education of immigrants as prospective American citizens and to inculcate the ideals of Americanism in the citizen population.

The executive committee's telegram follows:

"We do hereby endorse the stand of those American Legion posts and individual members of the legion who have publicly protested against scheduled performances of German opera and public performances by German and Austrian artists who have taken action against enemy sympathizers who were organizing ostensibly for the purpose of affording relief to the civilian population of enemy countries but in reality for the purpose of organizing and spreading anti-American propaganda. We do further commend the actions and attitude of said posts and individual members as being the exemplification of the pronounced policy of the American Legion."

TRIAL COMING FOR WEAK-KNEED ONES

Proposed Anti-Strike Law Promises Ordeal.

HOUSE MEMBERS SHUDDER

Position on Question Vital to Labor Imperative.

PAINFUL SCENE FORECAST

Hope for Compromise on Two Railroad Bills Declared to Be All but Abandoned.

OREGONIAN NEWS BUREAU, Washington, Dec. 29.—Some members of the house are beginning to shudder at having again to state their position on anti-strike legislation. The word that this provision is likely to be thrown back onto the floor was passed out quietly today from the meeting of the senate and house conferees, who are trying to formulate a railroad law from the Esch and Cummins bills, which have passed the house and senate, respectively.

Although the anti-strike provision, which is carried only in the Cummins bill, is to be the last question considered by the conferees, the house members of the conference committee became convinced today that there is no hope of obtaining a compromise. The five senate conferees are Cummins of Iowa, Polinder of Washington and Kellogg of Minnesota, republicans, and Robinson of Arkansas and Pomeroy of Ohio. Every one of them opposed the Stanley amendment to eliminate the anti-strike clause when the bill was in the senate and they have gone into the conference with the same determination not to recede.

House Members Resolute.

Of the house conferees the three republican members, Esch of Wisconsin, Winslow of Massachusetts and Hamilton of Michigan, were originally understood to favor some form of compulsory arbitration in labor disputes, but when the railroad brotherhoods brought pressure to bear on them in committee they yielded promptly and will not vote to accept the Cummins labor provision, whatever may be their personal convictions. Sims of Tennessee and Barkley of Kentucky, the two democratic members, are against any kind of legislation opposed by organized labor.

It has been decided that the conferees shall devote themselves first to composing their differences on provisions less controversial before they go to bat on the anti-strike legislation which is so difficult of agreement.

The result, it was said by one of the members, is as follows:

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BATTLE FOR LIFE IS WATCHED BY TOWN

FIVE OF WRECKED SHIP'S CREW CLINGING TO BRIDGE.

Terrible Sea Runs High Around Survivors, Pounding Refuge Rapidly to Pieces.

HALIFAX, N. S., Dec. 29.—Five survivors of the crew of the Belgian steamer Anton Van Drieff were battling desperately for life tonight on the wreck of their ship which was fast being pounded to pieces on the jagged rocks which guard the entrance to St. Mary's bay, New Foundland. Their only hope was that the wreck, swept incessantly by gigantic icy combers, would hold together until a rescuing steamer from St. Johns was able to reach them. It was a slender hope, for the ill-fated ship had been driven on the rocks at a point where no vessel could approach in safety except in the calmest sea.

All day long the fisher folk from the nearby village of St. Shotts had watched the unequal struggle for life from the tops of the rugged cliffs which frowned down upon the wreck. Swept out of her course by a terrific sea, she was hurled on St. Shotts ledge shortly after 1 o'clock this morning. Boats were immediately launched and promptly dashed to pieces against the cliffs by the mountainous waves.

When morning broke the inhabitants of the little fishing village saw five men clinging desperately to the bridge of the doomed steamer while wreckage and bodies were tossed about in the breakers at the foot of the cliffs.

The steamer ordered from St. Johns to attempt a rescue cannot reach the scene of the wreck before tomorrow morning at the earliest. Reports received here late today from St. Shotts declared that there were only slender chances of the ship holding together throughout the night.

EXPLODING AIR BOMBS DRIVE OFF FIREMEN

ARIZONA FLYING FIELD HAS \$100,000 FIRE.

Two Soldiers Injured by Blowing Up of Gasoline in Machine Shop—Planes Saved.

DOUGLAS, Ariz., Dec. 29.—Fire breaking out in the machine shop of flight A. 56th aero squadron, this afternoon destroyed equipment estimated to be worth \$100,000. All airplanes in proximity to the fire were saved. Firemen were prevented from fighting the flames by the explosion of 250 aerial bombs, as well as gasoline and oil containers.

Chaufeur Anthony Jarbiko and Private Emil Martin were seriously burned by the explosion of gasoline in the machine shop, which started the fire.

The living quarters of the men were destroyed.

The cause of the explosion was a motley Jaroski and Martin were working in the machine shop repairing a motorcycle. Shortly after 2 o'clock they rushed out of the door with their clothing in flames, yelling for help. Men nearby smothered the flames and they were hurried to the hospital at Camp Harry J. Jones where it was said tonight they had a fair chance for recovery.

Members of the flight squadron, led by their officers, attempted to control the flames but without avail, as the machine shop truck was soaked with oil and went up in a flash. The flames communicated themselves to nearby living quarters and to a storehouse in which were 250 aerial bombs. Three aeroplanes which were near the shop were dragged to safety.

All efforts to save any part of the equipment was abandoned. The city fire department was called out. Guard lines had been established several hundred yards from the fire which communicated itself to tanks containing several hundred gallons of oil and gasoline. The crash of the exploding bombs and the bursting of the fuel containers created a vivid picture of warfare in miniature. Fragments flew across the field for 200 or more yards.

No one was injured.

Besides the machine shop, truck and equipment, valued at \$50,000, there were burned 250 aerial bombs, two motor trucks, valued at \$6000 and \$3000, respectively; two liberty motors, valued at \$7000 each; extra propellers and miscellaneous equipment and 700 gallons of oil and gasoline. The crash of the exploding bombs and the bursting of the fuel containers created a vivid picture of warfare in miniature. Fragments flew across the field for 200 or more yards.

TEACHERS DEMAND \$1080 ANNUAL SALARY

Oregon Association Sits in Session Here.

COUNCIL DISCUSSES ISSUES

Two-Mill Tax Exclusively for Education Asked.

BILL IS TO BE PUSHED

Proposed Measure for Creation of Retirement Fund Considered. Clause Change Ordered.

Adoption of a demand for a minimum teachers' salary of \$1080 a year for the entire state of Oregon and indorsement of a movement to bring before the legislature next month an act to provide a state tax not to exceed 2 mills for educational purposes exclusively were accomplished at the opening session of the Oregon State Teachers' association in Lincoln high school yesterday.

The voting was done by the 290 delegates from every section of the state, making up the representative council which carries on the business for the 9000 members. General sessions will not open until this morning, when 3000 teachers probably will be on hand.

Millage Act to be Pushed.

No time is to be spared by the legislative committee of which Superintendent George W. Hug of McMinnville is chairman, in getting the tax millage measure before representatives and senators. Mr. Hug is presently the report of the committee on tax millage, of which he is also chairman, urged that the teachers carry home with them propaganda for the act and pull wires in their respective communities.

"The district is not likely to pass on its own responsibility a measure of such importance and if the matter is referred to the people and they favor it the 5 per cent limitation, which has hampered us, will be automatically repealed," Mr. Hug explained. "If we can get this before the special session—and we're going to put forth every effort in this direction—we can save three years' time."

Vote in Fall Proposed.

"The people could vote on it next fall and the time is ripe for its passage. It seems to be a case of now or never. We're going to rely to a large extent on Mrs. Alexander Thompson to help us out."

"Likewise we're going to get the proposition up before every civic body we can interest in the short time that remains before the session."

Mr. Hug's report was unanimously accepted without discussion, except for a few remarks by J. A. Churchill, state superintendent, who pointed out the need for a larger state educational fund. 1 mill to go toward matching the money provided by the pending Smith-Townler bill and the other to increase the common school fund.

Committee Makes Report.

The report of the committee made up of Mr. Hug, R. E. Cannon of Corvallis, Fred P. Austin of Pendleton, Aubrey G. Smith of Roseburg and J. G. Imel of Grants Pass, gave a summary of the work accomplished since they were elected on their respective counties in the same direction and cited Oregon as one of the seven states which does not provide any state tax or appropriation for common school purposes. If a tax not to exceed two mills were levied on all taxable property of the state the revenue so provided, they say, could be apportioned on a basis of the number of teachers and average daily attendance. This would raise approximately \$2,000,000 for each school child.

Setting of a minimum salary was a much discussed point and the original proposition of the committee made up of M. S. Taylor of Astoria, Mrs. Mary L. Falkerson of Salem, and J. E. Houser, was shorn of all provisions as to the number of months each year to be used as a basis for payment, as to a more advanced scale for high school teachers and as to the amount of a yearly increase for long periods of service in any one district.

Formation of Union Suggested.

Reference to formation of a teachers' union was absolutely ignored. "We're self-respecting teachers and think much of the profession would have it on a union basis," Mr. Taylor remarked in concluding his address. "Put the salaries where the standard of teaching can be raised," urged six-fold Tuttle of Coquille. "When the teachers are getting \$90 a month the public can demand that much work from them and get it."

Superintendent R. E. Baker of Coquille was asked to take a leading part in the movement. He is from Coos county, where the teachers had already obtained a minimum wage of \$1000 a year by pledging not to accept positions at less than that figure.

Method in Coos Explained.

"Down in Coos county," he explained, "the barbers, doctors and lawyers all raised their scales without consulting the public. Finally the teachers got together and did the same. We did not even discuss forming a union. Before we took this step

ELECTRIC BATH FOR TURTLES PRESCRIBED

SHORTAGE OF SOUP FOR NEW YORKERS AVERTED.

Steam Heat Also Found Necessary to Revive Frozen Animals From Far South.

NEW YORK, Dec. 29.—Electric baths and a steam-heated room as first aid to 12 frozen 300-pound turtles, which arrived today on the steamship Tivives from Port Linton, probably averted a shortage of turtle soup at New York hotels during the New Year holidays. One turtle, said to be only 490 years old, was saved with great difficulty.

Accustomed to the warm waters of the Caribbean, the turtles, which were left tanks on the top deck, were stiff as a stone soon after the vessel reached northern temperatures. The ship's physician reported an absence of pulse beat, but prescribed heat in large quantities. A deck shelter aft was fitted with electric lights and steam pipes and the turtles moved into it by means of a derrick.

UNIONS URGE U. S. TO RETAIN ROADS

Peace-Time Test for Two Years Proposed.

FOUR BROTHERHOODS MEET

Control During War Is Held to Be Unfair Trial.

PRINCIPLES DRAWN UP

Opposition of Anti-Strike Legislation Reiterated in Statement by Mr. Gompers.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 29.—Representatives of the four railway brotherhoods and heads of affiliated trades tonight adopted a declaration of principles opposing legislation which would make strikes of railway workers illegal.

The declaration, framed at a conference with President Gompers of the American Federation of Labor, declared that the sense of organized railway employees that penalty clauses in pending railroad legislation against workers ceasing their employment should be eliminated.

At the conclusion of a five-hour session, President Gompers dictated this statement:

Railroad Bills Discussed.

"On Friday last a number of the representatives of the railroad organizations, both shopmen and the train service, met at my office and we discussed the situation regarding the railroad legislation and I issued an invitation to the executives of the ten shopmen's organizations affiliated with the American Federation of Labor and to the four railroad brotherhoods assisting them to meet in conference with me here today.

"We began our meeting at 2 o'clock and adjourned after 3. The entire time was taken up with a discussion of the beneficial features of the railroad bills. We reached these conclusions:

"That it is the sense of the conference that the control of the railroads should be exercised by the government of the United States for a period of not less than two years in order that a proper test may be made as to government control.

Test Not Fair Is Assertion.

"That such test has not received a fair opportunity during the war of peace.

"This conference is opposed to legislation making strikes of workers unlawful. It is the sense of this conference that penalty clauses in pending legislation on railroads against workers ceasing their employment should be eliminated.

"That the conference favors the enactment of beneficial features of the bills which tend to establish better relations between the employees and the carriers.

"That the beneficial clauses should be retained in the situation and the Pullman company employee."

Strike Clause Opposed.

While the conference reiterated the demand of organized labor that the government should hold the railroads for a peace-time test of two years, the union officials explained that they had no reason to doubt the carriers would be handed back March 1, the date specified by the present legislation or the enactment meanwhile of legislation for the protection of the properties.

L. E. Sheppard, president of the Order of Railway Conductors, was the only big four brotherhood head to be present at the session and represented by deputies. While there were many animated speeches and general discussion of the Cummins railroad bill, with its drastic anti-strike provisions, it was almost the railway men were of one mind in opposing the section making strikes illegal.

Before and after the conference, however, the union representatives discussing informally the railroad situation, said they had assurances that the house would not accept the labor section of the Cummins bill.

Gompers and Willard Confer.

Soon after the conference got well under way, President Gompers, who presided, returned to his office and conferred for an hour with Daniel Willard, president of the Baltimore & Ohio railroad. The visit of Mr. Willard to federation headquarters had not been announced and it provoked some comment as to its possible meaning, but President Gompers, who declined to say what he had discussed.

COLLEGE SOCIALISTS MEET

Vassar and Other Schools Represented at Convention.

NEW YORK, Dec. 29.—Delegates from various chapters of the intercollegiate socialist society opened their annual convention here today behind closed doors in the studio of Rose Pastor Stokes.

It was announced that among those participating in the discussions was a delegation of 80 out of town college professors and students, "some of whom came from Vassar."

"LILY WHITE" PARTY AIM

Republicans in Florida Want No Blacks in Organization.

MIAMI, Fla., Dec. 29.—First steps to make the republican party "Lily White" in Florida by eliminating negroes from its councils, it was announced here today, have been taken in the filing in the circuit court at Jacksonville of an application to enjoin Joe Lee, a negro, former collector of internal revenue for Florida, and D. T. Gerow from calling a state republican convention.

The application, filed by J. E. Junkin and 50 other republicans, contends that Lee and Gerow are no longer at the head of the party organization in the state.

SPEEDER FREE; AUTO HELD

Stockton, Cal., Justice Adopts New System of Punishment.

STOCKTON, Cal., Dec. 29.—Justice Dana P. Eicke today ordered the automobile of Donald McLairmid, Stanford university student, locked up for five days when McLairmid was brought before him on a charge of speeding.

The court announced that henceforth he will put the automobiles in jail instead of fining speeders.

JAZZ MUSIC IS USED AS A CURE: NEWS ITEM.



GREEKS BRING PETITION

Head of Mission Asks Annexation of Country by Greece.

NEW YORK, Dec. 29.—The cardinal prerogative of Turkish peace is that the Turk shall be driven out of Constantinople. In the opinion of Nico Caltchias, head of a mission sent to the United States by the Greeks of Thrace. The purpose of the mission, he declared, is to petition President Wilson a petition signed by 300,000 Greek Thracians, asking that their country be annexed to Greece.

The best solution of the Turkish problem, in the opinion of Mr. Caltchias, would be to give the Ottoman capital and all the rest of Thrace to Greece, but if the powers do not approve that proposal, Constantinople should be internationalized, in his opinion.

"There are two perils coming from the north," he said. "One is a revival in some form or other of the former central alliance and the other is bolshevism."

SUGAR TO BE 20 CENTS

Administrator Not Able to Control Prices for Cuban Product.

NEW YORK, Dec. 29.—The public probably will have to pay 20 cents a pound for the advance crop of 9,000,000 pounds of Cuban sugar now being delivered and distributed here, according to a statement today by Federal Food Administrator Williams.

"This is due to the fact that dealers here are required to pay a higher price to the Cuban producers for the regular outcome," Mr. Williams said. "We cannot control the price charged by Cuba."

"After one other shipment it is expected that the regular 1919 crop of Cuban sugar will commence coming into the United States and with the delivery of the regular crop, Mr. Williams said, he and his aides would try to keep the price down to 14 or 15 cents a pound.

DRIVE PUT ON ARMATURE

New Electric Locomotive More Economical and Speedier.

BUTTE, Mont., Dec. 29.—Another revolution in the history of railroading was accomplished today on the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul line between Deer Lodge and Butte, when a new electric locomotive rolled into the local station. The new engine is adopted for greater speed and is considered more economical than the old ones. Regeneration of electric power, which was possible on the old style engine only at a 15-mile-an-hour speed or faster, is possible with the new engine running at three miles an hour. The armature and driving wheel form practically one piece in the new engine, while in the old they were two distinct units.

Locomotives now in use will be sent to the new electrification division from Othello, Wash., to Tacoma.

OREGON BOY GETS CHANCE

Ex-Soldier Offender to Be Restored to Colors.

OREGONIAN NEWS BUREAU, Washington, Dec. 29.—Senator Chamberlain has obtained from General Hutcheson, commanding officer at Camp Meade, a promise to restore to the colors the eastern Oregon boy who was freed of a charge of attempted robbery a week ago by Judge Stafford in this city. As will be recalled, the youth was set free on Senator Chamberlain's plea to give him an opportunity to redeem himself.

General Hutcheson said he would restore the boy to the colors and in a short time hoped to be able to give him an honorable discharge, with a promise that the soldier will return to his mother in Oregon and try to reform.

HOOD APPLE LOSS SMALL

Inspectors Find Principal Damage to Private Home Stocks.

HOOD RIVER, Or., Dec. 29.—(Special.)—Inspectors of the Apple Growers' association after a visit to all districts in which growers still held apples in private storage, report that damage from the severity of the frost was far less than had been anticipated.

Hundreds of growers, however, have lost stocks reserved for their own home use. These were mostly stored in cellars and outhouses.

The association is in association in preparation of damaged stocks, has enforced a rule that all apples must be stored in cellars in growers' premises before they are handled.

SHEEPMEN MEET TODAY

Problems That Cut Down Profits Are Before Idaho Men.

BOISE, Idaho, Dec. 29.—(Special.)—Range problems, wool prices and the government investigation of the packing industry will be the chief topics of discussion at the annual session of the Idaho Wool Growers' association, which opens tomorrow.

While prices have risen for wool the past year, the fact that wool growers have had to pay high prices for feed, has caused the flock growers to operate on a narrow margin of profit will be discussed with a view of arriving at a remedy.

ATHENA WOMAN IS DEAD

Mrs. Melisse Forest Passes Away at Walla Walla.

WALLA WALLA, Wash., Dec. 29.—(Special.)—Mrs. Melisse Forest, who came here December 1 from Athens to make her home, died last night, at the age of 62. She was a native of Marion county, Or., and lived for 27 years at Athens. A month ago she bought some property here and moved with her family to Walla Walla, where she died last night.

She was the widow of Joe Forest, a well-known range rider in her section. She leaves six children, Edgar of Adams, Or.; George C. of Mountain View, W. Va.; and May of Walla Walla.

The body will be shipped to Pendleton tomorrow for burial.

IDAHO TEACHERS MEET

200 Attend First Session Where Problems Are Discussed.

BOISE, Ida., Dec. 29.—(Special.)—More than 200 teachers had gathered here today for the annual meeting of the Idaho State Teachers' association, which opened a three-day session.

Indications were that the session will be largely attended. In addition to the general sessions, there will be sectional meetings at which problems of interest to teachers in various grades will be presented and generally discussed. The first general session tonight was opened with an address by J. E. Baker, superintendent of the Burley schools and president of the association.

SIR WILLIAM OSLER DIES

Noted Physician and Instructor at Oxford Succumbs.

OXFORD, England, Dec. 29.—Sir William Osler, noted physician, who has been ill for several weeks, died here tonight.

Although Sir William Osler was known to be seriously ill at his home in Oxford where he has been regius professor of medicine since 1904, recent advances had given hope for his recovery.

Dr. Osler was professor of medicine at Johns Hopkins university from 1880 to 1904. He was born in Canada in 1849.