

MOVIE PRODUCERS PLAN VITAL CHANGE

Release of 50,000 Actors Is Contemplated.

STAR SYSTEM DISLIKED

Producers Forced to Move by Overproduction and High Admission Charges.

Vital changes in motion-picture production are being made in the industry, according to New York correspondents. Drastic cuts in production, the release of 50,000 actors and actresses and a new plan for combining stars instead of featuring them are a few of the changes. Producers have been forced to move by the industry, which is said to be suffering from overproduction and high admission charges.

NEW YORK, Jan. 6.—(Special).—A radical change in motion-picture production in the United States for this year has been announced by leaders in the industry. The chief aspect of the readjustment is the reduction of production already started. The reduction is of a slashing order, as most of the producing concerns have set out to cut 25 to 50 per cent. Some big concerns have laid off more than that proportion of studio companies.

Among the film corporations which are known to be cutting down on production, reducing the number of actors and studio help employed and in some instances the number of plants entirely are the Famous Players-Lasky, Goldwyn, Fox, Metro, Vitaphone and Universal, constituting the biggest array of motion picture forces. In Los Angeles, the chief photography producing center of the world, more than 50,000 actors and actresses are connected with the industry. It is expected that the number of persons estimated to number 5000, connected with the trade either as actors, technical assistants or film handlers.

Pictures to Be Fewer. "Fewer and better pictures" is the slogan now adopted by practically every film producing company. A lowering of the importance of the individual star is generally considered a concomitant with this.

The period of feverish activity in the motion picture business, ranked as the third largest industry in the country, which followed the war, appears to be over for the time being. That, however, is not the case. It is expected to last into the middle of March, according to notices of reduced output recently made by movie companies themselves.

One company recently made known that it has \$5,000,000 worth of films on its shelves awaiting disposal, and from a source close to the various leading companies it was learned that \$25,000,000 would not be an overestimate for the amount of money sunk in films throughout the industry which are now stored away and have not yet been negotiated for. A prominent factor operating for overproduction is the fact that the number of film companies that have sprung up in the last two years, drawn into the business by the prospect of easy stock selling schemes, bringing buyers with the lure of quick and heavy profits in the movie business. The vigilance committee of the National Association of the Motion Picture Industry, composed of reputable concerns, declared a short time ago that worthless stock was offered to the country annually at an aggregate price of \$250,000,000 by irresponsible companies.

Patronage Is Decreased. As the underlying reason why so many expensive films have been left high and dry without a bidder, one authority advanced the explanation that small neighborhood houses throughout the country have raised their prices for the last year and a half. The increase has been only 2 or 3 cents at a time, but in the end it has totaled 10 cents and resulted in a decrease in the regular weekly patronage, and the exhibitors controlling these houses consequently declined to pay the high rental prices demanded by producers.

A number of continuity writers have been released by the corporations and the producing departments are to be turned into monumental stock companies. That means a lessening emphasis on the star system. With many of the stars hereafter crowded into an "all star" cast, instead of being individually featured in separate and more numerous pictures. Lessening of production is said to be as radical in the west as in the east. The manager of one company supporting the stars hereafter in the country has just written east that "Hollywood looks like a desert." Of the 15,000 persons conservatively estimated to have a hand in the film work there two-thirds are said to be waiting at it no longer.

POWER PERMITS WANTED

Licenses to Develop Sites Asked by Oregonians.

THE OREGONIAN NEWS BUREAU, Washington, Jan. 6.—The federal waterpower commission announced today that an application had been received from the Oregonians for a permit to develop 23,000 horsepower at Oak Grove, Or., on the Clackamas river. H. S. McGowan of McGowan, Wash., is an applicant for two Oregon permits to develop sites on the Deschutes river, one of them being at Metolius, Or.

S. A. Muesen and C. D. Cronmiller of Lakeview, Or., have asked a permit for development which includes the construction of a diversion dam in Deep creek and a five-mile eight-inch wood stave pipeline to the power house and a second diversion dam in Chama creek and a four-and-one-half-mile wood stave pipeline to the same power house for the purpose of developing 1000 horsepower.

Obituary. Death from heart disease came to John Fry, 58, night watchman at the K. G. & Co.'s store, yesterday morning. He was found by the body of the store, which he had been in charge of for many years. He had been a resident of Portland for more than 30 years. Relatives are said to reside in Dallas, Or.

ALBANY, Or., Jan. 6.—(Special).—Angus Brown, 25, who died yesterday near Grants Pass while on a Southern

Pacific train, was a resident of Albany, Or. He was an only child with his parents and an aunt for Yuma, Ariz., where he was going for the benefit of his health. Mr. Brown was born at Summit, Or., but had lived in Albany almost all of his life. He attended the public schools here and Albany high school, then entered the employ of the Southern Pacific company as a fireman. His parents, Mr. and Mrs. S. J. Brown, of this city and a brother and two sisters are living.

COTTAGE GROVE, Or., Jan. 6.—(Special).—The funeral of George House, 40, former resident of this city, was held here Tuesday, interest being made beside the body of his daughter, Maud, who died here a number of years ago. Mr. House died in the Southern Pacific hospital at San Francisco December 30. The only relative known is Joshua House, one of the first white children born in this section, a cousin.

ABERDEEN, Wash., Jan. 6.—(Special).—The body of C. F. Belz, pioneer of Aberdeen, who died at Tillamook, Or., Sunday night, is expected to arrive here Friday for interment. Mr. Belz removed to Oregon about a year ago, following the death of his wife, and he lived with his son, A. F. Belz.

Funeral services for Mrs. Hannah Cairns, who died at the family residence, 731 S. W. street, Wednesday, will be held this morning at 11 o'clock at St. Mark's church. Rev. Father Hutton will officiate. Interment will be in the Riverview cemetery.

Mrs. Cairns, who was 53 years of age, had been a lifelong resident of Portland. She was born May 2, 1867, being the daughter of the late Nathan Walker, pioneer and first hat maker in this city.

She is survived by her husband, Philip Cairns, a sister, Mrs. Alfred Young, and a brother, James Walker, all of Portland.

AUTO LAW SATISFACTORY

Idaho Sentiment Opposes Changes in Present Statutes.

BOISE, Idaho, Jan. 6.—(Special).—There will be few changes in Idaho's automobile law, according to the general sentiment among automobile men, and judges from the post office taken by Secretary of State Jones, who is state law commissioner. "I do not believe there is any necessity for changing the present framework of the vehicle law," said Commissioner Jones. "It is the most carefully administered in the country, not cumbersome and complex, and is receiving better enforcement from year to year. There is absolutely no need of other machinery or additional officers. Amendments of course can be submitted, and should be, to take care of the progress of certain sections."

BERRY PLANTING PLANNED

Small Fruits to Replace Apples in Hood River District.

HOOD RIVER, Or., Jan. 6.—(Special).—Following a survey of the district by J. H. Stani of the University of Washington, Hood River and W. S. Brown, dean of the horticultural department of the Oregon Agricultural College, growers met today at the Hood River Commercial club to make plans for extensive planting of small fruits.

It is indicated by today's expressions of growers that apple trees killed or permanently injured in the heavy freeze of December, 1919, will be replaced with berries, pears or cherries.

PROWLING HOBO IS SHOT

Householder Fires on Member of Gang Trying to Enter Home.

ASHLAND, Or., Jan. 6.—(Special).—Fred Ward of San Francisco, one of the National Association of the Motion Picture Industry, composed of reputable concerns, declared a short time ago that worthless stock was offered to the country annually at an aggregate price of \$250,000,000 by irresponsible companies.

After being shot Ward crawled to the railroad right way, where he was found by the police and taken to a local hospital. The other members of the gang escaped.

Lodge Installs Officers.

HOOD RIVER, Or., Jan. 6.—At a public meeting last night, the Hood River Elks lodge, No. 1234, installed officers for the ensuing term as follows: M. M. Russell, chancellor; commander, J. H. Stani; vice-commander, G. Thompson; president, E. U. Rogers, master of work; L. M. Baldwin, keeper of records and seal; T. F. Johnson, master of finance; N. E. Tevin, master of exchequer; E. E. Goodrich, master of arms; William Edick, inner guard; Charles Wallace, outer guard; and J. H. Stani, true guard. Johnson has served as master of finance for 14 successive years.

Coal Company Names Officials.

CENTRALIA, Wash., Jan. 6.—(Special).—At a meeting held last night by the newly-elected directors of the Tilton River Blumensack Coal company, W. H. Hackett was elected president; H. L. Brack, vice-president; W. W. Canon, secretary; and W. B. Keir, manager. George Brooks, former president of the company, will direct his entire attention to the physical development of the company's mining property and Commissioner Canon will manage and the office at Lindberg.

Guernsey Breeders' Elect Officers.

YAKIMA, Wash., Jan. 6.—At the annual meeting of the Yakima Guernsey Breeders' association, held this afternoon, H. E. Angel of Mabton was elected president; R. N. West of Yakima, vice-president; Al Wallace of Outlook, executive secretary, and C. A. Peabody of Outlook and J. P. Vance of Yakima named to serve with the officers on an executive board.

Year's Work Being Closed Up.

KELSO, Wash., Jan. 6.—(Special).—The board of county commissioners, which will go out of office after this week, are completing details of the year's work. Chairman Al Maurer of the board will remain in office, but Commissioner E. E. Dale of the first district will be succeeded by J. C. Ferguson of Woodland and Commissioner D. J. Hille of the third district by P. A. Parker.

Artillery Guard Unit Formed.

ABERDEEN, Wash., Jan. 6.—(Special).—A coast artillery national guard company was mustered in last night in the American Legion building. Captain George Acet says the full number of 45 qualified, and a company is now ready for national inspection and mustering. The company was mustered in by Captain Acet, and the state adjutant-general's office.

S. & H. green stamps for cash. Holman Fuel Co. Main 353. 25c. Adv.

Braiding, embroidery, hemstitching. Booth's, Morgan bldg.—Adv.

WASHINGTON CODE EXPECTED TO PASS

Publication of Draft Depends on Legislature.

CHANGES TO BE FOUGHT

Prevailing Opinion Is Measure Will Be Put Through Just as Drawn up by Governor.

OLYMPIA, Wash., Jan. 6.—(Special).—The time and manner of making public the draft of the proposed civil administrative code, the most important piece of legislation to be submitted to the coming session of the legislature, will be in accordance with the judgment of members of the committee to be designated by the legislature to receive it, according to a statement issued today by Governor Hart.

In the ordinary course of legislative procedure, the measure would be referred to the judiciary committee, but there has been an intimation that a special committee will be named to take charge of the measure when received from the governor.

Prevailing opinion is that the measure will be passed substantially as drawn by the governor and his staff, and that whatever amendments may be made will be of such minor importance as in no way to affect the general scheme outlined in the proposed code.

Changes May Be Opposed.

It is not improbable that the administration will insist that the measure as drafted be enacted without amendment, and that the opposing of a "Y" although the result of an instance of similar insistence by the federal chief executive may exercise some influence on a program of this kind. But, taken as a whole, the measure will probably pass with little serious opposition.

The civil administrative code is intended to have for its primary purpose the consolidation of state departments and functions and the elimination of useless offices. Those commissions whose work is largely a duplication of effort, with a view to reducing the burden of taxation required to maintain the state government. With this as its purpose, the tax situation in this state is such that the people will welcome any proposal which gives promise of relief and they have reached the point where they are willing to experiment to some extent in plans designed to accomplish such result, proceeding on the theory that under the present system the tax burden is steadily increased and that the measure could be secured by bringing about less desirable conditions.

Taxes Mount Rapidly.

In this connection the rapidly with which taxes have mounted in the five years last past is a fact which is pointed out by the state board of finance. Since 1916 the general fund levy has increased from 1.85 mills, amounting to \$1,845,778, to 4.50 mills, amounting to \$5,373,836 in 1920.

The school fund levy in 1916 was \$2,313,411, while in 1920 the levy was \$3,800,000, amounting to \$5,780,834. The total state levy in 1916 was 7.70 mills, amounting to \$4,159,189, while in 1920 the total levy had increased to 14.48 mills, amounting to \$17,526,739.

Solons Prepare to Weld Ax.

With requests from state department for appropriations totaling \$46,130,928, including general and special funds, and with the state board of finance recommending appropriations totaling \$47,991,738, including both general and special funds, the legislature is expected to meet in the near future. It is not surprising that legislators are coming to Olympia prepared to weld their ax to the state budget, and that the problem of relief from taxation is their chief purpose.

Legislators Are Dined.

Friday night members of the legislature will be the guests of the Tacoma chamber of commerce and Commercial club, who are entertaining the lawmakers by the city of Tacoma. This will be the first general meeting of the members and usually is the occasion for outlining the general program to be followed.

It is expected that Representative Davis of Tacoma, who will be chairman of the house appropriations committee, will outline to the members assembled at the banquet a detailed statement of the condition of state finances together with the indicated demand to be made upon the public funds and will impress upon the legislators the need of considering all proposed bills with reference to the financial requirements contained therein. From Tacoma the legislators will move on to Olympia Saturday, preparatory to entering upon the session of the legislature to order Monday.

It is stated that Seattle members of the senate and house are not in favor of redistricting the state at this session to provide for the additional representatives in congress apportioned to this state under the terms of the Sincere bill approved by the census committee of the national house.

Precedent to Be Followed.

The Seattle delegation, it is understood, prefer to follow precedent set by the 1911 legislature, which failed to redistrict the state following the 1910 census, which the state gained two additional members in the national house of representatives. In 1912 the two extra representatives in congress were elected in large numbers and the state was not redistricted until the legislature of 1912 met. In the opinion of some of the members, it is not desirable at this season, which they declare should be essentially a business session, to inject into the legislature any political or geographical controversy.

Reports of the public service commission and the state reclamation commission, together with their recommendations to the legislature covering activities for the next two years, have been completed, but will not be made public until later in the week.

It is understood that the public service report will not urge any vitally important changes in laws governing that body, but the reclamation board is expected to outline a comprehensive program of land development. The fact that the budget recommendations contain a provision for a reclamation revolving fund of \$5,125,000 is taken as indicative of the extension of work planned by that department.

Eastern Washington members, especially those from Spokane, are understood to be manifesting some concern over the fact that recommendations made by the state board of finance as shown in the budget omit any appropriation for the widening of the Columbia basin survey commission. The Columbia basin irrigation project was given an appropriation of \$100,000 in the 1919 session for the purpose of preliminary surveys and expenses in furthering the project and the commission expects to ask the 1921 legislature for an additional \$50,000 to carry on the work until the federal government assumes responsibility for the undertaking.

Labor Proposes Substitute.

Legislators have received copies of the substitute proposed by organized labor, as represented by the State Federation of Labor, for the plan recommended by the industrial commission for the consolidation of departments dealing with industrial relations. The principal difference in the two consolidation plans is found in the supervisory head, the commission favoring a one-man director in charge of the several agencies, while the scheme submitted by organized labor proposed a supervisory commission of five members, two to be appointed by and represent labor, two by the employers and the fifth to be appointed by the governor to represent the interests of the public.

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Slides on Southern Pacific in Coos County Attacked.

RAILWAY CREWS AT WORK

Official Hope to Have Traffic With Outside Points Operating Again by Today.

MAIRFIELD, Or., Jan. 6.—(Special).—Local Southern Pacific officials today expressed hope that the last of the three landslides would be cleared by morning and necessary tracks constructed so that daylight traffic could resume on the line.

The Coos county territory has been without outside mail for two days, the transfer being held up again today by a slide at Ward's station, east of the first slide near Cushman.

Trains were run over what road was open today, furnishing travel to Coquille on the south and north. East Gardiner on the north. No Pullman trains will be operated here Monday either way. Freight cars are added until the road is found to be substantially replaced and the danger of more slides has passed.

The weather has been partially clear here today and cooler, the thermometer having been down to freezing last night. The Coquille river is still above the Southern Pacific tracks and no trains are expected to go south of Coquille before Sunday.

GRAYS HARBOR CITIES DARK

Storm Tears Section of Smokestack From Power Plant.

HOQUIAM, Wash., Jan. 6.—(Special).—Because the wind Tuesday tore out 35 feet of the smokestack of the Anderson & Middleton mill in Aberdeen, electric light and street car power failed for half an hour or more in this city and Aberdeen. The loss was part of the smokestack, and the work of the furnaces which supply steam to operate generators for part of the Grays Harbor Railway & Light company's manufacturing plant.

It was believed dangerous for workmen to remain in the building and three were drawn from beneath the part of the smokestack used for the purpose. Nearly three-quarters of an hour later arrangements were made to draw the Grays Harbor mill in Hoquiam to supply steam.

Yesterday a tree blown across the light wire on Cherry street, north of Sumner street, in Aberdeen and put the lighting system out for an hour. A similar accident happened Monday. Company officials said today they would appear before the city council in Aberdeen and take up the matter of removing old trees from along their lines.

OAKVILLE DARK AND ISOLATED

Chehalis River High and Water on Road to Satsop 5 Feet Deep.

ABERDEEN, Wash., Jan. 6.—(Special).—Oakville has been practically isolated from automobile communication and a resident of Elma is operating a ferry boat for passengers and freight between that place and Satsop Elma.

The Chehalis river on the South Elma road is reported to be 25 feet above the lower mark and water on the road to Satsop is said to be five feet deep. Oakville is in darkness for lack of gasoline, the trucks not having made their regular trips from Elma for several days. The Oakville schools will not reopen until January 10, at least.

LANDSLIDE STOPS TRAFFIC

Northern Pacific Train Forced to Detour by Way of Centralia.

ABERDEEN, Wash., Jan. 6.—(Special).—High water and a small landslide last night caused the first interruption to Grays Harbor railroad traffic for which the bad weather of the past month could be blamed. Northern Pacific train No. 535, because of trouble between Olympia and Grays Harbor, was forced to detour by way of Centralia. The train was two hours and 15 minutes late reaching here.

The B-train pumping station was put into operation yesterday, following severance of the water main on the Wishkah pipe line, caused by the heavy rains.

COLUMBIA RISE IS CHECKED

Smaller Streams in Clarke County Also Begin to Recede.

VANCOUVER, Wash., Jan. 6.—(Special).—The cold weather has also checked the rise in the Columbia river, just as it was almost level with the lower docks here. The smaller streams in the county, which have been raging torrents, have started to drop rapidly. The temperature has dropped below 40.

It is not desirable at this season, which they declare should be essentially a business session, to inject into the legislature any political or geographical controversy.

Reports of the public service commission and the state reclamation commission, together with their recommendations to the legislature covering activities for the next two years, have been completed, but will not be made public until later in the week.

It is understood that the public service report will not urge any vitally important changes in laws governing that body, but the reclamation board is expected to outline a comprehensive program of land development. The fact that the budget recommendations contain a provision for a reclamation revolving fund of \$5,125,000 is taken as indicative of the extension of work planned by that department.

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Flood Danger Eliminated.

CENTRALIA, Wash., Jan. 6.—(Special).—All danger of a flood in Centralia was eliminated last night when the temperature took a decided drop. A light snow fell during the night. This morning the Skookumchuck and Chehalis rivers were several feet below normal.

High Water Carries Away Ties.

COTTAGE GROVE, Or., Jan. 6.—(Special).—The Walter Woodard mill at London lost between 2000 and 3000 ties in the last high water. Mr. Woodard was a victim of unusual weather conditions. He thought that three

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\$3.00 Combination Hot Water Bottle and Fountain Syringe with flannel bottle cover. \$1.98

\$1.50 2-qt. Hot Water Bottle \$.98

\$2.00 2-qt. Hot Water Bottle \$1.49

\$2.50 2-qt. Hot Water Bottle \$1.98

\$1.50 2-qt. Fountain Syringe \$.98

\$2.00 2-qt. Fountain Syringe \$1.39

\$2.25 3-qt. Fountain Syringe \$1.49

\$3.25 3-pt. Metal H. W. Bottle \$2.89

Drug Department

J. & J. or B. & B. Cotton, 1 lb. .90c

J. & J. or B. & B. Cotton, 1/2 lb. .50c

Double Distilled Witch Hazel, 1 qt. .85c

Philadelphia Bird Seed, 1 pkg. .35c

Bird Manna, 1 pkg. .15c

Camphorated Oil, 4 oz. .45c

Linseed Oil, 1 qt. .55c

Denatured Alcohol, 1 qt. .60c

Cocaine Oil, 8 oz. .45c

Rosin Water, 1 pt. .50c

Epsom Salts, 5 lb. .50c

Merck's Sugar Milk, 1 lb. .55c

Corn Tartar, 1 lb. .10c

Russian Paraffin Oil, 1 pt. .10c

Glycerine, 4 oz. 25c; 1 qt. .90c

Formaldehyde, 1 pt. .10c

Sheep Dip, 1 pt. .50c

High waters within a period of 30 days, something that had never happened before so far as old timers can remember, was a record which would not be broken right away, and got caught by the fourth rise, which came on Tuesday after morning operations had been resumed.

TIDAL WAVE DOES DAMAGE

Twelve Cottages Wrecked During Storm at Sunset Beach.

HOQUIAM, Wash., Jan. 6.—(Special).—James Weston of Sunset beach reports 12 cottages wrecked, some partially and others wholly by a tidal wave December 24. The cottages belonging to L. W. Taft of Hoquiam was carried 30 feet and its fireplace chimney demolished. A cottage owned by Virgil Smith was sold for firewood after the wave got through with it. Mr. and Mrs. John Joyce in their cottage were the only witnesses. Other waves had been rolling in so high that the Joyces moved their cottage before the tidal wave came.

STORM WARNINGS ARE POSTED

New Blow Reported Somewhere Off Coast of Northwest.

The weather bureau last night ordered storm warnings anew along the Washington coast and at Astoria. A new storm was reported somewhere off the Alaska or British Columbia coast, though the center could not be definitely located last night. The "Willamette river at Portland" was said to be rising with a stage of 18.5 feet and the prediction of Edward L. Wells, district forecaster, was that it would fall slowly today and probably more rapidly tomorrow. If this new storm brings rain, however, he declared that the subsidence of the freshet will be retarded.

LIGHT PLANT IS CLOSED

High Waters Cause Shutting Down of Power House.

WILLAMINA, Or., Jan. 6.—(Special).—The electric light plant here has been temporarily discontinued owing to the high water. The plant furnished power for Sheridan and Ballester besides supplying local needs.

City officials inspected the water mains endangered by slides along the highway and it is reported they intend to hold the railroad company responsible for any damage that may result to the water pipes.

ALBANY HAS TURN TO COLD

Willamette River Fluctuates, but Is at About Same Stage.

Our Doors Open for Business 8:00 A. M.—Doors Close 6:30 P. M.