

STAY ON FARMS, IS GOVERNOR'S ADVICE

Mr. Withycombe Urges Aiding of Home Communities at Big Salem Gathering.

FLAX GROWING ADVOCATED

Representative Hawley Also Speaks at Commercial Club Luncheon.

Farmer's Work is Held to Be Most Important.

SALEM, Or., April 17.—(Special.)—Instead of "back to the farm," the injunction should be "stay on the farm," declared Governor Withycombe today at the most successful and enthusiastic meeting of rural and city folk ever held here. The Salem Armory was crowded from noon until after 3 o'clock.

"We had expected about 800," said Mr. Moores, "and prepared luncheon for about that number. But it was not long until it became evident that the attendance would be larger than we anticipated, and as a result we began scurrying around town looking for more provisions. Although we exhausted the supply of provisions at several bakeries, restaurants and meat-shops, we managed to get enough for all. It was certainly a great meeting, and we shall have more of them."

Introduced by George F. Rodgers, ex-Mayor of Salem and toastmaster, as Oregon's leading agriculturist and authority on agriculture, Governor Withycombe, almost with his first breath, urged his auditors to remain on the farm. He told them to make their homes more attractive, so that children would not want to go to the cities.

"If you are thinking about building a nice home in some city, I would advise you to erect the home, but not in a city. Build it on the old home place," said the executive. "Improve your farms. This is the richest section of country in the world, and with intelligent management crops never fail."

The Governor urged the farmers to try flax growing. He told of the interest the state was taking in the proposed industry, and declared it was necessary to have as large a diversity of crops as possible.

Spending Money at Home Urged. "I particularly urge that you do all you can to aid your home communities," urged the Governor. "The mail-order houses would not do so well if there was the right kind of co-operation between the merchants at home and the farmers. You must do your share in building up your community by spending your money at home."

W. C. Hawley, Representative of this district in Congress, said the farmer performed the most important work of any class. He was the bone and sinew of the land, and he must continue to furnish the food and clothing for all classes. Mr. Hawley had no sympathy for a suggestion that was made at the beginning of the war that an embargo be placed on the products of the farms, but urged that the farmers get all out of the soil possible so they could supply the demands of this and other countries.

Mayor Welcomes Farmers. Harley O. White, Mayor of Salem, welcomed the farmers to the gathering, and the club expected to give many more such luncheons.

It has proved such a success," declared the Mayor, "that we are simply amazed that we never thought of the plan before. We must get better acquainted with each other, for that will tend to our mutual benefit."

President Hamilton, of the Commercial Club; Professor H. T. French, of the Oregon Agricultural College; Alexander LaFollette, State Senator from Marion County, and L. J. Chapin, County Agriculturist, were the other speakers. Amusement features were vaudeville stunts, several numbers by Williamette University Glee Club and the band of the employes of the Portland, Eugene & Astoria Railway.

"I have been to several of these get-together meetings this year," said Governor Withycombe tonight, "but the one in Salem today beats them all for attendance and enthusiasm. It will be a great thing for this state when the farmers and city people arrive at a better understanding and co-operate more fully than at present."

LOAN MEN PLAN ON BANKS

Washington Associations Consider Action Under New Law.

OLYMPIA, Wash., April 17.—(Special.)—Building and loan associations have announced their intention of converting themselves into mutual savings banks when the new Washington law becomes effective June 19 and others are expected to follow suit.

Whether any concerns not already in existence can be organized successfully under the new law is regarded as extremely doubtful by State Bank Examiner Hanson, as the law contains a provision limiting expenses of any year to 2 1/2 per cent of average assets. A new concern able to marshal average assets of \$100,000 during its first year probably would be unusual, and for such a bank to be able to keep within annual expenses of \$2500 next to impossible.

The new statute, patterned after the New York law, requires incorporators to provide an expense fund of \$5000 and an initial guarantee fund of \$5000, which later is to be kept up to 10 per cent deposits. Incorporators would have no stock and no greater share than other depositors in dividends.

Washington Early Settler Dead.

WHITE SALMON, Wash., April 17.—(Special.)—H. Busenabst, early settler in Washington and a resident of the White Salmon Valley since 1822, died here Wednesday. Mr. Busenabst was a native of Germany, and came to America in 1847. In 1871 he married Miss Anna Polinsky, with whom he has a daughter, Mrs. Gilmel, of Blingen, survives him. Interment was in the Odd-fellows' Cemetery.

Aberdeen to Have Week's Cleanup.

ABERDEEN, Wash., April 17.—(Special.)—A cleanup campaign lasting a week will be conducted by the health committee of Aberdeen this month, according to an announcement made by Councilman Grant. The city will furnish wagons in which rubbish will be carried away.

RIPARIA FAMILY SAID TO REPRESENT LARGEST NUMBER OF LIVING GENERATIONS IN STATE OF IDAHO.



On the left, Seated, is "Grandma" Starton, 80 Years, and Behind is Her Daughter, Mrs. Mary J. Stuart, 60 Years, and the Latter's Daughter, Mrs. Alice Wineland, 38 Years, Stands Beside Her, With Mrs. Margaret Bruner, 18 Years, Seated With Her Daughter, Alice May Bruner, Two Months Old, in Her Lap. Families of three and four generations are frequently photographed together, but the family of Mrs. Starton, of Lewiston, boasts five of the same sex, who gathered at the Stuart Hotel, Riparia, Idaho, for their picture. "Grandma" Starton is reputed as spry as her direct descendants and is one of the best-known residents of that part of the state.

PARTY HEAD IS ISSUE

Republican Leaders to Meet in Boise to Decide.

GEORGE A. DAY MAY QUIT

Latest Arrest of ex-Idaho Official Causes Worry in Camp and New Hands May Control Machinery of State's Majority.

BOISE, Idaho, April 17.—(Special.)—The return to Idaho of Senator Brady and the promised return Senator Borah and Addison T. Smith, Representative in Congress, are taken to indicate that the prospective congress in this city the latter part of the month will settle the Republican party leadership in Idaho.

Recent developments at the state-house through the arrest of another ex-state official on the charge of embezzlement in E. F. Van Valkenburg, seem to have brought matters to a head. That there is to be a "show-down" and an entirely new "deal" is the belief of those familiar with conditions.

Democratic Defeat Predicted.

Although he has been back from Washington a week, Senator Brady has made no statement regarding state politics. He has, however, been in close conference with leaders in his party who are familiar with the situation. He has much to say about National politics and the conditions brought about over the country by a Democratic Administration. He believes that the election of 1916 will entirely change this condition and bring about a Republican majority in both houses of Congress and possibly a new President.

"I feel as happy as does a boy when the last day of school arrives and the spring is good," said Senator Brady, speaking of his return to Idaho from the long session at Washington.

Western Independence Urged.

"The session of Congress just closed was a strenuous one. The war in Europe is going to make a demand for all of our surplus products, both manufactured and agricultural.

"The balance of trade is in our favor

and will continue to be as long as the war lasts. Capital is more timid than usual, and we of the West must learn to depend more and more on our own resources and ability to develop than we have in the past. Therefore, it behooves each of us to put his shoulder to the wheel and help the good work along."

Senator Brady will make his headquarters in Pocatello. Addison T. Smith has notified his constituents that he will be at home at Twin Falls.

Friends Await Mr. Borah.

Senator Borah will make his headquarters in Boise. His close friends here are awaiting anxiously for word from him with reference to his return. He is quite likely to drop quietly into the city, even without the ceremony of the reception his friends had planned.

It is said that George A. Day, chairman of the Republican State Central Committee, will resign from that office, resulting in the selection of another strong Republican to take charge of directing the movements of the party. The name of S. I. Hodgins, ex-United States Marshal, has been linked with the chairmanship.

Mr. Day May Resign.

It is one of the sturdiest Borah supporters in the state and it was through the senior Senator's influence he was appointed Marshal. Prior to that, Mr. Hodgins was Sheriff of Ada County and in that capacity had charge of Mayor Haywood and Pettibone, who were tried here in connection with the murder of ex-Governor Frank Steuneger. He is now a prominent attorney of Boise.

War Shuts Off Foreign Supply and With Finest Fiber in World Grown in State Great Opportunity is Pointed Out.

ABERDEEN, Wash., April 17.—(Special.)—The school board has cut down expenses for the past nine months \$12,500 under what they were for the same period a year previous. The total expenditures last year for nine months were \$59,867.61, and for the same months this year \$47,355.12. Twenty-eight out of 45 departments which called for expenditures showed a reduction in running expenses. The heavy reduction has made it possible for the schools to exist upon a levy of 4.5 mills, which is believed to be among the lowest school district levies in the state. Last year the school levy was 11.18 mills.

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the name of the Lower Snake River Power Users' Association. The association will be represented before the Board of Public Utilities at a meeting to be held in Boise June 4, at which time the lowest consistent rates will be asked for. Another purpose of the association is to have a grievance committee appointed to handle any matters calling for a settlement between the users and power company officials.

CHANCE IS OFFERED

Mrs. W. P. Lord Says Flax Industry is Close at Hand.

OREGON PRODUCT IS BEST

ABERDEEN, Wash., April 17.—(Special.)—The European source of an annual importation of \$26,000,000 worth of flax fiber for manufacture in this country virtually destroyed for the next several years by the European war, and Oregon whose efforts first called attention to Oregon as a flax-producing state, and she is known as the mother of the flax industry in Oregon.

War Shuts Off Foreign Supply and With Finest Fiber in World Grown in State Great Opportunity is Pointed Out.

Oregon alone, she says, is the chief purchaser in this country of the products of flax fiber. The amount that can be produced on the 500 acres planted near Salem, she says, will be only the merest trifle compared to what the demand will be. For 17 years Mrs. Lord has interested herself in the industry in the state, and during this time she says the Eastern flax manufacturers unitedly fought the establishment of the industry. Until now they have refused to purchase the Oregon product, while Europe has purchased it at fancy prices. Mrs. Lord says, but she believes that the cutting off of the Belgian and Irish supplies will form the wedge to start a tremendous industry here.

Farmers Are Interested.

Mrs. Lord is visiting in Eugene at the home of Mr. and Mrs. H. C. Auld, and has interested the farmers to some extent in the production of flax. It is still not too late to plant for this year's crop if the seed could be obtained. The history of the flax industry in Oregon, held back by the alleged interference of the so-called "trusts," as related by Mrs. Lord, is a remarkable story of attempted bottling of an industry by such alleged tactics as boycotts, the employment of "experts" to advise capital and farmers against ventures in the state, and other actions even more questionable.

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