MORE NEUTRALITY IN GIVING IS URGED

William H. Taft Makes Plea for Red Cross and Criticises Relief Methods.

WORK DEEMED INEFFICIENT

Ex-President Deplores Fact That More Than Two-Thirds of Relief Funds Given to Bodies Not Organized to Distribute Them.

SAN FRANCISCO, Aug. 28.—William Howard Taft pleaded today the cause of the American Red Cross at exercises celebrating "Red Cross Day" at the Panama-Pacific Exposition.

He urged a membership of millions, more funds and neutrality in giving. He praised Americans for their ready response to the calls for relief funds when the European war began, but "deprecated" the fact that two-thirds of the funds given were disbursed by relief bodies organized on the spur of the moment, while the Red Cross stood ready with a trained organization to do the work.

Indiscriminate Giving Deplored.

"It does not reflect well upon our National reputation for efficiency," Mr. Taft said, "that the best agency for collecting and distributing generous fraternal, monetary and other aid to the suffering of Europe in this war has received and had control of certainly not more than a third of all the funds contributed.

"I regret to say that we do not thus entrust such funds to the American Red Cross exclusively. Possibly we could not do so by National legislation, but that is no reason why one should not urge upon the generous public the wise course on their part of contributing only to the American Red Cross for such purposes."

In criticising methods of relief, Mr. Taft said: "We find many whose motives are not confined to that of helping others, and to whom the sweets of publicity and popular applause are not wanting as a stimulus.

Membership Deemed Too Small.

"Now, I do not undervalue such a means of promoting good work. If all men ask is an appreciation of what they are doing in laudatory headlines and committee chairmanships for really useful work, it is the least, perhaps, a grateful community can give."

The membership of 20,000 of the American Red Cross, Mr. Taft compared with that of Japan, which runs into the millions, he said, and of Russia, which is even larger.

"The American people have as much generosity as any people in the world," Mr. Taft said, "but they need an electric spark to arouse them to its exercise. The patriotic people of this country ought to be sufficiently interested in the Red Cross to induce millions of them to become members and contribute a dollar each.

"It is said that people give for particular countries, to relieve a particular form of suffering, and in a particular locality, and therefore they seek committees for this special object. This is no reason at all. The Red Cross is organized to give the most scrupulous attention to the wishes of donors, and they can safely entrust to the Red Cross money gathered for the purpose, to be disbursed much more efficiently and economically than if they attempted it themselves.

"More than this, such an agency for the general expression of the good will and brotherly love of the American people ought to be strictly neutral. It should be anxious to be equally helpful to all countries and this without regard to the merits or demerits of the bloody struggle in which the necessity for relief arises. This is the law of the Red Cross. This is the guiding star of its representatives and agents. This is the basis upon which the governments of warring nations recognize it and give it official standing and opportunity for useful aid.

"Great organization is necessary in the expenditure of its funds. Armies cannot be created overnight. Time must be taken in thorough preparation. This is true of the Red Cross.

"Finally, the great war has come. It found the Red Cross with an enrollment of 6000 competent nurses and necessary surgeons. Equipment for the purchase and transportation of supplies have enabled it for a full year to send units of aid to the relief of noncombatants and to render greater continuous aid than was ever given in a foreign war by any Red Cross of a neutral country.

Funds Almost Exhausted.

"It has expended and distributed in money, supplies and paid expert service, $2,000,000. This was the result of voluntary and solicited contributions for the war and overhead charges for permanent organization were not permitted to diminish them by one dollar. It is too bad, however, that the dreadful continuance of the war has exhausted the funds. More funds should be raised, but our people are not as active in giving as they were."

Mr. Taft told the history of the Red Cross and praised the work of Miss Mabel T. Boardman, chairman of the American Red Cross National Relief Board, who preceded him on the programme.

MODEL CITY TO BE BUILT

Where Pilgrims Landed to Be Site of Fire and Smoke Proof Homes.

BOSTON, Aug. 28.—Plans for a permanent model city to shelter a population of 100,000, to be erected at Plymouth in connection with the celebration in 1920 of the 300th anniversary of the landing of the Pilgrims, are being considered by municipal experts, it was announced today. The idea is to eliminate the waste of money usual in the construction of temporary exposition buildings.

The purpose is to build a permanent city that will be fire and smoke proof and with zones for factories and industries.

HUNGARIAN AVIATOR HURT

Airman Demonstrating Bomb Dropping Strikes Pole to Avoid Crowd.

ALLENTOWN, Pa., Aug. 28.—Lieutenant Baron von Figyelmessy, the noted Hungarian aviator, was critically injured here today while demonstrating the possibility of the aeroplane in war times. He had ascended about 700 feet and was in the act of dropping bombs on an improvised fort when his engine stopped.

Failing to right his engine he tried to volplane to the earth, and in an effort to avoid striking a big crowd of spectators he struck an electric light pole when within 30 feet of the ground.

SCENES OF DEVASTATION WROUGHT BY TROPICAL STORM IN GALVESTON.

—Photos Copyright by Underwood & Underwood, New York.

Above—Residence on Fourteenth Street and the Beach Torn From Its Foundation. Below—Scene at Twenty-second and Market Street Looking West and South Over Water Three Feet Deep.

CREDIT ACT PASSED

British Columbia Plans Aid for Its Farmers.

COMMISSION IS PROVIDED

Various Purposes for Which Money Can Be Procured Are Defined and Maximum of 30 1-2 Years for Repayment Is Given.

OREGONIAN NEWS BUREAU, Washington, Aug. 22.—While the American Congress has talked rural credits only to close the last session by appointing a joint Congressional committee to investigate and report on the subject, British Columbia has gone to the front and through its Legislature enacted what is known as the "agricultural act," providing for an agricultural credit commission for the lending of money at reasonable rates of interest to persons or associations engaged in developing agricultural holdings.

A report received by the Department of Commerce gives some interesting facts regarding the rural credits system being tried in British Columbia.

Purpose of Loans Defined.

"The commission is composed of a superintendent and four directors," it says. "It is declared lawful for it to accept, as security for loans, first mortgages on agricultural land in the province that is free from incumbrances. Loans may be made for (a) acquiring land for agricultural purposes and satisfaction of incumbrances on land used for such purposes; (b) clearing of land, draining, diking, water storage and irrigation works; (c) erection of farm buildings; (d) the purchase of live and dead stock, machinery and fertilizers; (e) discharging liabilities incurred for the improvement of land used for agricultural purposes and any purpose intended to increase productiveness of land; (f) any purpose which, in the opinion of the commission, will increase lang productiveness; (g) carrying out the objects of any association, subject to approval by order in council; (h) taking over, in whole or in part, and with the approval of the Lieutenant-Governor, any existing loan by the Crown in right of the Province of British Columbia to any association or any debentures issued by any association.

Maximum Amount Is Fixed.

"No loan can be granted for less than $250 nor for more than $10,000 to any borrower other than an association. If the sum required exceeds the latter amount, sanction of an order in council must be obtained. Loans are limited to 60 per cent of the assessed value of the land or security offered. No loans can be made to members of the commission. Conditions are provided for loans extending either to 26 years and six months, 30 years or 20 years.

"Associations that may take advantage of the provisions of the act include co-operative farmers' institutes, co-operative women's institutes, fruit-growers' associations, agricultural fair associations, British Columbia Stock Breeders' Association, British Columbia Dairymen's Association and British Columbia Poultrymen's Association. The act also formulates arrangements for district and central exchanges and provides for the appointment of inspectors of creameries."

FOREST WORK REPORT IN

In Whitman Reserve, Ten Miles of Road Built in Year.

SUMPTER, Or., Aug. 28.—(Special.)—The annual report of the Whitman National Forest, from July 1, 1914, to June 30, 1915, shows some interesting figures.

There were constructed ten and a half miles of road, nine and a half miles trail, four miles of telephone line, one lookout tower and one lookout house for fire observation, four cabins for ranger quarters and storage of tools and equipment, 1.61 miles of pasture fence and one watering trough for range stock.

Three special-use permits were issued for agriculture and hay-cutting.

There were 129 grazing permits issued for cattle and horses, covering about 8400 head, and 81 permits for sheep covering more than 109,000 head. Of the permits for cattle and horses 70 were for from 1 to 40 head; 36 for from 41 to 100; 19 for from 101 to 200; and four for more than 200 head for each permit.

Seventy predatory animals were killed by forest officers, including eight bears, five lynxes and 57 coyotes.

During the year more than 20,000,000 feet of timber was cut under timber sale.

There have been constructed by the Forest Service to date 19 miles of road, 187 miles of trail, 205 miles of telephone line, one tower and two houses for fire observation, 19 cabins for ranger quarters and storage of tools and equipment, 21 miles of pasture fence and nine watering troughs to obtain better utilization of springs used by stock grazing in the forest.

The improvements are conducted under a definite plan for the entire forest, as much being done each year as the available funds will permit.

LABORATORY FIGHT IS ON

PLEA WILL BE MADE TO KEEP STATE INSTITUTION IN SEATTLE.

Commissioner Reynolds Declares Work of Testing Water Body's Most Important Function.

OLYMPIA, Wash., Aug. 28.—(Special.)—Differing with his fellow Public Service Commissioners in regard to closing the chemical laboratory of the Commission at Seattle, ordered shut up September 1 as an economy measure, Commissioner Reynolds says today that a protest will be made to Governor Lister.

Closing of the laboratory and discharge of Chemist Dorlacy, as planned by Commissioners Spinning and Lewis, the majority on the Commission, means stopping the work of the Commission in investigating water supply systems of the state at a time, according to Mr. Reynolds, when typhoid fever from impure water sources is prevalent in several sections.

"The members of the State Board of Health agree with me in my position in this matter," said Mr. Reynolds today, "and Health Commissioner Tuttle is preparing a formal protest to lay before the Governor and the Public Service Commission, asking that the Seattle laboratory be continued.

"The public service act makes it the duty of the Commission to safeguard the health and lives of the people of the state by investigating water systems, and full authority is given to order such changes on the part of water companies as will insure pure water. I take this duty, as laid down in the act, to be the most important one of the Commission. Our laboratory, costing $2000 to establish, will be worthless and our work halted if this economy measure stands."

6 IN AUTO ADMIT GUILT

Youths at Vancouver Held for Riding in Stolen Machine.

VANCOUVER, Wash., Aug. 28.—(Special.)—The six young men arrested last night by Chief of Police Elmer Barbeau and Sheriff E. S. Biesecker, charged with riding in a machine knowing that it had been unlawfully taken, were arraigned today and all pleaded guilty. Judge R. H. Back, of the Superior Court, deferred imposing sentence until next Saturday.

The six arrested were Chris Fleckenstein, who admitted taking the car; Charles Llapple, Hal Blaker, John Blaker, Weldon Wellman and William Darling.

F. L. POLK IS COUNSELOR

New York Corporation Counsel Takes Post Held by Lansing.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 28.—The selection of Frank L. Polk, corporation counselor of the State Department, was formally announced tonight by Secretary Lansing.

The President has tendered the position to Mr. Polk, who has accepted.

Mining Near Weiser More Active.

WEISER, Idaho, Aug. 28.—(Special.)—According to P. R. Miller, one of the well-known operators in the Seven Devils mining district north of Weiser, that famous old camp is taking on renewed activity and preparations for extensive developments on a number of properties are well under way. Mr. Miller has returned to his home in Cuprum after a several days' business trip to Weiser and other outside points.

CEREAL CROP IS BIG

Federal Reserve Board Reports on Conditions.

LOWER PRICES PREDICTED

Scarcity of Vessels to Move Grain Regarded as Serious Menace. Improvement in Lumber Industry Indicated by Steel.

OREGONIAN NEWS BUREAU, Washington, Aug. 28.—Reports received by the Federal Reserve Board from officials of the 12th district at San Francisco indicate that while crops on the Pacific Coast will be abundant this year, prices may not come up to expectations. Discussing business conditions and the business outlook of the 12th district, the latest statement of the Board says:

"In this district there is general abundance of crops in great variety. There has already been much harvesting and other crops have been satisfactorily progressing to maturity. It is reported that the greatest cereal crop in the history of Oregon, Washington and Idaho is now being gathered. Fresh fruits, melons and vegetables are in large supply.

"Ordinarily such conditions would insure prosperity; war conditions, however, introduce elements of surprising uncertainty. The lack of bottoms for export hampers the marketing of the cereal crops; warehouses are filling, and it is probable that grain will move slowly from growers' hands. It seems reasonable to expect that delayed marketing may have a tendency to delay trade activity.

Prune Crop Healthy.

"The prune crop is reported as abundant and good, with contract prices about 33 1-3 per cent less than last year. Canners' buying of such fruits as peaches and apricots are naturally proportioned to orders in hand, which are reported to be approximately 37 1-2 per cent less than at this time last year. It is said that prices as low as $6 a ton are being paid for peaches, as against $18 a ton last year. It is asserted that more than the usual proportion of fruit will be dried, and some may even be thrown away. A fair average, however, is had by high prices for some products offsetting low prices for others. As a whole, it is undeniable that the district is adding steadily and largely to its wealth.

"More hopeful expressions are received as to lumber, although there seems little tangible reason. One confident expression was based upon the larger activities in steel, which it was said, is always a precursor of increased activity in lumber.

New Line Is Possibility.

"Chinese capitalists are said to be laying plans for a trans-Pacific line of steamers. More ships would be a great advantage to the Pacific Coast. Nevertheless, during the first six months of 1915 exports from San Francisco totaled $39,000,000 as against $24,000,000 for the same period in 1914, imports increasing from $5,400,000 to $7,800,000.

"Bank clearings give a rough measure of trade activity. Total clearings for the four leading Pacific Coast cities during the first six months of this year have been approximately 7 per cent less than for the first six months of 1914. This moderate curtailment of business is further evidenced by the considerable increase of idle funds in both National and state banks throughout the district. During this Fall, as is usual each Fall, there will, of course, be a considerable increase in the aggregate loans, but there seems reason to believe that the available means of the banks of this district are such as readily to meet the requirements."

FARMING COURSE ADDED

Portland Y. M. C. A to Have Corvallis Extension Work.

OREGON AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE, Corvallis, Aug. 28.—(Special.) — Arrangements for adding a course in agricultural education to the lecture courses of the Portland Y. M. C. A. have been made by R. D. Hetzel, extension director of the Agricultural College, and Robert C. French, head of the association educational department.

The course will be designed to give accurate and scientific information as to leading facts of farming in Oregon and the qualifications for a successful farmer. It has been learned that a great many Portland business men and employes contemplate taking up farming pursuits sooner or later, and are anxious to learn the fundamental requirements.

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RACING AUTO TURNS OVER

Girl Is Killed and One Other of Her 3 Companions May Die.

LOS ANGELES, Cal., Aug. 28.—Crushed beneath the wreckage of an automobile in which she and three companions were returning from a beach resort, Esther Richmond, aged 20, San Bernardino, died today, and K. E. Ahlberg, of Los Angeles, who drove the car, was held pending investigation.

The machine, a racing car designed to carry two persons, turned three somersaults as Ahlberg drove at high speed along a boulevard. Louise Murray, aged 22, also of San Bernardino, was uninjured, but George Brown, a companion of Ahlberg, suffered injuries which may cause his death. Miss Richmond's back was broken. Ahlberg was unhurt.

SPLIT CAN BE SETTLED

Public Service Commisison May Agree on Economy Measure.

OLYMPIA, Wash., Aug. 28.—(Special.)—The split on the Public Service Commission over economy measures, in which Commissioners Spinning and Lewis have overruled Commissioner Reynolds and ordered the Seattle branch of the Commission, including the chemical laboratory, closed, can be compromised, according to Commissioner Lewis.

"If we find we do not have money to continue the entire branch at Seattle, we may, on reconsideration of the matter, decide to meet Mr. Reynolds' objections by at least keeping open the laboratory and retaining Chief Chemist Dorsey," said Mr. Lewis today.

ARTHUR PUTER IS FREED

Police Refuse to Prosecute Manslaughter Charge for Auto Mishap.

OAKLAND, Cal., Aug. 28.—Arthur Puter, 19-year-old son of S. A. D. Puter, millionaire lumberman, of Berkeley and Portland, Or., was today dismissed from custody when a charge of manslaughter which had been preferred against him was stricken from the police court calendar.

Puter last Sunday night ran down and killed Mrs. Mary Hogan in an automobile accident. The Coroner's jury placed the responsibility of the death on him. The police refused to prosecute on the manslaughter charge.

Albany School to Be Opened.

ALBANY, Or., Aug. 28.—(Special.)—The new Central Public School in this city, erected this Summer at a cost of $55,000, will be used for the first time on September 13, 14 and 15, when the joint teachers' institute of Linn and Benton counties will meet there. The building will be used regularly when school opens, September 20.

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ERROR HOLDS UP FUNDS

ILLINOIS DEPARTMENTS IN BAD WAY FOR MONEY.

Court Rules Appropriation Bill Was In Improper Form—Grain Inspection Service Is Knocked Out.

SPRINGFIELD, Ill., Aug. 28.—Declaring that they had been passed in an incorrect form, the Circuit Court knocked out appropriations amounting to $290,000, which had been made by the last General Assembly. This action may necessitate a special session of the Legislature that state departments may have enough money with which to operate.

The decisions were made in a case brought by John B. Ferguss, a Chicago taxpayer. As a result of the court's action, members of the Legislature may be forced to refund to the state $26,000 which they appropriated to themselves for traveling expenses.

CHICAGO, Aug. 28.—One of the immediate local effects of Judge Creighton's decision at Springfield today may be to practically knock out the grain inspection service on the Chicago Board of Trade, according to a Cook County member of the Legislature.

Salaries of the three appeal inspectors were knocked out. These inspectors are the court of last resort in determining the grade of grain shipped into the Chicago market. Fourteen deputy grain inspectors, most of whom were assigned to the Chicago district, also were knocked out of their salaries by the court decision.

WARSHIPS TO BE BETTER

Batteries to Have, Henceforth, Elevation of 30 Deg., Doubling Angle.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 28.—Main batteries of American battleships hereafter will have an elevation of 30 degrees, practically doubling the present angle of fire, according to a decision, reached by the Navy Department experts, it is said, after close study of all available information on naval engagements of the European war. Wherever possible ships now under construction, and those already in commission, it is understood, will be similarly fitted.

The effect of the change will be to change materially the range of the Navy's 14-inch guns and also to make gunfire more accurate in rough weather. The guns now have sufficient range to reach anything within the limit of vision at sea and the added elevation will enable them to hurl shells at objects far beyond the horizon or over hills of considerable size in bombarding land fortifications.

OYSTER PRICE STAYS LOW

Government Issues Cookbook With 100 Recipes for Bivalves.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 28.—Oyster, the food that has not "gone up," is the title of the Government's latest cookbook, issued today through the Bureau of Fisheries. It contains 100 recipes for preparing the bivalves, written by H. F. Moore, Deputy Commissioner of Fisheries.

"An animal food which practically has not increased in cost for 25 years and the production of which has kept pace with the growth of population," Mr. Moore says, "is a present-day anomaly worthy of public attention, especially when its price brings it within the reach of all, and its excellence leaves little to be desired. This is the case of the oyster."

TYPHOID ATTACK IS FATAL

Mrs. Margaret Watson, of Portland, Dies While Visiting in San Diego.

SAN DIEGO, Cal., Aug 28.—(Special.)—Mrs. Margaret Watson, of Portland, died this morning, after a short illness. She came here a few days ago to visit friends. Fifteen days ago she caught cold, which developed into typhoid. She was taken to the hospital, but despite the efforts of the doctors her condition grew worse and she died at 2 o'clock this morning.

She is survived by her husband, Irvine Watson, and daughter, Dorothy, of 545 Tillamook street, Portland. She was 55 years old. This afternoon Mrs. Watson's body was sent to Portland, where the funeral and burial will be held.

BANKERS START FOR WEST

Big Delegation Leaves New York to Attend Seattle Convention.

NEW YORK, Aug. 28.—Three special trains carrying more than 300 bankers from New York and New England bound for the 41st annual convention of the American Bankers' Association to be held in Seattle from September 6 to 20, left here tonight.

Additional delegates from New England were to join the party at Albany. The trains will pass over routes which will enable the bankers to visit Glacier National Park, the Canadian Rockies, Salt Lake, the Panama-Pacific Exposition and the fair at San Diego, Cal.

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