

IDAHO COUNCIL MAY BECOME PERMANENT

State Defense System to Aid Internal Development.

LEGISLATION IS NEEDED

Board of Control Desired to Take Charge of Irrigation Problems.

BOISE, Idaho, Dec. 14.—(Special.)—The present State Council of Defense system, which was in force and effect in this state during the war and is still intact to carry on after-war work, may become a permanent institution through legislative enactment for the purpose of internal development.

The council system of organization as adopted by the Federal Government, has suggested to those associated with it that the state might do worse than to keep it up for the purpose of assisting in solving general policies and to put others into effect. It is held by them that Idaho needs just such an organization to bring together representative men from all parts of the state and to carry out state-wide plans which will tend toward industrial development.

Senators-elect to the next Legislature will be given an opportunity to learn of this plan and to proceed with the drafting of acts that will tend to carry it out in detail. The strongest argument advanced in support of the plan is that it will tend toward closer unity between the several sections and amalgamation of common interests. It is held that geographically Idaho is widely separated and the closest kind of organization is necessary to keep the state solidly united and to properly develop it.

There will be a determined effort made at the coming session to amend the existing laws and enact new ones with relation to the management of the state's irrigation waters. At the present time the State Land Board controls all irrigation, and it is understood that an effort will be made to take this control away from it and place it with a state board of control, which it is proposed to create. In fact, the conference of the agricultural, livestock, irrigation and engineering societies of Idaho, held at Twin Falls this week.

Counts to Be Believed.
It is proposed that a state board of control have the power to settle all disputes arising from irrigation problems. This will relieve the courts of a vast amount of litigation and now contending with, say those advocating the board, and at the same time give the right of appeal from the judgments entered by the board.

Throughout Southern, Southwestern and Southeastern Idaho, irrigation problems are paramount, due to the fact that the greater portion of the area that is productive of crops is irrigated. The biggest irrigation projects of their kind in the world are located here, and even larger ones are planned in the construction programme of the Federal Government. It is claimed that a board or commission of irrigation experts should deal with the various problems, and not inexperienced members of a State Land Board.

In an open letter addressed to members of the next Legislature, State Highway Engineer H. C. Allen points out that if this state is to take advantage of the Federal good roads act and make available for road construction work approximately \$1,000,000 during the next two years, it will become necessary to pass a special good roads tax act. He quotes from a letter received from the United States Bureau of Public Roads, showing that now that the tax has been lifted from road construction work and there is likely to be a surplus of labor, no more fitting policy can be pursued than to proceed with the building of highways so that internal improvements can be made and work afforded at good wages to those who desire it. The letter further states that there will be made available July 1, 1919, \$50,000,000, of which amount not over \$5,000,000 has been expended. In addition before the year is ended another \$50,000,000 will be made available.

Republicans to Confer.
December 28 has been set as the date when the Republican heads of state administrative departments elected at the last general election meet in Boise for the purpose of considering the distribution of state appointments. At that time the heads of the various subsidiary departments and commissions will be selected, providing the elective heads

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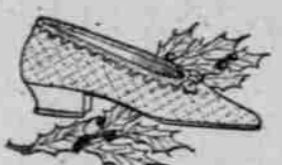
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REED TO GIVE NEW COURSE

Employment Management to Be Taught at College.

At the request of the Government, Reed College will offer an emergency course in employment management, beginning April 1, 1919, under the auspices of the Department of Labor, the War Department, the Navy Department, the U. S. Shipping Board, and the Chamber of Commerce of the United States. The employment management division of the War Industries Board has outlined the course.

The course is open to men and women and it is expected some students will come as representatives of firms by which they are employed. The course will be directed by Hudson B. Hastings, professor of applied economics.

Sinn Feiners in Lead.
LONDON, Dec. 14.—Polling in the greater part of Ireland passed quietly except for minor collisions between Sinn Feiners and Nationalists. A close analysis of the voting shows that the Nationalists have been beaten by the Sinn Fein, even in their supposed strongholds.

RAPIDS PROJECT FAVORED

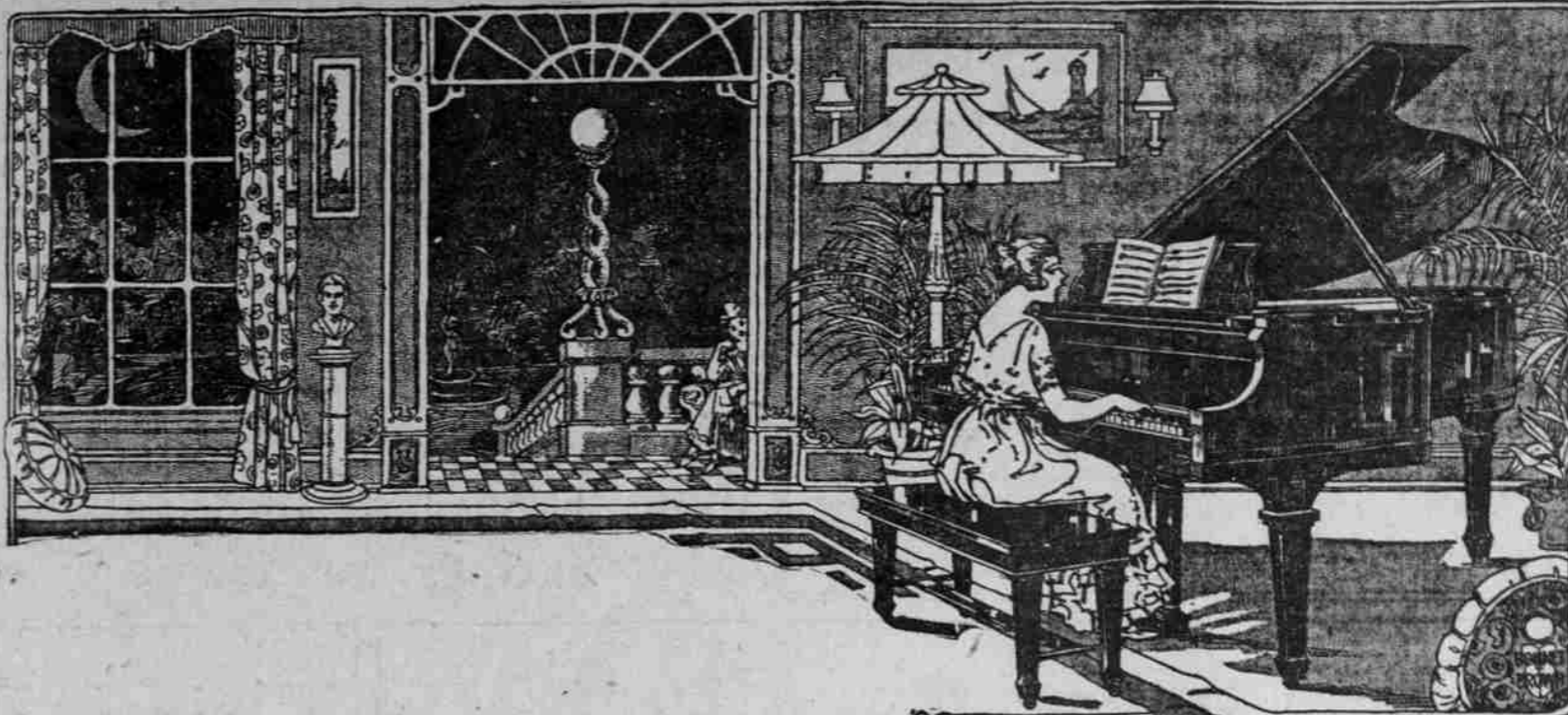
WASHINGTON REPRESENTATIVE PRESENTS POSSIBILITIES.

Irrigation of Eureka Flat Wheat Land Advocated by Walla Walla Resident.

WALLA WALLA, Wash., Dec. 14.—(Special.)—Irrigation of vast territory in Walla Walla County, now devoted exclusively to the production of wheat, is advocated by John W. Summers, Representative-elect in the Fourth Congressional District. At the good roads convention held recently in Pasco Mr. Summers brought the Five-Mile Rapids project of Lower Snake River to the attention of the gathering, and pointed out some of the possibilities in connection with its development.

"The persistency of the towns of the Yakima Valley in constantly pushing their irrigation plans has extended to Pasco and might well be emulated by Walla Walla and other counties," said Mr. Summers.

"Pasco has caught this spirit in her efforts to develop the Lower Snake River irrigation project at Five-Mile Rapids. 'It deemed advisable this power could be used in putting water, during the winter and spring months, on a hundred thousand acres on Eureka Flat. 'It seems to me this project should appeal to Walla Walla and Franklin counties above all other projects because it makes possible a saving of 10 per cent on our electric bills and gives us river transportation from



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Fancy Silk Hose
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