

EMINENT SCIENTISTS UPHOLD VACCINATION

Noted Medical Men Urge Oregon to Stand Firm.

PUBLIC HEALTH AT STAKE

Experts Say Passage of Proposed Anti-Compulsory Bill Would Be Step Back to Dark Ages.

WHAT LEADING PHYSICIANS AND SCIENTISTS THINK OF PROPOSED ANTI-VACCINATION BILL

Dr. Milton Joseph Rosenau, noted bacteriologist—Adoption would put civilization back into the dark ages and be a serious blow to preventive medicine. Surgeon-General Cummings—Adoption would militate against work of health authorities and place Oregon far below standard of progressive states. Simon Flexner, director Rockefeller Institute of Medical Research—Adoption would mark Oregon as a state opposed to the advance of medical science and the protection of public health. Victor G. Heiser, International Health Bureau—Adoption of anti-vaccination measures would be taking serious risk with the lives of citizens and children of state. Committee of public health of the Association of Life Insurance Medical Directors—Failure to continue protection of public health which vaccination affords would be criminal. J. W. Fisher, medical director Northwestern Mutual Life Insurance company—Adoption of measure would not only seriously affect health of people in Oregon, but lives of persons living outside your state would also be jeopardized.

Adoption of the so-called anti-vaccination bill, which is on the state floor for the November election, would be a step back into the dark ages, an infringement upon the rights of other states in the nation and a serious blow against the health of Oregon's school children, according to leading surgeons, bacteriologists and physicians and directors of health conservation departments of leading insurance companies.

The sentiment expressed by these men was obtained in telegrams received yesterday in response to a message sent by The Oregonian, in which the text of the proposed anti-vaccination bill was quoted and an opinion requested on the effect of adoption of such a measure.

Most emphatic was the warning that came against the adoption of the measure from such men as Surgeon-General Cummings of the United States Bureau of Health; Dr. Milton Joseph Rosenau, considered one of the leading bacteriologists of the world, a scientist who has given the major portion of his time during the last 20 years to preventive measures with which to combat disease; Dr. Simon Flexner, director of the Rockefeller Institute for medical research; Dr. Victor G. Heiser, director of the international health board, formerly director of health for the Philippine islands, and other authorities.

Flexner opinion is valued. The opinion of Dr. Simon Flexner on the proposed anti-vaccination bill is of particular value, inasmuch as director of the Rockefeller Institute of Medical Research, it is incumbent upon him to do everything possible to conserve the health of the nation. The Rockefeller Institute is not a mercenary organization. Its particular function is to serve the human race by devising means by which to lengthen life and prevent premature death.

The telegram which The Oregonian dispatched to these authorities is as follows: "Following constitutional amendment to be voted on in Oregon, November 2: 'No form of vaccination, inoculation, or other medication shall be made condition in this state for admission to or attendance at any public school, college, university, or other educational institution; or for employment of any person in any capacity, or for the exercise of any right, or the enjoyment of any privilege.' If compatible, please wire briefly your opinion of effect adoption of this amendment would be on public health in Oregon and particularly its wisdom in state having ocean ports where bubonic plague, cholera, typhus or smallpox might enter."

The seriousness of the adoption of this measure by the voters of the state of Oregon is emphasized in the program received from Surgeon-General Cummings, which reads as follows: "The proposed amendment to the Oregon constitution, if adopted, would seriously militate against work of health authorities in preventing the spread of disease by removing one of their most effective weapons. Such legislation would be a long step backward and would place Oregon far below the standard of progressive states. Apparently it would be in contravention to federal laws and regulations enacted to prevent the introduction of such diseases into the United States, and to prevent their spread from one state into another. I feel in duty bound to make this statement in the interest of the public health of the entire United States."

Passage of the proposed measure would be a serious step backward, according to the opinion of Dr. Rosenau, who, from 1890 to 1910, was director of the United States public health and marine hospital service, a director of the hygienic laboratories in this service, a professor of preventive medicine and hygiene in Harvard medical school for many years, and is acknowledged to be one of the leading bacteriologists of the entire world.

Dr. Rosenau's opinion of the proposed bill is as follows: "The proposed constitutional amendment concerning vaccination, inoculation or other medication as a requisite for admission to public schools, etc., is a step backward. Such a law would put civilization back into the dark ages. It would be a blow to preventive medicine and would seriously affect the public health. The state of Oregon is exposed through its seaports to bubonic plague, cholera, typhus, smallpox and other exotic pestilences. The prevention of smallpox depends upon preliminary vaccination. Typhoid vaccine has been successful in the prophylaxis of that disease. Salmonella (608) is a specific medicine and its prompt administration de-

stroys the infection and helps prevent the spreading of the greatest cancer of humanity. The control of other infections, such as diphtheria, depends largely upon the use of antitoxin and prophylactic inoculations which protect susceptible individuals. No state has a right to endanger the health of other states by permitting pestilences to enter and spread. School children should not be subjected to the danger of contagion because one or more persons do not believe or understand the blessing of preventive medicine.

Law Would Menace Country. With the benefit of years of research work behind it, the Rockefeller Institute is considered authoritative on medical prevention and the following telegram from Dr. Flexner of this institution is particularly interesting: "Replying to your telegraphic inquiry of October 20, I would state that any law which interferes with or prevents the use of vaccination, inoculation or other medication by properly qualified physicians would deprive the citizens of a state advocating it of some of the most effective ways of preventing disease and saving life, and mark such state as opposed to the advance of medical science and the protection of public health. The menace of such dangerous legislation would be particularly great in a state with open ports and at a period in the world's history in which destructive epidemic diseases threaten from every side."

A community which fails to employ vaccines, serums and other biological products in the prevention of disease is taking a serious risk with the lives of its citizens, according to the opinion of Victor G. Heiser of the international health board. His telegram is as follows: "In reply to your telegram. Careful observation shows that vaccines, serums and other biological products are powerful weapons in the prevention and control of disease. A community which fails to employ these approved preventive measures is taking serious risk with the lives of its citizens and children. It is an endangering health and lives outside its borders, as disease respects no state or national boundaries. In the Cuban war more American soldiers were killed by typhoid fever than by bullets. In the world war over 4,000,000 American troops were hospitalized with typhoid and only a few dozen deaths occurred from this disease."

Philippines Are Benefited. "The Philippines, before the introduction of pestive vaccination, 60,000 lives a year were lost from smallpox. This disease was wiped out in every section of the Philippines in which vaccination was maintained. No deleterious results to health followed the vaccination of the 7,000,000 people of the Philippines. In writing to the various health departments of the United States, The Oregonian simply sent the text of the proposed measure, and requested an opinion of the effect of the adoption of such a measure would have on public health in the state of Oregon, and its possible bearing on insurance. The replies received were as follows: "We very earnestly oppose the proposed constitutional amendment referred to in your telegram and urgently advise voters of Oregon to register an overwhelming negative vote at the polls, in view of the universal experience of the human race and the virtual stamping out by vaccination of pestilence which formerly at frequently repeated intervals decimated the population. Failure to continue the protection of the public health which vaccination affords would be criminal. In every instance in which vaccination has been abandoned outbreaks have occurred, usually promptly. Millions are living today who would not be alive but for vaccination and to discard the use of this simple, safe and sure preventive would be foolhardy. The statistics of life insurance are abundant and extensive and all support the contention of the best medical scientific opinion of the world."

Committee of Public Health of the Association of Life Insurance Medical Directors. "Other Opinions Expressed. "In my opinion the public health not only of the people of Oregon but of the entire nation would be seriously affected by the adoption of the proposed constitutional amendment providing that no vaccination, inoculation or other medication shall be made a condition respecting the enjoyment of certain rights or privileges therein stated. Such an amendment would, in my opinion, be also a serious menace to the business of all life insurance companies transacting business in the state."

J. W. FISHER, "Medical Director, Northwestern Mutual Life Insurance Company." "I regard any effort to lessen value of vaccination as a dangerous move, especially as applied to all educational institutions in the state of Oregon or elsewhere. "Medical Director of Conservation, Equitable Life Assurance Society."

FARM BUREAU TO GO ON Membership Campaign. VANCOUVER, Wash., Oct. 23.—(Special)—Members of the Clarke county farm bureau at a special meeting here today decided to continue the organization and a membership campaign to raise funds for necessary expenses will be started. The bureau appropriation of nearly \$10,000 was cut from the budget by the county commissioners this year and the organization now hopes to obtain enough memberships at \$5 each to equal that amount. In addition to this, the state college will contribute \$2700 toward salaries. A committee of 20 members was appointed to take charge of the drive. R. E. Gerrard, president of the farm bureau, called the meeting when he learned that the county commissioners had cut out the appropriation for 1921.

MILLINERY TO BE TAUGHT Course Especially for Faculty at Corvallis is Arranged. OREGON AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE, Corvallis, Oct. 23.—(Special)—A course in millinery is to be held especially for faculty women, wives of professors and other women employed on the campus. The course, embodying the latest in the art of hat making, will be held evenings in order that all may take advantage of it. Miss Helen McPaul, formerly of Portland, instructor in millinery, will have charge of the course. The making of hats and millinery accessories such as scarfs, bags and flowers will be taught. Hat renovation also will be taught.

Treaty Revision to Be Considered. SAN SALVADOR, Oct. 23.—Proposals for the revision of treaties with the United States and the modification of the rights of Central American peoples advanced by the Salvadoran foreign office, will be considered at the conference of Central American republics, commencing at San Jose, Costa Rica, December 1.

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IMMIGRATION ISSUE IS HELD PARAMOUNT

Representative Johnson Has New Bill for Congress.

ALIEN INFLUX CRITICAL

Legislator Tells Ilwaco Audience That Foreign Hordes Must Be Barred Against Disaster.

ILWACO, Wash., Oct. 23.—(Special)—Albert Johnson, representative in congress, spoke here Friday night to a large audience in the Ilwaco theater, devoting much of his time to the great national problems of immigration and naturalization, which problems are before the committee of which he is chairman. The congressman said the United States was facing a tremendous influx of foreign population, and that it was imperative to take steps to meet it in a scientific way.

Representative Johnson said that until world conditions resumed normal, immigration should be limited to the relatives of naturalized citizens of the United States. "Cheap labor is dear at any price, and the plan which I shall offer at the winter session of congress will provide sufficient immigration for the immediate future and probably enough for the years ahead," said Mr. Johnson. "Relatives here gladly will give guarantees for those whom they desire to bring, and this will do away with the congestions and the uncertain examinations at Ellis island, and end the heart-breaking scenes which occur there every day when the poverty-stricken and the uninvited are denied admission for various causes, and turned back on a dreary trip to the countries they have left."

Immigrants Pouring In. "Much uncertainty as to the size of the immigration movement prevailed all last year, but that uncertainty is now removed, for immigrants are now pouring in many thousands a day. Not less than 3,000,000 of the people of Poland are seeking transportation to the United States and nearly as many Italians. "All available steamer accommodations have been engaged for nearly a year ahead, and plans are under way to convert some of the idle ships offered for sale by the shipping board into immigrant ships. At the offices of American consuls everywhere in Europe aliens are begging for visas to their passports. The consuls have little authority for refusal to issue."

Detroit, Philadelphia, New York and other large cities are faced with acute housing problems, which are made more serious by the arrival of the steady stream of aliens which set in last August. "Tenement Ucer Is Spreading. "The new arrivals are forced to lodge in tenements already overcrowded, and it is easy to predict distress, suffering and misery in these cities, with long bread lines, before the winter is over. Already is unemployment. Quick action by congress is necessary."

Representative Johnson described a proposed new plan of naturalization which carries with it annual voluntary registration, annual examination and a new form of oath at the time of taking out first papers, in which the alien affirms that he is not an anarchist and that he does not belong to any society or group which advocates anarchy, overthrow of government by force, assassination, willful destruction of private property or sabotage. "Mr. Johnson's new naturalization bill provides for the separate naturalization of the wives of aliens. This is made necessary by the extension of the franchise under the woman's suffrage amendment. The bill also provides that American women, who marry aliens may retain their citizenship as long as they stay in the United States. The representative is confident that the naturalization bill will pass during this winter's session."

Japanese Exclusion Indicated. Mr. Johnson said also that an attempt would be made to carry a Japanese exclusion provision in the new immigration bill. All other orientals, Malays and Hindus are now excluded. He predicted that Mr. Harding would carry the state of Washington by 50,000 or 60,000, and that Governor Hart and all republican nominees would have big pluralities. The representative discussed national affairs briefly and said that the situation had been briefly summed up in a lively limerick which is going around, and which declares that: "There once was a person named Cox, Who wanted to wear Wilson's box, But his friends made him holler, 'When they found Wilson's collar Was wrapped in the very same box."

STEVENS TO HELP TAX EX-FIRE MARSHAL TO RETURN TO SAVE BUREAU. Defeat of Three-Mill Levy Would Cripple Portland's Work, Says Prevention Expert.

Because he believes that defeat if the three-mill tax, which the city council has asked the voters to authorize for next year as it did a year ago for the present year, would destroy years of fire prevention effort in Portland, Jay Stevens, in charge of the fire prevention bureau of the national board of fire underwriters, has decided to come to Portland to aid in the campaign for the re-authorization of the tax measure. Mr. Stevens, who was formerly battalion fire chief and fire marshal in the city Monday morning, according to a letter received last night by Commissioner Bigelow, so that he might take an active part in the three-mill tax campaign, Mr. Stevens delayed the inauguration of several fire prevention campaigns in eastern cities and is making a cross-country three-mill tax drive.

"I have decided to come to Portland and should arrive Monday morning," reads the letter received by Commissioner Bigelow. "Although there is much important fire prevention work to be launched in the east, I do not know of anything more important in my work than to aid in the campaign to obtain a re-authorization of the three-mill tax."

"While I am not so concerned over the financial difficulties of Portland, as I am of other cities, other departments, I am decidedly worried over the effect of a defeat of the tax measure on the fire bureau. I know Portland conditions as I do, and it is easy to realize that a reduction which would be necessary in the event of such defeat would demoralize the Portland fire department."

"Much time and effort has been given to fire prevention work in Portland and it now looms as a city which is in the forefront in this work. But a reduced fire bureau, inadequate in equipment and manpower, would wipe out all effects of fire prevention work. It would even affect the fire prevention bureau, for I cannot see how this department will be able to escape uncut any more than any other department."

Strike Holds Up Liner. LONDON, Oct. 23.—In consequence of the coal strike the sailing of the Cunard liner Kaiserin Auguste Victoria for New York, scheduled for today, was indefinitely postponed.

Voters Must Bond County. PRINEVILLE, Or., Oct. 23.—(Special)—One of the local measures to come before the Crook county voters on Nov. 2 is whether or no there shall be issued bonds to fund warrants drawn on the treasurer, to evidence debts and liabilities imposed on it by law and which the county is powerless to prevent. These bonds would be in the sum of \$100,000, bearing 6 per cent and their life would be from six to 15 years. The county is in financial straits, due largely to warrants inherited when the county was last divided, and there is no way to pay off these warrants except by an issue of bonds.



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