

COLUMBIA CERTAIN OF FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

National Rivers and Harbors Congress Friendly to Oregon Projects.

Joseph N. Teal has returned from Washington, D. C., where he went as one of the delegates representing Oregon to attend the National Congress for the Conservation of the Natural Resources of the country. Mr. Teal, as president of the Oregon commission which is working in harmony with the national movement for the conservation of resources, had a prominent part in the work of the congress at Washington. While there he attended the National Rivers and Harbors congress and held a conference, in company with Governor Chamberlain and other representatives of Oregon and Washington, with Congressman Burton, chairman of the rivers and harbors committee of congress.

In speaking of his experiences while in Washington and during his trip in the east, Mr. Teal says: "The reports which have heretofore been published from the recent meetings of the National Rivers and Harbors congress and the joint conservation conferences held at Washington, have been so full that very little remains to be added to what has already been said. Both conventions were in progress substantially at the same time.

Great Growth of Congress.

"The National Rivers and Harbors congress has grown so that where three years ago a small hall in Washington was sufficient for the purposes of the convention, this year the large meeting room on the upper floor of the New Willard could not hold the delegates. Its importance and influence was recognized on all sides. Both the president and Mr. Taft referred to it in the most complimentary terms, and the papers gave prominence to its proceedings.

"The speakers on this occasion were many of them of international reputation. It was felt, however, that the time had arrived when some definite stand must be taken to crystallize into law what the convention stood for. The educational work of the past four years had given everyone a better understanding of the situation. It was understood that whenever there was a treasury deficit the first bill to feel the legislative ax was that which provided for the improvement of the rivers and harbors, and that it was apparent that something must be done to avoid this condition if these important works were to be continued without loss and waste to final completion.

Wise in Past.

"A study of the subject had also brought a realization that many of the methods of the past were unwise and that a general scheme for the improvement of all waterways should be adopted to be completed in the future. It was felt that the time had arrived when a comprehensive system of water transportation throughout the country should be planned. It was felt that the time had arrived when a comprehensive system of water transportation throughout the country should be planned. It was felt that the time had arrived when a comprehensive system of water transportation throughout the country should be planned.

"It was also recognized that deep and safe harbors added to the value of the interior had as direct an interest in this project as the coast. It was felt that the time had arrived when a comprehensive system of water transportation throughout the country should be planned. It was felt that the time had arrived when a comprehensive system of water transportation throughout the country should be planned.

Four Conclusions Reached.

"First. That a general and comprehensive plan should be adopted for the improvement of the rivers and harbors, and that when finally completed, would be an interrelated water system covering the various sections of the country.

"Second. In order to secure this plan a commission should be created to study and to suggest to congress the country and the best method for them.

"Third. It was recognized that many water projects under way would fit into and be consistent with any plan which could be adopted, and that these works should be pushed to completion and other necessary projects provided for.

Oregon Man Reported.

"Since the adjournment of this convention I have had a letter from Mr. Hansell advising me that he had appointed the committee, consisting of the following: M. C. of Louisiana, chairman; Randall M. C. of Kentucky; J. Hampton Moore, M. C. of Pennsylvania, and myself.

"It is the duty of this committee to prepare the bill suggested as soon as possible, and the organization as a whole and each member thereof is expected to stand by it and work for its passage, expressing the wishes of the entire body.

"Fortunately we are so situated that Oregon, even from a selfish standpoint, can enter most heartily in this movement. The Columbia river and its tributaries are recognized everywhere as one of the great waterway systems of the country, and in every scheme or

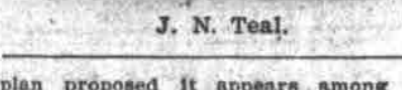
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J. N. Teal.

plan proposed it appears among the leaders. The most important projects in connection with its development have been approved and are under way and the necessity for their completion fully understood.

Upgraded 30-Foot Channel.

"Some of our coast harbor work is in the same condition, and in this connection would state that I took occasion to urge most strongly upon Mr. Burton and other members of the rivers and harbors committee of the house the necessity for having an immediate survey for a 30-foot project for the Columbia from Portland to the sea, and for a project for the improvement of Tillamook bay. It will probably be remembered that the project as it now stands for the improvement of the Columbia above referred to calls only for a 25-foot channel, while there is no project today for the improvement of the entrance to Tillamook bay. In the year 1903, or thereabouts, a survey was had, out owing to the existing commercial conditions at that time the project was not approved.

"It is also well known that no appropriations are made for any work excepting approved projects, and the first step to be taken is to secure a survey and an approved project.

Presented Special Needs.

"While in Washington a committee headed by Governor Chamberlain called on Mr. Burton to present special needs. At this meeting Mr. Burton raised the question as to the necessity for a survey of the Columbia from the mouth had a correspondingly navigable depth. I did not understand him to be opposed to the survey, but that his remarks were explained to me in the inquiry for information than otherwise. The conditions at the mouth of the river were explained to him, and the necessity for the increased depth in the river, and it was also stated that a project of the character was necessary in order that the Port of Portland might spend some of its money on permanent work instead of having each year to pay it all out in dredging.

"The tendency is getting more pronounced for committees to aid in the work of improving their rivers and harbors, and some of the states have voted very large sums of money for this purpose. I would say, however, that I know of no state that has pursued this policy more continuously and intelligently than has the state of Oregon, and it is today the most powerful influence in our behalf in Washington. It is very rare to receive appropriations for improvements where the people themselves are giving the best evidence of their faith in their necessity and importance by putting up their own money.

Demand Very Strong.

"There seems to be very considerable doubt as to whether there will be a rivers and harbors bill at this session of congress. The demand for one is very strong and may overcome all objection. If there is one, it is likely to be as large as the last one. I have no doubt, however, but what Oregon's needs will be taken care of with the others, and in my opinion, if there is a rivers and harbors bill, the survey for the Tillamook channel, as well as the 30-foot channel from Portland to the sea, will be ordered.

OLDEST NATIVE SON OF OREGON PASSES SEVENTIETH MILE POST

The oldest white man born west of the Rocky mountains celebrated his birthday this month at Albany, Or. He is Cyrus Hamlin Walker, who first saw the light of day 70 years ago, December 7, 1838, at the Whitman mission near



Cyrus Hamlin Walker.

Walla Walla, Wash. Although he has reached such an advanced age, Mr. Walker is still hale and hearty and does not look as old as he is by many years. He attributes this apparent youthfulness to Oregon's climate.

Mr. Walker's parents were married at North Yarmouth, Maine, and the day after the wedding started on their long journey across the continent, making the journey from the Missouri river west to Lewis and Clark. The saddle used by Mrs.

J. N. Teal Returns From the Convention With Report Encouraging to State.

"The difference between present conditions and those in 1905 at Tillamook, and the necessity for its improvement was explained, and seemed to be satisfactory. In the event there is no rivers and harbors bill at this session I feel very certain there will be one at the special session, which is generally expected to be held about March 15. Data covering needs of the entire state was left with Mr. Burton, as well as other members of the rivers and harbors committee and our representatives in congress and senators are fully alive to the needs of the situation.

Many Prominent Delegates.

"The meeting of the Conservation conference was attended by 20 or more governors and many prominent men throughout the United States, and it was opened in a well known, with speeches by President Roosevelt, Mr. Taft and Governor Chamberlain. The president and Mr. Taft were decided in their opinion as to the necessity of conservation work, and there was great interest taken in the subject from every section. It should be understood, however, that this movement to be successful must have behind it the cooperation and support of the states.

"The most important step taken at the Conservation conference was the passage of a resolution authorizing Honorable Gifford Pinchot, the chairman, to appoint a committee of six members from the state conservation commissions and three members from the National Conservation commission to formulate a plan for the cooperation of the states in the national government.

Oregon Gets Recognition.

"The chairman is evidently at work appointing this committee, as yesterday I received a telegram from him asking me if I would serve on it. I am on the Oregon commission. Not unnaturally it was a source of some gratification as representing this state in the national conventions to have it recognized as it has been, and it ought to be a source of gratification to the Oregon state commission to know the report they prepared and sent on was recognized as the most complete one presented to the national government.

"I can say this without being accused of any egotism, as in the work of its preparation every one of the committee shared and devoted their time as well as money to having the state's situation properly presented.

"Oregon is recognized in the east as being one of the most progressive in all matters of a public nature for the general public good, and with the spirit that it has shown in the past I have no doubt it will maintain this position.

May Secure a Vote.

"On the matter of the amendment of the interstate commerce act, the Oregon patches have advised all of the commercial interests of the failure of the committee to report it back for action. Senator Fulton intends to take up the matter immediately after congress reconvenes, and I think will be able to secure a vote upon it, and if a vote can be had I think it will pass the senate. Whether or not within the limited time before congress adjourns this will could be got through the house, even if it passes the senate, is extremely doubtful, if not a great deal of the work will have to be done again.

"However, the influence behind the passage of the measure and its necessity, and the fact that the interstate commerce commission has twice recommended its adoption, that the president favors it, and public opinion demands it, will in the end bring about its passage. Nothing has given it such an impetus as the late advances in rates throughout the country, and the shippers substantially powerless to properly protect themselves.

Shippers Are Barred.

"It must be remembered that while the railroads have no objection to a decision made by the interstate commerce commission, the shippers have not. They must submit, and are very hard to see when an advance in rate is made affecting business or the movement of traffic, any wrong will be done by giving the commission a vote on the matter, after notice and hearing, to prohibit the taking effect of an advance in rates until the matter has been heard and finally determined.

"That is all the Fulton amendment proposes. If every one interested in the matter is to be heard, it is a matter what they could do to assist, its passage would be very greatly expedited."

Walker is now in the Oregon Historical society's rooms in this city. For nine years Cyrus Walker lived with his parents at Tahmakin, now called Walker, Prairie, in Washington, west of Spokane, but after the 1914, massacre of November 23, 1848, he removed to the Whitman mission, where he remained until 1850, when he removed to Forest Grove, where young Cyrus attended school for 10 years, from 1850 to 1860. He was engaged in dairying and farming, and in 1868 he and a partner took 40 head of cows into the eastern Oregon and ran a dairy in the upper waters of Birch creek.

That fall he returned to the Willamette valley and became a member of the Forest Grove until December 1, 1864, when he enlisted in Company B, First Oregon Infantry. He saw service in eastern Oregon, in Idaho and later in the Indian immigrant trails where his company was engaged in protecting the immigrants against the attacks of hostile Indians. He held a commission as lieutenant when he was mustered out at Fort Vancouver, Wash., July 23, 1868.

From the spring of 1867 to January, 1872, Mr. Walker resided in a family country. Then he returned to Forest Grove and farmed for two years, when he went to Astoria, where he was called to service at the Warm Springs Indian agency, where he served as agency clerk or superintendent, principal and teacher for the greater part of the next 15 years. He removed with his family to Albany in 1892 and engaged in farming, dairying and horiculture. He has resided at Albany ever since.

GEORGE HURLBUT DIES IN NEW YORK

(Herald News by Longest Leased Wire.) New York, Dec. 26.—George C. Hurlbut, one of the best known librarians in this country, died this morning in a hospital as a result of being thrown out of an automobile yesterday, in a collision with an Eighty-sixth street car in Central park. His daughter, who was with him, is dying. Both Mr. Hurlbut and his daughter received fractured skulls and other internal injuries. The man's 78 years were against his chances for recovery. Mr. Hurlbut was born in Charleston, S. C. and for more than 30 years has been librarian of the American Geographical society.

SYMPATHY FOR CRIMINALS FASHION OF THE TIME

From Senator Lodge's Speech on Brownville.

Sympathy for criminals of all races and of all classes has become the fashion of the time, and although it springs from the better and gentler impulses of the human mind, it is a most dangerous and misdirected, of doing incalculable injury to society. In all the changes of the last 200 years none has been more marked than the alteration, both in practice and opinion, in relation to crime and criminals and to their trial and punishment. In the eighteenth century, when more was done than in any other period to advance political liberty, to set free the human mind and break the shackles which had fettered the thought of mankind, criminal codes and the punishment of criminals, both in England and in this country, torn from limb by law, and in their execution, the tortures of the regular execution of the law were abandoned. In the nineteenth century, however, the treatment of prisoners and the ordinary punishments of criminals were barbarous to the last degree. Even in this country, torn from limb by law, the punishment of criminals was extreme in its severity, and as late as 1740 many wretched beings were burned at the stake in New York for real or supposed complicity in what was known as the "negro plot." Toward these punishments the public opinion was not only indifferent, but the execution of noted criminals was a recognized "sight" which all the world rushed to witness. The gentlemen, like Erace Walpole and his friends, made this grim work of the hangman one of the great joys of his life. George Washington, member of parliament and one of the great wit and men of fashion of his time, made such a specialty of it that his interest became one of the subjects and bywords of the day. He traveled to Paris to witness the hideous tortures and execution of Damien, who was guilty of the murder of the king's horses attached to his legs and arms, and the story goes that he showed so much interest in the proceedings that the executioner asked him if he was of the profession. To which Selwyn replied that, unfortunately, he was only a spectator.

BLIND MEN MANAGE HOME FOR AFFLICTED

Charter Granted to New Institution for Aged Unfortunates—Memorial to Teacher.

Philadelphia, Dec. 25.—With every one of the 12 members of the board of managers blind, and with capital funds trustees similarly afflicted, application has been made in the courts of this county for a charter for the institution to be known as "The Chapin Memorial Home for the Aged Blind," named after the late William Chapin, who for many years was head of the Pennsylvania school for the blind, which is now situated in Overbrook.

This institution, which is unique among those for the blind in this city, is, according to the application, "formed for the care, support and maintenance of the aged blind persons."

School Shoes that wear Rosenthal's

The great movement for a larger political liberty, which began with our Revolution and culminated in that of France, brought many reforms in its train, and among others that of the criminal law. In England, under the lead of Romilly, the criminal code which inflicted the penalty of death for as I remember, some 150 offenses—great and small—was radically altered and made more humane. At a somewhat later time the revolting publicity of executions was denounced by Dickens and Thackeray in prose, and by Byron in the Ingolby legends in verse, and this demoralizing spectacle was finally removed from the gaze of the crowd. England and the United States were only late leaders in a movement which went on throughout western civiliza-

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support themselves, will have a haven of refuge when their earning capacity is ended.

The home will be maintained by subscriptions from the members of charitable persons and organizations.

The four blind members on the board of trustees are Adam Geibel, head of the Adam Geibel music company; Dr. David D. Wood, a musician; Mr. P. Bausch, a teacher in the Pennsylvania School for the Blind, at Overbrook, and John F. Maher, a lawyer and teacher.

Singers Celebrate.

The Norwegian Singing society last night celebrated Christmas with a concert and dance in the Woodmen of the World hall, Twelfth and Morrison streets. A pleasing program was rendered by the singers. A sumptuous meal was served in the banquet hall.

YALE MAN BRINGS BRIDE TO OREGON

Robert W. Forbes Engaged in Lumber Business at Wendling.

(United Press Leased Wire.) Middletown, Conn., Dec. 25.—Robert W. Forbes, one of Yale's best football players, has married Miss Bertha T. Bacon of this city.

Forbes played end and tackle on the Yale team in 1905 and 1906, and was named on the all American team as end in 1908. He was elected captain of the Wesleyan eleven in 1906, but owing to conditions in studies was not allowed to play. He left the college and went to Yale.

He is in the lumber business at Wendling, Or., where he took his bride. The Italian army has constructed a dirigible balloon with a capacity of 2500 cubic meters, all parts of which were made in Italy.

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