

OREGON NEEDS 4000 MEN TO PUT IN FARM CROPS IS ESTIMATE

Shortage in Regular Help Is Most Acute in History of the State, Expert Says.

200 CALLED; BUT 10 REPLY

N. F. Johnson, Director of Municipal Employment Bureau, Makes Appeal for Help for Farmers.

"Oregon needs an army of 4000 workers on the farms to put in the crops for this year," said N. F. Johnson, director of the municipal employment bureau, this morning.

"But of regular farm workers there is the most acute shortage in the history of the state," he said.

"We have had 200 calls for farm hands during the past four days; we have been able to furnish only 10."

"Yet without more help it will be absolutely impossible to put in the normal acreage of crops."

Schoolboys Also Needed.

Mr. Johnson returned Thursday from a conference with the heads of Oregon Agricultural colleges. A cooperative plan brings to him reports from the 14 county agricultural agents of the state. Information on file shows that farmers everywhere will have to get help just as soon as the weather permits cultivation, which in the natural order will be only a few days.

By June 1, there will be serious need for 4000 heavy pickers. With no supply of mature men, the possibility of enlisting older schoolboys will be definitely considered. It will be a topic at the state agricultural emergency conference, to be held under Oregon Agricultural college auspices at the Chamber of Commerce tomorrow at 2 o'clock.

A letter from Paul V. Maris, leader of county agricultural agents, to the agents gives a statement of available forces in this direction.

"There are 15,000 boys in the schools of the state over 14 and under 20, and it is reasonable to assume that there are in the neighborhood of 10,000 over 16 and under 19, the minimum military age. There are also in the neighborhood of 5000 men in Portland not regularly employed. A plan will probably be worked out for the enlistment of the school boys for farm service, a branch of the national guard, the service to receive statewide recognition through action by the government."

Adequate Pay Promised.

"Our thought would be," further explained Mr. Johnson, "to enlist boys for farm work with the same recognition and dignity that goes with enlistment in army and navy, to see that good accommodations are provided and that they are adequately paid for the work they do. There is nothing more needed now in the service of their country than their work on the farms."

PLAN PROPOSED TO KEEP PRICES WITHIN LIMITS

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ports so that farmers can get the benefit of expert instruction along all lines of production of grains and livestock.

Would enlist all housewives in a nation-wide campaign to eliminate waste. Would enlarge to the greatest possible extent all branches of department which are combating destructive insects and diseases of both animals and plants.

Secretary Houston, while making no

specific recommendation on the subject, says that suspension of the manufacture of alcoholic liquors would mean the saving of \$145,000,000 worth of grains now used annually in the production of alcoholic beverages.

Would Change Milling Methods.

Would increase the flour supply 15-200,000 barrels by compelling milling of wheat so as to make 81 per cent of the kernel into flour instead of 70 per cent as at present.

Would safeguard seed stocks for 1918 against untoward climatic or other conditions. Also would supply seed at cost.

Would make an immediate nationwide survey of the food supply of the nation and establish market grades and classes of all farm products.

Would license and supervise operation of every sort of plant having to do with agricultural consumption of agricultural products.

Would force common carriers to prefer movement of seeds, fertilizers, insecticides, fungicides, farm machinery and materials required in their manufacture.

Better Market Reports Recommended.

Would enlarge the department's market news service to cover all localities so that both undue shortages or temporary over supplies of perishable goods would be impossible.

Would in case of emergency give the government power to fix maximum and minimum prices through the council of national defense to be used only when ordered by the president.

Would have additional assistant secretaries of agriculture named to carry out the work of the department along the suggested new lines.

Asks for an appropriation of \$25,000,000 in order that the above recommendations can immediately be carried out.

Committee Discusses Taxes.

Washington, April 20.—(I. N. S.)—Complete harmony marked the first meeting of the house ways and means committee which today began consideration of the best way of raising war taxes during the next year. The committee has before it the task of so adjusting income and internal revenue taxes as to yield an additional \$1,800,000,000 of revenue by the close of the fiscal year, 1918. This will be the first year's tax toll necessitated by America's entrance into the world war.

Because Chairman Kitchin and other members of the ways and means committee had to attend a conference with senators on the \$2,000,000,000 bond issue, the initial meeting of the ways and means committee was short.

Recess was taken until late this afternoon when the discussions will be resumed.

Conferees Reach Agreement.

Washington, April 20.—(I. N. S.)—The conferees on the \$7,000,000,000 bond bill reached an agreement this afternoon providing for acceptance of practically all the senate amendments, including the provision authorizing the secretary of the treasury to deposit funds realized by the bond sale in trust companies and banks not members of the federal reserve system.

Find No Trace of Seattle Murderer

Seattle, April 20.—(U. P.)—Police detectives today have not found any trace of the murderer of Aaron Rehfeld, diamond broker, who was stabbed to death in his office in the Joshua Green building here yesterday noon.

Diamonds worth more than \$1000 are missing. Detectives today were checking up on hat stores to see if the murderer, who left a soft green hat and a raincoat in Rehfeld's office, purchased another hat after leaving the building.

The police are searching for a man named N. L. Bailey, believed to have been a street diamond broker who worked for Rehfeld. A receipt made out to Bailey for \$50, but uncompleted, was found on Rehfeld's desk.

"Did Bailey stab you?" Rehfeld was asked just before he died. He nodded an affirmative answer.

Descriptions of the assailant given by persons who saw him flee through the corridor of the Green building differ widely.

FELLOWSHIP WILL BE KEYNOTE OF MEETING FOR SATURDAY NIGHT

Flags of Many Nations Will Unite With the Stars and Stripes at Central Library.

SPEAKERS ARE PROMINENT

Invitations Have Been Extended to Governor Withycombe and to the Foreign Consuls.

The unification meeting planned for Saturday evening at the Central library promises to be well attended. The Grand Army, Spanish-American War Veterans, and Boy Scouts will be represented, and special invitations have been extended to the governor, and British, French and Japanese consuls.

Daughters of the American Revolution and Daughters of the Confederacy. To promote a feeling of fellowship between the foreign-born and the native born residents of the city is the purpose of the meeting, and while patriotic in character there will be no "enemy alien" spirit. The flags of many countries will be exhibited.

Milton A. Miller will speak on the subject of "Our National Crisis," Judge O. U. Gantenbein will represent the Army, M. J. MacMahon will speak on "The French Flag and Liberty," Judge John H. Stevenson, "The Alien From the Viewpoint of the Municipal Court," W. S. U'Ren, "Why I Think This War Will Promote the Cause of Freedom," C. P. Howard, "Representing Labor," W. H. Warren, "The City Government and the Alien."

Other speakers will be Dr. C. H. Chapman, Richard Montague and Judge Thomas Carrick Burke, collector of customs.

The meeting will be in charge of Miss Anne Shannon Monroe, and has been endorsed by the Oregon Patriotic Service league. This will be Miss Monroe's first public appearance since last fall, she having spent the winter on her new novel.

TEUTONS SUFFER FEARFUL LOSSES ON WEST FRONT

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movement, I had seen dashed, starving Germans staggering out of dugouts choked with their own dead 36 hours after the dugouts had been taken by the French.

Beyond the nameless hill the new French and British lines were visible. Between them was an abandoned German battery, stark and bare on the snow. As I watched I saw one of those marvelous bits of French strategy executed.

Base Works as Planned.

The French established lines to the rear from this abandoned battery. They were plainly put there to entice the enemy to seek a recapture of the abandoned guns. The ruse was successful. As I watched out dashed the Germans. Their horses were hurriedly hitched to the abandoned guns. Then the French machine guns suddenly opened fire. Horses, men, all except 30 Germans, were wiped out in a twinkling.

The morale of the French troops is astounding. At 4 o'clock Wednesday I had seen capture the positions which were then in on Tuesday morning, preparing for a fresh advance. The dash was to start at 8 o'clock, and the French troops were jokingly dubbing that their "6 o'clock tea."

It is typical of all operations along the great French front that General Nivelle is not seeking to pierce the German line at a given point. Instead he proposes an advance along the en-

WILL PRESIDE AT LIBRARY MEETING



Miss Anne Shannon Monroe.

tire front by steady stages. It is not like the warfare of the previous Somme campaign. How well it is working out is evidenced by the fact that the French have advanced more now, in this new style of attack, than at any time since the battle of the Marne.

From another nameless hill today I saw across the Champagne plains an endless maze of German trenches. It represented three years' work of millions of men. Countless tons of barbed wire; numberless carloads of steel plates; miles of concrete fortifications marked it. There were thousands of bombproofs.

Bombproofs Well Equipped.

Many were fitted with electrical plants equipped with the most costly and most modern conveniences.

These the French captured intact. The ardor of the advance, the irresistible sweep following the battering down of the preliminary works by the terrific hail of French artillery, drove the Germans out. Most of these positions were taken Tuesday.

Then the fighting centered in the Rheims-St. Souplet sector. The French advance was executed over snow-clad ground, which curiously allied them. The Germans occupied a crest of hills so strongly fortified that in the plain below the French had heretofore not been able to advance since the battle of the Marne. But the French shell bombardment was so destructive that in 15 minutes after leaping out of their trenches, the French infantry had occupied the German positions on a front of more than two thirds of a mile, advancing forward more than a mile and a third in an hour.

Russian Brigade in Battle.

Despite this terrific artillery fire, the positions were so dotted with machine guns that there was brisk fighting. The French settled down during the night. At dawn, just as a brilliant sun crept over the horizon, glinting on the snow, the French dashed forward. The Germans, blinded by the glare of the sun, dashed with the cold, unable to use their machine guns before the French were upon them.

A Russian brigade, which took the oath of allegiance to the new provisional government shortly before going into action, distinguished itself in one attack of the offensive today.

Heavy Blows By Allies.

London, April 20.—(I. N. S.)—Since the British opened the joint drive on April 9 with their assaults on the Arras front, the allies have captured

35,000 prisoners and nearly 500 guns from the Teutons.

Field Marshal Haig's British army has lashed out again against the Germans defending the Cambrai-St. Quentin front.

In the sector of Villers-Guislain the British made powerful assaults last night, winning fresh ground, the war office reported today.

Villers-Guislain is between seven and eight miles from the German fortress of Cambrai.

This was the second strong British blow in the region of Villers-Guislain within a week.

There were heavy artillery duels along the front, especially around Lens at the northern end of the Hindenburg line. Both British and German batteries in that region have been reinforced.

Nivelle Reclaims More Land.

Paris, April 20.—(U. P.)—Undiminished in its force, General Nivelle's great offensive today reclaimed more land for France from the invader in fierce fighting at several sections of the 40-mile front.

In the region of Laffaux and the plateau of Vaucouleurs, the French further progressed, the war office statement declared. "In the Champagne violent counter attacks were repulsed with heavy enemy losses. East of the Loire several lines of German trenches were captured."

Four Are Paroled From Leavenworth

Terre Haute City Officials Convicted of Election Frauds to Be Released; Two Will Remain in Prison.

Leavenworth, Kas., April 20.—(I. N. S.)—Word was received at the federal penitentiary today that paroles had been granted to four Terre Haute election fraud prisoners and they will be released at once. Those to go out are Edward Driscoll, former assistant engineer; George Ehrenhardt, member of the board of public works; Harry Montgomery, president of the board of public works, and Thomas Smith, judge of the city court.

These men all had three years sentences and they came in April 20, 1915. Don M. Roberts, former mayor, and Dennis Shea, former sheriff, with five year sentences, are the only two remaining of the original 15 brought in.

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