



WILMAMM FLOODS DO BIG DAMAGE

Trains Are Marooned by Slides, Fallen Trees and High Water; Willamette Over Flood Stage.

Power and Telegraph Lines Hard Hit; Communication Is Inter- rupted With South and East.

ONE bolt of lightning was thrown in with Portland's various kinds of weather experienced this month shortly after 1 o'clock today. Incidentally a scare was also thrown into the officials at the city hall when the bolt traveled over the fire alarm system wires into city hall and blew out all the plugs controlling the system.

The noise of the fuses blowing out was heard all through the building. As far as known, the bolt did no further damage and the fire alarm system was placed in working order five minutes after the bolt struck.

A storm blowing in from the south-west passed over the western heights of the city and through some freak of nature the flash of light from the lightning was seen in most of the sky and Portland and shortly after the rumble of thunder was heard by the remainder of the population.

Exceedingly heavy winds Wednesday night and today caused a large amount of minor troubles all along the Oregon coast. Power lines and telegraph wires connecting Portland with the outside world suffered from the storm, telling their own story of high winds while the Willamette rose 2.2 feet in 24 hours, reaching 18.4 feet, 1.4 feet above the official flood point at Portland.

The Willamette river is expected to reach a stage of 18 feet early Friday morning. Strong southerly gales were predicted for the coast tonight and Friday.

High tension lines of the Northwestern Electric company were torn down somewhere in the mountains between Portland and The Dalles. On account

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WOULD HONOR SOLDIERS WHO LIE IN FRANCE

WASHINGTON, Jan. 23.—(I. N. S.)—A "field of honor," in which all American soldiers who died in France would be buried, would be acquired by the United States under a bill introduced in the house this afternoon by Representative Fess of Ohio.

CHANGES MADE IN SYNDICALISM BILL

Representatives Smith and Horne Call Attention to Defects of Dimick Bill as Seen by Labor.

By Ralph Watson
Salem, Jan. 23.—The Dimick criminal syndicalism bill, amended by the house judicial committee to meet the suggestions of Representatives Smith and Horne of Multnomah county, representatives of organized labor, will come back into the house this morning and take its place on the calendar for final passage.

The action of the committee followed a lengthy meeting held Wednesday night, before which Senator Dimick and Representative Kubi, each of whom has a bill on the same subject, had appeared to urge the enactment of anti-syndicalism legislation. Kubi contended that he did not care whether the committee centered upon his measure or upon that of Senator Dimick. He believed that either one or the other of the bills ought to be passed because an emergency existed which had to be faced in the interest of public safety and industrial peace.

Smith and Horne appeared before the committee in a threefold role, they said, as representatives interested in the legislation, as members of the American Federation of Labor to represent its ideals and principles for high-minded and clear conduct of organized labor, and as men who were possessed of an intimate knowledge of the conditions of labor in the country.

Both contended that the passage of the bills as they had been introduced would serve to agitate the existing condition rather than to allay it, that its effect would be to drive the agitators into secret paths rather than to suppress agitation or minimize its results.

Smith pointed out that the Montana law similar to the one proposed in the bills now before the legislature had not stopped syndicalism but that the I. W. W. were so firmly organized and so deeply entrenched at the present time in the camps of that state that it was unsafe for an American Federation of Labor organizer to go into them without the protection of constituted authority.

He pointed out that in Washington, which has a similar law, there were openly 15,000 members of the I. W. W. in Seattle no longer ago than the date of the reconstruction congress recently held in Portland.

He said that a radical agitator had told him in Portland a few days ago that he should vote for the Kubi bill, saying that "the more damned fool legislation they passed the sooner the agitator would be able to overthrow the outfit."

STEAMER FIREMAN KILLED OVER WAGES

San Francisco, Jan. 23.—(U. P.)—Frank H. Pooley of Tacoma, purser on the steamer Queen, today shot and killed James Truman, a marine fireman, on board the Queen. Pooley and Truman had had trouble before over wages which Truman said were due him. The shooting occurred in Pooley's office on board the Queen. Pooley and Truman had had trouble before over wages which Truman said were due him. The shooting occurred in Pooley's office on board the Queen.

EX-WAR LORD ALWAYS READY TO RUN EITHER WAY; TRAIN HAD ENGINES AT BOTH ENDS

With the American Army of Occupation in Germany, Jan. 22.—(By Courier to Nancy)—(I. N. S.)—Inhabitants of Spa, where German great headquarters used to be, located, consider the ex-kaiser irresponsible mentally.

Dr. S. A. Brown of the Bellevue Medical school, in New York City, who accompanied Charles M. Schwab to Coblenz, today told of information he had received from high German officials at Spa who had been watching the former emperor while living here.

The ex-war lord was frequently seen constructing military trenches on the grounds adjoining headquarters, which he would afterwards have flooded. Again he would amuse himself by tossing paper balls over his head.

HOOPER'S WORK IS DEFENDED

Senator Hitchcock Answers Criticisms of Borah, Plunging Senate Session Into Hot Debate.

Nebraska Solon Says Profits of Packer Would Have Been Far Greater but for Food Chief.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 23.—(U. P.)—Defense of Herbert Hoover against the charge of plotting to aid and protect American packing interests today plunged the senate into angry debate on the \$100,000,000 famine fund bill.

Laying before the senate Hoover's denial of improper collaboration with packers, Senator Hitchcock of Nebraska summed up the case in Hoover's behalf thus:

"Hoover, at President Wilson's direction, did get packers and livestock producers together to stimulate hog production."

"He did make arrangements with the allied governments to take packers' products."

"As a result of his stimulation campaign, the packers had practically been swamped with hogs."

"Over the objections of some of the allied governments—notably Great Britain—Hoover had stuck and is sticking by his word to American hog raisers and packers, which was that if they would stimulate production there would be a European market for the product."

"If Hoover is aiding or protecting anybody it is the small livestock farmer," said Hitchcock. "He has done nothing wrong and yet he is being

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No More General Delivery Mail Is Distributed From Old Post Office

All Departments of Postal Activity With Few Exceptions Now Conducted at New Office.

Persons who are in the habit of receiving their mail at the general delivery window will be disappointed if they try to get it at the old postoffice building at Fifth and Morrison streets. The general delivery is now being handled exclusively at the new building at Broadway and Hoyt streets, the transfer having been completed on December 1, 1917. The departments of postal activity will be handled at the new building, although for the convenience of the public, departments of money orders, registered letters, postal savings, War Savings Stamps and private boxes will be retained at the old building.

The task of moving the other offices to the new headquarters will be completed in a day or two. Comparative statements of business transacted in some of the largest post-offices in the country during December, 1918, show Portland issued more money orders than any cities with very much greater population.

The increase of the local postoffice was about 25 per cent over that of December, 1917. The volume of business was greater than that of Milwaukee, Denver, Indianapolis, Cincinnati, Minneapolis and Kansas City, Mo.

AIRPLANE EXPERT BACK IN PORTLAND

Major H. B. Oakleaf Returns After 18 Months in Charge of Products Factory.

Major H. B. Oakleaf, who left the forest service 18 months ago, after 10 years in charge of products, to take over the management of Uncle Sam's airplane products factory and who is one of the leading authorities on the materials that should go into the construction of an airplane, returned to Portland a civilian this morning.

He was a captain, but on November 6 he became a full fledged major. He was discharged from the service a week ago Monday. At his headquarters in Washington, D. C., Major Oakleaf organized an inspection force of 500 men trained in inspecting airplane stock. Last July he was sent to Europe, where he spent three months studying airplane construction in England and France. While in England he was assigned an airplane to deliver in France and thus he arrived by aerial route across the English channel in a two seater light airplane.

Allies Taught U. S. Methods
English-made airplanes were delivered to certain bases near the French coast and taken from there to points on the front where they were needed. At the American production plant in France he inspected conditions where parts were being assembled and parts repaired which had been damaged.

Major Oakleaf compares foreign methods of airplane construction with our own. He taught the allies how to utilize American lumber in constructing airplanes. He found that work was not going so far in making planes in Europe as in the United States. He learned European methods which were an improvement over our own.

At the big airplane inspection department in Washington the huge crops of trained workers inspected every bit of material that went into airplane construction, especially the engine.

Commercial Value Is Seen
That the airplane is to become commonly used for transportation in the near future, especially for mail and commercial deliveries, is the firm opinion of Major Oakleaf, who looks into this development as a necessity. They have passed the experimental stage, he said, and England is spotted with landing places, so that if a plane is having difficulty in the air there is nearly always a safe landing handy. A great deal of the supervision of the war in England was done by airplane according to Major Oakleaf, for directing the work as well as by going by plane rather than by train.

Before the airplane can be commonly used in the United States, he believes, more safe landing places must be established. These will be effected by forming actual aerial routes, which must be followed instead of flying at haphazard.

Major Oakleaf is accompanied by Mrs. Oakleaf. They are staying at the Multnomah.

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UTILITIES MARSHAL DEFENSES

Senator Huston's Amendment to Law Regulating Public Utilities Subject of Stormy Hearing

Proposed Amendment Would Rob Public Service Commission of Rate Making Power, Is Charge

By A. L. Lindbeck
SALEM, Jan. 23.—The forces of Oregon's public utilities were marshaled in the state capital Wednesday night in defense of the state public service commission—and incidentally in their own defense—whose very existence, they declared, was threatened by the provisions of Senator Huston's amendment to the law providing for the regulation of public utilities.

Senator Huston's amendment would take away from the commission the power to "alter, change, modify or set aside any rate previously fixed by a contract between any public utility corporation and a municipal corporation prior to November 7, 1912."

This, the utilities men contend, would practically rob the commission of its ratemaking jurisdiction over existing utilities, while reserving them the power to regulate the service rendered by these utilities. The ratemaking powers under the provisions of this amendment, they claim, would then be vested in the municipalities.

Pictures of chaos, of wretched service and of endless litigation in such an event were vividly painted by the utilities men for the benefit of the members of the joint committee on revision of laws who conducted the hearing on Senator Huston's bill Wednesday night.

Huston Defends Amendment
Although Senator Huston denied that the bill was aimed at any particular utility, mention of the Portland Railway, Light & Power company and the recent 6-cent fare case were frequent, and the presence of three attorneys representing the Portland utility indicated that the

War Heroes Are Given Heartfelt Home Greeting

Seattle, Wash., Jan. 23.—(I. N. S.)—Through stormy, rain-swept streets, 1300 veterans of the world war, men who left their homes in Washington, Oregon, California, Idaho and Montana to fight for democracy, marched triumphantly here today, while crowds and bands gave a rapturous welcome.

It was the first contingent of the 346th field artillery, to arrive home. The men are en route to Camp Lewis for mobilization.

Troop trains started arriving shortly before 8 a. m. and at 30 minute intervals sections pulled into the Seattle Union depot. The train load was a hilarious aggregation bubbling with joy at reaching home.

Boy Scouts with megaphones heralded the approach of the warriors as they tramped away from the depot, while flowers were showered upon them along the line of march. The troops were formally welcomed by prominent men of the city at the Hippodrome auditorium.

The men are scheduled to entrain at 1 o'clock this afternoon for Tacoma where another welcome awaits them.

Butter Price to Tumble 6 Cents in Portland Market

A drop of another 6 cents a pound will be made in the price of creamery butter in the Portland market, effective Friday morning. This makes a net decline of 10 cents a pound within the period of one week. The new wholesale price will be 58 cents a pound in plain wrappers and 59 cents a pound in cartons.

Severe drops are also reported in other markets. Butter, emergency, advanced 1 cent to 17 cents a pound. The new retail price of the best grade of creamery butter beginning Friday will be 65 cents a pound.

Italy Looks to America To Lead Old World Out Of Bewildering Darkness

By John F. Bass
Special Cable to The Journal and the Chicago Daily News.
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PARIS, Jan. 23.—The league of nations is the subject of the next meeting of the peace conference. Guglielmo Ferrero, vice president of the Italian committee on the league of nations, gave me the following statement regarding the situation in Italy:

"The league of nations is at its beginning in Italy and initiative has been taken by the young mutilated officers, who wish that their sacrifices shall prove of benefit to the whole of humanity."

"We meet with difficulties, especially in the spirit of imperialism, which, even in Italy, has taken possession of a portion of public opinion. "We are working very energetically and hope to succeed."

"I do not believe that the proxym of imperialism can have grave results in Italy or in the other allied countries, provided the necessary effort is made to calm public opinion and lead it to a more exact idea of the situation."

"Europe would commit suicide if it did not succeed in getting out of the present situation by a lasting peace. Although the condition of the old world is terrible, I do not yet believe in the suicide of Europe."

"Everything that America can do in the pacification of Europe will be of inestimable benefit to the whole of humanity."

"GUGLIELMO FERRERO."

Northwest to Be Heard on League Of Nations Plans

THE issues of world peace will be brought to Portland, February 16 and 17. In this city will be heard the voice of the Pacific Northwest as to the project for a league of nations, which President Wilson is supporting at the peace conference.

Oregon, Washington and Idaho will send delegations to the Portland conference which has been arranged by the National League to Enforce Peace. This will be one of nine world peace conventions held throughout the United States. Other convention cities are New York, Boston, Chicago, Minneapolis, San Francisco, Salt Lake City, Kansas City, Mo., and Atlanta.

Under a Portland dateline, the League to Enforce Peace has released today a statement of the convention's purposes to the newspapers of the United States, which in part reads:

"William H. Taft, president of the league, will preside and speak at all nine conventions, and will take with him his tour of the country a group of speakers which will include Dr. A. Lawrence Lowell, president of Harvard; Dr. Henry Van Dyke, formerly minister to the Netherlands; Frank P. Walsh, formerly joint chairman of the war labor board, and James W. Gerard, formerly ambassador to Germany. Other speakers will be individual congressmen who are present at the convention."

Purposes Are Set Forth
"The purpose of the convention, according to the invitations issued today, is to 'marshal public opinion behind America's real purpose in the war,' which is defined as the creation at the peace conference of a league of nations to 'insure the orderly development of the world and preserve peace.' Resolutions along these lines will be adopted and cable to Paris and also sent to the senators and representatives of the states represented. The invitation says: 'Will you help in this greatest crisis of history to marshal public opinion be-

ROYALTIES HIT IN PAVEMENT BILL

Fine and Imprisonment Designed for Violation of Law Against Patented Materials for Roads.

Salem, Jan. 23.—A death blow will be dealt to patented pavements in this state if the bill introduced today by Senators Thomas and Lachmund becomes a law.

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VICTORY NEW FOR PRESIDENT

Success in Winning Point as to Polish Question Forecasts Adoption of League Program.

Decision to Send Mission Follows Recommendation of Russian Anti-Bolshevik Leader.

By John Edwin Nevin
PARIS, Jan. 23.—(I. N. S.)—Responsibility of the authors of the war and penalties will be among the first questions considered when the plenary session of the peace conference meets again Saturday, it was revealed by an official communique issued today.

"The text of the official communique follows: "At today's meeting the members of the supreme council considered the agenda of Saturday's plenary session of the conference contemplating the following questions:

"(1)—International labor legislation; (2)—Responsibilities for the war and penalties; (3)—Reparation and damages; (4)—International regimes of ports and control of waterways and railroads."

"The meeting will also study the matter of procedure in settling territorial questions. Marshal Foch (the allied generalissimo) and General Diaz (the Italian commander in chief) and Field Marshal Haig, will attend a meeting of the Versailles war council tomorrow."

There is no hiding the fact that the resolution adopted at the conference regarding Russia will cause a painful impression in France, said the Journal today.

"President Wilson's idea is grand and

PROFITEERING BY NURSES ALLEGED

Health Authorities Assert High Fees Are Being Demanded of Many 'Flu' Victims.

New influenza cases reported until noon today: 81. New influenza cases reported until noon today: 112. Deaths reported until noon today: 18. Deaths reported until noon today: 18.

Profiteering by traveling and "practical" nurses in connection with the influenza wave in Portland is running rampant, according to reports at the consolidated health bureau of the Rose Croix today. Fees as high as \$50 a day are charged in some instances by nurses partially or wholly untrained, health authorities assert, and in several instances nurses have left severe cases of influenza because of refusal of patients to pay exorbitant fees.

The practice, it was pointed out, is not general, but has developed in aggravated forms in many instances that have reached the knowledge of the health authorities.

In one case a practical nurse sent to The Dalles charged \$20 a day, health officials declared. The patient refused to pay the high fee and a compromise at \$12 a day was effected. The same nurse returned to Portland, it is related, and

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90 Per Cent of Employers Willing to Take Soldiers Back Into Former Places

More than 90 per cent of the questionnaires returned by Oregon and Portland employers to Captain J. O. Conville, who is directing the soldiers' and sailors' division of the federal employment service in this state, declare "unqualified readiness to employ all men who enlisted for military service from their firms."

Without an exception, those who say they will take back all their former employees who have been fighting for Uncle Sam, and that the scale of wages or salary will be the same as before they left, or more if the scale has risen in their absence.

Many of the employers add that they have held themselves in readiness to reinstate soldiers, and that when they employ additional men they will give preference to returned soldiers and sailors.

The list of such employers is already called the "Honor Roll" at Liberty Temple headquarters of soldiers' and sailors' employment. In a big substantial pile of returned questionnaires on the list of such employers is already called the "Honor Roll" at Liberty Temple headquarters of soldiers' and sailors' employment. In a big substantial pile of returned questionnaires on the list of such employers is already called the "Honor Roll" at Liberty Temple headquarters of soldiers' and sailors' employment.

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