

MARION COUNTY MAY BE CUT IN TWO

REPAIRS AT PRISON ARE SORE NEED

Grand Jury Finds That Roof Leaks During Storm Periods and Damage is Done to Interior Walls

WARDEN PRAISED FOR GOOD MANAGEMENT

Tribute Paid Compton—Immediate Action to Improve Plant is Urged

Assertions that the state penitentiary is badly in need of repair and more modern equipment, were made public yesterday in a report of the grand jury of the Marion county, after a thorough inspection of the prison. The improvements, it is asserted, are imperative of the institution to be properly maintained.

L. H. Compton, superintendent of the prison, received high praise for the manner in which the institution is being conducted. The report declares he is capable and conscientious in his work and that he is assisted by a corps of officers eager and anxious to perform their duties well.

The jury recommends that the state install at the prison an electric light plant to furnish light to the penitentiary, the Oregon state hospital and other state institutions, saying it would not only be a means of providing employment for the prisoners, but a saving to the state as well.

The report of the grand jury on its prison investigation, and signed by J. C. Murphy, foreman; E. W. Manning, A. B. Gardner, V. Nadstarek, Wilbur Beaver, Charles Lawrence and Henry Stetson, follows:

"We visited the Oregon state penitentiary for the purpose of inquiring into its condition and management. Our investigation convinced us that the institution is being conducted in an extraordinarily efficient manner, taking into consideration the inconveniences and handicaps under which the authorities are laboring. We found that the arrangement of the institution is in the hands of a capable and conscientious man, assisted by officers of character, integrity, and experience, who are eager to do and perform their duties proficiently.

"The main building of the penitentiary is badly in need of a new roof which ought to be provided at the earliest possible date. The recent storms have shown the roof to be very leaky and as a result of these leaks considerable damage has been done to the plaster and the interior of the penitentiary. Generally, the cell houses

(Continued on page 4)

U. S. MUST BE STRONG SEA POWER

Harding Favors Development of Large Navy Until Binding Disarmament Agreement is Reached

PIECEMEAL REMEDY MEASURES OPPOSED

President-elect Endorses Reserve System for Army and Navy

MARION, O., Jan. 8.—A naval policy to keep the United States one of the strongest sea powers until a binding disarmament agreement can be reached, was discussed at a conference today between President-elect Harding and Representative Butler of Pennsylvania, chairman of the house naval committee. It was indicated that although a final decision must await developments in the attitude of Senator Harding, a continuation of the fleet construction program now in progress. Coupled with this program, however, would be a material curtailment in civilian employees of the navy department and various economies in the land stations under navy jurisdiction.

Harding Favors Efficient Navy. Mr. Harding long has favored an efficient navy and he is understood to feel a big navy policy might be continued practically if steps are taken to curtail the strength of the army along lines he approved yesterday in conference with Chairman Kahn of the house military committee.

He also favors strongly the reserve system for both army and navy, and is understood to have indicated to Chairman Butler an adequate naval reserve should be considered a requisite to naval defense.

The question of the navy hinges, however, on what program may be found possible in the movement for a general reduction of world armament. Mr. Butler, who is inclined to place little faith in the proposal, expects to develop in committee, hearings next week all information available on the probable consequences of disarmament. This information he will turn over to Mr. Harding.

"I am determined to know," he said in a statement, "what other nations sincerely desire in the way of an agreement to limit armament."

Piecemeal Measures Opposed. Mr. Butler called Mr. Harding's attention to the provision of the naval appropriation bill, which requests the president to make a canvas of world sentiment on disarmament. He recommended that the new administration take advantage of this authorization.

(Continued on page 3)

WIFE FASTS 41 DAYS HUSBAND IS STUBBORN

MRS. HARRINGTON LOSES 75 POUNDS

Not First Protracted Abstinence From Food Which Has Failed To Bring Results

DANVILLE, Ill., Jan. 8.—Mrs. Ernest S. Harrington's fast, which has now lasted 41 days in the effort to induce her husband to join her church, is not her first protracted abstinence from food, according to her husband. He said tonight she went without food for two weeks about a year ago and he estimates she lost nothing for eight days.

Her second fast was for the purpose of attracting a buyer for their home. "She prayed and fasted for 14 days," said Mr. Harrington tonight, "but when no buyer appeared she quit. That fast did not seem to cause any ill effects although she lost considerable weight."

He said his wife weighed 270 pounds before her present fast began and he estimates she has lost 75 pounds. She was reported tonight as growing steadily weaker. No visitors were allowed to see her today.

Soldier in Hospital Thanks War Mothers

All those who aided in making the War Mothers' campaign to raise jellies and jams for the tubercular soldiers at the government hospital at Fort Bayard, N. M., a success, will be pleased with the following letter of gratitude, which was received by the women of the organization yesterday, from one of the boys who shared in the good things contributed. The date line is Fort Bayard, Dec. 31.

"To the War Mothers' Association, Salem, Oregon. "Dear friends: I was the recipient today of a large jar of preserved cherries, which was surely a treat. They were tasty and delicious. All the boys in our ward (the infirmary), were pleased with the gifts. Thanking you for your generosity, I am Cyril H. Strohm."

ALLEN ASSAILS TOWNLEYISM

Governor Upholds American Legion in Opposition to Non-Partisans

TOPEKA, Kan., Jan. 8.—Assailing the campaign being made in Kansas by A. C. Townley and Non-Partisan leaguers from North Dakota, Governor Allen in a statement tonight approved steps taken by executive men to oppose the campaign.

"Townley has been able to present to North Dakota a lot of dreams which sounded real," said the statement. "The Non-Partisan league has been a source of weakness and costs of his scheme have finally been exposed and Townley is hunting new fields.

"Townley and his tribe opposed appropriations for the war supplies and service law, and tending to prevent the government from meeting all its obligations. Lacking the courage to go to war for Germany, they became in effect, German emissaries in the rear."

The former service men opposing Townley with orderly propaganda and so long as they express their opposition to Townleyism with the brave self-restraint which they now exhibit, the state will have every reason to be grateful.

"This effort of Townley's comes at a time when he might expect to gain some headway in Kansas. There is discontent over the unfortunate conditions which have come to the farmer in the period of reconstruction.

"I am in sympathy with every honest effort to aid the farmer. I believe that the legislative session should give the most constructive attention to his problems, which involve credit, co-operative marketing and protection against damaging conditions, but I share with the legion the belief that Townleyism means merely the effort to work upon the prejudices for the purpose of creating a class warfare which will benefit no one, except as it may enrich the pockets of Townley and his crowd to the extent of the membership fees.

"It is merely another effort on the part of those who do not farm, to 'farm the farmer.'"

(Continued on page 5)

FAMILY ILL AND IN NEED WILL WELCOME BEDDING FROM GOOD NEIGHBORS

Because the Statesman believes that giving should not be linked with the calendar, and that the season of good will should not be a spasm of the Christmas tide, it is asking its generous-hearted readers to respond to a second call for necessities—only this time it is not for a community, as was the case earlier, but for a single family.

Out on one of the byways in the outskirts of the city there is a family—seven children, some of them sick with smallpox, an illness that is prolonged owing to the lack of proper bed covering. One visitor of mercy, stumbled upon this family, which is too self-respecting to seek aid through the medium of charity. This visitor gave from his own store two comforters for last night, but with the present cold weather conditions prevailing this will be far from sufficient, and so the Statesman has been asked to run this little story in the hope that the same spirit that prompted generous Salem folk to respond to its previous call will prevail in a similar manner in this instance.

Phone your response to 106, Monday.

SALEM HAS 24 HOURS FOR ROAD BOND BIDS

If the Salem road district is contemplating any road improvements for the year 1921, it will be necessary to show bids, on bonds in the county court in the next 24 hours, according to information given out yesterday by the court. At 12 o'clock noon Monday bids will be closed for buying up road bonds, and unless this district has its bids in by that time, the opportunity for road improvements this year will be lost.

All the market road districts of Marion county, with the exception of the Salem district, have subscribed for the bonds, and have placed their sealed bids with the county court. Indications are that the bidders will be on hand to receive their allotments.

One-half of the road bond valuation of the county is in the Salem district. The budget of expenditures is prepared showing the approximate amount to be expended on each market road district during the year. It is necessary that one-half of this amount come from the sale of road bonds in the road district in which such expenditure is to be made. A direct tax will meet the other portion.

INVESTIGATION TO BE STARTED

Inquiry Into Prices Charged Government for Coal Last Year Begins

WASHINGTON, Jan. 8.—Inquiry will be begun at once into the prices charged the government for coal last year. Acting Attorney General Nebecker announced today on report of the findings of the senate committee on reconstruction which has been investigating the sale of fuel to the war department and other branches of the government during the short-ages.

Prices asked government departments for coal as set forth in the committee's report, the acting attorney general said, appeared to warrant an "even-tempered" investigation by the department of justice. Prosecutions will be instituted and pressed to the limit he added, should the facts developed, bear out the evidence submitted by the committee.

Names of more than a score of concerns who had supplied coal to the government were listed by the committee, he added, but would not be announced, pending an investigation, which would include a study of statistics of coal costs, prices charged and the committee's estimate of what would have been a fair margin of profit.

A decline in the price of retail coal was said to be indicated in reports reaching the coal investigating committee today. Tabulation of these reports is being made for use, committee members said, should it be decided to conduct an investigation of retail coal distribution.

LEE OUT FOR POSTMASTER

Petitions Placed in Circulation Yesterday for Salem Republican

Petitions have been put in circulation in Salem in behalf of A. Lee as a candidate for the Salem postmastership. He is said to be receptive.

While it is believed the applications of many more Salem men are on file in Washington than the public knows anything about, the names of only four or five men have been published in that connection. It is said there are many applicants whose names have not yet been swept into the current of rumor.

Mr. Lee has been active in Republican politics for several years and was particularly active in the recent campaign.

EXPLOSION CAUSE IS HELD MYSTERY

THREE TOWNS ARE ROCKED BY SERIES OF REPORTS

Houses Are Shaken and Windows Broken by Shock Which Brings People to Streets

LOS ANGELES, Jan. 8.—The towns of Covina, Glendora and Azusa, in the San Gabriel valley 20 to 25 miles east of here, were rocked tonight by what was declared by inhabitants to be a series of explosions, according to reports received here. Every house in the towns was shaken and window glasses were broken in some, it was stated.

The first shock was felt about 9:30, it was stated, and was followed by two more within half an hour. Each was accompanied by a loud report. Otherwise the trembling resembled earthquakes it was said.

At nearby oil fields it was said to explosion had occurred there. Efforts were made to communicate with camps in the mountains north of the towns where large quantities of dynamite were known to have been stored for quarrying purposes.

Two hours after these happenings the cause remained a mystery. A survey of the quarry camps near the towns disclosed no explosions had taken place there and no blasting work was in progress.

Los Angeles county roads officials who have several quarries in the mountains, said they knew of no supplies of dynamite stored anywhere in sufficient quantities to shake the towns.

Covina residents said the shocks came at fairly regular intervals, and each was followed by a loud report. In this place, as well as in Azusa and Glendora, townspeople rushed into the streets, looking about for the location of the "explosion," thinking it to have been within a few blocks.

The shocks were not felt in Los Angeles. The sheriff's office here at 11:20 o'clock reported it had been unable to locate any explosion within the county.

QUALIFIED AIR CHIEF WANTED

Dictatorial and Inefficient Conduct of Col. Jordan to be Investigated

SAN FRANCISCO, Jan. 8.—A telegram to Attorney General Palmer stating that allegations of "dictatorial and inefficient conduct" by Colonel John A. Jordan, chief of the air mail service on the Pacific coast demanded immediate and thorough investigation, was sent today by Frank M. Silva, United States district attorney.

Silva suggested that the investigation be made by the department of justice.

Another telegram sent by Edward M. Boggs, father of Stanley Boggs, an aviator placed on probation by Colonel Jordan, to Postmaster General Burleson asked that Jordan be replaced by a "qualified aviator" if investigation justified the charge. Boggs fell in one of the streets here this week.

Flying across the Sierra Nevada in dangerous weather was condemned by the elder Boggs, but Colonel Jordan asserted in a statement that the fact that no serious accidents had occurred in his division was proof that sufficient care was being taken of pilots and planes.

SEATTLE FARES ARE UP

SEATTLE, Wash., Jan. 8.—Seattle street car patrons will begin paying 8 1/2 cents fare on the municipal and the Seattle and Rainier Valley railway lines tomorrow. The increased fare became effective at 3 a. m. The cash fare remains at 10 cents, tickets selling at 8 1/2 cents instead of 6 1/4 cents.

RED CROSS TO AID EUROPE

\$5,000,000 Appropriated to Carry on Benevolent Work

WASHINGTON, Jan. 8.—The American Red Cross executive committee has appropriated \$5,000,000 to carry out its program of furnishing desperately needed medical assistance for the children in Europe.

Dr. Livingston Farrand, chairman of the central committee of the Red Cross said: "The American Red Cross aims specially to carry on in the interest of the children who require medical care, and should not be confused with that of feeding several millions of children who are not afflicted by disease. The general feeding program is to be met by the European relief council."

CLACKAMAS THREAT CAUSE OF CONCERN IN SALEM SECTION

Annexation of Portion From Brooks North Planned as Way to Even Up if Multnomah Grabs New Territory—Committee Will Recommend Lopping One From Local Delegation—Proposed New District May Land Rite in Congress

In the state legislature which opens tomorrow an effort may be made by some members of the Clackamas county delegation and other influential men of that county, aided and abetted perhaps by certain north Marion citizens, to lop off a big piece of northern Marion county and make it part of Clackamas.

This effort will be made, it is said, if efforts of the citizenry of northern Clackamas county to secede and become annexed to Multnomah county threaten to be successful.

Much concern is being expressed in Salem and elsewhere in Marion county since in the last day or two it has become known that a movement of this character threatens. For the talk is that an attempt is likely to be made to cut Marion county in two on a line running east and west as far south as Brooks.

Goaded by continuous high taxes, the northern Clackamas county residents have become open in rebellion, and believe relief lies in becoming attached to Multnomah. Commercial organizations in that section of Clackamas, it is said, have taken open action in approval of secession. To annex a part of Marion county would be Clackamas county's method of evening up.

ACTION TAKEN AGAINST ALIENS

State Department Declares War on Aliens Without Passports

WASHINGTON, Jan. 8.—Action against numerous aliens known to have made their way into the United States without passports may be based on the precedent being sought by the state department in the case of Lord Mayor O'Callaghan of Cork. Department officials indicated today that they are awaiting the opinion on the question for which Under Secretary Davis has asked the department solicitor in the belief it might afford means for a general campaign against such irregular entrants.

A phase of the clash between the state and labor departments is taking jurisdiction in cases of aliens seeking entry without passports came up on the house floor. Representative Newton, Republican, Minnesota, attacked the labor department for admitting such aliens in violation of state department regulations.

The labor secretary, he said, "was aiding aliens to come into the United States in direct violation of the law."

Harding to Sail Florida Waters on Yacht Victoria

CHARLESTON, S. C., Jan. 8.—Senator Frelinghuysen's yacht, the Victoria, on which President-elect Harding and Mrs. Harding are expected to cruise in Florida waters soon, was in port today, preparing for the trip. The Harding party probably will board the yacht at St. Augustine, Fla., and a full golfing equipment has been placed on board for the use of the president-elect.

BARRATT OF HEPPNER NAMED BY GOVERNOR FOR HIGHWAY BOARD

Governor Olcott yesterday announced the appointment of W. B. Barratt of Heppner, Morrow county, as a member of the state highway commission to succeed the late Ed. E. Kiddle of Union county. The governor has been assured that Barratt will accept the appointment.

The appointment was made by the governor after a careful scanning of the available timber in Eastern Oregon, that part of the state from which, under the law, it was necessary for the appointment to be made. Jay H. Dobbins of Joseph was first appointed, but he declined to accept.

"Mr. Barratt is widely known throughout Oregon, that part of the state from which, under the law, it was necessary for the appointment to be made. Jay H. Dobbins of Joseph was first appointed, but he declined to accept.

"Mr. Barratt for many years has been among the most active of the sheep men in developing high grade stock in Oregon and has met with great success along these lines."

STATUE COMMEMORATING CIRCUIT RIDERS MAY BE PUT IN CAPITOL GROUNDS

Hon. Robert A. Booth Makes State Gift to be Fashioned by A. Phimister Proctor—Governor Asked to Appoint Commission to Decide Upon Appropriate Location

The pioneer circuit riders who were an important factor in the early civilization of America are to be fittingly commemorated in Oregon by an equestrian statue of heroic size which is to be presented to the state by former Senator R. A. Booth, of Eugene. The statue will represent the pioneer type of minister of the gospel who was an educational and a civilizing influence among the early settlers of the Pacific Northwest, and largely instrumental in saving the state of Oregon to the union.

Last summer, Mr. Booth was talking over his idea of doing something in commemoration of the circuit rider with a Phimister Proctor, nationally famed sculptor of western subjects, and the conference ended in the commissioning of Mr. Proctor to make a working model to be approved by Mr. Booth.

Sketch is Approved. The sketch model which Mr. Proctor recently completed and which he has exhibited to a num-

ber of Portland artists, represents the circuit rider jogging along reading his sermon to be preached at his next stop. The long close which was found to be good protection against wind and rain, is featured by the sculptor and the saddle bags in which he carried most of his worldly possessions.

Mr. Booth has written to Governor Olcott asking that a commission of Oregon citizens be appointed to choose a suitable site for "The Circuit Rider." It has been suggested that somewhere on the capitol grounds would be appropriate. Mr. Booth's father, Robert Booth, was one of the pioneer circuit riders of Oregon, and it was in contemplating his father's career that the idea of preserving the memory of this particular type of pioneer came to the sculptor of the statue, as he spent much time in the study and execution of this kind of work.

(Continued on page 5)

FIRE BUG IS AT LARGE

PINE BLUFF, Ark., Jan. 8.—Search for a suspect believed to have set fire to the Royal hotel at England, Ark., yesterday resulted in the loss of seven lives and the injury of several persons continued unsuccessfully today over southeast Arkansas, England officers say he is sub-normal mentally.

EMMA MINE CLOSES

BUTTE, Mont., Jan. 8.—According to announcement of officials of the Emma mine, operated by the Ansonco Copper Mining company, the property ceased operation tonight indefinitely. Only 190 men were employed in the mine which produced zinc and manganese ores.