

The Weather - OREGON - Generally fair; slight temperature changes; light east winds. Wednesday - Max. 41; Min. 36; River 5.6 falling; Rainfall none; Atmosphere cloudy; Wind northeast.

The Oregon Statesman

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SEVENTY-FOURTH YEAR

SALEM, OREGON, THURSDAY MORNING, FEBRUARY 19, 1925

PRICE FIVE CENTS

REPORT ON AIR SERVICE GIVEN BY PRESIDENT

Airplanes Will Never Assume Paramount Importance, Coolidge Declares in Message to Board

BATTLESHIPS ARE HELD FINAL ARBITERS AT SEA

Explanation of Supplemental Naval Estimates Made in Statement

WASHINGTON, Feb. 18.—President Coolidge added a new chapter today to the air service controversy by making public the report of a special naval board which found that battleships remain "the final arbiter in sea warfare," and airplanes would never "assume paramount importance."

The president also issued a formal statement in explanation of the \$30,000,000 supplemental naval estimates recently submitted to congress by the budget bureau which were founded on recommendations of the naval board but sharply modified. The complete building program submitted by the board involved expenditures of \$80,000,000 a year for three years.

Adopts Board's Views

The president makes no reference to the board's findings as to relative military value of aircraft, battleships and submarines, the problem he assigned it to study when he directed it to convene last September. He adopts the board's view, however, that modernization of old battleships (not including the elevation of guns) is the first requirement, completion of aircraft carriers and their planes second, and construction of two ten thousand ton cruisers third. The board's building program was scaled down by the president all along the line, however, to reduce the immediate cost from \$80,000,000 to \$30,000,000. The memorandum described the president as "finding that an expenditure of that magnitude (\$80,000,000) was not warranted at

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FILIBUSTERING OCCUPIES DAY

With Calendar Jammed, US Senate Devotes Time to Negro Swimming Hole

WASHINGTON, Feb. 18.—With its legislative calendar jammed and cries of "filibustering" resounding through the cloak rooms, the senate today devoted almost an entire session to discussion of the advisability of a negro swimming hole in Washington.

Objection was made to establishing a negro bathing beach in the tidal basin between the Lincoln memorial and the Lincoln memorial, and opposite a beach for white persons. After four hours of debate and an involved series of votes, it was decided to withhold funds for both the negro and white beaches.

The senators paused in their heated debate only long enough to reaffirm the previous action in authorizing increases in their own salaries and to give a few minutes attention to the pending conference on the Underwood Muscle Shoals leasing bill.

Senator Norris, republican, Nebraska, sought to have the bill carrying the salary increases recalled from the house and reconsidered, but his effort was defeated on an oral vote and he was unable to obtain sufficient seconds for a roll call.

Convention Measure Loses In House By Vote of 37-18

The house yesterday rejected HB No. 193, providing for a preliminary convention by a vote of 37 to 18. The proposed law, it was held, did not conflict with the present primary law. Passage was urged upon the ground that the bill would not pass the senate, but that an expression of sentiment in both houses was sought in order to formulate a similar law in the future that would remove objections made to the bill offered at this time.

New Naval Conference Is Expected; Steps to Extend Treaty Taken

WASHINGTON, Feb. 18.—(By the AP.)—Definite, if informal, steps by the Washington government are in progress for a new naval conference to extend treaty limitations to auxiliary craft.

Preliminary canvass in London, Tokio and Rome are indicated to have met with favorable reactions. Success of the project appears to rest upon the attitude of Paris. A conference on invitation of President Coolidge is a possibility only if it can be found that obstacles of 1921, which blocked the road to complete naval limitation in the original Washington conference, have been removed.

The fact that informal negotiations were in progress was disclosed here today after Foreign Secretary Chamberlain in London had dropped a hint of them in parliament. Officials would not go beyond confirming that conversations were going on in capitals of all powers signatory to the Washington naval treaty.

It was learned authoritatively the question of land armaments is not involved.

The Washington government is more anxious than ever to curb competitive naval building in cruisers, submarines and other auxiliary craft. Its effort to sound foreign sentiment on a supplementary conference has not reached the stage of formal communications of any kind, although the announcement Ambassador Kellogg at London would succeed Secretary Hughes at the state department gave opportunity to revive with new force the diplomatic conversations that had preceded. As secretary of state-designate Mr. Kellogg's remarks in talking matters over with London government officials would have far greater weight than his statements as ambassador.

It is certain no formal step will be taken prior to Mr. Kellogg's return.

TAX BILL WILL GET ATTENTION

Measure Creating Supervising and Conservation Commission Demands Place

Re-enactment of the tax supervising and conservation commission law of 1923 is being sought by Representative Howard in the 33rd legislature. The old bill was held unconstitutional because of a flaw in the title.

Efforts were made by Representative Swan to have the minority report, which was unfavorable to the measure, substituted for the majority report, which carried a recommendation that the bill pass. Heated debates with repeated raps for order were held before the minority report was rejected. The bill will take its place on the calendar.

Though unpopular in several counties, the measure was declared to have wrought a big savings in others, chiefly Multnomah, Clatsop and Lane. Linn and Tillamook counties are against the measure, according to Representatives Swan and Winslow.

Representative Howard, sponsor of the bill, said that when the bill was first passed he was very much against it, and refused to accept an appointment on the commission in Lane county. After being practically forced to take the place he became interested and came to this session of the legislature with the bill. The measure is said to have a splendid influence in taking politics out of tax levies, and it was pointed out that those most opposed to the bill were members of tax levying bodies.

In 1923 when the measure went into effect the commission of Clatsop county cut the county budget squarely in two and all departments continued to function as well as ever, Representative Mott said. The second year the county budget was back at the old level and no money was saved for the taxpayers.

MONEY MEASURES EXPECTED TODAY

Appropriation Bills and Revenue Producers May Be Dumped on Solons

All bills calling for an appropriation are expected to be dumped upon the legislature today. With few exceptions there have been no measures of this nature offered during the session.

Not only have the appropriation measures been kept in the committees, but all measures designed for revenue have yet to make their appearance.

Two measures of interest slated for Wednesday did not materialize. One of these, the senate bill, taking the appointments of the fish commission from the governor and putting it in the hands of the board of control, was on the calendar but was not reached. The other, Representative Tucker's proposed movie censorship bill, lost its place upon the calendar upon request of the sponsor. This is expected to bring forth considerable oratory when it comes up for final passage.

MITCHELL TO BE CALLED TO WHITE HOUSE

Brigadier General of Air Division to Be Summoned Before Executive Today, Report States

ARMY AIR CHIEF NOT TO RECEIVE APPOINTMENT

Will Be Given Choice of Resigning and Accepting Other Position

WASHINGTON, Feb. 18.—The aircraft controversy took an unexpected twist today when a report was received by some members of the house aircraft committee that Brigadier General Mitchell, assistant army air chief and central figure in the row, would be called to the White House tomorrow and informed by President Coolidge that he would not be reappointed. White House officials refused to either deny or confirm the report. War department officials said they had no knowledge of the matter and an inquiry at General Mitchell's office brought the statement that the assistant air chief knew nothing of it.

The report as it reached committee members was that General Mitchell would be given the choice of either voluntarily resigning his position or of accepting other services to which the war department might assign him upon the expiration of his term of office next month.

These committee members also said they had been informed the contemplated presidential action was impelled by declarations by Secretaries Weeks and Wilbur that they would resign unless summary action was taken in General Mitchell's case.

Both secretaries, when notified of this aspect of the report, denied that any such thoughts were in their minds and Mr. Weeks went further to call attention at his recent statement that the war department would take no action in reference to General Mitchell until the house committee concludes its investigation.

The report that General Mitchell was to be reprimanded arrived at the capitol while the committee was considering in executive session the advisability of open hearings on the recent findings of certain airplane tests it had ordered conducted at McCook field, near Dayton, Ohio.

The startling nature of the Mitchell report caused an immediate adjournment of the session without decision of the question before the committee.

The tenor of the report was conveyed to the White House where officials in addition to refusing to deny or to confirm its accuracy, made the informal statement that it had not emanated from that source.

NOMINATION CONFIRMED

WASHINGTON, Feb. 18.—The senate confirmed today the nomination of George Alexander Parks to be governor of Alaska. He will succeed Governor Scott C. Bone, whose term expires in June.

ASTORIA GRANTED LAND

WASHINGTON, Feb. 18.—The senate tonight passed the house bill authorizing the conveyance to Astoria, Ore., of a strip of government land in that city.

Portia Mansfield Dancers Perform for Packed House at Grand Here Last Night

By AUDRED BUNCH The entire house was sold out for the Portia Mansfield dancers last evening at the Grand theater, a Civic Music club attraction that Salem will not forget. From the moment the curtain went up till the time it finally rang down, nearly two hours later, the audience sat in willing enrapture, marveling that while not a single word was spoken from the stage that so much was said—epics told, symphonies composed, love stories lived, and moments of joy breathed and whispered. Such is the language of color and rhythm. "Les Fraudes" of Liszt offered the first of the chosen compositions for rhythmic visualization, the silent actors taking their places against an intense blue background stained with fleur de lys which for a moment burst like some chrysalis to reveal these exotic flowers of the stage. A storm of applause greeted the

EZRA MEEKER TO JOIN WILD WEST TROUPE, REPORT

Oregon Trail Blazer Signs Contract to Drive Ox-Team in Traveling Show

SEATTLE, Feb. 18.—Ezra Meeker, 94, Oregon trail blazer and pioneer of Washington, announced here tonight he had signed a contract with J. C. Miller, former proprietor of a wild west show, to join a new traveling wild west company scheduled to leave Oklahoma City April 22 for a tour of the United States and Canada.

The contract provides that Mr. Meeker drive an ox team similar to the one in which he and his bride crossed the plains to the Oregon country many years ago. Mr. Meeker said he intended before leaving Seattle in April to campaign for the photographing of the route of the old Oregon Trail from the air by the army aviation service.

Last year Mr. Meeker flew from Vancouver, Wash., to Washington, D. C. in an airplane piloted by Lieutenant Oakley G. Kelly, army aviator who figured in the 1923 non-stop transcontinental flight.

FORESTRY BILL LOSES IN HOUSE

Proposal for growing of Trees on Logged-off Lands Loses in Hard Fight

Reforestation bobbed up again Wednesday and after a hard fight, led by Representative Mott, the proposed legislation was defeated and HB No. 416 discarded.

The bill provided that owners of logged-off lands that are better adapted to tree-growing than agricultural purposes, could be classified by the state forester as reforestation lands and a contract made for 60 years, during which time the owners would be required to keep up fire patrol and insurance costs and should obtain a profit of 4 per cent, compound interest at the end of the 60-year period. Estimates upon the timber produced would be made, the timber to be re-valued every 10 years in order to provide a just valuation upon the tax rolls. One half of the taxes would be paid from year to year and the remaining half of the taxes being deferred to the end of the contract period.

In support of the bill Representative Mott said the 65 per cent of the total payroll of the state was dependent upon the timber industry and that Clatsop county, the greatest timber county of the state, received 75 per cent of its taxes from lumber. Estimates have been made that the standing timber supply will be exhausted in 15 years. Owners of denuded forest lands are unable to reforest because of the system of taxation. Timber is assessed from 80 to 125 per cent of its valuation while other property is assessed between 15 and 20 per cent. By the time the crop matures, taxes have exceeded its value.

Owners remove the timber by the quickest and cheapest methods, which are the most destructive, he declared.

Another measure, providing for the assessment of lumber or timber products was challenged upon the grounds of being unconstitutional though a favorable opinion had been rendered by the attorney general. The measure, HB No. 441, would enable counties to check lumber removed from government lands and assess this monthly.

Lone Doctor and Nurse Who Fought Diphtheria at Nome While Dog Teams Brought Life-Saving Serum



Above are shown Dr. Curtis Welch, U. S. Public Health Officer and the only physician in Nome, and Miss Emily Morgan of Wichita, Kan., the only Red Cross nurse in the stricken Alaska settlement. She is in charge of the hospital where the victims of the "Black Death" epidemic are being treated.

Together they have been fighting to keep down the death list until they received the new antitoxin which was rushed 700 miles by heroic mushers and their dog teams in stormy weather that brought temperatures of 50 and 60 degrees below zero.

TOMB SEALED OVER COLLINS

Explorer Sleeps in Peace in Same Cave Where He Was Buried Alive

CAVE CITY, Ky., Feb. 18.—(By Associated Press.)—Sealed in his perpetual tomb, Floyd Collins sleeps tonight in peace.

Buried alive, he endured for days the terrifying solitude probably praying he would somehow escape the impending doom. Unable longer to withstand the tortures of body and spirit he died alone trapped in the jaws of cavernous earth.

He met death gamely, his teeth set. A few hours, or maybe a day or two after death had ended his sufferings, rescuers broke open his sarcophagus.

Plans were made to bring out his body, but mother earth, he had blocked every effort to get Collins out alive, club to him.

The caverns he knew and loved so well became his crypt. With simple funeral services yesterday, his body was resigned to the cave. The climax was reached Monday with the finding of the body. The epilogue was written today. The booming of detonating dynamite; the dull thud of huge boulders; loosened from the century old bed on the desolate hillside as they tumbled in and closed the new pit, was the drawing of the colophon of the heroic work of the rescuers.

A few flowers strewn about the mouth of Sand Cave, a few spectators wandering aimlessly about, today had replaced the mechanical equipment and the jaded workers of yesterday.

KNOWS OUR RICH VALLEY, HE SAYS

Dr. Morris Says Correspondents Agree With Him and the Slogan Man

"Slogan Editor the Oregon Statesman, Salem, Oregon—Dear Sir:—Thank you for the copies of the Oregon Statesman one of which contains excerpts from one of my articles in the American Nut Journal.

"A number of correspondents, SOME OF THEM NEWSPAPER MEN, agree with you and with me in regard to what would happen if the newspapers would give one half the space to matters of agricultural importance that they give to crime.

"Incidentally I know your Willamette valley and consider it to be wonderfully rich agriculturally. Yours truly,

"ROBERT T. MORRIS. No. 114 East 54th St., New York, Feb. 11, 1925."

(The reader will remember that in the article of Dr. Morris referred to he spoke of the new frons

ACTION TAKEN ON MANY BILLS

Fourteen House and Thirteen Senate Measures Reported Favorably

Fourteen house and 13 senate bills passed through the house yesterday with favorable action being taken. One measure failed to obtain the constitutional majority and four were re-referred and no action taken during the day.

Three measures pertaining to paroles and pardons were withdrawn, Representative Bennett recalling HB Nos. 249 and 270, creating a parole board and amending the parole law relating to the power of the governor to grant paroles and pardons. Representative Hurlburt withdrew HB No. 372, pertaining to paroles, paroles and commutation of sentences.

Measures passed by the house yesterday included the following house bills:

Assessment and taxation of transient livestock in eastern Oregon; allowing an appeal to the board of control from tax levies made by counties and municipal corporations, limiting the levies county assessors to complete and deliver tax rolls to the tax collector.

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MANY PROTESTS ON FARM BILLS

Extended Hearing May Be Necessary Before Measure Is Cleared Up

WEDNESDAY IN WASHINGTON

The house refused to accept the senate postal pay bill in place of its own measure.

A \$10,000,000 Veterans' hospital bill was reported by the house Veterans' committee.

The senate confirmed the nomination of William M. Jardine of Kansas to be secretary of agriculture.

The senate voted against reconsidering the legislative appropriation bill carrying salary increases for members of congress.

Reports at the capitol that Brigadier General Mitchell would be summoned to the White House tomorrow could not be confirmed.

Chairman Norris of the senate agriculture committee expressed doubt his committee would have time to consider fully a cooperative marketing bill.

A special naval board reported that the battleship remained the final arbiter in sea warfare and that the airplane would never assume paramount importance.

BANKING CODE PASSES HOUSE MINUS BATTLE

Senate Measure Brings Changes in Present Law and Is Approved by Bankers' Association

THREE YEARS' WORK PRECEDE ITS DRAFTING

State Committees Spend Much Time in Study of Needs and Remedies

Changes in the state banking code, as approved by bankers, trust companies and the American Banking association, were adopted Wednesday by the house of representatives. The measure is known as SB No. 54.

Segregation of capital between the commercial and savings departments is provided for the greater protection of depositors and to avoid complications which have arisen in connection with the liquidation of insolvent banks under the present law. Under the new law no bank will be chartered with a capital stock of less than \$25,000 in towns having 3,000 inhabitants or less. The old law placed the capitalization at \$15,000.

Property Clause Included

The new act provides that any bank may invest up to but not exceeding 75 per cent of its capital and surplus in banking premises and fixtures when the building is not owned by the institution, or 25 per cent of this surplus when the building is owned. Under the old law a bank could invest 50 per cent in bank premises, but there was no provision as to fixtures. After five years no bank can hold real estate in its assets except that which it occupies for the purpose of transacting its business. No person will be eligible as a bank director unless he is a citizen of the United States and at least a majority of the directors must be residents of Oregon. Directors must meet once a month instead of quarterly.

Loans Remain Same

Loan limits remain fixed at 20 per cent of the bank's capital and surplus. The new law restricts any bank or trust company from engaging directly or indirectly in trade or commerce. No loans will be made payable to officers, directors or agents of the institution.

The new law gives the state superintendent of banks the authority to remove any officer or director who may be found "to be dishonest, reckless or incompetent, or who refuses to comply with the law or the rules and regulations of the state banking department."

Powers and functions of trust companies are made more responsible in the investment of trust funds, all trust companies qualifying under the act are required to deposit cash or approved bonds in the sum of \$50,000 to guarantee faithful performance. In the event of any violation the deposit is available under the law, to be

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