

Hearings on Farm Relief

THOSE who looked for President Hoover to unfold some magical plan for solving the problems of agriculture were disappointed when he said "Excuse me," and passed the buck back in congress. The senate committee has been holding hearings on the farm relief question, trying to get something in shape for congress when it meets April 15. The hearings to date have attracted comparatively little interest and have been largely the tilling of old plowing. A group of financial leaders were invited in to give their opinions on what ought to be done. But Rockefeller and the others did not feel they were dirt farmers enough to qualify on the agricultural problems.

The farm organizations have been rather quiescent. The head of the national grange urged the export debenture plan again. The Farm Bureau is rather standing aside with hands in pockets. And George Peek who represented a group of farm leaders so militant he could not support Hoover, is on the outside looking out. The hearings have been somewhat perfunctory, the general opinion being that congress will pass some law along the lines of the final McNary bill whether the country needs it or not.

We are to have a board. A board means jobs with salaries and expense accounts. And the board is to have \$300,000,000 to start with. Some thought it ought to be more because this amount would be lost and more should be provided. That of course is logical: if the government is going to throw three hundred million away why not go the whole limit and make it over a billion as Brookhart recommends?

Frankly what we foresee is merely driving another spigot in the government rainbarrel and opening it up. The money will not reach the farmers; it will largely be frittered away in machinery, operating expenses, and foolish ventures to hold up prices. Artificial interference with prices has nearly always had terrible repercussions. Witness sugar restriction in Cuba and rubber restriction in British East Indies. The only sensible way to control surpluses is to market them, not to buy up the excess and hold for an indefinite time.

Sensible encouragement of co-operative marketing will afford some relief; but not much additional legislation in this regard is required. We fancy that President Hoover presented no plan because he had no plan, and from his study of the situation he could devise no plan which would give the farmers all their leaders seemed to expect. Nor have we a plan. For eight years we have listened to various panaceas that were proposed, but they were full of flaws, which gave promise of doing more harm than good.

When the hearings are ended and the money is appropriated and the new board set up we think agriculture will go on just about as before, with good times and bad times, good crops and poor crops, good prices and poor prices, profits and losses, prosperity and depression. The period of the acute farm distress is past. We think that is the real reason why there is so little interest now in the farm relief hearings. Nothing much is required; nothing much is expected; nothing much is possible.

Hoover Gets Applause

THE trouble with the Hoover administration is that it is starting out too well. Hoover's swift moves and numerous changes in presidential practices have met with really astounding public approval. Even the democratic press is manifesting cordiality. And the professionally critical publications like the New Republic have even permitted some words of commendation to creep into their columns.

Well-begun is half-done. The rule scarcely applies to the presidency. There will be occasions enough for unleashing political war-dogs when Hoover really treads on some influential toes or pokes a stick at some of the mummies that flourish in Washington. The democratic press, what there is left of it, and the cantankerous "independent" magazines with socialistic complexes, will find opportunity to thrust their harpoons at Hoover's spacious frame. Pending that time it is really enjoyable to read the following from that staunch democratic paper, founded by Joseph Pulitzer, The St. Louis Post-Dispatch.

"What a spectacle it is! Here are the New Republic and the Nation, neither of which supported Mr. Hoover in the presidential campaign, applauding him. Here are the great democratic dailies, not one of which supported him in the presidential campaign, urging him to keep up the good work. After all, why should not the president be as sensible, as efficient and as practical as the average good business man?"

"What Mr. Hoover has done in the matter of meeting the press has filled everybody with a glad surprise not equaled anywhere since stout Cortez and all his men upon a peak in Darien looked out on the Pacific ocean. What seemed a terribly difficult matter presented to Mr. Hoover no difficulty at all. Where other presidents had devised spokesmen, go-betweens and shock absorbers, Mr. Hoover simply announced that he would meet the press, that he would tell it when it could quote him, and would say so when his utterances were merely for its information.

"Perhaps the country is learning something about the presidency that it has not known. If so, it is something that has happened before. The period of the Antonines in Rome is often pointed out by historians as the most sensible and efficient that any people has ever enjoyed. Maybe Mr. Hoover, who has done more sensible things in three weeks than most presidents do in three years, is the precursor of a similar period in the United States."

The Story of James W. Wood

WE call particular attention to the editorial reprinted in another column on this page from the McMinnville Telephone Register. The McMinnville paper was purchased last summer by two Iowans, L. E. and Jack Bladine. L. E. is U. S. revenue collector at Dubuque, was former editor of a paper at Cedar Falls and knows his Iowa politics. His son Jack, was a newspaper reporter in Des Moines, the state capital.

So the editorial comes from men who know Mr. Good's record in Iowa. Some people have the idea that Good is merely a politician. He is a man with political horse-sense, which is not at all to his discredit; but he distinguished himself for his ability in Cedar Falls and in congress. He will prove a resourceful and competent administrator in the war department.

Bishop Brent, who died recently in Switzerland, will be remembered as one of the most consecrated of the bishops of the Episcopal church. He was broad-minded in his theology, and devoted to his ministry. He served 17 years as bishop of the Philippines, rejecting offers to return to important bishoprics in this country. He was a leader in the war against the opium traffic and served as American delegate at the Geneva conference in 1923 dealing with the drug traffic. At the time of his death he was bishop of Buffalo. Peace to his ashes.

Gandhi, the Indian leader and philosopher, was fined 35 cents (one rupee) for destroying foreign-made cloth. He must have torn his British made shirt. Gandhi is a non-co-operative; wants the Indians to refrain from co-operating with the British; would use no machine-made merchandise. Foolish of course, but India has long been full of misguided religionists.

"The position of the lumber producer is growing better. No, that isn't news; it's the regular Monday report of C. C. Crow in the Oregonian, which we have been reading weekly for the past one or two years. If it is kept up long enough the lumbermen may believe it is true.

The Latest Thriller!



Editors Say:

THE SECRETARY OF WAR. Many former Iowans living in the West have an acquaintance with James W. Good, Hoover's secretary of war. The impression has gone out that the appointment of Mr. Good was one simply of political expediency, in other words, the payment of a political obligation. Judson C. Welliver, formerly an Iowan, of later years of Washington, writes in a recent issue of the Christian Science Monitor, an article that tells just what kind of a man the new secretary is. He says Mr. Good was a perfectly normal country town boy, with none of the advantages of either poverty or wealth. His parents provided him a liberal education; public schools, Coe college (Cedar Rapids) of which he is now a trustee; and a law course at Ann Arbor. After practicing a short time in Indianapolis he went back to Cedar Rapids and in a few years was elected city attorney.

The Cedar Rapids city council passed an ordinance sharply reducing the price of gas purveyed by the local company. Of course the company fought it, and enforcement, on the ground of confiscation, and started a long litigation. The youthful city attorney knew little about law and less about gas. He presently discovered that the gas company was preparing a tremendous fight, and he was getting high priced lawyers and higher priced experts to prove that gas could not be made for the prices fixed by the ordinance.

When time for his summer vacation came on, Good quietly went back to a small city in Indiana where a friend of his owned a gas works, put on overalls, and during the next three months worked long enough in every department to learn exactly what the manufacture and distribution of gas meant and cost. Then, and not till then, he went back to study the law of the case.

When it came on for trial, the opposition lawyers and their experts were prepared for a Roman holiday. Not a person in Cedar Rapids knew how Good spent that vacation. But when Good started cross-examining the experts, and presently had even the most expert of them tied in a hard knot by his demonstration that he knew more about gas than they did, an awful suspicion arose that this was not going to be the usual trial of such a case. And it wasn't.

The more they testified and the more Good cross-examined them, the more the experts floundered. The young city attorney didn't talk much about law, but insisted upon the facts about which it became very evident that he knew more than anybody else. The city won its case. The company appealed, ultimately carrying the case to the supreme court of the United States. All along the line Good won. The supreme court finally sustained him.

That case, familiar to all public utility authorities as the Cedar Rapids gas case, established some of the most important precedents in public utility regulations. Its present peculiar significance concerns its bearings on the whole tremendously important problem of valuations, earnings and constitutional rights of public utility corporations.

Who's Who & Timely Views

Flood Conditions on Mississippi Closely Watched

By MAL GEM EDGAR JADWIN
(Edgar Jadwin was born at Honesdale, Pa., Aug. 7, 1885. He studied at Lafayette college and was later graduated from the United States Military Academy and the School of Application, in engineering, at Ann Arbor, Mich., through the rank of the office of chief of engineers with the title of major general, in 1926. He was stationed at the Panama canal during four years of the construction and served in supervising engineering work over 160,000 men. He had been awarded the Distinguished Service Medal.)

Present conditions on the Mississippi and its tributaries are not considered serious and the danger of a flood comparable to that of 1927 has passed unless unforeseen heavy rains occur.

Army engineers are cooperating in every way possible to safeguard the levees along the river and its tributaries. General instructions have been issued from engineers headquarters in Washington, to army engineers in the field to repair the damaged levees, regardless of whether or not they are government-constructed. Two-thirds of the cost of repair work of this nature is borne by the government, under the flood legislation passed by congress. In addition to the commissioned engineering officers, enlisted men of the army corps are stationed at strategic points along the river to assist in the protective work.

The Mississippi, the building of which was made necessary after the 1927 flood, is to the Mississippi floor-protection plans the Cairo floodway project is one of the most necessary of the entire program. By the construction of these levees the Mississippi would be enabled to overflow into an emergency channel several miles wide. Its present channel is but two miles in width. Under the plans the present levee at Cairo would be lowered and the area between it and the new high bank levees would provide the floodway.

Army engineers are cooperating in every way possible to safeguard the levees along the river and its tributaries. General instructions have been issued from engineers headquarters in Washington, to army engineers in the field to repair the damaged levees, regardless of whether or not they are government-constructed. Two-thirds of the cost of repair work of this nature is borne by the government, under the flood legislation passed by congress. In addition to the commissioned engineering officers, enlisted men of the army corps are stationed at strategic points along the river to assist in the protective work.

ing demand for money that was ever presented to any appropriation body in the world's history. It was the budget covering appropriations at the peak of the world war expenditures.

He immediately took charge of the reorganization of those appropriations bills; pruned them down by many hundreds of millions of dollars; and, the republicans claim, completely vindicated their charge of democratic extravagance.

All this time Good had been studying this business of appropriating government money, and decided that a budget system must be set up or it would be utterly impossible to bring finances into control and to discharge the war debt. He wrote the budget bill, which was passed by congress, only to be vetoed by President Wilson, who thought himself in favor of the budget system, vetoed this bill because of some details which he regarded as unsatisfactory. Its later passage following the incoming Harding administration, is a matter of history.

Good resigned from his seat in congress and opened a law office in Chicago. His practice rapidly grew to immense proportions. He was through, he thought, with public life. But Calvin Coolidge decreed otherwise. He wanted his organizing ability in his 1924 campaign. That job done Good went back to his law office and but for Herbert Hoover would still be there. Responding to draft he took charge of Hoover's pre-convention campaign; and later the western campaign for the nominee.

His critics say he will be the politician par excellence of the administration. Those who know him know that he will be a great deal more than that.—McMinnville Telephone-Register.

HONEY PRODUCERS FORM COOPERATIVE
Organization of the Oregon Honey Producers Co., a cooperative association open to every honey producer in the state, was completed Saturday night at the home of Fred Burja, 478 North

Bits for Breakfast

By R. J. HENDRICKS

Talking of the tariff—
W. H. Bentley reported progress at the Salem chamber of commerce noon meeting yesterday, in the effort to secure higher protective rates for filberts and walnuts.

Mr. Bentley is manager of the North Pacific Nut Growers cooperative, and he appeared at the hearings before the ways and means committee, preparing the new tariff bill, at Washington.

The filbert and walnut growers are asking a rate of six cents a pound on both kinds of nuts in the shell, against the two and a half cents now charged for filberts and four cents for walnuts coming from foreign countries. Also, the walnut growers are asking that the walnut meats rate be raised from 12 to 15 cents a pound. And there is a request for a higher rate on shelled filberts, which is now five cents a pound.

There is every likelihood that these modest requests will be granted in the finished bill to be introduced in the lower house of congress, and that the figures will stand in the law.

In that event, a great impetus will be added to the present activities in the development of the filbert and walnut industries of the Willamette valley and western Washington. The time is certain to come when our district will be the edible nut center of the United States, and every help that can be given this development will be of benefit in speeding it up, as it should be speeded up.

The land in walnuts in California, as was recently shown in The Statesman, was on January 1 of last year 129,112 acres, about 46 and a half per cent of the acreage in bearing trees. But a large percentage of the bearing walnut trees in California are being taken up, and this movement is bound to go on steadily. A large percentage of the non bearing trees will be brought into bearing, so that California will never have as high as 100,000 acres in bearing walnut trees.

Oregon has now about 15,000 acres in walnut trees of all ages, and this acreage will constantly grow. It should not take Oregon long to catch up with California in acreage—which is bound ultimately to happen. The reasons are very plain now. California cannot market as high quality of walnuts as Oregon; not as white meated or good flavored a product. This alone would finally give Oregon the preferred place as a nut growing state.

NO. 77
Synopsis of Annual Statement of the U. S. Branch Sun Insurance Office Ltd., of London, in the State of Oregon, on the thirty-first day of December, 1928, made to the Insurance Commissioner of the State of Oregon, pursuant to law:

Amount of Statutory Deposit paid up, \$400,000.00.
INCOME
Total premiums received during the year, \$4,962,918.15.
Interest, dividends and rents received during the year, \$299,215.82.
Income from other sources received during the year, \$1,153,907.70.
Total income, \$6,415,941.67.
DISBURSEMENTS
Net losses paid during the year including adjustment expenses, \$1,232,318.97.
Dividends paid to policyholders during the year, \$1,141,314.06.
Taxes, licenses and fees paid during the year, \$19,392.17.
Amount of all other expenditures, \$2,122,283.26.
Total expenditures, \$5,559,304.56.

ASSETS
Value of stocks and bonds owned (market value), \$2,759,089.
Cash in banks and on hand, \$561,176.58.
Premiums in course of collection written since Sept. 30, 1928, \$948,638.15.
Interest and rents due and accrued, \$72,101.87.
Other assets, \$34,240.36.
Total admitted assets, \$4,344,205.29.

LIABILITIES
Gross claims for losses unpaid, \$696,081.00.
Amount of unearned premiums on all outstanding risks, \$4,611,786.03.
Dues for commission and brokerage, \$21,000.00.
Other liabilities, \$275,838.79.
Total liabilities, exclusive of statutory deposit of \$400,000—\$5,604,105.82.

NO. 86
Synopsis of the Annual Statement of the American Credit Indemnity Company of New York, in the State of Oregon, on the thirty-first day of December, 1928, made to the Insurance Commissioner of the State of Oregon, pursuant to law:

Amount of capital stock paid up, \$1,000,000.00.
INCOME
Total premiums received during the year, \$2,212,928.61.
Interest, dividends and rents received during the year, \$1,153,907.70.
Income from other sources received during the year, \$1,153,907.70.
Total income, \$4,520,744.01.
DISBURSEMENTS
Net losses paid during the year including adjustment expenses, \$1,068,350.73.
Dividends paid on capital stock during the year, \$180,000.00.
Commissions and salaries paid during the year, \$745,213.72.
Taxes, licenses and fees paid during the year, \$29,231.90.
Amount of all other expenditures, \$448,571.61.
Total expenditures, \$2,491,373.96.

Old Oregon's Yesterdays

Town Talks from The Statesman Our Fathers Read

April 2, 1904
INDEPENDENCE—The McClane warehouse at Surer was destroyed by fire, and with it 12,000 bushels of wheat and 1500 bushels of oats. Origin of the fire is unknown.

Virgil Peringer, graduate of Willamette university 15 years ago is visiting friends in this city while on his way to his home in Bellingham, Wash., from San Francisco.

Dr. Brewer, who is putting up a new brick house on the corner of Court and Liberty streets, says there are plenty of renters, as he has had one or two applicants every day since the work started.

Miss Minnie Worden of San Francisco has been employed as deputy clerk in the office of the state treasurer.

MISS DICK WINS
HUBBARD, April 1.—(Special) The Hubbard high school is rejoicing over the success of Miss Jacqueline Dick, senior, who was one of the orators selected to represent district number 4 in the national oratorical contest sponsored by The Oregonian and the Oregon Bar association. The subject of Miss Dick's oration is "Lincoln and the Constitution."

is no gamble. It is as certain as the fact that water seeks its level and day follows night.

NO. 82
Synopsis of Annual Statement of the Northwestern National Life Insurance Company of Minneapolis, in the State of Oregon, on the thirty-first day of December, 1928, made to the Insurance Commissioner of the State of Oregon, pursuant to law:

Amount of capital stock paid up, \$1,100,000.00.
INCOME
Total premium income for the year, \$7,574,782.
Interest, dividends and rents received during the year, \$1,792,678.
Income from other sources received during the year, \$1,153,907.70.
Total income, \$10,521,367.70.
Paid for losses, endorsements, annuities and surrender values, \$2,870,900.
Dividends paid to policyholders during the year, \$1,257,229.
Dividends paid on capital stock during the year, \$1,775,917.
Taxes, licenses and fees paid during the year, \$215,904.
Amount of all other expenditures, \$665,471.
Total expenditures, \$6,285,481.

ASSETS
Value of stocks and bonds owned (market or amortized value), \$18,512,824.
Value of stocks and bonds owned (market or amortized value), \$18,512,824.
Loans on mortgages and collateral, etc., \$10,224,256.
Premium notes and policy loans, \$5,321,715.
Cash in banks and on hand, \$208,481.
Net uncollected and deferred premiums, \$501,229.
Interest and rents due and accrued, \$20,465.
Total admitted assets, \$35,207,878.

LIABILITIES
Net reserves, \$24,787,089.
Gross claims for losses unpaid, \$142,918.
All other liabilities, \$5,718,948.
Total liabilities, exclusive of capital stock of \$1,100,000—\$30,648,955.
BUSINESS IN OREGON
FOR THE YEAR
Gross premiums received during the year, \$2,212,928.61.
Premiums and dividends returned during the year, \$8,967.15.
Losses paid during the year, \$2,559,000.
Name of company—The Northwestern National Life Insurance Company.
Name of president—O. J. Arnold.
Name of secretary—G. W. Wells, Jr.
Statutory resident attorney for service—Insurance Commissioner, Salem, Ore.

NO. 77
Synopsis of Annual Statement of the U. S. Branch Sun Insurance Office Ltd., of London, in the State of Oregon, on the thirty-first day of December, 1928, made to the Insurance Commissioner of the State of Oregon, pursuant to law:

Amount of Statutory Deposit paid up, \$400,000.00.
INCOME
Total premiums received during the year, \$4,962,918.15.
Interest, dividends and rents received during the year, \$299,215.82.
Income from other sources received during the year, \$1,153,907.70.
Total income, \$6,415,941.67.
DISBURSEMENTS
Net losses paid during the year including adjustment expenses, \$1,232,318.97.
Dividends paid to policyholders during the year, \$1,141,314.06.
Taxes, licenses and fees paid during the year, \$19,392.17.
Amount of all other expenditures, \$2,122,283.26.
Total expenditures, \$5,559,304.56.

ASSETS
Value of stocks and bonds owned (market value), \$2,759,089.
Cash in banks and on hand, \$561,176.58.
Premiums in course of collection written since Sept. 30, 1928, \$948,638.15.
Interest and rents due and accrued, \$72,101.87.
Other assets, \$34,240.36.
Total admitted assets, \$4,344,205.29.

LIABILITIES
Gross claims for losses unpaid, \$696,081.00.
Amount of unearned premiums on all outstanding risks, \$4,611,786.03.
Dues for commission and brokerage, \$21,000.00.
Other liabilities, \$275,838.79.
Total liabilities, exclusive of statutory deposit of \$400,000—\$5,604,105.82.

NO. 86
Synopsis of the Annual Statement of the American Credit Indemnity Company of New York, in the State of Oregon, on the thirty-first day of December, 1928, made to the Insurance Commissioner of the State of Oregon, pursuant to law:



If your Estate will be chiefly Life Insurance

HUMAN beings like to look into the future... to wonder what is in store for them... and they look at the stars for the answer... and at the cards... and at their palms.

Yet, all the while, the Answer lies not in these things, not in the Future—but in the Present. What are you doing Today, to insure the Happiness of Tomorrow?

One of the questions of the present proper answer to which will help insure Happiness for Tomorrow, is "How can you assure yourself that your insurance funds will give the greatest possible protection to your heirs?"

Whether or not your estate will consist of the proceeds of life insurance, you doubtless will hear how others successfully solved this important problem. You may find in their experience worthwhile suggestions for the safeguarding of your own life insurance.

We would welcome visits and will gladly relate how Life Insurance Trusts are used—also our Trust services might help you solve some particular problem pertaining to your estate.

United States National Bank