

# WESTON LEADER

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## OREGON NEWS NOTES OF GENERAL INTEREST

### Principal Events of the Week Briefly Sketched for Information of Our Readers.

An up-to-date hospital has been opened at Lebanon.

A meeting of the Northwest Tourists' association will be held in Portland January 26.

A proposal to move the Linn county fair from Seilo to Albany is now receiving consideration.

Louis H. Plymale, aged about 40, committed suicide at Medford by slashing his throat with a razor.

Dr. Dewitt A. Paine, physician, banker and capitalist, one of Eugene's most prominent citizens, is dead.

R. N. Morris, president of the Oregon Thresher Men's association, died at his home in Looking Glass valley.

Bids have been received by the state land board on approximately 2000 acres of state lands in Malheur county.

An appropriation of \$40,000 for an addition to the Salem federal building will be incorporated in the omnibus appropriation bill.

The Coos and Curry county cheese-makers have formed an organization for the purpose of standardizing the Coos county product.

Apple trees between four and five years old, on the farm of S. D. Barney, at Echodale, near Oregon City, are bursting into leaves.

Bandon has started a new industry. W. E. Craine and G. H. Shanks are installing machinery for the manufacture of white cedar chests.

About \$25,000 is the estimated cost for the coming biennium to pay expenses and salaries of field men for the bureau of mines and geology.

D. W. George, a prosperous farmer living a few miles south of Klamath Falls, is a second cousin of David Lloyd George, premier of England.

An appropriation totaling \$102,606.50—an increase of \$5,106.50 over the current biennium—is asked for by the supreme court in the state budget.

An inter-city basketball league, comprising teams from Baker, La Grande, Union and North Powder, was formed at a meeting held January 1 at La Grande.

A plan for creation of a retirement and pension fund for teachers was adopted by the Oregon State Teachers' association at its annual convention at Portland.

Hop growers of Polk county are pessimistic concerning the 1917 season. Many are preparing to plow up their yards and have made plans on what they will plant instead.

Wallace McCamant, of Portland, has been appointed by Governor Withycombe to the state supreme court, to succeed Justice Eakin, who resigned on account of continued ill health.

Toni Cerboni, awaiting action by the grand jury at Oregon City on a charge of second-degree murder, brought his troubles to an end by hanging himself with a pair of suspenders in the county jail.

The Prineville city council has awarded to Keeler Bros., of Denver, the \$100,000 municipal bond issue authorized by the voters for the construction of a railway connecting line to the Oregon Trunk.

The duck-shooting season in Multnomah, Clatsop, Columbia and Tillamook counties closed at sundown Sunday. In every other county of the state the season will remain open until sundown January 15.

Total receipts for the motor vehicle department of Secretary of State Olcott's office for the year 1916 were \$146,232. The total number of automobile registrations was 35,917, while motorcycles aggregated 3548.

Agitation is under way in Hood River county with a view to having the legislature change the laws of the state so as to make possible the amalgamation of the governments of the city and county of Hood River.

At the last meeting of the Vale city council, the office of city marshal was abolished, there having been but two arrests made in the last year, one for drunkenness and the other was for violation of the peace ordinance.

Judge T. E. Duff at Culver decided in favor of Madras and against Culver upon the county seat question, and the case will be immediately appealed to the supreme court. The matter has been in the court for several weeks.

By the close vote of 188 for and 143 against the effort to obtain an irrigation district in the territorial county-

ous to Medford failed last week by 10 votes. An affirmative vote of 60 per cent was necessary to carry the election.

In the budget adopted by the Benton county court \$3000 was appropriated for a building for military purposes for the Corvallis company of national guard, with the proviso that the city appropriate a like sum and the state appropriate a sum equal to the combined appropriations, plus the value of the land on which it is to be located.

Authority has been given the executive committee of the Oregon Butter & Cheese Makers association to cooperate with the secretary of the state fair. A. H. Lea, in interesting more Oregon dairymen to exhibit at the state fair.

Because his wife had started suit for divorce, W. J. Horton, a logger, walked into the store at Rainier where she was employed, shot and killed her and turned the weapon on himself. Horton died instantly; his wife lingered four hours.

The state highway commission, under the direction of John H. Lewis, state highway engineer, has prepared two manuals in pocket form in an effort to standardize state and county practice in construction and maintenance of bridges.

Reports are that the annual convention of the Oregon state federation of labor will be the most interesting and best attended in the history of the organization. The federation meets in Salem January 22, and will be in session for a week.

State Treasurer's Kay's biennial report shows that the inheritance tax fund has accumulated during the past two years for the treasury general fund in excess of \$175,000, and that of this amount none has been expended for the cost of administration.

Representative Hawley has asked the chief of army engineers that a recommendation be sent to congress favoring the appropriation of \$80,000 to deepen the water in the locks at Oregon City, in order that boats drawing up to six feet may pass at all seasons.

Milton A. Morgan, a convict paroled from the Oregon state penitentiary December 14, and a waiter by occupation, was arrested by United States marshals at Portland on a charge of having sent an infernal machine through the mail to James R. Misner, of Albany.

Lane county corn has won a first prize at the St. Paul corn show held under the auspices of the First National bank of that city. The prize was for the western division of Oregon. The award is a silver loving cup. The corn was grown by C. J. Sluyter, of Irving.

On the ground that instructions to the jury had been erroneous, the state supreme court set aside the verdicts against William Branson and Mrs. Anna Booth, convicted in Yamhill county on charges of having slain the woman's husband, William Booth, October 8, 1915.

Members of the Yamhill county taxpayers' league and others in conference with the county court at McMinnville to discuss the budget for 1917, recommended the elimination of the county roadmaster and county agricultural agent from the appropriation, saving \$4500.

A law which will require the branding of all cold storage food products so as to show the date they were placed in storage and the date taken out, will be recommended by the resolutions committee of the seventh annual convention of the Oregon Butter and Cheese Makers' association, in session at Salem last week.

Secretary of State Olcott says he believes that the 6 per cent tax limitation amendment passed at the last general election was enacted especially to limit the expenditures of public moneys, and that, in his opinion, no serious obstacle will be met by the incoming legislature in providing for every necessary state requirement within the limitation.

Judge Galloway, in circuit court at Salem, signed the final decree in the first of the seven Hyde-Benson cases to be adjudicated. The decree is positive that the state land board must repay out of the school fund \$1.25 an acre for the 600 acres involved in the suit, but does not compel the board to repay the interest accrued from school land loans since about 1898.

Portland—The Albina Engine & Machine Works has contracts for two 3300-ton and four 3800-ton steel steamships.

Medford defeated an irrigation district formation, to the great detriment of the sugar beet industry.

## SETTLING DOWN TO BUSINESS.



—Donshey in Cleveland Plain Dealer.

### MRS. SKEFFINGTON



Photo by American Press Association. Mrs. F. S. Skeffington, widow of the Irish editor slain by the English, who recently escaped to America with her son.

### GENERAL MANGIN



General Mangin, the French commander who recently drove the Germans back at Verdun.

## TRAINMEN ACCUSE ROADS OF JUGGLING

Cleveland.—W. G. Lee, chief of the Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen, issued a statement here, charging that the railroads of the country are permitting delays to trains and overtime which would not ordinarily be permitted, in order to prove the enormous expense that would follow obedience to the Adamson law. The statement asked whether if the supreme court declares that law either constitutional or invalid the brotherhoods should continue to await the eight-hour day.

Mr. Lee denied a report published that a sealed statement putting the Adamson law situation up to the men had been sent out by the chiefs of the four brotherhoods.

It was learned from an authoritative source that the general chairmen of the four brotherhoods will hold a meeting in Chicago January 11 to consider the situation.

## WILL NAME LOAN OFFICERS

Man From Each State in District to Get Farm Bank Position.

Washington.—The farm loan board has informed Representative Dill that within two weeks four salaried officials of the Spokane farm loan bank probably will be named, a president at \$6000, a registrar at \$4000 and secretary and treasurer at \$3500 each.

It is planned to select one of these officials each from Oregon, Washington, Idaho and Montana, the states embraced in the northwest district. Numerous applications are on file, but selections have not yet been made. At the time these appointments are announced the board expects also to name the preliminary board of directors.

## Eight-Hour Conference Ends.

New York.—Conferences between representatives of the railroads and the four brotherhoods of railway employees, at which were discussed the possibilities of a settlement of the eight-hour controversy, were discontinued abruptly when it became apparent an agreement could not be reached.

## BRIEF WAR NEWS

Minor engagements only are reported from the Russian front in Galicia and from Macedonia.

In attacks along the Transylvanian frontier, Teutonic troops have driven ahead in the face of strong counter attacks.

Except for a French attack on the new German lines on Dead Man hill, near Verdun, which was repulsed, there is little activity along the front in France.

The Teutonic line of advance from the Wallachian plain now lies well to the north of Rimnik Sarat, on the railway from Buzeu to Fokshani, while on the right flank a still nearer approach has been made to Braila, the Danube granary, which is one of the main objectives of Von Mackensen.

Although Berlin reports that the Teutonic allies in Dobruja are keeping up their pressure against the Russians and Roumanians and have forced the Russians from fortified height positions east of Matchin, on the east bank of the Danube, opposite Braila, Petrograd announces that the invaders south of the Danube have been repulsed with heavy losses, except at the village of Rakel, which has been occupied by them. British armed motor cars, says Petrograd, did great execution in this fighting.

## SHORT NEWS NUGGETS

A Vienna dispatch announces the death of Eduard Strauss, the composer of dance music.

The coronation of Emperor Charles and Empress Zita, of Austria, as king and queen of Hungary took place in St. Mathey church at Budapest.

Argentina's wheat harvest this year will be one of the poorest the country has ever seen, due to injury by drouth and locusts, according to consular reports.

Five hundred gallons of fine whiskeys, wines and beer were poured into a city water wagon at Phoenix, Ariz., and the streets of the business section sprinkled with the liquor.

Denial that Great Britain has agreed to furnish Japan, after the war, with six battleships as part of the price of Japanese participation in the conflict, was made at New York in a cable message from the Japanese government.

David Kaplan, last of the four alleged dynamiters brought to trial for the destruction of the Los Angeles Times building October 1, 1916, and the death of 29 men, was sentenced to ten years in San Quentin penitentiary on a charge of manslaughter.

## Rubber Shoes and Tires Go Up.

New York.—An immediate 14 per cent advance in the price of rubber footwear of all kinds was announced here by the United States Rubber company. The company has also advanced tire prices, effective at once, averaging 15 per cent for casings and 10 per cent for tubes.

## Incendiary Fire Destroys Valdez.

Valdez, Alaska.—For the second time in 18 months, Valdez lies in ashes. Fire, aided by a stiff wind from Prince William sound, wiped out the business section and invaded the residence district before it was subdued. The cause of the fire is attributed to incendiarianism.

## 8 Army Aviators Make Record Flight.

Philadelphia.—Eight of the 12 army aviators who started from Hempstead, L. I. for this city in a qualification test for government pilot licenses arrived at the Philadelphia navy yard, completing the flight of 165 miles in less than two hours.

## Wisconsin Omits Inaugural Pomp.

Madison, Wis.—As a measure of economy, for the first time in the history of Wisconsin, the constitutional state officers-elect took possession of their respective state offices Monday without the usual inaugural ceremonies.

Portland.—The Oregon hotel is to be used to 15 stories, the improvements to cost \$750,000.

## Salem is Erecting Two Brick Stores.

Albany.—The furniture factory here is in the market for 80 carloads of coast alder, maple and ash, cut in the following lengths: 4 feet 4 inches, and 8 feet 8 inches, cut in cordwood style.

Ontario.—A \$14,000 street lighting system is to be installed here by the Idaho Power Company, which is also given a 10-year lighting contract.

Roseburg.—The total tax levy of Douglas county for 1917 is \$376,328, as against \$413,293 for 1915.

## ALLIES REJECT THE PROFFER OF PEACE

### Declare Central Powers' Proposal Insincere and Merely "War Maneuver."

Paris.—In reply to the proffer of Germany and her allies for a peace conference, the entente allies, in a collective note, declare that they "refuse to consider a proposal which is empty and insincere." The note was handed to the American ambassador, William Graves Sharp, by Premier Briand.

The note declares that the proposal of the central powers is not an offer of peace, but a "war maneuver." It is declared to be founded on "calculated misinterpretation of the character of the struggle in the past, the present and the future."

Appended was a special Belgian protest against the crimes committed by Germany against that country. In this statement Belgium declared the king and people of the country desired no peace that does not include legitimate reparation and guarantee of security for the future.

The note declares that the present strife was desired, provoked and declared by Germany and Austria-Hungary, and that Germany made no effort to bring about a pacific solution of the trouble between Serbia and Austria-Hungary, as did Great Britain, France and Russia.

The German overtures are described as a calculated attempt to influence the future course of the war and to end it by imposing a German peace. The overtures are also said to have the effect of intimidating neutral public opinion, as well as to stiffen opinion in the central powers, "worn out by economic pressure and crushed by the supreme effort which has been imposed upon their inhabitants."

"Finally," it is asserted, "these overtures attempt to justify in advance in the eyes of the world a new series of crimes—submarine warfare, deportations, forced labor and forced enlistment of the inhabitants against their own countries and violations of neutrality."

## ANSWER TO PEACE NOTE NOW READY

London.—The final draft of the reply of the entente allies to President Wilson's peace note, which already has been approved by France and Great Britain, has been forwarded to Italy and Russia and, as no changes have been suggested thus far from those quarters, it is not improbable the note will be delivered to the American ambassador in Paris, William G. Sharp, without change.

In its present form the reply is about the same length as the note to the central powers and has the same characteristics of general and guarded language. One of the most important points is a differentiation between peace among the present belligerents and such future arrangements as may be made for permanent peace, the purpose being to show neutral upholders of a future permanent peace that this is attainable.

## CLAIM VICTORY ON SOMME

Haig Says Allies Can Defeat Germans on Western Front.

London.—The battle of the Somme is pictured as a sweeping triumph for entente allied arms in a detailed report by General Sir Douglas Haig, which covers operations from July 1 to November 18. General Haig terms the battle a triumph in which the German western armies were only saved from complete collapse and a decisive defeat by a protracted period of unfavorable weather that prevented the Anglo-French forces from taking full advantage of their successful advance.

He declares that nevertheless it was a triumph which proved beyond doubt the ability of the allies to overthrow Germany "when the time comes." The British commander shows himself a firm believer in the doctrine that the entente allies can win the war on the western front.

North Bend.—A large dredging improvement is to be undertaken on Pony Slough.

North Bend.—The 225-foot lumber carrier, Florence Olson, is launched here.