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OREGON NEWS NOTES OF GENERAL INTEREST

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

Portland's million dollar postoffice will be completed by July 1.

Plans are under way for the seventh annual Polk County fair at Dallas.

The Oregon Agricultural college has lost several of its faculty members. The Oregon Clayworkers association will hold its fourth annual convention in Portland March 7 and 8.

The war prices for lumber have caused a general revival of the timber industry in the Gold Hill district.

E. O. Lamb, prominent retired sheep owner of Paisley, was shot and killed by his wife, Bertha, following a quarrel.

The formation of the Squaw Creek irrigation district near Bend was assured when the settlers last week voted 21 to 2 in favor of the plan.

Production of airplane spruce may be expedited by a riving machine that has just been invented by E. J. Gorman, of Portland, a practical lumberman.

Fuel oil shortage in Oregon will compel some of the large industrial plants to close if relief is not given soon, according to Fuel Administrator Fred J. Holmes.

A platoon of the 453d aero construction regiment has arrived at Toledo under command of Lieutenant Trempe from Vancouver barracks. The men will get out spruce.

Arnold Jenet, a Frenchman who was employed in the logging camp of the Oregon Lumber Company, near Dateville, was killed by being struck by a logging train.

An agreement has been closed with A. J. Welton, of the United Contracting company, of Portland, for laying 21,000 yards of water-bound macadam at Heppner.

C. H. Gram, of Portland, former deputy state labor commissioner, has filed a declaration of his candidacy for the republican nomination for the office of labor commissioner.

Insurance Commissioner Harvey Wells, in a statement issued, says the 10 per cent war tax on fire insurance premiums will not be charged by insurance companies operating in this state.

Vale chapter, American Red Cross, claims to have the champion knitter of the state. Mrs. B. F. Farmer, chairman of the knitting department, has completed a sweater in eight hours and 42 minutes.

Another 100 names have been added to the list of those school children who have sold \$50 worth or more of thrift stamps, making 700 now all told enrolled in the Junior Rainbow regiment of the state.

According to a survey of the wheat acreage in Baker county compiled by County Agricultural Agent Henry Tweed the county has 50 per cent more wheat under cultivation in 1918 than it had last year.

With barley quoted at \$90 a ton, Umatilla county farmers are speculating as to whether it is not a more satisfactory crop to plant this spring than wheat. At the ruling price wheat will bring about \$60 a ton.

Portland stands first in the northwest in high standard of milk as a result of the awards made at the Western Dairy Products show at North Yakima, Wash., where Portland won 12 out of 15 prizes offered.

The Millionaire gold mine, three miles east of Gold Hill in the Blackwell hills, an old-time producer, which has been in the care of a watchman for a number of years, has changed hands and will be reopened at once.

New bulk grain elevators costing in the aggregate hundreds of thousands of dollars will be ready for the handling of the 1918 wheat crop in Oregon. Some 50 new elevators will have been completed within the next few weeks.

Of 548 accidents reported to state industrial accident commission for the week ending February 28, two were fatal. The dead men are Charles Brerwick, of Milwaukie, and Harry Moore, of Mist, both killed while engaged in logging.

An engineering report outlining plans for the construction of 19,565 acres of land near Medford by the Medford Irrigation district, has been filed with State Engineer Lewis. The estimated cost of the project is \$1,455,063, or a little over \$74 an acre.

Crews of the Kern Contracting company successfully exploded a huge

blast on the Ruthon Hill link of the Columbia River highway near Hood River, moving hundreds of tons of rock on the basal cliff around which the new grade of the highway winds.

Oregon's per capita investment in thrift stamps and war savings stamps is just about double that of the country at large, based on the treasury department's report that sales in the nation have now passed the \$70,000,000 mark, representing a per capita investment of 70 cents. Sales in Oregon to date total over \$1,120,000, a per capita of \$1.40.

A maximum price of 25 cents each for grain bags for the 1918 harvest has been tentatively fixed by the United States food administration. This price was agreed to by Pacific coast bag dealers at a conference held in Washington with the officials of the food administration.

Bakers may continue to use rye flour as a substitute for wheat flour in Victory bread only until March 31. In making this announcement the food administration advised bakers using the rye substitute to secure other substitutes at once, as there would be no further extension of time.

Umatilla county will not make a drive to secure the \$1500 which is asked of the county for the Y. W. C. A. work, but instead will borrow the amount for the time being and send it in immediately, planning to collect the money at some future time by combining this with some other drive.

The Oregon Potato Dealers' association has made petition to the public service commission to adopt standard grades and provide for inspection of onions. The association also asks for compulsory inspection and grading of potatoes, as the assertion is made that some of the growers are shipping their product without being graded.

Supplies of cheese held by Oregon factories in storage must be sold by June 15, unless there are conditions which warrant issuance of a special permit by the federal food administration granting an extension of the time 1917 cheese may be held. Rules covering these points have just been received by State Food Administrator Ayer.

The winter fishing season ended at noon March 1, and no more fishing for salmon in the Columbia river will be permitted until May 1. An effort was made to have the food administration suspend the spring closed period, that people could have fish to eat, and thus cut down the consumption of meat, as the government requests. The effort brought no results and all fishing in the river is prohibited.

The invention of a Baker man, R. G. Neider, a German subject, designed to render ineffective the attack of a submarine on a ship, has been approved by O. H. Babcock of the naval advisory board at San Francisco and the drawing and plans have been forwarded by him to the navy department and naval board at Washington. With a few changes which he suggested, Mg. Babcock stated that the invention would prove very efficient.

According to word just received by Superintendent J. M. Johnson, of Klamath Indian agency, Commissioner of Indian Affairs Sells, at Washington, has notified Senator Chamberlain that timber sales have been authorized on behalf of the Klamath Indians, calling for payments which average over \$100,000 annually for a period of 15 years. These sales will be largely for tribal timber, and the rest will be taken from the lands of individual aged and deceased Indians.

Governor Withycombe deplores the tendency of Oregon farmers to cut down the acreage being planted to crops because of fear that a shortage of labor will exist at the harvest period and in a statement urged that the farmers increase rather than diminish the crop acreage. To help meet the shortage of labor the governor suggests that city residents who are accustomed to taking their vacations in the country go into the fields this year as harvest hands.

An inventory of the Sitka spruce stumpage of Washington and Oregon, recently made by the forest service, indicates that there is about 11 billion feet of this timber within the "spruce belt" of these two states. This inventory was undertaken under the direction of District Forester Cecil for the use of the spruce production division of the signal corps, that there might be available positive data as to the amount and distribution of all the possible airplane material.

For the first time the state industrial accident commission has awarded money under the workmen's compensation act, to a widow in Japan. She is the widow of Iwakichu Suetoshi, a Japanese laborer who was killed in

OLD SOL TO BE TOTALLY ECLIPSED

On June 8th Next a Path of Darkness Will Extend Entirely Across the United States About Midday

Headlights burning at midday in order to light up the darkness that will come with a total eclipse of the sun. This is what is to happen on the Union Pacific System on June 8th next. The Union Pacific will have practically a monopoly on the eclipse, the path of totality following its lines across Colorado, Wyoming, Utah, Idaho, Oregon and Washington.

The need for turning on the headlights is no joke. The moon is the cause of it all. On that date Luna becomes loony and steps directly in front of old Sol, shutting out the light almost as completely as if an incandescent globe had had its current switched off.

Among the peaks that tower around Denver and in Rocky Mountain National Park; in the canyons near Ogden and Salt Lake City, where you see the Devil's Slide, through the dense forests and mountain defiles on the way to Yellowstone Park, and down the Columbia river gorge, where you see Multnomah Falls, Mount Hood, and the famous Columbia River Highway, the darkness will be more real than out on the plains.

Never before in the history of the world has a single railroad system had a monopoly on such an important event as an eclipse of the sun, and for that reason the Union Pacific system is getting everything in readiness to host to the rest of the country, who may want to journey out to the mountains to take a look at their private eclipse which they have all ready to pull off in their own front yard.

Scientists, near-scientists and just curious will make the trip and they will be given a regular little eclipse, too. The West always does these things better than other folks.

Quite some time will be consumed in getting the moon directly in front of the "boss" and it will take a little while to get her away again, but she will "hesitate," that is, she will demonstrate once more, to old Sol, that he is not the whole thing and shut him out "totally" for nearly two minutes. That is the time the lights will have to be turned on, if during those two minutes the busy hands of the mothers, sisters and sweethearts are to continue with sweaters and mufflers, and the Union Pacific

a logging camp at Cochran, Washington county. Besides the widow he leaves two daughters, 11 and 14 years old, who live with their mother in the town of Utsunohashi-mura in the state of Okayama-ken, Japan. The widow will receive from the Oregon accident commission \$42 a month until the daughters are 16 years old.

Immediate federal protection of the condensed milk industry of the Willamette valley, if production is to continue and farmers be spared the necessity of slaughtering their dairy herds, is requested in a telegram sent to the Oregon delegation in congress by the Portland chamber of commerce. Representations made to the chamber of commerce by a committee of milk condensers and dairymen from valley points are that the federal control of their output for export, which went into effect two months ago, has piled the warehouses of the various condenseries to capacity, without outlet to the markets. As a result, two plants have failed, and others are confronted with the imminent necessity for closing their doors unless relief is offered.

NEXT LIBERTY LOAN TO OPEN APRIL 6

Washington.—On April 6, the first anniversary of the United States' entry into the war, the third liberty loan will open. There will be a campaign of three or four weeks.

In announcing the date, Secretary McAdoo said the amount of the loan, the interest rate and other features, such as convertibility of bonds of previous issues, maturity and terms of payment, are to be determined, and that new legislation will be necessary before plans can be completed.

From the fact that the amount of the loan is dependent on further legislation it is expected that it will be for more than \$3,000,000,000, the remainder of authorized but unissued bonds.

That certificates of indebtedness as now being sold in anticipation of the loan bear 4½ per cent, affords some indication of the interest rate.

How large the loan shall be depends largely, however, on the fate of the pending war finance bill carrying an appropriation of a half billion dollars, and action on the railroad bill with its appropriation of a similar amount.

Although Mr. McAdoo made no specific announcement, it is now taken for granted in official circles that there will be but one more loan before June 30, the end of the fiscal year.

trains are to glide into the canyons and out again with their usual and time-honored safety.

Some of the points is no doubt wondering what the soldiers in the trenches will think of the eclipse. Well, they aren't in on it. This is an American eclipse, in fact a Union Pacific eclipse, which is something worth thinking about when we remember that we will not have another total eclipse in these good old United States for twenty-seven years.

Result: Denver is right there, as she always is. Dean Herbert A. Howe of Denver University has polished up his big telescope, fixed up a lot of extra things to go with it and has sent letters all over the country with the legend, "DENVER WELCOMES YOU," printed in big type. The folks at Yerkes Observatory at Green Bay, Wisconsin, are going to be at Denver. Other observatories will send their best scientists. In order to make sure, however, that they will not miss anything that may be revealed behind the skirts of the moon, delegations are also getting ready to visit Green River, Wyoming. On the cliffs near this little mountain town they will set up their instruments and get things all ready to take a look.

The thing they will be looking for most intently is what the astronomers call the corona. The corona is a ring of light that completely surrounds the sun and by some is called a halo, the sun being the only thing in all the universe that has a real honest-to-goodness halo. Many men have been reputed to wear halos and many others think they do, but the sun is the only thing that can prove it, and oddly enough it is his better half, the moon, that comes along about every quarter century and pulls off a total eclipse in order to make the old world sit up and take notice of this halo which old Sol wears. Usually a total eclipse is to be seen only in the far-away places of the world, the South Sea Islands or China, and never before, at least so say the folks at Denver observatory, has the path of totality been laid out over a course that takes in a big telescope like that at the Colorado capital.

Long's Peak, in Rocky Mountain National Park, will be one of the highest points in the path of totality and all the big summer resort hotels that cluster

RUSSIANS EVACUATE PETROGRAD IN HASTE

London.—The Russian government has evacuated Petrograd. Three state ministries, according to a Reuter dispatch from Petrograd, have left the capital, from which the population also is fleeing hastily.

The Bolsheviki government purposes to declare Moscow the Russian capital and Petrograd a free port.

Narva, 100 miles southwest of Petrograd, has been captured by the Germans, and the enemy is reported to be continuing his advance on Petrograd.

Previous reports that the hard terms of the German peace treaty, which takes from Russia thousands of square miles in Europe and Asia, would not be accepted by the All-Russian congress of workmen's and soldiers' delegates, indicated also that the nonpeace elements in the Bolsheviki were gaining the upper hand.

MENACE AROUSES SWEDEN

Protests to Berlin Against Occupation of Aland Islands.

Washington.—Germany's occupation of the Aland islands is only a preliminary to the total occupation of Finland. Official dispatches to the Swedish legation say Germany has announced to the Stockholm foreign office her intention to occupy Finland and that Sweden has protested.

Germany advised Sweden, the dispatch says, that it is necessary to occupy Finland temporarily to restore order, but gave assurances that she had no intention to take permanent possession of the territory. Sweden protested also against the Aland islands being placed in the war zone.

The Kaiser Gloates.

Amsterdam.—Emperor William telegraphed a message of congratulation to Field Marshal von Hindenburg on the "glorious conclusion" of the war on the eastern front. The telegram, as quoted in a Berlin dispatch, says: "Now the costly prize of victory in the long struggle is in our hands. Our Baltic brethren and countrymen are liberated from Russia's yoke and may again feel themselves Germans. God was with us and will continue to aid us."

Alleged Bootleggers Indicted.

Portland, Or.—Operations of two extensive bootlegging rings in this state were disclosed in the arrest under two secret federal indictments of 29 men

in San Francisco and Portland. The men under arrest include wholesale liquor dealers in San Francisco and a number of alleged bootleggers, together with expressmen and railroad employes whose services were necessary to the success of the conspiracy, which consisted of importing large quantities of liquor from San Francisco into this state.

John Redmond, Irish leader, dead. London.—John E. Redmond, the Irish Nationalist leader, died at 7:45 o'clock Wednesday morning. Death was due to heart trouble, following a recent operation for an intestinal obstruction.

Turkish forces advancing in the Caucasus are meeting with little resistance and are massacring Armenian residents of the districts retaken from the Russians.

The German socialists have bitterly attacked the peace treaty with Russia. In a debate in the reichstag there were charges that Germany and Austria already are quarreling over the spoils of war.

Determined efforts by the Germans to obtain possession of Fort La Pompelle, to the southeast of Rheims, and thus secure another dominating position from which they could complete the destruction of the city, have met with a sanguinary failure.

The Americans the Germans claimed to have captured on the Chemin des Dames probably were the larger part of a patrol of 13 men sent out when the raid began and has not been heard of since. The enemy obtained no prisoners from the American trenches.

Russia's delegates at Brest-Litovsk have halted the German invasion of Great Russia by agreeing to the peace terms offered February 21. Peace was made, they report to the Bolsheviki government, because every day of delay meant more demands by the Germans. Added provisions require the Russians not only to retire from Turkey's Asiatic provinces, but also from territory in the regions of Kars, Batum and Karabagh, taken from the Turks during past wars.

Socialist Congressman For War. New York.—Congressman's great east side was astounded to hear a rousing war speech by Meyer London, socialist congressman and heretofore a pronounced pacifist. Not only did Representative London urge a continuation of the war against Germany as the only agency that could bring about a lasting peace, but he denounced Trotsky and Lenine, the Russian Bolsheviki leaders.

AMERICANS DEFEAT BIG GERMAN ATTACK

Yankees Beat off Strong Force of Best Picked "Shock" Troops.

With the American Army in France.—The three recent raids, one in the Toul sector and two along the Chemin des Dames, have demonstrated that the American soldier, notwithstanding his previous inexperience, now is perfectly at home in a gas mask and able to fight just as well with or without it.

The Americans met the best picked troops of the German army—troops of the "shock" type, especially trained for raiding—and beat them at their own game of war.

In the hand-to-hand struggle the Americans lost some in killed and wounded, including officers. A few others were reported missing.

After the fight 12 German bodies were found in the American trenches, while about a score more bodies were seen in the snow and amidst the barbed wire entanglements.

The attack was made in a driving snowstorm against a salient on the American front. A heavy bombardment of the American position accompanied the attack. But instead of finding the Yankees bewildered, stunned and crouching gasmasked in their dugouts, the Germans met a maddened crowd of bareheaded demons, intoxicated with excitement and the joy of combat.

Hurling themselves upon the Germans the young Americans fought desperately, entirely smashing the carefully laid boche program. The German survivors were sent scuttling back to their lines, while the American gunners slammed down a violent barrage through which the fleeing troops had to pass. Three German prisoners remained in the hands of the Yankees, two of them having been wounded.

A plan of attack, including a map of the American positions, indicating every dugout, which was removed from the body of the Prussian captain who led the recent assault upon the sector northwest of Toul, shows how completely the Germans prepare their raids, if in fact this was but a simple raid, not having as its ultimate object the retention of a portion of the salient.

The map goes into such detail as to show every machine gun emplacement, every trench and every depression in the ground within the American lines.

LOSSES IN FIGHT AT TOUL MADE PUBLIC

Washington.—Five Americans, including Second Lieutenant Harold F. Eadie, of Tilton, N. H., were killed, five were severely wounded and four slightly wounded in the fight with the Germans north of Toul March 1, the war department announced.

Those killed, besides the lieutenant, were: Sergeant Anthony Amodei, Baltimore, Md.; Privates Edgar Parsons, Obids, N. C.; Harry J. Henry, Logansport, Ind., and Matthew Brew, Fayette, N. D.

The department also announced the following killed in action:

Sergeant Joseph P. Chaisson, Derby, Me., February 24; Corporal Eph Boggs, Red Jacket, W. Va., March 2; Private Hugh Weatherman, Beaman, Ia., March —, and Cook Thomas H. Hardesty, 12 Ramsey Apartments, El Paso, Tex., February 25.

The death in Europe of Private Walter E. Heinz, Crane, Or., from pyemia was reported. Other deaths from disease among the overseas forces were reported as follows:

Privates Theomas J. Quirk, Lowell, Mass.; Phemonis; Harley B. Salzman, Beach, N. D.; embolism; Alfred H. Clapp, West Union, Ia.; tuberculosis; Artie O. Ledbetter, Elizabethtown, Ill.; sarcoma.

St. Louis, Mo.—The one-eighth interest in the estate of the late Adolphus Busch, wealthy brewer, owned by his widow who but recently left Germany after a visit of many months, has been placed in charge of a depositary named by A. Mitchell Palmer, United States custodian of alien enemy property, it was learned here.

Bill to Commandeer Lumber Reported. Washington.—A bill commanding lumber was reported favorably by the senate committee on military affairs.