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OREGON NEWS NOTES OF GENERAL INTEREST

Principal Events of the Week Briefly Sketched for Infor- mation of Our Readers.

The annual session of the Umpqua Baptist association was held in Roseburg.

Questionnaires are being mailed this week to young men who registered in the draft June 5.

Formation of two companies of the Umatilla county guard from the old Pendleton company has been completed.

The loganberry season is in full blast in the Umpqua valley, and the different sections are scenes of great activity at the present time.

Peter Autzen, president of the Peninsula national bank at St. Johns was almost instantly killed in an automobile accident near Portland.

The annual campmeeting of the Seventh Day Adventist church of eastern Oregon and southern Idaho opened at Baker and will continue until June 30.

Oregon will play a highly important part in the Fourth of July program for the emergency fleet corporation and a minimum of 12 wood hulls will be launched in this district.

J. D. Farrell, president of the Oregon-Washington Railroad & Navigation company, will be the corporate head of the Union Pacific system in the west, with headquarters at Portland.

George A. Steel, pioneer in Portland, twice postmaster of the city, builder of its first electric lines and for one term state treasurer of Oregon, died at the Good Samaritan hospital in Portland.

Loren Combs is dead and Robert Potter and Gordon Rambo are suffering from serious injuries as the result of being caught in a cloudburst in Little Buckhorn creek, about 45 miles west of Fossil.

Prohibition of the sale and use of all kinds of fireworks and a perfectly safe and noiseless Fourth of July are asked by State Fire Marshal Wells in a letter being sent out to the mayors of cities throughout Oregon.

A German church, located in the northwestern part of Polk county, has ceased the use of the German language and in the future at all services, including Sunday school and the weekly prayer meeting, English alone will be used.

The first cast of the big six-ton propellers for the emergency fleet ships was successfully poured at the Astoria Marine Iron Works in the foundry department. The casting is the largest of its kind ever made in the state.

A campaign to enlist Portland business men for farm service in Oregon at harvest time will be started on July 1 by J. W. Brewer, federal farm help specialist, in co-operation with a committee representing various civic organizations.

Sheriffs throughout the state are experiencing considerable difficulty in retaining competent deputies, due to increased wages in all lines of industry, according to complaint made at the state convention of sheriffs in session in Portland.

Chester J. Hogue, Oregon secretary of the West Coast Lumbermen's association, has obtained a temporary leave of absence that he may take charge of construction work on a \$20,000,000 shipyard now being built by the Union Iron Works at San Francisco.

Confronted with a serious shortage of drivers due to many of its employees entering military service, the Gorst & King Automobile company, operating a jitney service between North Bend and Marshfield, is contemplating employing young women drivers to replace the men.

A serious milk shortage in Portland may result from the scarcity of hay and feed and the high cost of labor, two factors which are becoming burdens that the milk producing farmers cannot bear at the present prices of wholesale milk and which is sending many milk cows to the slaughterhouses.

The state highway commission must advertise for bids on highway repair work as well as for regular construction work, and if no satisfactory bid is received the commission may then do the work by force account, Assistant Attorney General Van Winkle holds, in reply to an inquiry by State Highway Engineer Nunn.

More accidents were reported to the

state industrial accident commission for the week ending June 20 than for any other week since the compensation act became effective. The total number of accidents reported was 651, of which six were fatal. The fatal cases were: John Maxwell, Portland, shipbuilding; O. E. Ayers, Linnton, lumber manufacturing; C. Norene, Portland, shipbuilding; Mike Baccellieri, Bend, lumber manufacturing; Charles McCormick, Marshfield, lumber manufacturing; W. W. Knight, between Oswego and Goodin, killed in railroad wreck.

The membership of the fifth junior rainbow regiment has now climbed to more than 1000, but J. A. Churchill, superintendent of public instruction, will not close the enrollment until all the names that are likely to be reported from the public schools are in, as another regiment will not be started at this time.

Fake salesmen of corporation stock have made their appearance in Oregon, according to Corporation Commissioner Schulerman, and have succeeded in making sales to business men in Portland and elsewhere. Their method is to stop for a short time in each town visited, sell stock and finally get out of the state before officers can apprehend them.

J. R. Stannard and Frank Tichenor received four votes each for the democratic nomination for representative from Coos and Curry counties, and C. J. Edwards and R. J. Moore also received four votes each for the democratic nomination for representative from Tillamook and Yamhill counties. Under the law breaking of ties of this kind is decided by lot.

Because of the prevalence of sheep scabies in some Willamette valley flocks during last winter and spring, and because of danger of its spreading to other flocks in the state, the state livestock sanitary board has declared a quarantine against the movement of any sheep in western Oregon that have been affected, the quarantine to hold until due precautions have been taken.

Representative Hawley was assured by the aviation section of the signal corps that an aeroplane would be sent to Eugene to participate in the Fourth of July celebration if Major Emmons, in command of the aviation camp at Sacramento, deems it feasible for one of his men to attempt the 600-mile flight. The machines used at Sacramento carry only enough gasoline for 125 miles.

The public service commission received word from R. H. Alshon, regional director for the railroad administration at Chicago, that the Southern Pacific has appealed from the commission's order requiring the installation of a reinforced concrete crossing at Divide, in Lane county, because of war conditions. The regional director asked the commission to postpone construction of the crossing.

A price interpretation committee which has been appointed by Federal Food Administrator W. B. Ayer to prevent profiteering in food products will investigate costs and publish weekly reports. Figures at which the articles are selling and suggesting prices at which they should reasonably be offered to the consumer will be announced. It is then hoped that the retailer will be forced to sell at the latter figure.

If the labor shortage, already acute, becomes more serious, Salem stores will make arrangements to close, so that employees may go to the berry yards and orchards as harvesters. A resolution to this effect was passed at a special meeting of the Salem commercial club. To overcome a shortage of more than 2000 pickers the Red Cross chapter has taken the situation in hand, and made a house-to-house canvass for laborers.

By an order issued from the office of Federal Food Administrator W. B. Ayer, housewives of Oregon are now permitted to purchase but 25 pounds of sugar for canning and preserving purposes. For domestic uses the city family is still limited to the purchase of two pounds of sugar at any one time, while the rancher's family can obtain but five pounds on any one trip to town. It is provided that where country buyers may need a quantity larger than five pounds to care for threshers or special crews of workers they may obtain a permit raising the five-pound limit by applying to the county food administrator.

Worth While Quotation.
"Some people seem to take up all the sorrows of the past; to them they add the burdens of the present; then they look ahead and anticipate a great many more trials than they will ever experience in the future."

GENERAL BOROEVIC



General Sztetozar Borojevic, commander of the Austro-Hungarian troops which failed in their offensive on the Italian front.

MRS. F. C. AXTELL



Mrs. Francis C. Axtell, who has been promoted to the chairmanship of the United States Employees' Compensation Commission.

TO LAUNCH MANY VESSELS JULY 4TH

Washington.—Celebration of July 4 this year will be made notable for all time by the launching from American shipyards of the largest number of ships of the greatest aggregate tonnage ever put into the water in one day.

Independence Day's contribution to the merchant fleet will be at least 89 vessels, with a capacity of 439,886 deadweight tons.

Thirty-seven of the hulls expected to be launched will be steel, with a tonnage of 254,680.

The Pacific coast yards will launch 26 wooden and 17 steel vessels, totaling 250,700 deadweight tons.

The Bethlehem Union plant at San Francisco will have the honor of launching the biggest individual tonnage of any yard in the country with three steel ships totalling 35,400 deadweight tons.

Seattle will be the scene of a triple launching, but the three hulls will be distributed among three different yards.

Aberdeen, Wash., with the launching of four hulls, will have the honored position among the wooden shipbuilders. Tacoma, Wash., and Portland, Or., will each see three wooden hulls slide into the water.

BRIEF NEWS OF THE WAR

Eight hundred and thirty-five German airplanes have been destroyed since January 1, according to an official French announcement.

Along the French front the action of the last week consisted mainly of raids. The lull there is advantageous for the allies because it permits them to replenish their manpower.

The serious food shortage in Austria-Hungary has given cause for sensational rumors. One of these, from Amsterdam, says an attempt has been made on the life of Emperor Charles.

American forces have continued their intense activity on the fronts where they are holding positions. Northwest of Chateau Thierry they have pushed their lines forward once more and east of the city have bombarded bodies of German troops.

The defeat of the Austrian armies on the western bank of the Piave river is complete. The retreat, which began in an orderly manner, soon became wildly disorganized and confused. Many thousands of Austro-Hungarians surrendered at the first opportunity when overtaken by their pursuers. So hurriedly was the retrograde movement of the Austrians at some points that they did not attempt to save their guns and stores, great quantities of which now are in Italian hands.

The losses to the enemy are described as enormous, both in men killed, wounded or made prisoner. An official statement from Rome to the Italian embassy in Washington asserts that the Austrians have lost 40,000 men in prisoners alone.

Nursery Note.
It costs Paris nearly \$100,000 a year to care for the trees on its streets and boulevards and in its parks, more than 1,000 new ones being planted annually.

62 DEAD IN WRECK OF CIRCUS TRAIN

Chicago.—Sixty-two persons are known to be dead and 115 injured as a result of the rear end collision of a circus train and a string of empty Pullmans at Ivanhoe, near Gary, Ind. The wreck caused by the collision caught fire and many of the deaths resulted from the flames. The disaster occurred just at break of dawn.

The victims of the disaster were mostly connected in various capacities with the Hazenbach-Wallace show, which was traveling in two sections of a Michigan Central train going from Michigan City to Hammond. At East Ivanhoe a hot box caused the second section to stop. A train of empty Pullmans crashed into it, the locomotive plowing its way through the waycar and four sleeping coaches.

Edward H. Ballard, general manager of the circus, issued a statement saying that figures indicated that the death list would total 84. He said that a hasty check-up of the scattered employees showed a list of 60 missing in addition to the 24 identified dead.

LUMBER PRICES ARE SET

New Scales Increase Douglas Fir \$2.75 Per Thousand Feet in Northwest.

Washington.—Maximum prices for fir logs and fir lumber produced in the Pacific Northwest were announced by the war industries board.

Douglas fir prices, applying to lumber manufactured in the Pacific Northwest, represent an average increase of approximately \$2.75 a thousand board feet, it was officially announced. Yellow pine prices are increased approximately \$4.80 a thousand.

The new prices apply to government, allied and civilian purchases alike, it was officially stated. Douglas fir prices will advance only slightly, if any, to the commercial trade under the new rates. The prices, it was explained, are maximum prices, not fixed prices, and lumber may be sold below the government's figure and usual trade discounts allowed.

Regulations have not been made for transactions other than sales by manufacturers at scheduled prices, the official statement said.

Bulgars and Turks Dispute.

Amsterdam.—Differences have arisen between Bulgaria and Turkey over the division of lands taken from Roumania under the peace agreement with the central powers, Dr. Von Kuehlmann, the German foreign secretary, indicated in addressing the reichstag at Berlin.

Railroads Lose Money.

Chicago.—The railways of the United States after four months of federal operation show a deficit of \$250,000,000, according to computations announced by the bureau of railway news and statistics of Chicago.

Wise Men's Town.

The original Gotham, a name sometimes applied to New York, was a village near Nottingham, in England, and was the reputed home of the "wise men of Gotham."

AMERICAN LOSSES INCREASE AUSTRIANS RE-CROSS PIAVE IN DISORDER

General Pershing's Report Shows 8634 Killed, Wounded and Missing.

Washington.—Casualties in the American army overseas thus far reported by General Pershing, including the list made public Sunday, total 8634, as compared with 8085 a week ago. They were divided in the war department's weekly summary as follows:

Killed in action (including 291 lost at sea), 1312.

Died of wounds, 432.

Died of disease, 1268.

Died of accidents and other causes, 446.

Wounded in action, 4811.

Missing in action, including prisoners, 365.

Casualties among the marines are not included in this list.

With some 900,000 men now in France, the small number of deaths for disease reported is considered remarkable.

Lumber Output Decreased in 1917.

Washington.—Lumber cut in the United States amounted to 35,831,239,000 feet in 1917, the forest service announced. That was approximately 10 per cent less than in 1916. The decrease was due principally to largely curtailed private building operations, scarcity of labor, and transportation difficulties. Washington was the largest producer with a cut of 4,570,000,000 feet; Louisiana was second with 4,210,000,000 feet; Oregon third, with 2,585,000,000 feet.

Town of Cle Elum, Wash., Burned.

Cle Elum, Wash.—Fire swept a path through this city Tuesday afternoon, destroying more than 30 blocks in the business and residence districts, making 1500 people, mostly foreigners, homeless and entailing a money loss in excess of \$1,500,000. The fire burned itself out at midnight, leaving wreck and ruin in its path.

Kerensky Coming to United States.

London.—Alexander Kerensky, former provisional premier of Russia, has arrived in London. Former Premier Kerensky is on his way to America.

Every consumer of coal in Oregon, householders excepted, will be immediately recorded and classified in the order of their importance to the government in the winning of the war.

In accordance with the general plan of the national fuel administration for this census, State Fuel Administrator Holmes addressed letters to every coal dealer in Oregon instructing them to send in immediately the total amount of bituminous coal they sold last year. At the same time he began a survey of industrial concerns with a view of ascertaining their fuel requirements and their importance as a direct or indirect factor in the war machine.

The action of the Oregon public service commission in granting a franchise for logging operations on the Siuslaw river, from its source to its mouth, to the Siuslaw Boom company, is the first step in a tremendous project for the cutting of timber in that watershed, according to a statement made by L. E. Bean, attorney for the logging company. It is estimated there are 14,000,000,000 feet of timber in the watershed and most of this will be taken out through the river, he stated.

The Starret & Hovey interests, owning large tracts of this timber, are financing the Siuslaw Boom company. It is stated that an expenditure of several hundred thousand dollars will be required in cleaning out the river and the construction of dams for logging operations.

Chief blame for instigating the war was laid at Russia's door by Dr. von Kuehlmann. France and England were named as the next powers in order of culpability.

Referring to Germany's war aims, Dr. von Kuehlmann said:

"We wish for the German people and our allies a free, strong, independent existence within the boundaries drawn for us by history. We desire overseas possessions corresponding to our greatness and wealth; the freedom of the sea, carrying our trade to all parts of the world."

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Italians Press Forward in Pursuit of Badly Defeated Enemy.

Rome.—From Montello to the sea the enemy has been defeated and forced by the Italians to recross the Piave river in disorder.

The Italians have crossed the Piave in pursuit of the fleeing Austrians. Infantry and cavalry forces have crossed the flooded river in the region of Caposile, it was semi-officially stated.

Thousands of Austrians have been captured. Other thousands have been wiped out by artillery, machine gun and rifle fire, by air bombs and by drowning.

Italian cavalry is pursuing the enemy far beyond the Piave. The horsemen are pushing forward toward the line between Conigliano and Oderzo. The infantry has followed the cavalry across and is operating on the east bank at three points on the 20-mile front between Montello and Pont di Piave.

The work of the American aviators, who appeared on the front last week for the first time, contributed notably to the disorganization of the Austrian forces.

As the Austrians were pressed by the Italians they threw away their guns and equipment. They even left on the Montello stacks of bread, canned meat and preserves which Austrian aviators had succeeded in bringing to them.

All the Italian guns lost on this front last week are reported to have been recaptured. Nine Austrian divisions (108,000) have been completely annihilated. Fifteen others have been worn out in the San Dona di Piave region, where entire regiments have been destroyed.

GERMANY MAY KEEP BELGIUM

London.—Dr. Richard von Kuehlmann, the German foreign secretary, declared to the reichstag in Berlin that Germany could not bind herself to any pledges in regard to Belgium, says a dispatch from Amsterdam.

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