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OREGON NEWS NOTES OF GENERAL INTEREST

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

Pacific college at Newberg has inaugurated a campaign for a war-time deficiency fund of \$10,000.

Alexander M. Holmes, a pioneer widely known throughout Marion, Polk and Yamhill counties, died at Sublimity, aged 78.

The Southern Oregon Poultry association will hold its annual show in Medford on the 18th, 19th and 20th of December.

I. H. Van Winkle, assistant attorney general of Oregon, is confined in a hospital at Colorado Springs, Colo., with an infected hand.

Despite adverse recommendations of the citizens' advisory budget committee, the rose festival probably will be resumed in Portland next June.

County officials from throughout Oregon are meeting in Portland this week for the annual convention of the Association of County Judges and Commissioners.

An emergency hospital has been opened at Adams with the co-operation of the Adams branch of the Umatilla county Red Cross to care for Spanish influenza cases.

W. B. Ayer, for 18 months federal food administrator for Oregon, has resigned his office and named W. K. Newell, assistant food administrator, to act in his stead.

Frank V. Pedro, wealthy sheepman of the Butter creek country, near Echo, killed himself at his home in Pendleton by swallowing a large quantity of strychnine.

Up to the beginning of the week the death toll in Portland from influenza totaled 602 since the epidemic started in October. The total number of cases reported was 8809.

A large barn on the Jess Traver farm, northwest of Forest Grove, was burned, the fire consuming 1000 tons of hay, all the farm machinery and other valuable property.

To bring attention to Pendleton as an ideal place to spend the winter and to make an all-year home is the purpose of a campaign just launched by the Pendleton Commercial association.

The general strike threatened for Monday, on behalf of Thomas Mooney, was abandoned so far as Portland was concerned, when the Central Labor council adopted a resolution to this effect.

Commercial power rates of the Portland Railway, Light & Power company and the Northwestern Electric company, of Portland, are increased in orders issued by the public service commission.

After a search extending throughout the entire United States since last August, Mrs. Ethel M. Scott, wanted in Eugene for forgery of checks and postal money orders, was arrested in San Bernardino, Cal.

The emergency board met Monday at the request of Governor Withycombe, to consider an application for a deficiency appropriation of \$3000 for the public service commission to investigate telephone rates.

With only 8000 motor vehicle license applications received to date out of the 63,317 registered last year, Secretary Olcott warns car owners to get their applications in at once to avoid trouble after the first of the year.

A convention of the State Federation of Labor will be held in Salem on January 6. The convention was scheduled to be held at Bend in October, but the prevalence of influenza there made it necessary to postpone the session.

Cyrus Hamlin Walker, of Albany, oldest living white man born west of the Rocky mountains, reached the 86th year of his life Saturday. Mr. Walker was born December 7, 1833, at the old Whitman mission, near Walla Walla, Wash.

Formal protest against class freight rates proposed under the Chambers-Prouty scale for railroads of the country, has been made to Interstate Commerce Commissioner Atchison by Chairman Miller of the public service commission.

Warden Stevens, of the state penitentiary, has appointed John C. Talley deputy warden, supplementing Charles Burns, who will become turnkey to succeed L. C. Brotherton, temporarily relieved. Mr. Talley has been deputy warden at McNeill's island federal prison.

The University of Oregon at Eugene

will conduct examinations on January 17 for young men who have the necessary qualifications for recommendation to the United States naval academy at Annapolis, following a request received from Congressman W. C. Hawley.

One of the biggest hauls of bottled whiskey ever captured in Clackamas county was seized by Sheriff Wilson and Deputy Sheriff Joiner, when two Seattle men driving a large auto carrying a Washington license attempted to get through the county with about 300 quarts of liquor.

Professor G. R. Hyslop, of Oregon Agricultural college, will conduct a three days' grain-grading school at Dufur December 12, 13 and 14, under the auspices of Wasco county farm bureau, Oregon Agricultural college and the United States department of agriculture co-operating.

During the biennium of 1917 and 1918 the state highway department has constructed 45.2 miles of concrete pavement, 79.6 miles of broken stone macadam, 32.3 miles of gravel macadam and 134.5 miles of grading, according to figures compiled for the biennial report of the department.

If it is found to be for the best interests of enforcing the factory inspection law the state labor commissioner may establish a branch office in Portland and pay the expenses for it out of the factory inspection fund. Attorney-General Brown has advised Labor Commissioner-elect Gram.

During the last two years the receipts of the state from all sources have amounted to \$20,132,970, which is more than \$3,000,000 above the receipts of any previous biennium in the history of the state, according to figures being compiled for the biennial report of State Treasurer Kay.

Irrigation and drainage of 23,340 acres of land east of Eugene is contemplated by the Benham Falls Irrigation company, of San Francisco, which has completed its filing for using waters of the McKenzie river. An estimated cost of \$1,235,000 is placed on the proposed development work.

The Oregon Horticultural society closed its meeting at Roseburg after electing officers and deciding to hold next year's session at Astoria. The officers elected were: Benjamin S. Worsley, of Astoria, president; J. O. Holt, Eugene, vice president; C. D. Minton, Portland, secretary; Charles L. McNary, Salem, trustee.

Baker county is proud of its record on the war stamp drive, it having already exceeded its quota of 400,000 by \$60,000. All indications point to the fact that the county will exceed its quota by \$100,000 before January 1. Baker county has the honor of being the first county in the state to have its quota paid a month ahead of time with a large over-subscription.

At the instance of lumbermen in eastern Oregon, Representative Sinnott has asked the railroad administration to restore the privilege of shipping pine lumber in closed freight cars. Owing to the scarcity of boxcars for shipping perishable commodities, the regulations have required use of open cars for lumber, but it is alleged that pine lumber is injured by shipment in the open.

Twenty-nine cities and towns in Oregon each have a bank deposit of \$1,000,000 or more, and the aggregate is \$192,218,562.51, a statement issued by the state banking department shows. The deposits in the city of Portland total \$125,884,709.85, and after Portland comes Salem with \$6,920,543.68, Pendleton is third with \$6,559,812.42, and Astoria fourth with \$6,354,852.39. The banking institutions in the 29 cities and towns total 102.

There has been eliminated from the Deachutes national forest in west central Oregon, 4780 acres of land, all surveyed and a small portion reported to be agricultural; subject to entry only under the homestead laws requiring residence, at and after 9 o'clock a. m. January 15, and to settlement and other disposition on and after January 22, 1919, at the United States land offices at Lakeview and The Dalles. The land is in scattered small tracts.

Four fatal accidents are included in the 541 accident reports received last week by the state industrial accident commission. In addition the commission received the report that Nelson Kendall, who was injured May 18 at Dee, while employed at lumbering, died November 24. The fatal accidents reported were: Earl Randall, Bandon, stevedoring; G. W. Mackey, Astoria, shipbuilding; C. Ellis, Knappa, logging; Fred Boatner, Mist, logging.

Anglers' hunters' and combination licenses for 1919 are being mailed from the Portland office of the state fish and game commission to the 36 county

German Nation Before the War Had Fallen Into Religious Indifference

By F. L. LACHMUND

At an international congress for progressive religion and a free Christianity held in Berlin in 1910, the most significant thing was a pile of copies of a mimeographed circular placed in the registration office, evidently in the hope that especially German members of the congress might chance to find them. The circular was a direct appeal to Germans, and began by reminding them that their advance in science had made their faith in older religious creeds impossible; that the educated German had settled back into religious indifference, and that, at best, he gave up the pretense of having a religion at all and contented himself by maintaining a respectful silence on the whole matter.

The circular then pointed out the impossibility of continuing to live this partial life by the suppression of its nobler aspect and urged that Germans at the congress take steps to organize a church or society teaching a religion in harmony with science that they might again live a unified life.

The old religions, used in monarchical countries chiefly as instruments to keep monarchs on their thrones, have failed tragically. "King by the grace of God" has been the germ of spiritual, moral and, consequently, also of political decay. In speaking of the moral bankruptcy of the Germans we must not forget that this means also the bankruptcy of their religion. The one implies the other.

In the urgent appeal to the people of the United States for food production and food conservation it was said that, besides feeding the allies now we should after the war have to help feed Germany also. This task will be easy as compared with the problem of helping Germans to find themselves morally and spiritually. In reality it is a task which they alone can solve.

PLAN OF PEACE MISSION COMPLETE

Paris.—The plan of organization of the United States peace mission, which is now tentative, but which in its essentials undoubtedly will stand unchanged, shows the body which will look out for America's interests when the world's delegates gather at Versailles, as complete in every detail.

The chart of the organization which has been prepared here shows the large American organization headed by the members of the peace commission itself, with the chart lines running from this group to that of the first secretary, John C. Grew, to the second, or liaison or diplomatic intelligence group, and the third, the group of advisers, principally technical, with large staffs of assistants.

Under the liaison and diplomatic intelligence group are military and naval officers, including the commander of the American expeditionary forces, naval and military attaches and foreign representatives.

A sub-branch of the liaison and diplomatic intelligence office is a bureau in which American civilian activities will be represented, such as those of Herbert C. Hoover, the food administrator; the Red Cross, the Y. M. C. A., the Knights of Columbus, the Knights of Pythias, the Salvation Army and the War Trade board.

Washington.—The Jugo-Slav national council at Zagreb, acting as the provisional government for all Jugo-Slav territory formerly incorporated in the Austro-Hungarian empire has submitted a protest to the allied governments against Italian administration in the occupied territories of Dalmatia, Istria and Gorizia, according to a dispatch by the Jugo-Slav press bureau here.

clerks of the state and to approximately 130 others points of distribution. Paper conservation has resulted in the commission reducing the usual number of licenses by almost 20,000. The following numbers have been issued this year and are being distributed: Sixty thousand anglers' licenses, 45,000 hunters' licenses, 20,000 combination licenses, 100,000 nonresident licenses and 2600 free licenses for veterans of the Civil war and pioneers who came to Oregon prior to 1860.

Results of the official count at the last general election show that Governor Withycombe has five new political scalps hanging to his belt in the shape of records for Oregon. He is the first man to be nominated three times for the office of governor. He was elected four years ago by the largest majority ever given a candidate for governor. He was nominated last May by the largest plurality ever accorded a nominee for that office. He was elected by the largest majority ever given to a candidate for governor elected for his second term. He was the first republican governor in the history of the state to succeed himself.

BRIEF GENERAL NEWS

American troops have reached the Rhine, it is authoritatively stated.

Studied indifference characterized the German reception of American troops on their way to the Rhine.

British troops have entered the fortified Rhine city of Cologne, which is to be headquarters of the British army of occupation in Germany.

The resignation of Charles M. Schwab as director general of the emergency fleet corporation was accepted by President Wilson in a wireless message.

Belgian troops have occupied the town of Nuaes, on the left bank of the Rhine, opposite the big industrial city of Deusseldorf. Belgian troops also are in Gladbach and Heilberg.

The American navy will number 1291 vessels, including 40 battleships and 329 destroyers, on July 1, 1920, according to a statement prepared by Rear-Admiral Griffin, chief of the bureau of steam engineering for the house naval committee.

Telephone and telegraph lines of the country, now under government control, should become government owned at the conclusion of peace and the expiration of the provisions of the act under which the utilities are now controlled, Postmaster-General Burleson declares in his annual report.

People Die of Starvation in Petrograd.

Stockholm.—Fugitives from Russia say living conditions in Petrograd are terrible. The famine there defies the imagination. All middle class elements are excluded from public eating houses and are dying of starvation by thousands. Of a normal population of two millions, only a half-million persons are left in Petrograd. The city looks deserted.

Peace Congress to Open After Jan. 1.

Paris.—The opening of the peace congress at Paris has been set for the first week in January. It is expected here that the peace deliberations will last about four months. Unless unforeseen obstacles arise the belief prevails in well informed quarters that final action will be reached toward the early part of May.

MUSTERING OUT OF SPRUCE MEN IS ON

Vancouver, Wash.—Demobilization is proceeding here according to programme, and from now on between 100 and 250 men a day will be discharged from service. There are 30,000 men to be demobilized, and it will take considerable time for them to pass through the demobilization tests. More than 100 experts are laboring night and day to return the men to civilian life. It requires about four days for a man to pass through the military procedure, after entering the demobilization office.

The government pays the enlisted, drafted and volunteer men 3 1/2 cents per mile to the point from which they entered the service.

As fast as the men are mustered out here, others will be brought in from the rural camps. It is expected that about 12,000 men will be held at this post for an indefinite time.

CAMP LEWIS MEN LAST

The Thirteenth Division Not to Be Demobilized Soon.

Camp Lewis, Tacoma.—The 13th division, which is stationed here, will be one of the last to be demobilized in this country and, very probably the men and officers of the division who wish to remain in the army will be used as a nucleus for the formation of a permanent division, according to indications here.

From advices received from Washington, the places of officers in the division who wish to resign immediately will be taken by others who wish to retain commissions. These will be sent here as occasion demands from other posts and camps, as units are cut down by demobilization plans.

Officers here believe the regular army after the war will consist of approximately 500,000 men in 20 divisions. These divisions, it is understood, will have their headquarters at camps and cantonments that will be kept as permanent posts.

Taft Refuses Baseball Offer.
New York.—William H. Taft has announced that he had decided to decline the offer to become a baseball commissioner to succeed the present national commissioner.

ALL OF YANKEES MAY BE HOME BY SUMMER

Believed There Will Be No Difficulty in Returning Men Within Months.

Washington.—Eight of the 13 divisions comprising the American third army which will occupy German towns either are national guard or national army troops, and there is every disposition to believe that they will be on American soil again by midsummer.

General March, chief of staff, announced that he anticipated no difficulty in getting these home within four months. March suggested it will be necessary to obtain legislation whereby a certain number of men can be retained abroad beyond their normal period of enlistment—four months after the emergency is officially declared ended.

New national guard divisions, the 32d and 42d, and two of the national army, the 89th and 90th, are now in the front line of Major-General Dickman's army of occupation, according to General Pershing's report.

The 25th and 33d national guard and the 79th national army are in the second line, constituting the reserve which is occupying Luxembourg and various rail centers in France, including Montmedy, Longuyon, Etain and St. Mihiel, the first, third, fourth and fifth regulars comprising the remainder of the advancing army, while the second and seventh divisions are with the reserve.

COAST BOYS RETURN SOON

65th Regiment, Coast Artillery Corps, Included in Late List.

Seattle.—Included in the list of regiments soon to be returned from abroad, as announced by General P. C. March, chief of staff, Saturday, at Washington, was the 65th regiment coast artillery corps. This regiment went from the forts on Puget Sound, and was largely made up of Oregon and Washington men, formerly members of the Oregon and Washington coast artillery. The 63d and 69th regiments, coast artillery corps, both organized at Puget Sound forts, were announced a week ago to be returned to this country soon. These regiments were recruited principally from the northwest states.

Russians Appeal to Allies.

London.—The council of Livonia, Esthonia and Courland has directed an earnest appeal to the allies and to neutral countries to intervene in northwestern Russia, stating that the Bolsheviks have already invaded part of the mentioned provinces, killing many people and burning much property.

Veterans to Stay Abroad.

Washington.—Secretary Baker gave it as his personal opinion that none of the veteran divisions of the American army in France will return home before peace formally is declared. He indicated that the tried fighting men would compose the bulk of the forces to be kept in Europe for the present.

British to Oppose Conscript Armies.

Dundee.—The British representatives at the peace conference will demand general and absolute abolition of conscription throughout Europe. Winston Spencer Churchill, minister of munitions, made this announcement in a speech here.

THE MARKETS.

Portland.
Oats—No. 2 white feed, \$54 per ton.
Barley—Standard feed, \$49 per ton.
Corn—Whole, \$73@77; cracked, \$75@79.
Hay—Timothy, \$30@32 per ton; alfalfa, \$27.50.
Butter—Creamery, 61c per pound.
Eggs—Ranch, 75c per dozen.
Potatoes—\$1.50@1.75 per hundred.
Poultry—Hens, 23@26c; springs, 26c; roosters, 18c; ducks, 28@30c; turkeys, 27@30c.

Seattle.
Hay—Eastern Washington timothy, \$23 per ton; alfalfa, \$34 per ton.
Butter—Creamery, 65c.
Eggs—Ranch, 74c per dozen.
Poultry—Hens, 26@28c; springs, 26c; roosters, dressed, 27@28c; ducks, 26c; geese, 21c; turkeys, 40@45c.