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OREGON NEWS NOTES OF GENERAL INTEREST

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

Five of seven Linn county road districts voted in favor of special road levies.

City schools of The Dalles are being thoroughly fumigated as the result of a smallpox epidemic.

James Bachelor, aged 90 years and since 1882 a resident of Salem, died at his home in that city.

Fire at Mosier completely destroyed seven structures, comprising approximately one-half of the business section.

The Union County Ad Club has started a movement to assist in the restoration of capital punishment in Oregon.

The state convention of the Oregon Butter and Cheese Makers' association will meet in Portland December 17 and 18.

Out of a total of 265 men incarcerated in the Oregon state penitentiary, 85 of their number are serving life sentences.

The 12th annual conference of the presidents and faculties of the independent colleges of Oregon was held at Philomath.

With a good yield and high prices prevailing, some Linn county potato growers will receive \$400 per acre for their crop this year.

Albany's bank resources have increased more than \$1,000,000 in the past year and have reached an aggregate of almost \$4,250,000.

Arrangements are being made for an attendance of 2000 at farmers' week to be held at the Oregon Agricultural college December 29 to January 3.

Major A. A. Hall, assistant adjutant-general of Oregon since September, 1918, filed his resignation with Governor Olcott to take effect January 1.

Edward E. Kiddle of Island City was appointed by Governor Olcott as a member of the state highway commission, succeeding the late J. N. Burgess.

Frank Gowan, Chinese-American, a veteran of the recent war and merchant of Astoria, died as a result of injuries received when his store was robbed.

Out of the 11 read districts exclusive of the incorporated cities in Clackamas county, ten of them made special tax levies of 10 mills at district meetings last week.

C. L. McNary, United States senator, has returned to Salem from Washington. The senator will remain about two weeks before he returns to the national capital.

Farmers under the Ochoco irrigation project, at a community meeting, decided to pool their orders for approximately 8000 pounds of alfalfa seed, to be sown on project lands next year.

A bond issue of \$222,300 to enable the central Oregon irrigation district

to purchase the purchase of the franchise from the Central Oregon Irrigation company was rejected by a vote of 352 to 38.

Lane county teachers will make no contracts to teach next year for less than \$100 a month, according to resolutions adopted at the closing session of the annual teachers' institute at Eugene.

With 58,789 now enrolled in the city public schools, the estimated population of Portland, as taken from the school census, is 323,229, according to tabulations announced by School Clerk Thomas.

Preliminary steps were taken at a meeting of the county budget committee and the Lane county court to present to the voters of the county a proposition to issue \$1,000,000 in bonds for road work.

Umatilla county teachers, although they advocate higher salaries for all teachers in the county, are not in favor of unions, according to resolutions passed by 250 teachers at the Umatilla county teachers' institute.

When the big cannery built at Albany the past summer by the Puyallup and Summer Valley Fruitgrowers' association closes its first season's run work will begin at once on the erection of new buildings for next season.

A proposed constitutional amendment extending the highway indebtedness limitation from 2 to 4 or 5 per cent will be filed in the offices of the secretary of state this week, according to James Stewart, representative, of Corvallis.

Portland faces a coal shortage, with not a vestige of hope for relief, other than strict conservation of fuel by residents of the city, according to a report made by Deputy City Attorney Mackay, in charge of the fuel situation in the city.

The Klaskanine river fish hatchery is fast developing into one of the principal plants of the kind operated by the Oregon Fish and Game commission. There are now 6,000,000 chinook salmon eggs at the Klaskanine hatchery, while about 500,000 young fry have been hatched. Additional shipment of eggs are expected in the immediate future and close to 10,000,000 fry will be turned out from that plant next spring.

Records of life-terminers taken at random from the files at the state penitentiary indicate that the men sent to that institution to serve the extreme penalty under the present laws have served on an average a trifle more than five years.

At the request of County Commissioner Holman, District Attorney Evans is preparing a resolution offering a standing reward of \$5000 to persons leading to the apprehension of any man committing a murder in Multnomah county.

Transporting convicts to the Oregon penitentiary by airplane instead of by train and automobile as is the present practice, is proposed in a letter received by the governor from Chester G. Murphy, secretary and attorney for an airplane company.

The packing plant of the McMinville Fruit Growers' association, now finishing the season's pack of more than 20 carloads of first-grade apples, has been obliged to curtail the work of caring for all the fruit produced in the vicinity of McMinville through lack of cars.

As a result of the splendid prices received the past two years for the fruit, Gordon G. Brown, horticulturist of the Hood River experiment station, says he finds that many Hood River orchardists, despite the high cost of the nursery stock, are planning heavy plantings of cherries.

That no person, firm or corporation, hiring another in this state, shall pay a wage of less than \$4 a day of eight hours for any male employe or a wage of less than \$20 a week of 48 hours for any female employe is proposed in a constitutional amendment filed with the assistant secretary of state.

David Smith and Walter Banaster, charged with murder in connection with the shooting of J. N. Burgess and George Perlinger, eastern Oregon stock men, during a holdup of the Claremont Tavern, near Portland, pleaded guilty. Previously James Ogle, another member, had pleaded guilty and all were sentenced to life imprisonment.

Because of the contention of the Oregon-Washington Telephone company, which operates extensively in Hood River valley, that it would be unable longer to continue its service unless given financial relief, the Oregon public service commission has authorized an increase of rates for both residence and business phones of about 10 per cent, established an exchange toll charge and made slight modifications in several branches of the service.

66TH CONGRESS FACES BIG ISSUES

Washington.—The 66th congress in its first regular session was convened Monday.

The business ahead of the legislators comprises a program rated by leaders as the most important in years, if not in the nation's history, including what are considered some of the most complicated domestic problems ever presented.

The senate is expected to begin work on the Cummins railroad bill and the house on miscellaneous business. House committees will start work on the 16 annual appropriation measures to be enacted before July 1.

While the railroad legislation is before the senate, negotiations toward disposal of the German peace treaty are expected to reach a head, but with leaders on both sides doubtful of final action before the holidays.

The record billion dollar congresses, of ordinary peace times, faded into the past when Secretary Glass, presenting the annual estimates, proposed appropriations of practically five billion dollars for conducting the peace-time activities of the government during the coming fiscal year.

According to these figures it will cost more than five times as much to conduct the peace-time affairs of government as it did in the year immediately preceding the world war.

'FLU' SPREAD BY HANDSHAKE

Dirty the Atmosphere, the More Immune One is to Disease, Says Colonel Vaughn.

St. Louis, Mo.—There is no indication of an epidemic of influenza this winter, according to speakers at the convention of the Association of Military Surgeons of the United States here.

One method of spreading the disease is by handshaking, it was said.

Col. Victor C. Vaughn, in an address, declared the dirtier the atmosphere and the more bacteria one breathed, the more immune he would be to disease. This was proved, he said, by statistics compiled during the war, which showed that the greatest death rate from disease was among men from rural districts.

"The city-reared man," he asserted, "is accustomed to breathing filthy air, while the country-bred man is not, and consequently a foul atmosphere will affect the latter sooner than the former."

SENATOR NEWBERRY INDICTED BY JURY

Grand Rapids, Mich.—Truman H. Newberry, United States senator from Michigan, was indicted by a United States grand jury here for corruption, fraud and conspiracy in connection with the election by which he obtained his seat in the senate, defeating Henry Ford, his democratic opponent.

With Newberry, 133 other persons were indicted on the same charge. Among those named were H. A. Hopkins, El Comate, Mich., assistant secretary of the United States senate; John C. Newberry, brother of the senator, Detroit, and Paul H. King of Detroit. King was manager of the Newberry campaign committee.

It was alleged that voters were bribed, election boards corrupted, editors subsidized and moving picture theaters bought up in the endeavor to defeat Henry Ford, first in the primaries of both parties, and later, when he had won the democratic nomination, in the election itself.

Men Entombed Two Weeks Rescued.

Wallace, Idaho.—After being in the Gold Hunter mine at Mullian since Saturday morning, November 15, when they were entombed by a slide of earth, P. P. Grant and Emil Sayko, miners, were rescued Saturday, Nov. 29. Both men were in fairly good condition. Grant and Sayko had been imprisoned more than 14 full days, or 271 hours and five minutes.

REDUCTION IN RATES MADE

Schedule of Pacific Telephone & Telegraph Company Held Exorbitant.

Salem, Or.—Sweeping reductions are made in the rates of the Pacific Telephone & Telegraph company in the state in an order issued by the public service commission.

The order pronounces the tariff prescribed for the company last August by Postmaster-General Burleson both exorbitant and illegal, and reinstates with slight modifications the tariff prescribed by the commission last May.

The order also directs the company to refund to its patrons all moneys collected under the Burleson tariff in excess of the new rates prescribed, and it is estimated they will total more than \$130,000. The order becomes effective today.

Carranza Must be Good

Washington.—Renewing its request for the immediate release of Consul Agent Jenkins imprisoned at Puebla, the latest American note to Mexico, made public here, arraigns the Mexican government's conduct in severe terms and characterizes it as a studied attempt to ensnare the American consular agent in the intricacies of legal proceedings.

No ultimatum was served and no indication was given of what the American government's course would be if Jenkins is not immediately released.

The note to Mexico begins by saying that the United States declined to be drawn into a judicial discussion of "irrelevant or unimportant matters," and says the request for the consular agent's release is founded on "right and justice."

The United States, the note says, is "constrained to the opinion" that the Carranza arguments that the case is being investigated and that Jenkins has not taken opportunity to be released on bail are "mere excuses."

This government does not admit, the note says, that it is necessary to keep Jenkins in jail while his case is being investigated and this government "fails to discern" that the "intricacies of the Mexican penal law" have been applied with impartial effect to Jenkins.

Oregon News Notes ;

Because of having more water available than is necessary to irrigate lands at present included in its project, the Columbia basin survey commission has written a letter to Percy A. Cupper, state engineer, asking for maps, profiles and other data regarding eastern Oregon tracts which might be acquired by the commission in its irrigation program.

To make plain amendments to the election laws passed at the last session of the legislature, Sam A. Kozer, assistant secretary of state, is sending out letters to every county clerk in Oregon calling attention to the act requiring the re-establishing of voting precincts within the counties of the state at the regular December terms of the various county courts.

Mandamus proceedings to settle the question as to whether Governor Olcott is to serve out the unexpired term of the late Governor Withycombe or to hold the office merely until the next regular election will be instituted at once by G. M. Roberts, district attorney of Jackson county, according to an announcement made by Attorney-General Brown.

Whether it would be to the best interests of the state to close Columbia slough and thereby increase the agricultural possibilities of Sauvie island, lying north of Portland, or reclaim the lands, dyke the waterway and thereby make its navigability a greater asset in attracting industries, is a serious question in the mind of Percy A. Cupper, state engineer.

Opening bids for the construction of the proposed new bridge across Youngs Bay at Astoria, graveling the canyon section of the Baker-Cornucopia highway in Baker county, and the sale of \$1,000,000 worth of road bonds authorized at the last session of the legislature will feature the meeting of the state highway commission to be held in Portland on December 20.

There were approximately 1520 miles of state highway work, including all post and forest projects under contract in Oregon on November 15, according to a report prepared by the state highway department. The total cost of these improvements, including 380 miles of paving, 316 miles of macadam, 824 miles of grading, engineering and contingencies is \$21,464,613.44.

Find Curiosity Shop in Man's Insides

Boston.—Discovery of a human "curiosity shop" was announced by officers of the house of correction at Deer Island, Charles W. Buzzell of Montreal, serving a sentence of one year for forgery, complained of indigestion.

In his stomach a doctor found parts of a dog chain two feet long, part of a safety razor blade, a suspender buckle, 179 pieces of glass, bits of hay baling wire, staples, nails and screws.

This collection was for purposes of suicide, not amusement or profit, according to Dr. L. C. Rockwell.

CONGRESS RECEIVES PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Budget, New Tax and Tariff Systems Included Among Recommendation.

Washington.—General recommendations on legislation to combat the cost of living, labor unrest, radicalism and a readjustment of the nation to peace time basis were the features of President Wilson's annual message to congress delivered Tuesday.

The peace treaty, the president told congress, will be discussed in a separate message later, as will the railroad question.

For the second time only since the president established the practice of addressing congress in person, his message was read by the clerks.

Seven important Recommendations. The president's principal recommendations were:

Establishment of a budget system for the national finances.

Reorganization of the taxation system with simplification of the income and excess profits.

Readjustment of the tariff system, if necessary, to meet changed world conditions and make the system conform with the fact that the United States is "the greatest capitalist in the world."

Recognition and relief for veteran soldiers of the world war particularly in the way of government farms as proposed by Secretary Lane.

Proper measures to foster the dye-stuff industry built up during the war to keep the United States independent of foreign supply.

An enlarged program for rural development, in recognition of the farmers' part in the war.

Measures which "will remove the causes" of "political restlessness in our body politic."

Causes of Unrest Superficial

The president made his most extensive reference to the peace treaty by saying the causes for the unrest "are superficial rather than deep-seated" and that they "arise from or are connected with the failure on the part of our government to arrive speedily at a just and permanent peace permitting return to normal conditions, from the transference of radical theories from seething European centers pending such delay, from heartless profiteering resulting from the increase of the cost of living, and lastly from the machinations of passionate and malevolent agitators."

"With the return to normal conditions this unrest will rapidly disappear."

Would Curb Agitators.

The president renewed his recommendations for legislation to deal effectively with "those persons who by violent methods would abrogate our time-tested institutions."

Several recommendations, some renewals of previous ones, were made by the president to bring down the cost of living. Among them were extension of the food control law to peace times for the emergency, regulations for transportation of foods in interstate commerce, a cold storage law modeled after the law in New Jersey, a law requiring marks to show the length of time foods are kept in storage and a law to secure "competitive selling and prevent unconscionable profits," by federal license of corporations selling food in interstate commerce.

War-Time Order on Fuel Issued.

Washington.—War-time restrictions on the nation's use of coal, more stringent than those applied during the war, were ordered into effect to stave off a fuel famine.

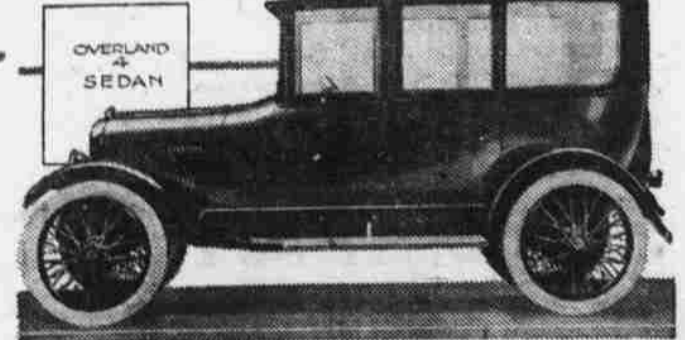
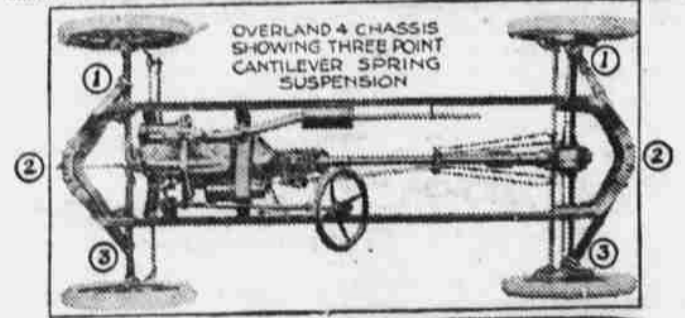
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