

WESTON LEADER

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OREGON NEWS NOTES OF GENERAL INTEREST

Principal Events of the Week Briefly Sketched for Informa- tion of Our Readers.

Citizens of Dallas are attempting to secure a free mail delivery service.

George W. Wright, Albany attorney, is compiling a history of Linn county. The Lower Columbia Oil & Gas company has begun operations at its well in Clatsop county.

An international mining convention will be held in Portland during the first week in April.

Brooding over family troubles, Richard Moss, aged 45, committed suicide at Ontario by shooting himself.

Barkley Walker has purchased and assumed control of the Wallowa County Reporter, published at Enterprise.

John Smith, who crossed the plains to Oregon in 1852, died near Cottage Grove a few days ago at the age of 95 years.

Legislation to compel farmers to destroy Canadian thistles before they bloom is desired by Pomona Grange of Linn county.

Enterprising citizens of Boardman, Morrow county, are negotiating to establish a ferry across the Columbia river at that city.

Oil and gas of a superior quality have been discovered on the Jay Manning ranch in Klamath county at a depth of 1595 feet.

Two hundred dairymen of the Banks district have subscribed \$18,000 for the erection of a creamery and cheese factory in that city.

Nearly a thousand dozen eggs were marketed by the Ashland Cooperative association in November, the price being 75 cents per dozen.

More than 25 sawmills in Klamath county have closed down for the winter. Only three are still running and they may suspend soon.

Four boys whose ages range from 16 to 19 years are in the Lane county jail, charged with the burglary of several stores at Cottage Grove.

The fourth annual automobile show of the Pendleton Automobile Dealers' association will be held in Happy Canyon March 10, 11 and 12.

Bobcats are having a hard life in Lane county this fall, bounty on 17 of their hides being claimed at the clerk's office in the last few days.

The city of Albany is trying to obtain a furniture factory to replace the furniture manufacturing plant which formerly operated there.

More than 19,000 head of beef cattle have been shipped from Klamath county since September 1, and 4000 head still remain on the feeding grounds.

Federal game authorities refuse to consider the suggestion of Eastern Oregon sportsmen that the open season for shooting migratory birds be changed.

Marjory Ellis, 12 years old, was instantly killed two miles south of Hillsboro when a truck driven by her stepfather capsized in a collision with another truck.

Mining men of Eastern Oregon, at a conference at Baker to devise means of meeting present conditions, adopted a new wage scale providing for a general reduction.

There are 7 1/2 feet of snow at Anna Spring camp in the Crater National park, which is four feet more than there was at that point at the same time last year.

Sparks generated by friction while cleaning a silk dress in a Bend laundry fired the gasoline, set the building on fire and burned the clothing of G. E. Olsen, proprietor.

The Delta Shingle company at Florence has shut down its mill and logging camp while the capacity of the mill is being increased by the addition of another machine.

Silverton wants an armory building. A large delegation of citizens went to Salem last week to urge appropriation of \$10,000 county funds, to add to the city's appropriation.

All gravel on the Old Oregon Trail between Pendleton and Echo has been laid and the road is completed except for a bridge near Echo, which will have to be built in the spring.

Among the various amounts asked of congress for improvements in Oregon is an appropriation of \$125,000 for making a survey of the Coos Bay Water road grant lands.

It is reported that the Crown-Williams Paper company will resume its operations near Seaside within a short time. The Seaside camp employs several hundred men.

Work of raising the quota of the rate of Oregon, outside of Portland, for the European relief fund is moving forward rapidly and approximately \$75,000 has already been pledged.

Harry Silver, manager of the Pompadour mineral springs near Ashland, has a crew of men engaged in putting down test wells for carbonic acid gas, which the company expects to develop. On account of the success of the state hatchery established five years ago at Tidewater, the plant has been enlarged to handle 15,000,000 eggs in place of the 10,000,000 handled last year.

Plans have been announced by the Association of Pacific Fisheries for a nation-wide campaign of education as to the economy and food value of the more plentiful varieties of canned salmon.

F. M. This, an underground miner employed at the E. & E. mine at Bourne, in Baker county, was instantly killed when a small rock became dislodged striking him on the back of the neck.

Mrs. Luke Jennings of Medford, 35, a sister of Milton A. Miller, killed a revenue collector at Portland, was killed instantly in an automobile accident on the Pacific highway near Medford Christmas eve.

For the second time within the past few weeks Gervais is without water. The pumping station is ample to supply the demand, but the wells fill with a fine sand and put the pumps out of commission.

DOORS OF PORTLAND BOND HOUSE CLOSED

Portland, Or.—The discovery that a large deficiency existed in the affairs of the bond house of Morris Brothers Inc., of Portland, with branches in San Francisco, Seattle and Tacoma, resulted in the institution closing its doors and appointment of a receiver by the federal court.

John L. Etheridge, who recently resigned as president of the concern, was arrested in Minneapolis as a fugitive from justice. District Attorney Evans has announced that steps will be taken to compel the return of Etheridge and appointment of a receiver by the federal court.

It is reported that more than 1000 subscribers to bonds, aggregating investments of \$2,066,000 were hit by the wrecking of the bond house. These subscribers were holders of the interim certificates, having paid in their money for municipal bonds to the firm without receiving the value.

Besides these 1000 subscribers there are hundreds more as yet unlisted, whose deposits, it is believed, will total \$1,000,000.

MAY NULLIFY LAND LAW

Japan Looking Forward to New Treaty With United States.

Tokio.—Addressing preliminary meetings of the diet here, Viscount Uchida, the foreign minister, expressed the opinion that a new Japanese-American treaty will be concluded leading to nullification of the California land law. He said he expected such action to result from the negotiations which have been in progress at Washington between Ambassador Shidehara and Roland S. Morris, United States ambassador to Japan.

The ambassadors, he said, were making efforts to obtain an understanding with the senate to secure passage of the treaty. He announced that in view of the sincerity with which they are endeavoring to solve the problem, Japan has refrained from protesting against the California law, but that if the negotiations fail a formal protest would be lodged.

New Type Battle Craft Under Way.

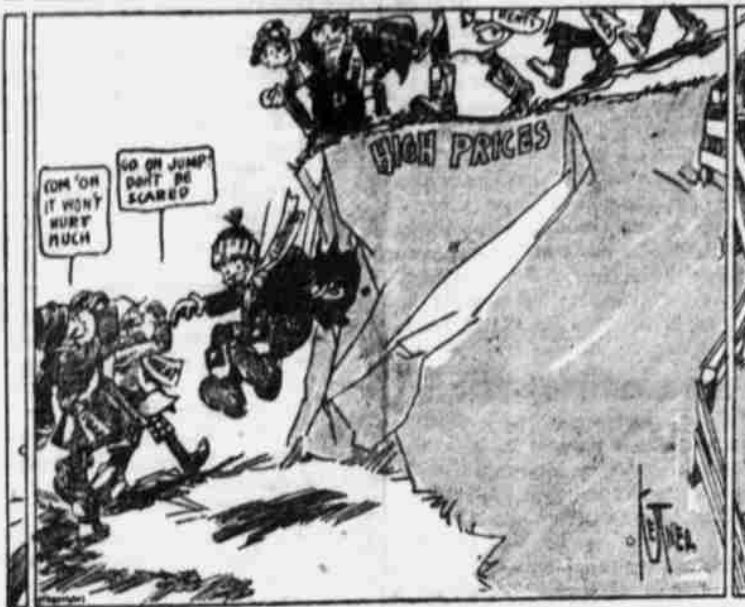
Washington.—Among the 140 vessels under construction for the navy are four types new to the American battle fleet but already in use by the other principal maritime powers. They are the battle cruisers of which six are being built; the scout or light cruiser, the airplane carrier and the fleet submarine.

Idaho Hay Being Sold.

Boise, Idaho.—It is estimated that a million tons of hay will be moved out of Idaho in the next few months as the result of the order of the interstate commerce commission reducing freight rates.

Good second-hand piano for \$150—\$50 cash, balance \$10 per month. Inquire at this office.

Follow the Leader



FROM "OVER THE HILL"

S. A. Barnes was in Athena Wednesday, from Weston.

William Winship came up from his ranch near Salem to spend the holidays with his family in Athena.

Mrs. J. W. Pinkerton is visiting in Milton this week, at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Maurice Frazier.

Fred Baddeley was in town this week from his mountain ranch.

George Wall has gone to Pendleton, where he has employment in a cigar store.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles May and children are visiting friends in Athena this week.

Mrs. S. F. Sharp has been a victim the past week of a severe attack of rheumatism.

Mr. and Mrs. F. S. LeGrove were dinner guests on Christmas day at the home of Mrs. Lina Sturgis in Pendleton.

Mr. and Mrs. Guy Cronk were located at Tolt, Wash., from where they send Christmas greetings to Athena friends.

Henry Miller and son Frank, this week discovered a "bee tree" on the creek below town, cut it down and extracted therefrom several pounds of money.

Miss Rene Banister of Weston, who is home from O. A. C. on her vacation, spent a portion of the day at the home of her sister, Mrs. C. L. McFadden, in Athena.

Members of the Athena orchestra were guests Christmas evening of Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Froome, at a luncheon given in honor of the orchestra members, at the St. Nichols hotel.

Roy and Edna DeFreece are spending the holidays at College Place, at the home of their grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Hess.

Mr. and Mrs. Otis Whiteman motored over from their home at Walla Walla Wednesday, stopping en route to Pendleton, where they were to be guests of the Clarence Whitemans.

Aunt Polly Spencer was taken suddenly very ill Sunday, while attending services at the Methodist church but after being conveyed to her home, recovered and is much better at present.

Mr. and Mrs. A. B. Steele, former residents of Athena, are coming to Walla Walla from Portland to live. Mr. Steele will be traveling salesman for the George Lawrence company, having the territory formerly covered by "Bob" Oliver.

Mrs. Olen McFerron returned to her home in Weston Tuesday, after a couple of weeks visit at the home of her parents Mr. and Mrs. Crabill. Her baby daughter has been seriously ill the past week but is recovering, now.

A. A. Foss has purchased the residence on Third street, south of Main at present occupied by W. E. Haynie and family. Mr. and Mrs. Foss will return to Athena shortly to reside permanently. The property comprises a modern house and six lots.

Many cars were stalled in the Christ mas snow storm, and various experiences have since been related. Dean Willaby was caught on the railroad crossing below town, when his car swerved along the rails instead of crossing over, refusing to budge. He flagged an approaching train, so it is reported, and the train people lifted the machine off the track.

In another party returning from Walla Walla, a lady forced to walk through snowdrifts after the car had become stalled, suffered badly from bitten ankles.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Dudley and Mrs. Wolk, with their brother, James Muir, took Christmas dinner with the Theo Danner family in Milton. Mr. Muir came up from Newport, where

he recently suffered a slight stroke of paralysis. He is now visiting his sister, Mrs. Danner.

Miss Maxine Elliott well known in Athena, where she has a host of admiring friends, sprung a surprise on everybody, relatives included, when she was married in Portland Christmas day to Mr. C. O. Crawford, an old sweetheart. Miss Elliott went to Portland to spend the holidays with friends and so far as known, nobody was aware that she went with the intention of being married before her return. The marriage ceremony was performed by a Methodist clergyman at the home of Mrs. William Ballard in Portland. The groom until a year ago, resided at Pendleton, but lately has been engaged in business at Portland. Mr. and Mrs. Crawford are residing at the Carlson hotel for the present.

Among splendid Christmas feasts reported is that at which Mr. and Mrs. C. E. Fisk were host and hostess, at their home east of Athena. Both Athena and Weston relatives made up the personnel of guests, with the addition of the families of Dr. C. H. Smith of Athena, and Dr. Bennett of Weston.

Oregon News Notes

Two hundred phonographs are now in process of manufacture at the Cremona Phonograph company's plant at Albany. Materials are on the way to Albany that will keep the plant operating at the rate of 15 finished cabinets a day.

The Talent irrigation district has filed with the state engineer application for certification of bonds in the sum of \$33,000, to be used for the purchase of additional land in connection with installation of reservoir, near Ashland.

Rogue river dairymen won highest honors in the Oregon Cow Testing association as the result of tests made during November, according to results which have just been given out. That district also led others with 35 cows yielding above 40 pounds of butter fat for the month.

Because of the wave of crime over the entire country and of the recent burglaries and attempted burglaries and much petty thieving, the Medford city council has added another policeman to the night force, and lights have been placed in all the alleys throughout the business district.

Declaring in their complaint that Union county financially is unable to proceed with road work, that road funds are at low ebb, and that the road conditions should remain as they are until labor and materials are cheaper, William R. Jasper and Walter M. Pierce have enjoined the Union county court from contracting two pieces of road, advertised, from the Iowa school house to Island City, and from Island City to Cove. The distance covered amounts to about 20 miles.

L. E. Bean of Eugene, who recently returned from Washington, D. C., where he went several weeks ago in the interests of the Chamberlain road bill, designed to aid the public land states, has received a telegram from Representative McArthur stating he had received assurance from Chairman Mondell of the house committee on public highways and other house leaders that legislation providing for appropriations similar to those called for in the Chamberlain bill undoubtedly will be passed in the house.

ROYAL NILES, ATHLETE, HAS PLAYED HIS LAST BIG GAME

Royal F. ("Tubby") Niles died Sunday night, Dec. 26, at the home of a brother in Oregon City, from tuberculosis due to exposure at Brest, France, while serving overseas. He was widely known as one of the gamiest and greatest fullbacks who ever played football in the Pacific Northwest. While playing for Whitman college he made the All-Northwest eleven four successive seasons, once as its captain. He weighed in those days between 185 and 190 pounds, and was a marvel of strength and agility, but consumption reduced him to a shadow. After contracting influenza on the transport taking him to France, he slept with his comrades in the mud of the Brest camp until hopelessly invalided. Some sixteen years ago Royal Niles and his brother Eugene (Shorty) played football on the best team ever developed at the old Weston Normal, which once Whitman itself was barely able to defeat by the close score of 6 to 0. They were both topnotch baseball players also. After his graduation from Whitman, Royal became an educator of considerable prominence. He was a young man of high character and promise. His father, the late A. B. Niles, was a well known business man of Walla Walla in early years.

GROWERS PLAN TO FORCE WHEAT UP

Wichita, Kan.—The Wheat Growers' Association of America, which has been conducting a campaign to induce growers to withhold their wheat from the market until prices are higher, plans to have mid-western states so well organized within the next six months that the growers will be able to control the price paid for the 1921 crop, according to W. H. McGreevy, secretary and treasurer.

The association now has a membership of approximately 100,000 in the states of Texas, Oklahoma, Kansas and Nebraska, according to Mr. McGreevy, who has his headquarters here. The organization will be extended, he said, to Minnesota, North Dakota and South Dakota.

"The purpose of the National Wheat Growers' association is to control the distribution and marketing of wheat through financial and selling agencies of its own selection at a price based upon cost, plus a fair and reasonable profit," said Secretary McGreevy.

HARDING CONFERS ON U. S.

Cabinet Selections Also Expected to Be Discussed.

Marion, O.—Questions of foreign relations and an association of nations gave way to domestic discussions at President-elect Harding's home this week. Among those with whom he will talk will be Porter McCumber, senator of North Dakota, a ranking member of the senate finance committee; J. W. Good, representative of Iowa, chairman of the house appropriations committee; Frank Mondell, representative of Wyoming, majority leader in the house; Patrick H. Kelly, representative of Kansas, member of the house military committee.

Cabinet selections are also expected to be discussed at a proposed conference with Will H. Hays, chairman of the republican national committee.

Gooding to Succeed Nugent in Senate.

Boise, Idaho.—The resignation of John F. Nugent from the United States senate, to take effect on January 15, was received by Governor Davis. Senator Nugent was recently appointed to the federal trade commission by President Wilson. Governor Davis has announced that he will appoint Senator-Elect Frank R. Gooding to fill Senator Nugent's unexpired term.

Grain Hearing is Set.

Washington.—Hearings on legislation to regulate grain exchanges and dealings in grain futures will be held by the house agriculture committee beginning January 4. Half a dozen measures to regulate such trading have been introduced in the house at this session.

1920 Record Year For All Railroads.

Washington.—American railroads are completing a record year and have no intention of asking for another general rate increase, Thomas Dewitt Cuyler, chairman of the Association of Railway executives, declared, reviewing the 1920 situation.

BONUS WOULD COST OVER TWO BILLION

Houston Makes Estimate Before Senate Finance Committee.

Washington.—Passage of the soldiers' bonus bill would cost the government approximately \$2,300,000,000 Secretary Houston estimated before the senate finance committee considering the soldier's aid measure.

The secretary presented his estimate to the senate finance committee without comment other than to urge that no legislation be enacted which would lay an additional burden on the nation's finances.

The estimate was accompanied by figures showing the cost of carrying out any one of the five optional provisions of the bonus bill provided all former service men chose a single plan. The figures for the various plans ranged from \$1,342,000,000 for the adjusted pay provisions to \$4,534,000,000 for the insurance provision.

The maximum possible cost of the vocational training aid and the farm and home development plans were placed at \$1,880,000,000 each, while the secretary said the fifth proposition, a plan for land settlement, held so many uncertainties that it was impossible to estimate the possible expenditure. Submission of the estimated total cost made an apparent impression upon members of the committee which is considering the bonus bill as passed by the house at the last session.

Members declined to forecast the decision of the committee on the question of reporting out the measure, but it was recalled that Senator

Proposes Tar on Farm Bonds

Washington.—Withdrawal of the tax exemption provision from farm loan bonds issued in the future by joint stock land banks has been recommended to congress by Secretary Houston on the ground that these banks are organizations of private capital for commercial purposes in which the profits accrue to the benefit of the investing stockholders.

Tax exemptions in the case of joint stock land banks were declared by the secretary to amount to a gift at the expense of the government and taxpayers generally. The privilege, he said, should not be continued with respect to the private mortgage companies, organized for private profit. This is emphasized, the secretary said, in this period of high taxes, when the government has established the policy of subjecting its own securities to partial taxation and when the treasury cannot afford to dispense with any of the receipts which otherwise would accrue on account of taxes.

The withdrawal of the tax exemption for the United States from farm loan bonds, however, the secretary suggested, should be accompanied by an increase in the powers of the federal land banks to make any loans now authorized by joint stock land banks in order that there be no curtailment of the financial benefits to agriculture provided by the farm loan act.

During the past fiscal year, the secretary said, 27 joint stock land banks were in active operation, making loans in the aggregate of \$20,362,470 to 3148 borrowers.

Waitsburg Farmers Pool

Waitsburg farmers recently sold a pool of 25,000 bushels of wheat at \$1.50 a bushel. Since this sale 93,000 bushels have been bought at Waitsburg for a Portland concern at \$1.48, and Fred Aldrich individually sold 25,000 bushels at the same figure. Another pool of 40,000 bushels has now been organized, and \$1.50 is the price wanted.

Hay and Grain Show

A substantial move for an annual grain and hay show at Pendleton, in connection with the Pendleton Round-Up, was effected in a meeting held Wednesday evening, at which D. H. Nelson was made temporary president, and J. H. Sturgis, L. C. Scharpf and L. L. Rogers, temporary directors with permanent organization effected, incorporation will take place.

Smallpox at Pendleton

Eight new cases of smallpox were placed in quarantine at Pendleton Monday, and two Tuesday. Four homes have been released from quarantine.

Cash for chickens. J. R. Reynolds.