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NEW ADMINISTRATION ASSUMES AUTHORITY

Cabinet is Sworn In and Announcements of Appointments Made.

Washington, D. C.—Transfer of administrative authority from democratic to republican hands was completed with the swearing in of the new cabinet.

The ceremonies took place in the executive departments. Charles E. Hughes, secretary of state, was the first to be sworn in and Will H. Hays, postmaster-general, the last.

Appointments of the assistants to two cabinet officers were announced. E. D. Ball of Iowa was renamed assistant secretary of agriculture, and E. J. Henning of San Diego, Cal., was selected assistant secretary of labor.

Announcement also was made that Major-General March would continue temporarily as chief of staff and that Assistant Secretary of War Williams would be continued for the present.

Chief assistants whose terms of office expired with the Wilson administration have tendered their resignations, but many will be continued in office for a time.

Besides appointments to be made to other departments, the new administration also is to recommend to congress promotions for army officers.

Harding Breaks Precedent.

Breaking a precedent which has stood since the days of Washington and Jefferson, President Harding appeared at an executive session of the senate to present nominations of his cabinet officers. Within less than ten minutes after he had finished his address of five minutes, the senate had confirmed all ten nominations.

Mr. Harding submitted the nominations orally, reading the names one by one from the list he held in his hand. They were referred immediately to committees, which had been polled in advance, and as the names were read the chairman of each interested committee arose and gave the unanimous and favorable report of the committee for confirmation.

Lodge Re-Elected Senate Leader.

Senator Lodge of Massachusetts, floor leader, and other republican officers of the senate organization were re-elected without opposition.

Besides re-electing Senator Lodge floor leader, the senate republicans again chose Senator Cummins of Iowa for president pro tempore and Senator Curtis of Kansas for vice-chairman and party whip.

Senate democrats in caucus perfected reorganization for the new administration by unanimous re-election of all their officers. Senator Underwood of Alabama again was chosen chairman of the caucus and party leader, and Senator Hitchcock, Nebraska, was made vice-chairman, with Senators King, Utah, secretary, and Gerry, Rhode Island, whip.

To Reintroduce Immigration Bill.

The immigration restriction bill, which was "pocket vetoed" by President Wilson, will be one of the first measures introduced at the coming special session of the sixty-seventh congress, according to congressional leaders. It was the plan to send it to President Harding with the least possible delay as proponents regard its early enactment as necessary to keep out hordes of undesirable immigrants from Southern Europe. Some slight modifications in the bill may be made. Many senators are known to desire to increase the 3 per cent limitation to 5 per cent.

Congress Will Convene in April.

President Harding announced that the special session of congress would be called not before April 4, and might be a week later.

The announcement was made after a White House dinner which republican leaders of congress attended. The conference lasted four hours and the president said the legislative program had been discussed.

The president said this was the beginning of a program of co-operation. Various subjects were discussed, he added, in an attempt to ascertain the most important to be taken up by the next congress.

After his guests had departed, the president came out on the front porch of the White House to talk to the newspaper correspondents, about 50 of whom were present.

"We discussed a taxation program for the session," the president said.

"We were trying to determine which was the real pressing business for congress, emergency tariff legislation or a complete revision of the tax schedules."

"We passed the matter up for further conference after there had been a canvass of the committee in charge of that legislation. It means that instead of going into a session of congress without knowing whether we are going, we are trying to canvass the whole situation and arrive at a program."

WESTON MOUNTAIN PEOPLE ORGANIZE COMMUNITY CLUB

Weston Mountain, March 10.—A very successful social affair was enjoyed at the Weston Mountain school house March 5. The men brought saws, hammers and the necessary material and erected two swings and two teeter boards on the school play ground. They put in a busy day, and the result of their efforts is a credit to the community. A hot chicken dinner was served by the ladies at noon and the table literally groaned under its burden of good things to eat.

Later in the afternoon a Community club was organized. There was some discussion as to whether the mountain would join with the Weston club or form its own club. The majority, however, were in favor of a separate organization. Instead of forming men's and women's bureaus, one club will function for both, with a special men's committee to look after their part of the business. Will Hall was elected chairman of this committee.

Mrs. Roy Hyatt was unanimously elected president of the club, J. W. Bowers vice president and W. L. Rayborn secretary-treasurer. Mrs. Mark Henderson is chairman of the social committee and Mrs. E. E. Faust chairman of the refreshment committee. The club was launched with a membership of 44 and a confident feeling that by the next meeting there will be at least 60 members. There will be some social event at least once a month.

Winter Precipitation.

January and February in this section were moist months, as all will agree; yet the precipitation was only eighteen-hundredths of an inch in excess of the normal for the past ten years, according to the figures of M. A. Baker, Weston weather observer. The total 1921 precipitation for these two months was 6.67 inches, an excess of 5.45 inches over the same months last year, which were extremely dry. For February, 1921, the precipitation was 3.68 inches, an excess over normal of 1.11 inches. No moisture fell in February, 1920.

Trip to Columbia Pleasant One.

Since the completion of the road to Echo, the automobile trip to the Columbia river is described by those who have made it, as being one of pleasure. This trip gives the people of this part of the county opportunity to pass through the great irrigation projects of the west end.

Allies Occupy German Cities

London.—Negotiations over the German indemnity were broken Monday and action came Tuesday with the march of French, British and Belgian forces into Germany and occupation of a large section of her richest manufacturing country.

The penalties to be inflicted on the Germans by the allies for non-compliance with the reparations demands will include:

First—Occupation by allied troops of the cities of Duisberg and Duesseldorf and Ruhrort.

Second—Each allied country will place such a tax on German merchandise as it may deem proper.

Third—A customs boundary along the Rhine, under allied control, will be established.

The territory to be occupied is in the heart of the great industrial region of the Ruhr valley with Essen, city of steel and munitions, its center.

The three cities are commercial ports into which flow the traffic of the Ruhr iron region. These cities adjoin the British zone of occupation at Cologne. The American zone is at Coblenz, 75 miles farther south, and the French zone at Mayence, another 75 miles south. The proposed occupation does not involve marching inland beyond the Rhine, except in the immediate vicinity of the occupied cities.

Germany will appeal to the League of Nations against action of the allies in imposing penalties for non-fulfillment of her reparations obligations.

Spring Fiction



FROM "OVER THE HILL"

S. J. Culley, prominent Weston farmer, was in town Monday.

The parking in front of E. C. Roger's home has been filled with new soil, and will be seeded to blue grass.

Mrs. Vernon O'Hara and little daughter, Vernita, of Weston, are in the city, visiting at the J. E. Jones home.

F. S. Le Grow returned home from his Montana stock ranch, Tuesday. A foot of snow covers the ground at the ranch.

Spading and general yard work is under way in Athena this week, with here and there a few garden seeds being planted.

Mr. and Mrs. Henry Keen and daughter, Miss Zola, are home from their visit of several weeks in Los Angeles. Miss Keen's health has been greatly improved by the trip.

Mrs. S. C. Stanton and sons Cleve and Dell this week moved to the Elmer Booher place in the north part of town, which they lately purchased.

D. D. Fay, field secretary for the Albertina Kerr home for babies at Portland, was in the city this week, working in the interests of the institution.

A party comprising Mr. and Mrs. Wm. McPherson Mrs. Lula Read, Miss Rea Allen, Mr. and Mrs. E. C. Prestby, Mr. Grant Prestby and Mr. Rex Hopper made the drive to the Columbia via Echo Sunday. The gentlemen of the party enjoyed the sport of shooting jack rabbits.

The \$2000 insurance held in the A. O. U. W. order by the late A. B. McEwen, was received by his widow within ten days after presentation of the policy, the entire amount being promptly paid.

Friday evening, March 4, Mr. and Mrs. Jess Gordon were treated at their farm residence with a genuine, old-fashioned surprise party by the young people of the neighborhood. To the number of twenty-two they assembled at the Gordon home, bearing lunch baskets laden with good things to eat. Every one present had a most enjoyable time. Jess expresses the hope that the neighbors will come again—and bring their lunch baskets.

The great picture, "Dinty," now being screened at the Alta theatre, Pendleton, will be shown one week from Sunday, on March 20th, at the Standard. In this big picture the favorite boy actor, Wesley (Fréckles) Barry has an important role.

Manager Rex Hopper informs the Press that the Standard Oil company contemplates the reconstruction and enlargement of its Athena plant this spring. Work will begin in about thirty days, states Mr. Hopper, or as soon as the contract can be let and the San Francisco office has written Mr. Hopper to supply it with names of contractors in this vicinity.

Jacob Narkaus was in town from his mountain ranch, Wednesday. He says there is a great depth of snow on the summit of the Blue mountains east of his place and also considerable snow yet remains on the north slopes lower down. He anticipates plenty of grass on mountain ranges this season. Mr. Narkaus is one of the largest owners of cattle in this part of the county.

Athena's street lighting system was tested out for the first time Saturday evening. The long delayed transformer arrived Saturday morning, and was shortly connected up with the system of stand lamps on Main and Third streets. The new system, in the opinion of several citizens has advantages over the old, but it is observed that the lights are not so brilliant. This is due, so it

is said on account of the reflectors that go on the upper part of the inside of the globe, being not yet in place.

Wheat raisers of this section began plowing operations this week, reports being that in most instances the soil is in prime condition for turning under. A larger number of teams are being used in plowing this year than last. On many of the ranches both teams and caterpillars are doing the work, as the result of feed being cheaper and gas higher in price than it was last season.

The members of the Athena high school base ball team and corps of assistants were at work Saturday in putting the base ball grounds in a proper condition for practice games preparatory to beginning the scheduled conference games in the near future.

After long months of intense suffering, Mrs. Lottie Walker, wife of A. J. Walker passed away at her home in Athena, Monday, at the age of 53 years, five months and 25 days.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles May of Weston mountain, visited friends in the city Wednesday.

Mrs. Perilla Jane Woody, mother of Mrs. Casa Cannon and Mrs. Theo Bush of this city, died on March 4th at the home of her son, Edwin, at Independence, Wash. The remains were brought to Athena for burial. Funeral services were held at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Cannon.

Mrs. Martha J. Mays celebrated her 87th birthday at the home of her daughter, Mrs. C. A. Barrett in this city, Monday of this week. A family dinner was served in honor of the happy occasion. Mrs. Mays has not been enjoying the best of health for some time, but is much better now than for several weeks. This venerable and lovable lady came to Oregon in 1852 and has been actively identified with the progress and growth of the Inland Empire since that time.

Barnes-Bilton.

Mr. Sidney A. Barnes and Miss Alma May Bilton were united in marriage Saturday noon at the Presbyterian church in Pendleton. The bride is a popular Echo girl, and the bridegroom a well-known overseas veteran, the son of Mr. and Mrs. S. A. Barnes of Weston. Mr. and Mrs. Barnes will make their home in Athena, where the bridegroom is employed by the Preston-Shaffer Co.

Oregon News Notes

Professor L. D. Edwards, noted musician, aged 65, died suddenly at La Grande of heart trouble.

Gophers have destroyed more than 800 acres of orchard trees at Dufur by eating the tree roots.

The Oregon Mint Growers' Cooperative association completed its organization at Corvallis last Saturday.

Readjustment of lumber freight rates has placed Medford on the same basis as Klamath Falls and Weed, Cal.

A county-wide squirrel poisoning campaign in Wasco county has resulted in the killing of 100,000 of the pests.

After first setting fire to his home in Portland, Roy D. Marietta, 40 years old, shot and killed himself with a shotgun.

Frank M. Warren of Portland has tendered his resignation to Governor Olcott as a member of the state fish commission.

Independence post of the American Legion is to have an auxiliary. Twenty-six women have signed the application for a charter.

A company of prominent business men and farmers of Lake county has been formed to prospect for oil in Goose Lake valley.

The state highway department has asked for bids on graveling the section of the McKenzie highway between Redmond and Prineville.

A few hours before he was to be taken to the county poor farm, James M. Gillette committed suicide by shooting himself at Seaside.

It is estimated that about 200,000 pounds of wool have been sold at Pendleton during the last few days at 15 and 20 cents a pound.

Lake Ochoco has a total storage capacity of 47,000 acre feet of water and the indicator now shows 19,000 acre-feet in the reservoir.

Approximately 750,000 bushels of wheat has been signed by farmers of Sherman and Morrow counties to the Oregon Wheat Growers association.

The week of March 20 has been designated by the farm bureaus of the state as the time for an organized campaign against the digger squirrel.

The passenger train between Eugene and Corvallis has been taken off and the only service between the two cities is a mixed freight and passenger train.

The women in the University of Oregon are better students than the men, according to an official scholarship report made by the registrar's office.

Twenty-five hundred dollars was pledged by students of Willamette university at Salem last week for the erection of a new gymnasium to cost \$80,000.

A special school election will be held in Albany on March 25 to vote upon a proposed issuance of \$40,000 in bonds to erect a new public school building there.

There are 2000 Chinese pheasants on the game farms near Eugene and Corvallis to be released within the next few weeks, according to Gene Simpson, manager of the farms.

One-half million pounds of Oregon prunes are being sent to Holland by the Oregon Growers' Cooperative association. Shipments are also en route to London and Liverpool.

The county court of Malheur county will appropriate from the county emergency fund \$10,000 to assist the highway commission in improving the road from Vale to Ontario.

Nearly a million and a half dollars was the value of grain and forage crops produced on the 50,000 acres of land in the Klamath and Horsefly irrigation districts last season.

Earth tremors that awakened residents from slumber have been reported from Sweet Home and Cascade. It is believed a giant avalanche in the nearby Cascades was responsible.

By a vote of more than two to one the taxpayers of the Astoria school district have authorized a bond issue of \$75,000 for the purpose of erecting an annex to the high school building.

Oregon Agricultural college has furnished three new county agents in the last few days—William B. Tucker for Crook county, E. W. McMinder for Clatsop and F. C. Holbaugh for Jackson.

Provision for a \$3000 appropriation for the maintenance of the Hermiston experiment station is included in a \$15,000 appropriation allowed by the conferees on the agricultural appropriation bill.

Members of the Oregon public service commission met in Portland on March 8 to consider applications for the state highway commission for the elimination of 14 grade crossings over the tracks of the Oregon-Washington Railroad & Navigation company between Pendleton and Huntington. The cost of these eliminations will aggregate \$500,000.

HUGHES DEMANDS CESSATION OF WAR

Notes to Costa Rica and Panama Declare Hostilities Must Cease.

Washington, D. C.—Cessation of hostilities between Costa Rica and Panama was demanded in notes which the state department dispatched to the governments of those two countries on orders of Charles E. Hughes, new secretary of state.

This action was the first of the Harding administration in the realm of foreign affairs and was said to have been based upon the grounds of broad expediency, as the dispute between the Central American republics involved interests in the Panama canal zone.

At the suggestion of President Harding and the state department, Secretary of the Navy Denby has dispatched war vessels to both the Atlantic and Pacific sides of Panama to protect American lives and interests.

The ultimatum was issued on advice that Costa Rican forces had invaded territory in the north of Panama which indisputably belongs to Panama.

The state department, in the notes to Panama and Costa Rica is understood to have declared that a settlement of territorial disputes between the two countries should be made in accordance with the award of Chief Justice White of the United States supreme court.

Oregon News Notes

Because of some severe wind storms last winter, the telephone lines in the Santiam national forest suffered considerable damage and more repair work will be necessary this year than usual.

Applications for federal farm loans, which have been held up in Deschutes county pending the supreme court decision handed down last week, will easily exceed \$100,000, it is estimated. There are five farm loan associations in the county.

The public service commission, in an order issued at Salem, reduced the transportation rates on all fuel wood, pulp wood, cord wood and wood bolts. This action was taken upon the initiative of the commission, after investigation of complaints.

Fred P. Kendall, northwest manager for the American Can company, with headquarters in Portland, was named by Governor Olcott as a member of the state fish commission, created under the new segregation law enacted at the recent session of the legislature.

Steam-heating rates of the Northwestern Electric company, which operates exclusively in the city of Portland, were increased from 20 to 25 per cent in an order issued by the Oregon public service commission. The new charges became effective as of March 1.

A weather-report compiled by Lopez Childs, superintendent of the Hood River experiment station, shows that the six months ended March 1 set a record for mid-Columbia rainfall and lack of sunshine. A total of 21.09 inches of precipitation fell during the past six months.

The case of Jack Rathie and Jigs Owens, now in the state penitentiary awaiting execution for the part they played in the murder of Sheriff T. H. Taylor, of Umatilla county will be argued before the supreme court during its eastern Oregon session at Pendleton in April.

With more than 15 inches of precipitation so far since September 1 and the mild open winter, fruit and other crops of record-breaking proportions are expected in the Rogue river valley. That the fruit crop will be especially large is indicated by the heavy setting of buds on the trees.

The United States reclamation service has advertised for bids for the construction of the lower Lost River diversion work, located about two miles southwest of Merrill, in connection with the Klamath irrigation project. The work will consist in constructing a concrete diversion dam and concrete headworks.

There were two fatalities in Oregon due to industrial accidents in the week ending March 5, according to a report prepared by the state industrial accident commission. The victims were Ben Emerson, switchman, Portland, and George Gardner, 1st mill contractor, Portland. A total of 434 accidents were reported.

LUCKY STRIKE
cigarette
It's toasted