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EARLY ACTION ON BONUS NOT LIKELY

Harding Advises Bonus Sales Tax, Eut Farm Bloc Opposes Such Plan.

Washington, D. C.—Final passage by congress of a soldier bonus will not come for two or three months.

The situation remains so confused that it is impossible to make an accurate prediction whether the measure will be passed at this session. But the fact stands out that there is no hope of passing the bill within the next few weeks.

Pay the soldiers' bonus with a general sales tax, or postpone the legislation, was President Harding's advice to congress.

The president's letter, addressed to Representative Fordney, was read at a joint meeting of republican members of the house and senate committees dealing with the bonus question, who agreed after some discussion to leave the matter in the hands of the majority members of the house committee.

Chairman Fordney of the house ways and means committee and Chairman McCumber of the senate finance committee said they did not think the bonus would be postponed, but were silent as to a sales tax.

Leaders of the agricultural bloc were outspoken, however, against this tax and threatened to counter with a programme which would include re-enactment of the excess profits and higher income surtaxes and an increase in inheritance and some other such taxes.

This plan also was favored by some democratic leaders.

Proponents of a sales tax professed to be confident that because of the strong desire in both the house and senate to put through the bonus bill at this session, a majority of members would come to accept this levy rather than see the bonus programme defeated.

FARMERS ORGANIZE NEW ASSOCIATION

Chicago.—Plans for a new farmers' organization, to be known as the united farmers' national bloc, were made here at a conference of farmers from more than 12 states. Among those present was A. C. Townley, president of the National Non-Partisan League.

The articles of association adopted at the meeting provided for organization from precincts up to a national committee with a committeeman from every state, although it was declared that the association would generally endorse candidates already in the field. Chicago was selected as the national headquarters.

The platform of the association as given out called for government guarantee of the cost of production of staple farm products, taxation of excess profits, and heavy income and inheritance taxes, government conservation and operation of natural resources.

H. Wells Andrews of Geneseo, Ill., was elected president of the organization.

Washington Taxes Cut \$4,459,010.13.

Olympia, Wash.—The total taxes of this state levied in 1921 for all purposes and extended on the county tax rolls for collection in 1922 amount to \$68,206,809.98, as against \$72,665,820.11 for 1920, or a reduction of \$4,459,010.13, according to a comprehensive statement issued here by the division of municipal corporations in the state auditor's office.

MARKETING BILL IS SIGNED

Measure Legalizes Co-Operative Associations of Farmers and Producers.

Washington, D. C.—The Capper-Voelstead co-operative marketing bill, which legalizes co-operative associations of farmers and producers for marketing purposes and exempts them from the Sherman anti-trust law, was signed by President Harding.

The signing of the bill, one of the measures especially sponsored by the agricultural bloc, was witnessed by Senator Capper and Representative Voelstead, its authors; Senators McNary, Oregon; Lenroot, Wisconsin; and Kellogg of Minnesota, and by Charles S. Barrett, president of the National Farmers' Union, and other heads of farm organizations.

The act limits the profits of co-operative associations to 8 per cent and stockholders to one vote each, no matter how much stock they may hold in such organization. Its administration is under the secretary of agriculture.

Citations for gallantry in service have been forwarded to several enlisted men of the navy by the navy department, the awards having been made by the commanding general, second division, American expeditionary forces. The following Oregon men are included in the citations: Alvin L. Bowman, Falls City; Benjamin P. Rogers, Salem.

More than twice as much home building took place in Portland during 1921 than in any other northwest city, according to a report made by S. E. Hege of Spokane, chairman of the publicity and advertising committee of the Portland Realty association. The report shows that of the \$22,241,091 spent in the 17 leading cities of the northwest \$10,100,700 was spent in Portland.

The state highway commission will conduct a hearing at Albany Saturday to consider a petition asking for permission to create the Albany-Lebanon-Foster road improvement district. It is the purpose of the district, if created, to improve the so-called Santiam national forest. Eventually, it is proposed to extend the Santiam highway to Bend.

The value of livestock on farms and ranges in Oregon decreased from \$191,681,000 to \$183,894,500 (3.7 per cent) during the two years from January 1, 1920, to January 1, 1922, according to reports just issued by the United States bureau of markets and crop estimates. This decrease in total value is due mainly to decrease in value per head, although there has been some decrease in numbers in most classes.

Suffering from lead poisoning induced by shot which had accumulated in his intestines through eating wild ducks, John H. Bell, a fisherman, has been at St. Mary's hospital in Astoria for several days in a critical condition. Already strong purgatives have removed 200 or more shot from his intestines and an X-ray examination showed that there were at least 100 more of the little leaden pellets lodged in a large intestine.

A fight to have the battleship Oregon, which may be preserved under the naval treaty, sent to Portland to be kept there permanently, was started by Representative McArthur, a member of the house naval committee. The transfer of the old ship was taken up by Mr. McArthur with the navy department and it is understood she will be ordered to Portland if the people of Oregon guarantee to pay the annual cost of maintenance.

The half-mile dike which the United States engineers have been building at Harrington point in the Columbia river has been completed. This dike is one of the largest and most important works ever undertaken in the Columbia river.

OREGON NEWS NOTES OF PRINCIPAL EVENTS HAPPENING DURING WEEK

A modern old people's home is to be erected in Salem at a cost of approximately \$50,000.

The monthly payroll at North Bend from mills and other plants amounting to nearly \$118,000.

The 1922 state convention of the American Legion will be held in Tillamook, July 12, 13 and 14.

Taxpayers of Lincoln county met in Albany Monday to consider means of bringing about a reduction of taxes.

The state irrigation securities commission has certified to \$250,000 of bonds issued by the Medford Irrigation district.

Seventy-five property owners met at Salem and organized what will be known as the Marion county tax reduction league.

Charles Hall, state senator, of Marshfield, has announced his candidacy for the republican nomination for governor of Oregon.

Milwaukee refused Friday to recall John M. Snyder as mayor, voting 119 to 105 against the recall which was circulated last month.

The population of the state hospital for the insane at Salem totals 1370 patients, the largest number in the history of the institution.

Marion county poultry raisers held a meeting at Salem and organized a branch of the Pacific Co-operative Poultry Producers' association.

Main line traffic on the Southern Pacific was halted several hours on account of a heavy slide of dirt about three miles east of Grants Pass.

A special election held at Drain resulted in the authorization of an \$18,000 bond issue for the purpose of buying and improving the water plant.

Mount Hood is 11,253 feet high, or 25 feet higher than the generally accepted altitude, according to new figures announced by the forest service.

Grand Ronde valley wheat was somewhat damaged by the frosts of the past few months, but so far as has been reported the crop as a whole will not suffer.

Governor Groth has announced that he has called a conference of western governors to be held in Portland Saturday, March 3, to discuss the narcotic drug situation.

Between 600 and 800 members of the Oregon Christian Endeavor union from all parts of Oregon met in Salem to attend the annual convention of the organization.

The Oregon & Pacific agreement for about \$1,000,000 will begin work on rebuilding the road between La Grande and Corvallis and between Baker and Huntington.

To protect the entrance to the Green canyon in Jackson county, Representative Hawley has introduced a bill to add 120 acres of land to the Smoky mountain forest.

Approval was given by the house in committee of the whole to the item of \$200,000 in the interior department appropriation bill for the Baker irrigation project in Baker county.

A resolution opposing the consolidation of the United States forestry bureau with the department of the interior was adopted by the board of directors of The Dalles-Wasco county chamber of commerce.

Asahel Bush Jr., prominent Salem business man, expects to leave early in March for France with a cargo of fruit and other Oregon products which he will introduce in the foreign markets.

The Douglas county jail has become filled almost to capacity during the past two months and the county has been forced to buy new furniture in order to provide additional accommodations.

The output of butter in Oregon in 1921 was greater by more than a million pounds than that of 1920, according to the annual report made by C. L. Hawley, state dairy and food commissioner.

Lena Joyce, Camas valley girl who recently received considerable prominence by killing two large wolves single handed, added to her laurels by bringing in to Roseburg the carcasses of two large cougar which she killed near her home.

The five patrol boats of the state fish commission are being conditioned to patrol the waters of the Columbia and Willamette rivers beginning with the closed salmon season, March 1, according to Master Fish Warden Shumaker.

Mr. and Mrs. W. L. Kuser, until recently of Eldota, Ia., have assumed charge of the Oregon state training school for boys at Salem. Mr. Kuser is superintendent of the institution, while Mrs. Kuser will act as matron. They succeed Mr. and Mrs. L. M. Gilbert, who have been employed as superintendent and matron of the school for the last four years.

Sec'y. Donby Hears Market Reports By Wireless



When radiophone wireless stations of the East recently started sending out daily market and weather reports even Uncle Sam's cabinet officers could no longer resist the radio "bug." This new picture shows Secretary of Agriculture Donby at his desk, carrying on government business. Extensive news, educational and entertaining programs are broadcast daily for amateurs by broadcasting stations in the East.

TARIFF LAW IS FORECAST

Chairman Fordney Insists on American Values in Budget Battle.

Washington, D. C.—A raw between the house and senate over American valuation was forecast after it became known that republican members of the senate finance committee in rewriting the so-called permanent tariff bill had agreed tentatively on continuing the present principle of basing duties on foreign market value.

Chairman Fordney of the house ways and means committee declared that if this kind of tariff measure was passed by the senate, the house would write a new bill with an American valuation clause and "let the senate try again." If this should happen, it was said, there would be little prospect of a tariff bill at this session unless congress remained on the job throughout most of the congressional election campaign.

Oregon Phone Rate Reduction Denied

Salem, Or.—Patrons of the Pacific Telephone & Telegraph company in Oregon must continue to pay rates ranging from 30 to 200 per cent in excess of those in effect prior to March 1, 1921.

This was announced here when the Oregon public service commission reaffirmed in every particular its original order increasing rates under date of February 28, 1921, and at the same time scolded the petitioners who asked the rehearing.

Of 954,783,589 inhabitants of Oregon, 295,723 or 31.1 per cent were natives of that state; 350,022 or 36.7 per cent were natives of other states or of the outlying possessions; and 107,544 or 13.7 per cent were born in foreign countries, the census bureau reports.

There were two fatalities in Oregon, due to industrial accidents, during the week ending February 16, according to a report by the state industrial accident commission. The victims were Melvin A. Smith, steel worker, Portland, and Sidney A. Cooper, laborer, Pendleton. A total of 293 accidents were reported.

Four Marion and Polk county towns have offered inducements to obtain the switching and setting plant to be constructed by the Willamette Valley Flex & Hemp Growers' association. The towns that would welcome the plant include Dallas, Turner, Aumsville and Richfield. It was estimated that the plant will cost approximately \$100,000.

Oregon postmasters have been conformed as follows: Charles W. Hall, Astoria; Ira Wimberly, Drain; Ben Weather, Enterprise; Harry E. Jones, Jefferson; Robert J. Melrose, Parkdale; Charles A. Stark, Sulphur; Lee W. Lundell, Weston; Ollie L. Gillespie, Willamina; Lyman H. Shrey, Woodburn; Thomas Thompson, Pendleton.

With the price of wool on the up grade and vital questions of disease control, range allotment and management virtually settled, central Oregon sheep raisers, after a two days' conference at Bend, believe they have left safely behind them the difficult times of the readjustment period and that the future promises prosperity beginning with the coming season.

Fifty Indians, forming a remnant of the once powerful Umpqua tribe controlling practically all of the land west of the Cascades, from the Rogue river north to the falls of the Willamette, met at Roseburg to consider the methods of presenting to the government their claim for \$12,500,000 growing out of a treaty alleged to have been made in 1847. The Indians elected a committee composed of Isadore Roudou of Tillamook, Edward Dompier of Eugene, Mace Tipton of Glide, Joe Brown of Roseburg and Pross Plebette of Oakland, to handle the affairs of the organization. Tipton is the recognized chief of the tribe.

34 LIVES LOST IN AIRSHIP WRECK

Roma Plunges 1000 Feet to Ground and Burns at Hampton Roads.

Norfolk, Va.—Thirty-four men were killed, eight were injured seriously and three were uninjured or only slightly bruised when the giant army airship Roma with her crew and a number of civilians, totaling 45 in all, plunged from 1000 feet or more in the air to the ground at the Hampton Roads naval base.

The accident presumably was caused by a broken rudder and as the huge dirigible plunged to earth it capsize across a high tension electric line, bursting into a roaring furnace of blazing hydrogen gas.

Barely a dozen of those aboard were picked up alive and one of these died on the way to the hospital. All who survived the fire escaped by jumping as the ship struck. The others, penned in the hull of the fallen bag, were burned to death.

Accounts of survivors and eyewitnesses as to what had happened appeared to agree that the huge, kite-like structure of the stern rudder, itself as large as a bombing plane, had slipped to one side as the Roma dove along 1000 feet above the army base.

She was making a trial flight with a new battery of Liberty motors. They were installed to replace Italian engines bought with her in Italy.

LONG DISCUSSION OF TREATIES EXPECTED

Washington, D. C.—Despite the pressure of both republican and democratic senate leaders for prompt action, controversies are developing within the foreign relations committee which may lead to a long discussion of the arms conference treaties before any of them are brought to the senate floor for ratification.

Some members of the committee predict that the effort to obtain a detailed explanation of the negotiations leading to the four-power Pacific treaty would in itself mean considerable delay.

Senate debate on the four-power Pacific treaty began with a preliminary tilt resulting in a request to President Harding for all available information as to how the treaty was negotiated. The resolution of request had the support of republican and democratic leaders alike and was approved without a record vote.

President Harding, replying to the senate on the Hitchcock resolution, asking for information relative to the negotiation of the four-power Pacific treaty, stated it was impossible to furnish the requested information because most of the negotiations were conducted without maintaining of a record.

Finance Corporation Loans \$203,136,000

Washington, D. C.—Financial assistance aggregating \$203,136,000 has been given by the war finance corporation to American exporters and farmers since enactment of the law reviving the corporation, according to a statement from Director Meyer, submitted in the senate.

445 Now in Oregon Penitentiary.

Salem, Or.—The population of the Oregon state penitentiary is now 445, which is the high mark for a number of years. This figure shows a gain of 133 prisoners during the last 12 months.

