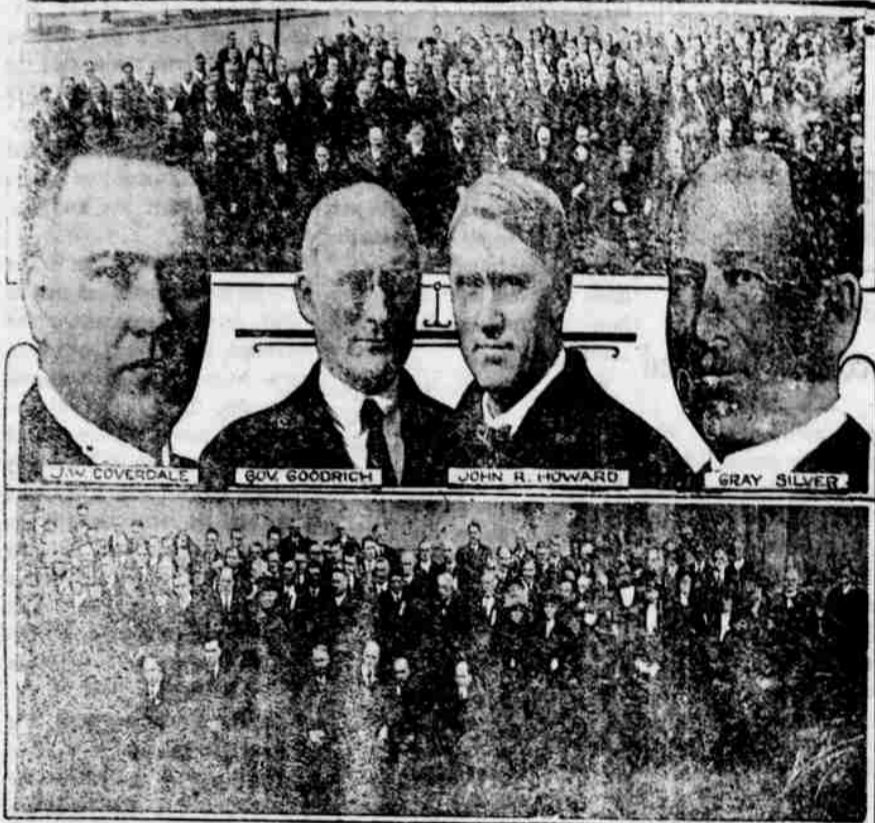




FARMERS TO FINANCE SELVES UNLESS FEDERAL SYSTEM CHANGES



Unless the government takes some immediate steps to finance the farmers in their pressing needs, the farmers may lay plans to create their own agricultural banks throughout the nation. This was the gist of proposed action at Indianapolis last week, when President James R. Howard called into convention the American Farm Bureau Federation, representing some thirteen million farmers. It asks that the federal reserve bank system be modified, which now loans money to dealers in farm commodities over which the producer has lost control and which glut the market due to the calling of his short-time loans. The total loss on farm commodities, including livestock, was estimated at ten billion dollars, as result of recent price declines. These first and exclusive pictures from Indianapolis show, upper and lower panels, delegates to the convention: Center, left to right, J. W. Coverdale, national secretary of the A. F. B. F.; Governor Goodrich of Indiana; President, James R. Howard of the A. F. B. F.; and Gray Silver, Washington representative of the American Farm Bureau.

NEW MAT CHAMP KEPT ON TRYING



"If at first you don't succeed, try, try again," has evidently been the policy of the new heavyweight wrestling champion of the world, Ed "Strangler" Lewis of Louisville, Ky. It was in the Strangler's fifth chance at the title, last week at New York when he threw Joe Stecher, Nebraska farm boy, and took the title in one hour and forty-one minutes of grueling mat work. Lewis was twice defeated by former champ Earl Caddock and this was his third chance at Stecher. Lewis wore Stecher down with his famous "headlock."

HARDING MAY NAME WOMAN TO CABINET



It is thought that President-elect Harding will ask Congress to create a Department of Education. If so, it is rumored that Mrs. Harriet T. Upton of Warren, O., will be asked to head the new department. If appointed she will be the first woman in the United States ever named to a cabinet position.

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 treasury secretary declared enactment of the bill meant an added burden in the way of taxes, reiterating a statement made before the committee last week that the treasury ought not to be called upon to assume any additional burdens. Assuming that all the men would select one of the four optional plans, Mr. Houston estimated the cost of such of the plans as follows: Adjusted service pay \$1,242,000,000. Insurance provisions, \$4,534,000,000. Vocational training aid \$1,880,000,000. Farm and home development \$1,880,000,000.

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 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.

Portland Bond House Closes

Portland, Or.—With the discovery that a large deficiency exists in the affairs of the bond house of Morris Brothers, Inc., of Portland, San Francisco, Seattle and Tacoma, Fred S. Morris, who took over the firm's affairs last week when John L. Etheridge, then president, resigned, announced that the institution's doors in all of those cities would not open Monday morning and when urged further for a statement as to the future, admitted that "this is the end of the corporation's business."

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.

OREGON NEWS NOTES OF GENERAL INTEREST

Principal Events of the Week Briefly Sketched for Information 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 Wallows 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 7½ 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 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 wagon grant lands. It is reported that the Crown-Wilamette Paper company will resume its operations near Seaside within a short time. The Seaside camp employs several hundred men.

Water two feet deep ran down Seaside streets Friday when the surf, whipped by a 50-mile gale, dashed over the board walk and swept through part of the business section. There were two fatalities due to industrial accidents in Oregon in the week ended December 23, according to a report issued by the state industrial accident commission. The victims were S. M. Thiess, a miner, of Bourne, and Joseph M. Fitzgerald, laborer, of Salem. A total of 456 accidents were reported.

Work of raising the quota of the state of Oregon, outside of Popland, 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, 25, a sister of Milton A. Miller, internal 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.

Senator Chamberlain of Oregon was operated upon at the emergency hospital in Washington, D. C., Friday. It was said that the operation was a complete success and that the senator was resting comfortably.

Taxpayers of Multnomah county will be called upon next year to meet the largest tax bill that has ever been presented to them. The total will be approximately \$14,713,000, or \$53.44 per capita, based upon 275,288 population as shown by the federal census of 1920.

A squash so large that many people refused to believe it a real vegetable but thought it was an imitation made of paper has been on exhibition for several days in the window of Murphy's seed store in Albany. It weighs 181 pounds.

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 what will be known as the Emigrant 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 29 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 of the west in building highways, 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.

To promote pure-bred livestock raising, Klamath Falls banks are offering inducements to communities making the best showing. The First National bank has offered a high-class registered bull to the district that first rides itself of all scrub sires and replaces them with purebreds. The First State & Savings bank promises a registered buck of standard breed to the district putting in the greatest number of registered ewes in 1921. To encourage hog culture the Klamath State bank will give a registered boar to the district in which the largest number of registered sows are placed during the next year, and the American National bank, to promote the grading up of dairy herds, offers a high-grade bull to the district making the best dairy record in 1921.

HOUSTON ASKS FOR TAX ON FARM BONDS

Secretary Holds That Exemption of Land Bank Issues Is Wrong.

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 asserted, 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 \$20,262,470 to 1148 borrowers.

U. S. TROOPS IN EUROPE DWINDLING

Washington.—The American force in Germany will soon be reduced at the rate of about 1200 a month, due to the expiration of terms of enlistment, and no replacements are being sent to Coblenz. The war department estimates that by May, 1921, the force will have been reduced to 7000 or 7500 men, about one brigade.

While President Wilson has issued no orders for the withdrawal of the force, substantial reductions are occurring from month to month on an increasing ratio. The force now numbers about 14,000 officers and men. Many of the enlisted men have been on the Rhine for a long time and their enlistments are beginning to expire in considerable numbers.

The aggregate cost of the American force in Germany to June 30, 1920, which Germany must pay, amounted to \$257,065,084.35. This sum includes maintenance of officers, men and animals, charges peculiar to the army (civilian employees, rentals, billets and claims), and a net debit covering surveys, salvage sales and the like.

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.

British Letter Prompts Inquiry.

Washington.—Official cognizance was taken by the state department of the action of the British embassy in writing directly to Chairman Kellogg of the senate committee investigating cable communications, denying testimony that the British authorities imposed a censorship on cable messages coming to the United States from Great Britain. At the department's request Senator Kellogg sent to Acting Secretary Davis a copy of the embassy letter.

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.