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Morning Register

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[ST]AGES OF OREGON [FO]RM NEW COMPANY

[Ind]ependent Owners Join In Consolidation of All Lines In Valley

[BE]TTER SERVICE PLAN

[Em]ergency Aid Will Be New Feature of Work

[BUS]SES TO CARRY KITS

[Mayo]r Lee Speaker at Banquet; [B.] R. Fenwick Will Take Over Auditing of Books For New Concern

[De]tails of an organization which [is exp]ected to give more efficient [stage] service and provide rolling [first] aid stations on the highways [of the] Willamette valley, were given [last] night by R. W. Lemen, [mana]ger of the Oregon Stages, In[corpo]rated, articles of incorpora[tion] for which were filed in Salem [yester]day.

[The Or]egon Stages, said Mr. Lemen, [repre]sents the final organization of [a grou]p of independent stage own[ers] who started operations between [Port]land and Salem six years ago. [The] line will extend now from [Port]land to Roseburg, he said.

First Aid Added Feature

[Wi]thin a week every stage bus in [the st]ate of Oregon will be equip[ped] with a complete first aid kit [for e]mergency use on the high[ways.] All drivers will be given in[struction] in first aid and will re[ceive i]nstructions to stop at all [scenes] of accidents or at the signal [of any] person in distress.

[At a] banquet held in the Osburn [hotel] last night Mayor E. U. Lee [was o]ne of the principal speakers. [The] substance of his address was [that] the city limits had been ex[tended] 15 to 20 miles and that ef[ficient] stage service meant consid[erably] more to the merchant than [was] realized.

[It] was also announced that B. R. [Fen]wick, formerly auditor of the [public] service commission in Ore[gon] and until recently assistant [auditor] of the public service com[missio]n in Washington, had re[signed] and would take over the [auditing] of the stage lines.

Eugene Terminal Point

[Eug]ene is one of the main term[inal] points of the Oregon stages. [The lat]ter is incorporated with a [capital] stock of $300,000. Others [associ]ated with Mr. Lemen are E. [A. Ban]field and Fritz Jacobsen.

[The] organization of this group [has] all the details of a romance [of th]e car and highway develop[ment] and of efficient stage service [in the] state, according to the story [of the] growth of the concern made [public] here. In May, 1920, eight [men] started running stages between [Port]land and Salem, using their [own] machines and without having [any] substantial organization among [them]selves.

[Wi]thin a short time these men [foun]d that by working together [they] could get better results for [them]selves and give the public bet[ter] service and they began leaving [the] Rewart hotel in Portland on [regula]r schedule. Although each [man] was operating his own stage, [which] usually was an ordinary [touring] car, by agreement among [them]selves they left Portland on [the] hour, exactly as a corporation [would] have scheduled busses for [thei]r service.

Sacrifices Made

[It] was often necessary for the in[dividu]al driver to make sacrifices [for] the good of the group which [were] costly for him. Many of the [men] were forced to leave the [Portla]nd station without a passen[ger] when the scheduled time for [de]parture arrived, although he [knew] that by holding off for a short [time] he could have obtained pas[sengers].

[Alt]hough at that time there were [mi]les of practically unimproved [high]way between Portland and [Salem], the operation of touring [cars] proved popular and paid ex[penses]. It soon became necessary [for s]ome provision to be made for [the use] of terminals. This at first [took] the form of agreements with [hotels] and formed the nucleus of [what] later developed into a term[inal] hotel syndicate with hotels and [station]s in all the principal cities [along] the route.

[Soon] after the organization of [the] Portland-Salem stage line the [same] men began operation of the [stage]s between Roseburg [and] Portland and the Central [Oregon] Bus line between Salem and [Bend]. All of these concerns are [consolid]ated in the Oregon Stages, [Inc.], which is the new name under [which] the consolidated companies [will op]erate.

Stages to Be Elaborate

[Six] months after the beginning [of the] first Portland-Salem service [the] first motor bus was placed in [opera]tion and since that time the [business] has grown to such an extent [that] all touring cars have been re[placed] by larger cars. One parlor [car is] now in operation and it is ex[pected] that in a short time nothing [but] the more elaborate types of [cars] will be used in the valley.

[The] incorporators of the new [company] are R. W. Lemen, E. A. [Banfie]ld and Fritz Jacobsen, all of [Portland]. With two exceptions, all [the] original eight men who [began] operating stages out of [Portla]nd five years ago are repre[sented] in the 15 stockholders in the [new c]oncern. The same men are [interes]ted in the Terminal Hotel [com]pany.

[Befo]re the business had been in [opera]tion many years owners of [stages] found it necessary to hire [drivers], while they devoted them[selves] to repair work and upkeep [of the] cars in use. This led to [the] duplication of building as [each] operator had his own garage [and] his own equipment. Consol[idation] of this garage work and re[pair] service is one of the big ad-

([Cont]inued on page 5, column 4)

IN TODAY'S MORNING REGISTER

The Weather

Oregon—Rain west; rain or snow east portion; no change in temperature; fresh southeast winds. Yesterday's weather in Eugene: Maximum temperature, 45 degrees; minimum, 31; wind from northeast. Stage of river, 2.4 feet.

Thomas J. Rodgers killed by automobile; driver blames headlights. Page 8.

Children overweight at Lincoln school; P.-T. A. hears nutrition report. Page 5.

Mayor Lee is pleased with results of election; bond sale immediate plan. Page 8.

Conference planned by Hi-Y club for older boys in Lane county. Page 8.

Kid party is given for legionnaires by members of auxiliary. Page 5.

Bobbed hair featured at party given in Odd Fellows' temple last night. Page 8.

Benefit order elects Gertrude Stead commander; state officers here. Page 8.

Pharmacy near university is robbed by lone unmasked bandit. Page 8.

Stages of Oregon form new company; plan first aid service on highways. Page 1.

Star meets Friday to entertain visiting members. Page 3.

Penrod will be given by university high students Friday. Page 12.

Schick test unfinished in Eugene public schools. Page 5.

Doctors of Lane County Medical society will meet at Osburn tonight. Page 3.

Booth captains named for Christmas seal sale which opens today. Page 12.

School comedy Friday at Eugene high school gymnasium. Page 12.

Lions hear Dr. Hoover and get lesson in political economy. Page 8.

Children help needy families; bring food and gifts to city schools. Page 12.

"Y" plans open house on afternoon of New Year's day. Page 8.

Temple roofing starts today. W. H. Pellette to do work. Page 8.

Property owners apply for Bancroft bonds; $281,000 worth on hand. Page 8.

Road near Jasper to be widened with materials from S. P. right of way. Page 12.

Masons elect F. J. Agule worshipful master. Page 8.

Hugh Earle new secretary of fair board; E. E. Ross president. Page 8.

Will hearing is held before Judge Barnard. Page 3.

Musicians association chooses officers at all-day election. Page 3.

Christmas service planned at Springfield Methodist church. Page 5.

Man and woman arrested on statutory charge. Page 8.

Cold snap of year ago recalled; began on 17th. Page 5.

License number of C. C. Addleman same for 1926 as in 1925. Page 5.

Oil house to be erected; permit issued. Page 8.

Bridge over North Fork about completed. Page 5.

Band here is known in India; musician writes for position. Page 12.

Logging railway up Knowles creek in operation. Page 3.

Circulars to be given out at county agent's office. Page 3.

Small class at teachers' examination this week. Page 3.

Vining will speak at chamber luncheon today. Page 12.

Apple company of Monroe issues $50,000 Bonds. Page 11.

Lane County and Oregon

Activity in building at Springfield is forecast for spring. Page 9.

Congo mission field needs physicians says returned missionary. Page 9.

V. D. Bain of Springfield on Willamette university athletic committee. Page 9.

Mail equipment added at Springfield postoffice for holiday rush. Page 9.

Work on new line for Mountain States Power company starts at Harrisburg. Page 10.

Hotel at Harrisburg purchased by Portland woman. Page 10.

Farm home for children at Corvallis visited by Harrisburg club. Page 10.

Farmers' Union at Creswell holds meeting. Page 9.

Many attend first program of music club at Creswell. Page 9.

Elmira church grows; new building being built for use of men's Bible class. Page 9.

Grange plans bazaar at Elmira next Saturday. Page 9.

Parent-Teacher association of Elmira will give program Monday evening. Page 9.

Sheep losses reported heavy from coyotes in Cottage Grove vicinity; chamber of commerce appoints committee to combat animals. Page 9.

Shoppers are active at Cottage Grove merchants report. Page 9.

Additional news notes and personals. Page 9 and 10.

Sports

Letters for football will be given Junior high players at Cottage Grove. Page 6.

Springfield high school basketball team wins game from Coburg. Page 6.

Turkey shoot success; Elks plan another tonight and tomorrow. Page 6.

University basketball team makes trip south. Page 6.

Junior leaders' corps defeats Roosevelt school at basketball. Page 6.

PAPER MILL PLANNED

PORTLAND PLANT TO COST OVER $1,000,000

(By The Associated Press)

PORTLAND, Ore., Dec. 16.—At a cost in excess of $1,000,000 a paper mill is to be erected in north Portland early next year by the George T. Mickle Lumber company and the Mickle Mills, it was announced today by A. W. Miller, vice-president and general manager of the Mickle Mills.

Mr. Miller said that George T. Mickle, president of the Mickle company had returned from the East with the announcement that plans and financial arrangements had been completed to provide for erection of the paper mill. Finances to the extent of $2,000,000, he said, would be available for the plant and for an operating surplus.

[SENA]TE TO ACT ON [WO]RLD COURT SOON

Proposal Comes Before Body As Special Order of Business Today

DEMOCRATS LEAD MOVE

Five Reservations Made In Adherence Proposal

LONG DEBATE EXPECTED

Borah Opposes Measure on the Grounds That Tribunal Is Part of League While Others Deny Connection

(By The Associated Press)

WASHINGTON, Dec. 16.—The long pending proposal that the United States adhere to the world court comes before the senate tomorrow under a special order.

The resolution of adherence is that of Senator Swanson, Virginia, ranking Democrat on the foreign relations committee and contains five reservations. The two principal ones are that adhesion shall not be taken to involve any legal relations on the part of the United States to the league of nations and that the United States be in no manner bound by any advisory opinion of the court.

Open Session Planned

The court question will be considered in "open executive" session and will be the subject of extended debate. While two Republican presidents have recommended American adhesion, the administration must look to the Democrats for the margin of votes necessary for ratification.

Chairman Borah of the foreign relations committee, as well as the other "irreconcilables" are opposed to the adhesion on the ground that the court is the creature of the league. Proponents of the court contend that the tribunal is wholly separate from the league.

Senator Swanson will open the discussion with a prepared address which will require several hours for delivery. He hopes to keep his resolution before the senate for several days.

Harding Makes Proposal

The first proposal for American adherence to the court was made by President Harding February 24, 1923. He recommended four reservations, since known as the Harding - Hughes reservations, which are incorporated in the Swanson resolution.

The senate took no action and President Coolidge in his first annual message in the same year urged action and proposed a fifth reservation, that holding the United States could not be bound by advisory opinions of the court. Several resolutions to carry out the recommendation were offered but it was not until last March that a definite move was made to get the matter before the senate.

Oregon Offenders Held

(By The Associated Press)

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 16. — Frank W. Vinecore and Lloyd Mason, said by police to be wanted in connection with a shooting affair, numerous burglaries and check manipulations, were arrested here tonight and held for federal authorities. They also are wanted for violation of the Dyer act, police said.

McCAMANT MENTIONED FOR COURT OF APPEALS

SENATE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE FAVORS OREGON MAN

Objection of Hiram Johnson Is Overruled and Name Will Be Reported Favorably

(By The Associated Press)

WASHINGTON, Dec. 16.—Over the objection of Senator Johnson, Republican, of California, a senate judiciary committee today at an executive session agreed to favorably report the nomination of Wallace McCamant of Oregon to be circuit judge of the ninth United States circuit court of appeals.

McCamant has been credited with being partly responsible for getting President Coolidge into national politics by insisting upon his nomination for vice-president at the Republican national convention in Chicago in 1920. At that time Senator Johnson accused McCamant of violating instructions from his state to support him on the national ticket.

The sub-committee will report to a full committee at the regular session Monday. If the committee accepts the report of the sub-committee the California senator probably will oppose confirmation of the nomination at an executive session of the senate.

Senator Johnson appeared today before the sub-committee in executive session and is reported to have objected to the confirmation of McCamant's nomination.

DOUMER ACCEPTS PLACE

FINANCE COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN IN CABINET PLACE

(By The Associated Press)

PARIS, Dec. 16.—Paul Doumer, chairman of the finance committee of the senate, accepted this afternoon the weighty responsibility of the finance ministry in the cabinet of Premier Briand.

The fact that the premier forestalled final action by the left coalition by nominating M. Doumer over their objections is taken as indicating that he finally has determined to accept no further dictation and has decided to go ahead with a safe man, who, though generally recognized as possessing no remarkable competence in financial matters, is expected to push resolutely sane measures prepared by capable technical authorities for the restoration of the nation's finances.

M. Doumer's plans for the solution of France's financial difficulties are based principally on increases in indirect taxation rather than on any form of capital levy or increases in the income taxes.

JEWEL CASE GIVES CLUE

DYNAMITE CAPS AND OTHER IMPLEMENTS FOUND

(By The Associated Press)

CRESTON, B. C., Dec. 16.—A small jewel case filled with dynamite caps on which is engraved the word "Alice" and which bears the name of a firm of jewelers at Aberdeen, Wash., may be the means of identifying the two men who participated in the $7000 holdup of the Creston branch of the Imperial bank of Canada, last October, provincial police announced tonight. One of the bandits was caught the afternoon of the robbery with half of the loot and he has since been sentenced to eight years.

The jewel box was part of a cache consisting of a coat, two sticks of dynamite, a punch bar, bandages and some .45 automatic revolver shells, found a mile out of Creston by provincial police today.

MODIFIED TAX RATES ARE PASSED BY HOUSE

AMENDMENTS ARE LOST BY LARGE MAJORITIES

Leaders of Congress Attacked by Representative Rainey in Opposing Measure

(By The Associated Press)

WASHINGTON, Dec. 16.—Amid a display of oratorical fireworks, the house today accepted the modified inheritance tax rates provided in the non-partisan revenue bill.

The seventh consecutive legislative day of consideration of the measure was devoted entirely to this tax, but as amendments continued to be mowed down with overwhelming majorites, tired members gave vent to their feelings in sharp remarks on several subjects.

Defeat Is Conceded

Representative Rainey of Illinois, a Democratic member of the ways and means committee which framed the bill, after submitting several amendments conceded he was "beaten" and took occasion to chastise leaders, speaking some of the time to the Democrat side.

"You think you can perpetrate this outrage," Mr. Rainey shouted, "which you would not have dared to attempt while Bryan and Wilson were living. Oh, other leaders will rise. These puny and little leaders who now control will not control always."

Chairman Green of the committee, paid his respects to Florida, which has barred the inheritance tax through amendment of its constitution, declaring to the people of Florida "you never can make a really great state through colonies of tax dodgers and money grabbers, parasites and coupon cutters, jazz trippers and booze hunters."

Club Seeks Repeal

Representative Blanton, Democrat, Texas, announced to the representatives of the Texas Tax club, seeking repeal of the federal inheritance levy that he would not heed their suggestion that he resign. He declared Frank W. Mondell, former Republican leader in the house was "lobbying" for the clubs. Representative Madden, Republican, Illinois, who was presiding, attempted to rap for order. The head of the gavel flew off and just missed striking the head of Representative Mills, Republican, New York. This incident served to relieve some of the tension with laughter.

Large Reductions Made

The section approved today for a cut in the maximum inheritance tax from 40 to 20 per cent, applying on amounts in excess of $10,000,000, with corresponding reductions in the lower brackets, which graduated downward to one per cent on the second $50,000 of an inheritance. It also increases from 25 to 80 per cent the credit to be allowed in federal inheritance tax settlements for amounts paid on similar state taxes.

An amendment proposed by Representative Ramseyer, Republican, Iowa, to increase rates in the bill to a maximum of 30 per cent was rejected 54 to 179.

Record votes were not even necessary to defeat amendments seeking to decrease the amount of the state tax credit to 50 per cent and to 45 per cent.

Car Kills Woman

(By The Associated Press)

TACOMA, Wash., Dec. 16.—Fifteen minutes after she had been struck by a hit-and-run auto driver Mrs. K. K. Myre, 60, died from her injuries in a local hospital.

Bankruptcy Petition Filed

PORTLAND, Ore., Dec. 16. — (Special to the Register.)—Claude M. Allumbaugh of Eugene filed a voluntary petition in bankruptcy here today. His liabilities are given as $1282.11 and his assets as $160.

SENATORS PROTEST DEBT SETTLEMENTS

Bills For Ratification of Agreement With Italy Are Held Over

SMOOT RECEIVES FIRE

Deal Held Whitewash For Profitable Loans

BANKERS GET CRITICISM

Nothing But Interest at Rate of 1.8 Per Cent Will Be Paid By Italians Is Charge of Howell

(By The Associated Press)

WASHINGTON, Dec. 16. — A storm of protest against the Italian debt settlement broke in the senate today as Chairman Smoot, of the finance committee sought to obtain consideration of debt agreements negotiated during the congressional recess.

Finally Senator Reed, Democrat, Missouri, objected to a unanimous consent arrangement to take up the settlements and the bills of ratification went over.

Meanwhile notice had been served by a number of senators that considerable discussion would precede a vote.

House to Act First

While the debate was in progress in the senate, Chairman Green of the house ways and means committee, informed the house, that since the debt settlements were revenue legislation they must originate in the house and that, if the senate acted first, he would ask the house to ignore such action.

Senator Smoot who is a member of the debt commission which negotiated the agreements, bore the brunt of the senate fire, but Senator Reed, Republican, Pennsylvania, frequently came to his assistance. The Utah senator insisted that the Italian agreement was the best that could be obtained and that he had doubt of the ability of Italy to carry it out.

That raised the question of $100,000,000 loan which New York bankers made to Italy immediately after the agreement was signed. Senator Harrison, Democrat, Mississippi, called attention to the fact that the interest rate on this loan was seven per cent.

Senator Howell, Republican, Nebraska, asserted that Italy would pay none of the principal of its debt; that all it agreed to pay is 1.8 per cent interest on the principal over a period of 62 years, and that this arrangement ultimately would cost American tax payers $5,000,000,000.

French Are Criticised

The Italian settlement as well as the British settlement, was characterized by Senator Reed of Missouri as a process of "whitewashing" to enable international bankers to make loans at 6 and 7 per cent.

The French debt was brought into the discussion and Senator Smoot warned that unless the French government settled with this country and England, the franc would follow the same course the German mark did. He also disclosed that when the first French commission came here, it bluntly told the American commission that France did not owe this country anything.

Senator Reed, Missouri, contrasted France's failure to settle its debt with its military operations, declaring it was conducting a war in Northern Africa in an effort to "steal" land and liberty of a free people.

PEAR GROWERS BANQUET

ORCHARD MEN HOLD MEETING IN MEDFORD

(By The Associated Press)

MEDFORD, Ore., Dec. 16.—A banquet was tendered here tonight by local pear growers and shippers and the chamber of commerce to the several hundred leading growers assembled from all over the Pacific Coast in attendance at the annual three-day convention of the Oregon State Horticultural society which convened today and which will be devoted entirely to discussion of pear growing and its problems.

Among speakers at today's sessions were Mayor Alexander, who gave the welcoming address; B. W. Johnson, prominent grower of Monroe, Oregon; D. R. Wood of Medford, president of the state society; Paul Scherer of Medford, president of the Jackson county fruit grower's league; Clayton L. Long of the Oregon Agricultural college; Professor Reimer, head of the Southern Oregon experiment station at Talent; L. B. Scott, Pasadena, Cal., governmental pomologist; Professor W. L. Powers of Corvallis; Claud C. Cate, Jackson county pathologist, and E. W. Carlton, Central Point.

PIERCE TO ASK FUNDS

NEW REFORMATORY WANTED BY GOVERNOR

(By The Associated Press)

SALEM, Ore., Dec. 16.—An appropriation of approximately $75,000 will be asked of the next legislature by Governor Pierce to provide funds for converting the boys' training school here into a reformatory, it was said today. Rumors were also current that A. M. Dalrymple, until recently warden of the Oregon state penitentiary, is being considered for the superintendency of the old state training school here. The present plan is to use the reformatory for young men convicted of first offenses, and who under existing laws, are sent to the state prison.

GOVERNMENT MAY BUY LAND FROM SETTLERS

RAILROADS TO ACT AS AGENTS UNDER AMENDMENT

Bureau Officials Agree to Submit Proposals to Congress for Change of Policy

(By The Associated Press)

WASHINGTON, Dec. 16.—Submission to congress of an amendment to the reclamation act, permitting the reclamation service to purchase the land of delinquent settlers and giving to the railroads affected by the success of projects the selling agency for land so acquired, was agreed upon at a conference of railway and reclamation bureau officials at the interior department today.

Details of the proposed legislation are still in a formative stage but in general the suggestions agreed upon provide that the reclamation service "may recapture" land on which settlers are delinquent in payment of dues and taxes.

Railway representatives agreed that if the right to sell such land were given them they would undertake work without any commission or other charge to the government.

The proposed legislation was characterized by Reclamation Commissioner Elwood Mead as the most constructive result of the reclamation conference of which the meeting today was an informal sequel. It is intended to be of general application in the reclamation service but at present such authority, if given by congress, will be applied principally in those projects where the percentage of delinquent settlers is greatest.

Advisers are Wanted

There was general agreement on a suggestion, embodied in this year's appropriation bill that men be placed on reclamation projects to advise and assist new settlers until they have become used to their new surroundings and have brought their land to a profitable state of cultivation.

Representatives of great railway systems traversing or adjacent to reclamation projects attended the conference and problems of each project were discussed in turn, particular attention being paid to those at present not on a profitable basis.

Mead said latest advices from some of these "sick kittens" as he termed them, showed a marked turn for the better during the present season. He received during the session a telegram from the Sun River project in Montana, stating that final returns from the entire project showed a per acre return of more than double that of 1924.

STUDENTS OPPOSE RULE

DRY PLANS OF LITTLE HELD UNREASONABLE

(By The Associated Press)

ANN ARBOR, Mich., Dec. 16.—Resolutions characterizing the plans of Dr. Clarence Cook Little, president of the University of Michigan, to enforce prohibition on the university campus as "unjustifiable and unreasonable" were passed at a mass meeting of 400 men students tonight. The resolutions asked that the president give the students further time to consider the matter.

President Little yesterday asked the heads of all fraternities on the campus to prevent violation of the 18th amendment to the constitution and to make the selection before school closes Friday for the Christmas holidays.

Resolutions were passed expressing confidence in the administration of the president.

WAR HELD UNLIKELY

NO TROUBLE EXPECTED FROM MOSUL DECISION

GENEVA, Dec. 16.—Neither the league of nations nor Great Britain expects war in the Near East because of the decision of the league council in the Mosul conflict, Colonel L. C. M. Amery, the British colonial secretary said tonight in comenting on the council's finding, which gives Mosul virtually in its entirety to Great Britain in the form of a mandate.

This decision was announced today in the assembly hall, packed with people as the last act of the 37th session of the council.

CHILDREN LOSE FUND

GOULD TRUST FUND TO GO TO OLDER MEMBERS

(By The Associated Press)

NEW LORK, Dec. 16.—A judgment excluding the three children of the late George J. Gould by his second wife from participating in a trust fund from his father's estate, and ordering its distribution among his seven other children, was entered today in the New York supreme court.

The judgment deprives the three younger children of a share in a fund of approximately $4,000,000, established by Jay Gould, the founder of the family fortune, for the children of George J. Gould.

TWO EARTHQUAKES FELT

SLIGHT SHOCKS REPORTED FROM NEVADA

(By The Associated Press)

RENO, Nev., Dec. 16. — Two earthquakes were recorded at Fallon, Nevada, and surrounding sections today, according to reports received here tonight. The first shock occurred at 10:30 a. m. and the second, the most severe, at 1:30 p. m. While windows rattled and clocks stopped, no damage was reported. Reports from the Dixie valley section, east of Fallon, indicate a severe quake with the hot springs showing increased activity.

Pension Bill Passes

(By The Associated Press)

OLYMPIA, Wash., Dec. 16.—By a vote of 24 to 15, with three members absent, the senate today passed a measure generally known as the "Eagles bill," providing pensions not to exceed $25 per month for persons who have attained 65 years of age.

O. A. C. CAMPUS HIT BY $100,000 FIRE

One Fireman Injured and Students Have Narrow Escape In Blaze

MUCH EQUIPMENT LOST

Explosion In Science Hall Ignites Chemicals

NO INSURANCE CARRIED

Rebuilding of Laboratories to Be Started at Once in Order to Be Ready for Classes for Next Term

CORVALLIS, Ore., Dec. 16.—Damage estimated at $100,000, injury to one fireman, and narrow escapes on the part of several students and faculty members resulted from fire today which gutted the central portion of the Oregon Agricultural college science hall in which the chemistry work of the campus is located.

A backfire in the gasoline line supplying the building from a gasoline generator system caused two terrific explosions which blew the meters off on every floor of the four-story stone structure. Two of these in the stock room on the ground floor spread flames to the heavy stock of chemicals, starting a fire so stubborn that the Corvallis fire department was more than an hour in getting it entirely under subjection.

Hoseman Is Blinded

Walter Backus, a hoseman, working near a window of the stock room, was knocked down by an explosion 15 minutes after the first one. He was taken to the health service nearby temporarily blinded by flying chemicals. His injury was not thought to be serious.

Percy Bell, senior student in charge of the stock room, was in the room at the time and but 40 feet from the exploding meters, but he escaped just ahead of the enveloping flames.

C. E. Duncan, instructor in chemistry, was just through the partition and several students and instructors were in various offices and laboratories finishing up the work of the term. These all escaped either down the stairs or over the fire escapes at either end of the building.

Students Fight Flames

The first explosions were so heavy as to be heard over the entire campus and a crowd of students quickly gathered and began playing fire hose on the flames from apparatus attached in the new pharmacy building nearby and continued several minutes before the arrival of the city department. Prompt work of Morris Harvey, student janitor in the pharmacy building, in getting these hose lines into commission after first turning in the alarm promptly prevented greater damage.

Though the exact extent of the damage had not been determined late tonight because of the darkness, E. P. Jackson, superintendent of buildings, estimated it at close to $100,000, consisting mostly of chemicals and valuable scientific apparatus destroyed or damaged by the fire and the enormous quantities of water and chemicals used to subdue the flames.

Main laboratories at either end of the structure were not seriously burned though the flames ate their way to the fourth floor of the central part of the building.

Hall Built in 1902

Science hall was built in 1902 and for years was one of the three principal buildings on the campus. When first constructed it was known as agricultural hall but after the new agricultural building was put up it was re-christened science hall and housed both the chemicals department and pharmacy school until last year when the latter moved to the new building. As the walls are of stone the interior suffered the only serious damage tonight.

Chemistry Work Vital

As chemistry work is vital to a great number of courses in the college, building authorities had preliminary repair work under way before even the fire trucks had left the scene. Several truck loads of sand were brought at once preparatory to beginning plaster repairing tomorrow morning.

President W. J. Kerr was on the campus at the time and stated this afternoon it is hoped that repair work may be rushed sufficiently that there may be no serious interruption of classes next term. Whether an appeal will have to be made to the emergency board is not known, though the state does not carry commercial insurance on its own buildings.

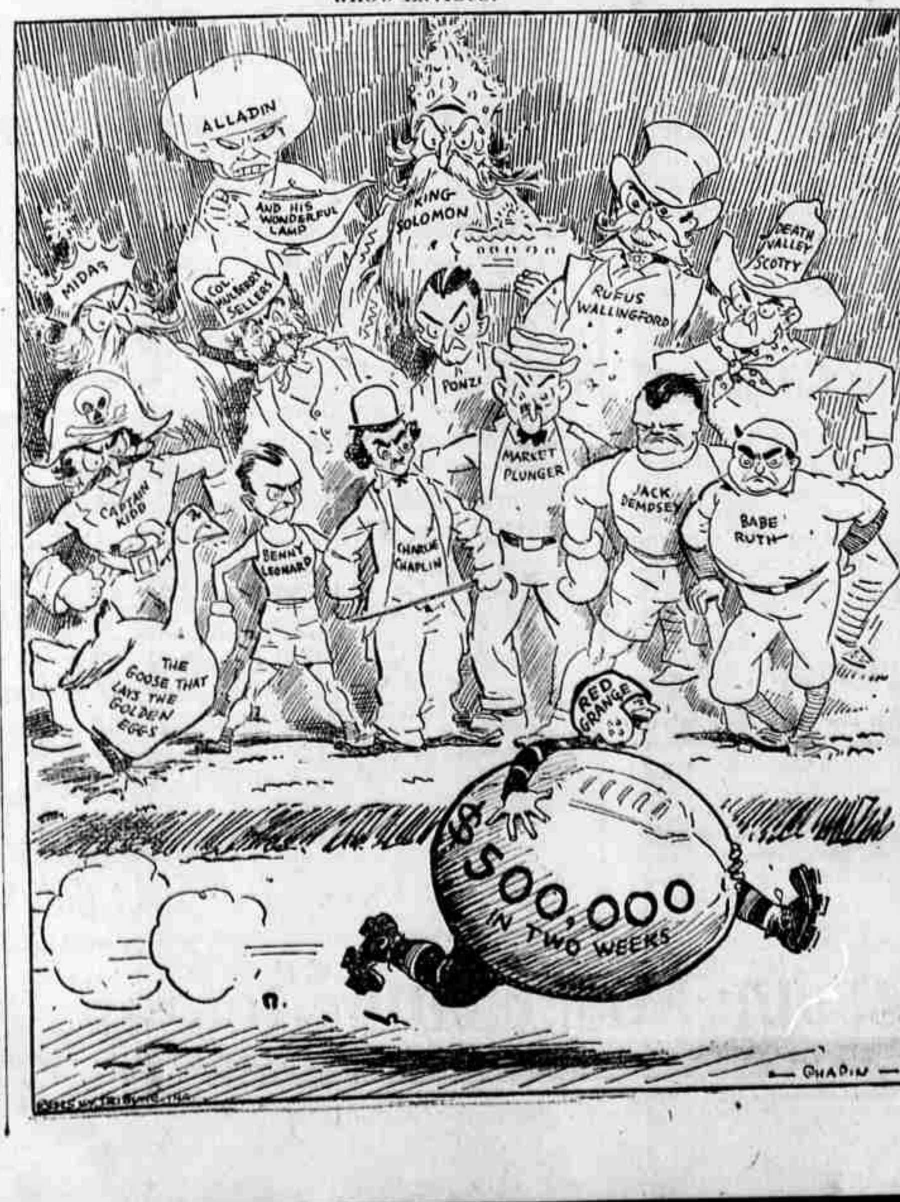
AIR MEASURE PASSED

NEW OFFICER PROVIDED FOR AVIATION CONTROL

(By The Associated Press)

WASHINGTON, Dec. 16.—Conclusions reached by the president's air board came to early fruition in the senate today when it passed, without record vote, a bill by Senator Bingham, Republican, Connecticut, designed to effect the board's findings with respect to commercial aviation.

Senator Bingham was a member of the board and his bill was the first passed at the present session of the senate. It would authorize appointment of an additional assistant secretary of commerce, charged with general supervision of the government's activities in connection with commercial aviation.

The measure also would provide for licensing of civilian pilots, inspection of commercial air routes lighted under direction of the lighthouse service and installation of radio finding devices at frequent intervals along the approved traffic lanes. Only a few minor amendments were made by the senate.

WHO'S ENVIOUS?