OREGON NEWS NOTES OF GENERAL INTEREST

Principal Events of the Week Briefly Sketched for Information of Our Readers.

A council of Coos Bay Indians was held at Marshfield.

Coos bay sawmills have raised the pay of all their men.

The Western Walnut Growers held a meeting at Eugene.

A company of 50 grade school boys is drilling at Hood River.

Scarcity of labor on the farms in south Polk county is becoming serious.

Delivery of the 1917 session laws has been started by Secretary of State Olcott.

The annual convention of the Oregon State Editorial association will be held at Pendleton July 13, 14 and 15.

L. V. Macken, of Monmouth, has been appointed agricultural adviser for Polk, Marion, Linn and Lincoln counties.

A cannery will be operated in Albany this Summer by the recently organized Linn-Benton fruit association.

Contrary to earlier reports from the interior, stock in Lake county came through the winter in good condition, it is said.

Women will work side by side with men in the fields near Baker this season to help to offset the shortage of farmhands.

The broccoli season closed at Roseburg following the shipment of the eighty-fourth carload of the product to the Chicago markets.

The Bend Rifles, an unofficial military organization of Bend, has a membership of more than 50 men and a total of 100 is expected soon.

With delegates present from 25 parent-teacher circles, the Marion county Parent-Teacher association held an all day session in Salem.

The eighth annual convention of the Hood River valley Sunday School association will be held Friday, Saturday and Sunday at Parkdale.

The public service commission has requested that Oswego take some action in bettering the conditions in connection with its water supply.

The state board of control let the contract for the north wing of the Oregon state hospital recently was awarded to Parker & Banfield of Portland for $50,644.

Work on the construction of four wooden ships at Florence on the Siuslaw river will commence at once, according to announcement made at Eugene.

Secretary of State Olcott has forwarded to the county clerks the election blanks and supplies furnished by the state for holding the special election June 4.

The Eugene Fruit Growers' association has been awarded a single contract to supply $100,000 worth of canned turnips carrots, squash, cabbage and green beans.

The twenty-eighth annual communication of the Oregon grand chapter, Order of Eastern Star, has been set for June 12, 13 and 14 and will be held in Portland.

Twenty-five thousand dollars is to be raised in a campaign by business men of the Portland Y. M. C. A. so that the work of the association may be carried on in the army camps.

The executive committee of the Lane County Fair association has voted unanimously to retain horse racing as the entertainment feature of the fair to be held October 3, 4 and 5.

Jurors from Lake and Klamath counties, summoned at the federal term of court in Medford, have been excused from service that they might devote their time to planting and cultivating crops.

Seven law students who have enlisted in the army or are preparing to go to the military training camps have been admitted to the bar by the state supreme court within the last few weeks.

A limited quantity of pure bent seed has been received by H. F. Overturf, manager of the Bend commercial club, which he will distribute to farmers willing to cooperate in the experiments at Bend.

Fishermen operating out of Astoria are being paid 10 and 11 cents a pound for raw Chinook salmon, the highest price ever given for similar work in the history of fishing on the Columbia river.

Two hundred and sixty-six men, out on parole from the state penitentiary, earned $11,134 for the month of March or an average of $41.48 a man, according to the report filed with Governor Withycombe by Parole Officer Keller.

The monthly report of the industrial accident commission for April shows the number of non-fatal accidents reported during the month was 1015, and the number of fatal accidents seven. The total number of fatal accidents reported since the organization of the commission was 2211 and of non-fatal accidents, 21,215.

Nine census marshals, one for each congressional district in the state, will assist in the work of organizing the state for Uncle Sam's war census. The entire machinery of Oregon will be used for the census.

Quartermaster McArthur has made arrangements for conducting a competitive examination for the appointment of a midshipman and three alternates to the naval academy. The examination will be held in Portland June 1.

J. W. Brewer, manager of The Dalles chamber of commerce, has been appointed by President Kerr of the Oregon Agricultural college to take charge of the food survey in Wasco, Gilliam, Sherman and Hood River counties.

Governor Withycombe has telegraphed to R. N. Stanfield, representative of the state council of defense at Washington, asking him to urge Secretary of War Baker that steps be taken to prohibit enlistments from the naval districts.

Hundreds of automobile drivers are making arrangements to hold a mass meeting scheduled to adjourn on the last day of the Rose festival. Several prizes and a purse have been offered to make this one of the features of the festival.

Governor Withycombe has been advised by Attorney General Brown that members of the third Oregon infantry who are in this state on Monday, June 4, will be allowed to vote on matters pertaining to state affairs to come up at the special election.

The Elan-Idaho Sugar company will agree to put up a factory in the Idaho Falls district next year if it can be demonstrated that beets can be grown in a commercially profitable way, and around sufficient to produce 50,000 tons can be subscribed.

With labor scarce, appropriations materially decreased and demands for war work asking, state institutions confront a decidedly serious situation, according to reports made to the state board of control by practically every one of the heads of such institutions.

Hundreds of deer have perished during the last winter in Umatilla and neighboring counties because of unusual weather, in the opinion of Fred Grocm, forest ranger of Dale. He estimated that between 150 and 200 deer have died along the north fork of John Day river.

Oregon has been requested to take over the feeding of a district in Belgium known as the province of Brabant, which contains about 2800 dependent children. The rations these children are given cost about 3 cents a day, or $1 a month. This means that Oregon must raise $2800 a month.

Steps are on foot for the sale of 2560 acres of rich nitrate land on the boundary of Lake and Harney counties by the locators, J. Morton and L. M. Dunn, of Riley, it is said. The purchaser will in all probability be the National Nitrate company, and the price will run at least $100,000, it is understood.

The Oregon State Poultry association, through its president, E. J. McClanahan, of Eugene, has inaugurated a campaign to add 700,000 pounds to the state's meat supply, as a part of the movement to increase the meat supply of the nation 100,000,000 pounds by the late hatching of chicks and more extensive raising of poultry.

The state industrial accident commission received reports of 302 accidents during the week from April 27 to May 4, inclusive, two of these accidents being fatal. The fatal accidents were Steve Maulgatos, Ione, railroad operator, and Mrs. George Kennedy, Pendleton, who was killed in a collision between a locomotive and an automobile.

Dairymen and stock breeders in Coos and Curry counties have recently added valuable animals to their herds, and County Agriculturist Smith says there is a general trend among dairymen since they have been observing the benefits of cow testing associations for the past three years to cull their herds and better them by the addition of pure-bred stock.

Saturday, May 12, has been set aside as "agricultural defense day" in Oregon, and on that date every farmer is urged to attend a meeting which will be held in his community to give and receive information of vital importance to the government regarding the food situation, and arrange to mobilize the available supply of farm labor, machinery, capital, seed, etc.

State Superintendent of Public Instruction Churchill has asked all the superintendents and principals of city schools to cooperate with the Oregon Agricultural college in the enlistment of school boys in the labor reserve corps. Although the plan is to enlist boys immediately, they will not be released from school work until there is definite need for their services.

A forest fire observation post 10,000 feet above the sea will be a new feature of the fire-fighting department of the United States forest service in southern Oregon this year. Forest Supervisor Martin Erickson has announced that the government would establish three new observation towers, one on the peak of Mount McLoughlin, one on Rustler Peak and one on Wildcat Peak.

REGISTRATION FOR DRAFT IS OUTLINED

Work Will Be Under Direction of Civil Authorities of the States.

Washington.—An official outline of the method by which military registration is to be carried out under the selective conscription bill was made public with an appeal from the war department for the voluntary services of state election and other officials, in order that there may be no delay in enrolling and classifying millions of men for army duty.

Careful preparation has been made to place the whole task in the hands of civilian officials of the states and to remove every suggestion of military force in putting the measure into effect. The only function of the federal government will be supervision through the office of the provost marshal-general. The department said in part:

"There was a time in the country's history when military enumerators, backed by bayonets, went out among the people to take a compulsory service census. Today, under the principle of universal liability to service, the execution of the law is put into the hands of the people.

"The approval of the new national army bill and the president's proclamation thereunder will be coincidental. All persons within the age limits prescribed will be required to present themselves for registration at the customary voting place in the voting precincts in which they have their permanent homes on a day which the president will announce.

"The governor of each state will be the chief of registration therein. The machinery of registration in each county is to be in charge of the sheriff, the county clerk and the county physician, acting ex officio, unless a different board shall be announced by the governor. In cities containing populations of more than 30,000 the registration will be under the control of the mayor and selected boards of registration.

"Persons absent from their home counties may be registered by mail. If so absent, a man should go to the clerk of the county where he may be staying on the sixth day after the date of the president's proclamation.

"Persons too sick to present themselves for registration must send a competent person to the county or city clerk on the sixth day after the issuing of the proclamation. The clerk will give instructions for registration."

U. S. PLANS FOR FIRST BIG ARMY

Washington.—The full strength of the first war army organized under the selective draft bill will be 18,538 officers and 528,659 enlisted men, making up 18 war strength divisions complete in every arm and supplemented by 16 regiments of heavy field artillery, equipped with large caliber howitzers.

In preparation for the enormous task of training this great army, the existing regular establishment and the national guard are being brought to full war strength, giving a total regular and national guard force to be whipped into shape before the new army is called of 21,030 officers and 622,954 men.

From this force will be formed 18 divisions corresponding to the organization of the first new army. From it also, early in September, will be drawn some 200,000 officers and non-commissioned officers who will constitute the framework on which the new army will be shaped.

GOVERNMENT TO BE AGENT

Washington Replaces Wall Street, as Financial Capital of World.

New York.—Washington has replaced Wall street as the world's financial center. Federal reserve banks have taken charge of floating the $2,000,000,000 "liberty loan" in New York. J. P. Morgan will no longer act as British government financial representative in America. The United States government succeeds him, both as purchasing agent in this country and as controller of allied loans on this side of the Atlantic.

Thus, for the first time in history, Washington becomes the money hub of the earth, as well as the world war capital.

Control of Price of Wheat Planned.

Ottawa, Ont.—Announcement was made in parliament by Sir Thomas White, the minister of finance, that plans are under way for joint action by Canada and the United States to reduce the price of wheat.

Manila Shows Loyalty

Manila.—A great parade of the Filipinos of Manila was held here Saturday as a demonstration and pledge of their allegiance to the United States.

FRENCH CAPTURE CRAONNE PLATEAU

Dominating Heights Taken and German Prisoners Total 29,000.

Paris.—An important French advance has been made against powerful opposition along the road from Soissons to Laon, over an extent of nearly four miles.

French troops have captured all the plateau in the neighborhood of Cerny and Craonne. The capture of Craonne, dominating the Aisne plateau and the Miette valley, taken in a surprise flow of great strength struck by the French commander, gives the French their entry point from which Laon may be outflanked.

The Germans have counter attacked along the entire French front and everywhere have been repulsed, according to the war office statement.

The fighting was especially severe in the region of the Chemin-des-Dames and east of Soissons. The statement says that since April 16 the French have taken 29,000 prisoners.

The Germans concentrated their efforts in attacks on the west of the French front in the region of Laffaux and in the eastern section from Braye to Craonne. But the French held the whip hand and beat off wave upon wave of the enemy's dwindling reserve, with terrible losses. More than that, the Frenchmen, after hours of stiff fighting, still had the energy to dash forward and maintained fresh positions in the regions naturally fortified.

BRITISH REGAIN LOST GROUND

London.—Part of the ground lost in the vicinity of Fresnoy, on the Arras battlefield, was regained by the British, it is announced officially.

With massed reserves and every available gun at his command, the crown prince of Bavaria is striving to halt the ceaseless British assaults on the Brocourt-Queant line, the last bulwark protecting the richest prize of the Germans in northern France—the coal fields of Lens.

The reckless expenditure of human life by the German commander has had at least a temporary reward in the recapture of Fresnoy, at the northern end of the line.

Its capture marks the first time in the present offensive that a German counter attack has succeeded in wresting an important position from the British.

RAILWAY MEN WILL HELP

Nine Regiments to Be Recruited to Construct Lines in France.

Washington.—Arrangements were made to recruit between 11,000 and 12,000 expert railway men for nine new volunteer regiments of army engineers to be sent to France "at the earliest possible moment" to repair and build railroad lines needed urgently in the big push against the German line. Volunteers will be received by the regular army and national guard recruiting agencies in New York, Chicago, St. Louis, Boston, Pittsburg, Detroit, Atlanta, San Francisco and Philadelphia.

Great American Merchant Fleet Plan.

Washington.—Congress will be asked to appropriate $1,000,000,000 for the building of the great American merchant fleet which is to overcome the submarine menace.

Estimates of the shipping board are that between five and six million tons of steel and wooden vessels will be constructed by the government during the next two years.

Joffre Pays Homage to Lincoln.

Springfield.—The French mission to the United States paid tribute to the memory of Lincoln at the emancipator's tomb here, and received an enthusiastic welcome to the capital of Illinois. Marshal Joffre silently placed a wreath upon the Lincoln sarcophagus.

Nation Is Facing Wheat Shortage.

Washington.—Official wheat crop estimates announced show that with the world facing a bread shortage the United States, unless it cuts its present consumption, probably will produce only enough wheat this year to supply its own population.

France Gets $100,000,000.

Washington.—France has received the $100,000,000 the United States decided to lend that country to meet her expenses in this country during May.

Britain, Too, Asks Troops for France.

Washington.—Great Britain formally joined France in expressing the hope that an American expeditionary force soon would take its place on the western front in Europe.

ANOTHER ANTI-BOND ISSUE EXPLODED

Opponents Maliciously Allege That Only a Few Counties Will Benefit.

In an attempt to array different counties against the $6,000,000 road bond bill, opponents of the measure are maliciously alleging that few counties will be able to avail themselves of the bond measure for the reason that the cost of preparing roads for hard-surfacing under the terms of the bond bill will exceed the actual cost of hard-surfacing and, therefore, be greater than those counties can afford.

Meeting this misrepresentation, the State Highway Commission at its recent meeting in Salem reiterated its previously announced policy on this subject. All that will be required of the counties under this policy will be the preparation of grade of the roads to be hard-surfaced. This means that a county will merely need to bring a road to grade and drain it before the state applies the hard-surfacing. The rock base is considered a part of the hard-surfacing and will be built by the state, assures the Highway Commission.

POLK COUNTY IS FOR GOOD ROADS

"The people of my county are just about ready to adopt the good roads slogan of the Clatsop County enthusiasts—'Make It Unanimous'—so far as the $6,000,000 road bond bill is concerned," reports C. L. Hawley, a farmer and stockgrower of McCoy, Polk County. "Of course, the voters of my home county are not a unit for the measure, but I find very little opposition to it.

"I think I am safe in saying that under the present system of road construction in this state and considering the amount of money we have expended on them, the roads of Polk County compare favorably with those of any other county in the state. But we are not satisfied. We want more and better roads and believe the proposed bond measure offers a practical plan for inaugurating an era of permanent road construction from which every section of the state will benefit without increasing direct taxes.

"When it comes to a choice between being in mud up to our knees or being in debt up to our knees my people are willing to assume something of a financial obligation if it will insure getting us out of the mire."

Harvey G. Starkweather, of Milwaukie, Clackamas County, for 23 years a member of the Grange and who assisted in drafting the rural credits legislation in this state, has the following to say in approval of the pending $6,000,000 road bond bill:

"I am not prepared to say whether this bill is as good as the one proposed by the State Grange committee or not, but the question now up to the Oregon voter is upon the bond issue, and speaking from the standpoint of a farmer and Granger since 1894 I feel that the state's interest will be best served by an affirmative vote on the measure next June, and I sincerely hope when the whole question has been carefully studied that the Grangers of the State, including the State Master, will be found on the side of progress, assisting to pull Oregon out of the mud.

"A good road is a thing that will last forever, when properly kept in repair," remarks an exchange. "The next generation has no right to be enjoying an improvement that their fathers sweat to pay cash for. The children of today can use the improved roads in going to school so why shouldn't they help pay for them. Under a bonding system the cost is distributed over a long period of years and is more just than a pay-as-you-go system which means a heavy tax up on the farmers of today if roads are really made good, or it means a continual tinkering with the roads and eventually getting no real improvement."

In an editorial indorsing the good roads bond bill, the Portland Journal said in part:

Shall we go on wasting tax money in the filling of mud holes or shall we concentrate our expenditures on the most important roads and when they are made efficient pass on to the next in importance and so on?

Shall we continue to spend forty or fifty million dollars during the next ten years without system, as at present, or shall we spend that amount in a business-like way on some definite plan?

We can not get away from the fact that we must spend for good roads wether we have them or not.

The state bonding act (good roads) does not mean that an indeptedness will be incurred. It means that the state will use its credit to build a hard surface road in different parts of the state which the revenue from automobile licenses will pay for in years to come. It does not mean increased taxation. It ought to mean a reduction of taxes for has not the old system of filling up mud holes been an extravagant and useless expenditure of the taxpayers' money.—Silverton Tribune.

Local Items

Mrs. Grillin from Ione, Mrs. Keiser's arrived here Wednesday.

Wallace Kellogg is keeping books at Fischer's Garage.

L. P. Harrington and A. R. Chase held an agricultural meeting here last evening.

Remember Lake's big special on Saturdays.

If you want some baby calves to rise, see Bonner, you can pay her harvest if you wish.

For sale—4 work mules, well broke, weight 1100, 3 to 3 years old. Claud Wilson, Bakeoven. p

Mr. Talcott has installed in the postoffice one of the Manning Kerosene Oil Gas-producing burners for Range or Heater. He will gladly demonstrate and give information in regard to same.

Signed, Harry F. Temple.

If the other fellow could not fix your watch bring it to Emmons the jeweler.

Big bargains in brake blocks and brake shoes at Lake's Store.

THE MARKETS.

Portland.

Wheat—Club $2.70; bluestem $2.75; red Russian, $2.68; forty-fold, $2.72.

Barley—No. 1 Feed, $52.50 per ton.

Hay—Timothy, $30 per ton; alfalfa, $25.

Butter—Creamery, 33c.

Eggs—Ranch—32c.

Wool—Eastern Oregon, 50c; valley, 50c.

Mohair—50c per lb.

Seattle.

Wheat—Bluestem $2.75; club $2.71; forty-fold, $2.71; red Russian, $2.69; fife, $2.74; turkey red, $2.76.

Barley—$54 per ton.

Butter—Creamery, 39c.

Eggs—37c.

Delegates Sustain Government.

Petrograd, via London.—The council of workmen's and soldiers' delegates has passed a vote of confidence in the government by a majority of 35. The number of delegates voting was 2,000.

Three-Year War is Expected.

Cleveland.—Newton D. Baker, secretary of war, who was here on personal business, indicated that the war department is making preparations for a three-year war at least.

May Wheat Reaches $3.

Chicago.—May wheat sold at $3 a bushel, the highest price on record. It was an advance of 17 cents. The close was at $2.97.

Irish Freedom is Urged.

Washington.—A cablegram urging a settlement of the Irish problem was sent to Premier Lloyd George by 200 representatives in congress, headed by Speaker Champ Clark.

Two Oregon Companies Quarantined.

Portland.—Companies A and I, of the Third Oregon Infantry, are quarantined on account of two well-defined cases of spinal meningitis that have developed.