

COQUILLE, COOS COUNTY, OREGON, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 12, 1940.

PAGE NINE



Washington, D. C., Dec. 11—Congress is getting into an ugly mood about strikes which are interrupting the national defense program. On the floor of congress there has been much said—and critical—regarding the troubles in the lumber industry of Washington and Oregon. The Pacific northwest strikers, irrespective of the merit of their cause, have increased the impatience of the lawmakers and already several congressmen have sponsored measures which are really drastic. At the moment there is a special committee studying all laws of the first world war and those enacted since which deal with labor, the purpose being to ascertain whether there are existing laws to meet the strike situation without enacting new ones.

Congress has been informed that 12,000 men went on strike in the lumber industry and that three times that number of men are in uniform and living in tents at Pacific coast camps waiting to be housed in cantonments. The strike is preventing completion of the barracks, compelling soldiers to live under canvas in winter. War department is provoked at the lumber strike, too, because the department has given its solemn pledge that conscripts will not be sent to camp until camps are built and comfortable. Stopping construction is delaying the plans for military training of thousands of conscripts.

With the shutting off of materials, naturally the hundreds of carpenters employed in building the cantonments were idle. Various proposals have been submitted to congress to curb or prevent the strike among lumbermen as it retards national defense. The lumber industry strike is only one of many; there are rumors of pending disturbances in the shipyards on Puget sound and on the Atlantic coast; in the automotive plants manufacturing tanks and airplane engines. Shortage of supplies, for instance, resulted in 1,800 men being laid off at the airplane plant in Seattle, where great flying fortresses, bombers, are being built.

All delay is not caused by labor, however. One reason for slowness in production is the tendency of a contractor to do all the work in his own establishment. National Defense Advisory commission is now urging (later will insist) that sub-contractors be given part of the job: By spreading the work of procurement, using the facilities of small factories, plywood establishments, etc., parts can be sub-contracted and the entire project speeded up. In a few months the public will learn more about this method of expediting production.

When the Oregon and Washington legislatures assemble next month there will be introduced bills imposing severe penalties for conviction of sabotage. The measure has been written by the department of justice and will be submitted to the governors, who are expected to have the proposed legislation sponsored by one or more lawmakers. It is part of a nation-wide plan for co-ordination of federal and state governments in dealing with subversive activities. Another act will require licensing of persons who wish to use explosives. This would apply to miners, or farmers using dynamite to blast stumps in clearing land.

More than 40 different government bureaus, state and local agencies are co-operating to determine methods for developing the 1,200,000 acres to be irrigated by the Grand Coulee reclamation project. In January the new congress will be asked to make an appropriation for the start on the reclamation end of the gigantic project, as practically every cent to date for Grand Coulee has gone into the project.

Army officers are provoked because Rep. Knute Hill, Washington, prematurely announced that a bomber base, originally intended for Yakima, was to be located at Pendleton. Oregon's Congressman Pierce wants a committee appointed to investigate election polls. He has written Dr. Gallup of his desire and Gallup has

replied that his poll on Oregon was wrong only one-tenth of one percent.

Explanation of why nothing is being done to prevent British Columbia from dumping apples on the American market to the detriment of orchardists of Oregon and Washington, is to enable Canada to acquire dollar exchange with which to purchase war munitions. Government wants instructors, air corps technical school, salaries \$1620 to \$2600 a year; aeronautical engineering aids, salary \$1620 to \$2600; aeronautical engineering draftsmen, \$1620 to \$2600. For information apply to any first- or second-class postoffice.

## Oregon Grown Cranberries

(By Melvin C. Moore)

A large share of the cranberries being served in Oregon homes this holiday season will not come from far away Cape Cod, but more than likely from one of Oregon's own industries situated right here in the Pacific coast counties of Coos and Clatsop.

Oregon ranks fifth and Washington fourth in the production of cranberries in the United States.

Last year, Oregon cranberry growers supplied the markets with 23,200 twenty five pound boxes of cranberries worth \$2.70 per box, giving a total of \$62,600 for this Oregon industry.

These cranberries are by no means an inferior grade, but rank along with the best eastern berries and will average slightly larger in size.

Oregon's present acreage totals about 150 acres for this highly specialized and intensive type of fruit farming, which costs the grower from \$1,300 to \$1,700 per acre just to bring into bearing and which may result in high profits or heavy losses depending upon the management. The majority of cranberry bogs are limited in size to only a few acres.

Oregon cranberries are grown on very acid peat soils. They must be near a good deposit of sand and an available water supply. These factors, along with a humid coastal climate, make certain sections of Clatsop and Coos counties well adapted to raising cranberries.

Cranberries were first cultivated in Oregon by Charles McFarlin, a Cape Cod cranberry grower who came to Coos county where he set out vines he had brought from Massachusetts in 1885. One of the main varieties now grown on the coast, which he developed now bears his name.

To prepare the soil for planting, the ground is first cleared of the dense brush, stumps and trees. Then the field is carefully leveled so that when flooded, water will stand at a fairly uniform level. Next, it is provided with a suitable drainage system consisting usually of deep drain ditches to remove excess water. A provision is made to flood the land to prevent late frost injury and to control insect pests.

The ground is made ready for planting the young cuttings by "stripping" or "scalping" away the upper layer of soil to remove roots and plants. Then, after it is graded, the land is covered with a layer of coarse sand 2 to 4 inches deep to keep down weeds, help check frost injury, as well as control certain insects.

Unlike the grading of apples which requires very careful handling to prevent bruising, cranberries are actually sent over a separator machine which causes berries to come through a hopper and bounce off inclined boards. The firm berries, being more elastic, bounce higher into a compartment to be further graded, while the soft berries that will not bounce go out as culls.

The majority of the Oregon and Washington cranberries are sold on local markets west of the Rocky Mountains ranging from Canada to Mexico. The consumer's next cranberry purchase will very likely be from an Oregon-packed box.

Why not buy that new piano for the family gift. Let Nortons put a new Baldwin Spinnet type piano in your home as a real surprise for the whole family.

## To Plan Agricultural Conservation 1941 Program

Coos county farmers will meet throughout the county during the week of December 16 to 21, to elect the community committeemen who with the county committee will administer the Agricultural Conservation program in the county during the coming year.

Following is a schedule of meetings and meeting places in the respective communities released by George H. Jenkins, county agricultural agent, and secretary of the Coos County Agricultural Conservation program. All meetings will start at 1:30 p. m.

Monday, December 16, North Bend Community, North Bayside Grange hall; Tuesday, December 17, Marshfield community, Coos River School; Thursday, December 19, Coquille community, circuit court room, Coquille; Friday, December 20, Myrtle Point community at the Smith-Hughes building in the Myrtle Point high school, and Saturday, December 21, Bandon community, city hall.

In addition to electing committeemen, the main features of the 1941 program as it effects the county will be explained and orders for phosphate fertilizer will be taken.

All owners and operators of farms or trade tracts of land, regardless of size in Coos county who expect to participate in the 1941 program are eligible to take part in this election of committeemen in the community in which his farm is located, and are urged to attend the meeting for that community as scheduled.

The Agricultural Conservation program, which is entirely voluntary, was participated in by approximately 1,100 operators during 1940, during which time about 750 obtained as a soil building material 444 tons of treble superphosphate and around 300 applied approximately 1,500 tons of agricultural lime. Other practices used extensively under the program included seeding of perennial grasses and legumes and deferred grazing, records in the county office disclosed.

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## Parkersburg News

The Christmas meeting of the Parkersburg club will be held at the playshed this year. As usual there will be a Christmas tree and the exchange of gifts. Each person attending is asked to bring some inexpensive gift, which in turn will be received by some one present. Every one is cordially invited to this meeting by the club members. Potluck luncheon.

The school will appreciate any pieces of cellophane, you may have about the house, in preparing their Christmas party. Mrs. Eugene Hamblock, chairman of the committee in charge of the Christmas box to be sent to the Salvation Army in Marshfield, asks that all donations be brought to the club meeting Dec. 18, or sent to her not later than that date.

A birthday shower honoring Miss Vivian Morris, was given at the playshed Sunday afternoon. The bride elect received many beautiful and useful things for her new home. Following the unwrapping of the gifts, the guests were served with a delicious tray lunch. Those attending were Mesdames: Rex Roth, Ted Minor, Chris Danielson, Benton Minor, Harry Heffley, John Haga, Edgar Gillespie, Wava Haga, Jack Frazier, Fred Stora, D. P. Jenkins, Joe Haga, Warran Albertson, J. J. Morris, Willis Van Leuven, Charlie Leach and the Misses Vivian Morris, June Danielson and Julia Hamblock. Those unable to attend but sending gifts were

Mesdames Sneed, J. Haga, A. Albertson, J. Devereux, La Branch, I. Young, F. Van Leuven, J. Albertson and Miss Iris Sulin.

The neighborhood was sadly shocked by the sudden death of Claude Mullen, and will miss a good friend and neighbor. Sympathy is extended to the family.

Frank Van Leuven was laid up several days last week with a wrenched back, but is able to be out again.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles H. Fellows of Fairview are the proud parents of a new baby girl born Dec. 7. It was not learned what the young lady had been named. Mr. and Mrs. Fellows formerly lived on Bear Creek and have many relatives and friends here who extend their congratulations.

Miss Helen Haga is quite ill with a bad cold.

Keys made for all locks. Stevens Case Hardware, Coquille, Ore. tf

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