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## LEGISLATURE BEGINS SESSION AT SALEM

**Ben Selling Wins Speakership Contest in House Over Allen Eaton.**

Salem.—Everything was in readiness for the convening of the Twenty-eighth General Assembly of Oregon Monday morning. Secretary of State Oloott, as custodian of the capitol, had the senate and house chambers and committee rooms renovated and put in ship-shape. The name of each member, his district and county, appears on each desk, the drawers of which were bulging with stationery and other paraphernalia which Oregon furnishes her lawmakers. Both the senate and the house convened at 10 o'clock.

Ben Selling, of Multnomah county, won the speakership fight in the house of representatives. He defeated Allen S. Eaton, of Lane county, by a vote of 37 to 22. On motion of Eaton, after the result was announced, the election of Selling was made unanimous by viva voce vote.

Will G. Hare, of Hillsboro, placed the name of Selling before the house. When Temporary Speaker S. B. Huston recognized him, Hare declared the demand of the state for a business administration forbade any bombastic presentations, but he admitted that the legislature has been in disrepute, and that the time has come for the representatives of the people to win back their lost respect.

The nomination of Eaton was presented by Dana H. Allen, of Marion county. He declared Eaton to be the dean of the present session, having been returned by his constituents five times. "If a man's worth is judged by his enemies," he said, "Mr. Eaton is a great man indeed."

No Contest in Senate.  
It required barely eight minutes for the senate to perfect a temporary organization and take a recess to allow time for the committee on credentials to prepare a report.

The senate was called to order by Senator W. D. Wood of Washington county, the dean of the senate, and the temporary organization was completed, the necessary committees appointed and a recess taken.

There was no contest in the senate, and only one name was placed in nomination, yet Senator Dimick and Senator Kellaher refused to vote for Thompson and cast their ballots for Senator Wood of Washington county. Senator Thompson also cast his complimentary vote for Wood.

Deviating from the usual procedure, the two democratic senators, Garland of Linn and Strayer of Baker, joined in on the organization and did not place one of themselves in nomination for the presidency.

Dr. Withycombe Takes Office.  
Dr. James Withycombe was inaugurated Tuesday, taking the oath at a joint session of the two houses. The oath was administered by Chief Justice Moore.

The ceremonies were simple. A brass band played, but no street parade marred the accustomed decorum of Salem's thoroughfares.

Neither was there an inaugural ball. The incoming governor vetoed that detail. It was his first use of that prerogative.

Members of the legislature had planned on having the inauguration Monday, so all the preliminaries would be out of the way and the session could get down to actual business early Tuesday. But they did not care to upset the arrangements that already had been made.

Governor West did not read his message in person. Printed copies were placed on the desks of members. Immediately after his inauguration Governor Withycombe read his message.

Of prospective legislation chief interest centered in a proposed executive law to make effective the prohibition act passed by the people at the last election. A draft recommended by the committee of one hundred, which directed the recent prohibition campaign, prohibits the sale of liquor by drugstores and restaurants, as well as saloons. Hotel men of Portland announced that they would try to get

this modified to permit the serving of liquor with meals in large hotels.

**Chapin Gets Pardon From Governor.**  
Salem.—W. H. Chapin, convicted of larceny by bailee in Portland for appropriation to his own use of \$3500 belonging to Marion Annie Grace, was given a full pardon by Governor West, who executed the instrument upon receiving a bond, signed by Chapin's friends, guaranteeing that he would make restitution.

**Jury Finds Roy Farnum is Guilty.**  
Roseburg.—Roy Farnum was convicted of a statutory crime after five hours' deliberation. This is the third trial on the charge. Farnum still has a murder charge to face, in which he is accused of killing and burning the body of Edna Morgan, a 15-year-old girl, near Glendale two weeks ago.

## LILLE IS EVACUATED BY GERMAN TROOPS

**In Champagne and Soissons Regions Allies Repulse Assaults.**

London.—A dispatch to the Daily Express from Boulogne asserts that confirmation has been obtained of the rumors that the Germans have evacuated Lille and that the city is now virtually in the possession of the British.

Paris.—The following official communication was issued by the war office:

"In the Champagne region two counter attacks by the Germans—one to the north of Perthes, the other to the north of Beaunejour—were repelled. In the Argonne two minor attacks by the enemy have failed—at Fontaine Madame and at St. Hubert. There was a lively fusillade in the direction of Hill 263, west of Bourouilles and on Lerusseau des Nourissons, but no attacks.

"From the sea to the Oise there have been artillery duels. On the Aisne, in the region of Soissons, the enemy, in spite of many attacks, has not been able to recapture the trenches which he had lost.

"In the country from Rheims to the Argonne our artillery has shelled the German trenches effectively at several points, driving away bodies of sappers."

## FRENCH WIN AT SOISSONS

But German Gains Claimed in the Argonne; Perthes Trenches Taken.

Berlin, by wireless to London.—The war office admitted that the allies had gained a foothold in the German trenches north of Soissons, but declared that they were unable to make further progress, and that the battle continued.

In the Argonne it was said the Germans were the ones who had gained. At Perthes, it was declared, they had recaptured trenches recently lost to the French.

Galle reports of an action along a

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line extending southward from the Newport and Ypres regions were confirmed, though it was stated that the engagement was confined to the artillery.

A French assault at La Moisselle, northeast of Albert, was reported repulsed with heavy losses.

In the eastern war zone it was said there had been little change in the situation, though the Germans were slowly gaining on the Vistula.

## Sea Fight Not Credited.

Rio de Janeiro.—The minister of marine, Admiral Alencar, said that the rumor of a naval combat off Rio Grande del Norte, probably originated in the departure of the invincible from Pernambuco, which coincided with the passing of the Argentine dreadnought Rivadavia, three miles off shore.

Naval officers discredited the rumor of the battle.

## ALLIES MENACE DUAL MONARCHY

London.—The present position of Austria-Hungary seems most critical. Threatened from the east and from the south, and with Roumania preparing to cast her lot with the allies, the war is being brought to her front door. Russians are sweeping through the Austrian province of Bukovina, according to Petrograd, and a Geneva report says an Austrian army has been trapped in Galicia by the Czar's forces. Serbia, with her army more or less rehabilitated, is described here as attacking the dual monarchy from the south with renewed vigor.

On the other hand, German armies are again striking at Warsaw from two directions. Along the Vistula to the west of the Polish capital heavy fighting has been resumed, and at the same time a new attack has been launched from the north. The Petrograd war office describes the fighting as more and more desperate, and admits that the Germans made advances at many points, but says they were subsequently driven back again.

## Russians in Transylvania.

Paris.—"The Russians have entered Transylvania," telegraphs the Petrograd correspondent of the Matin.

"The Austrians have hastily evacuated the whole of Bukovina," he adds, "leaving open new roads for the Russian troops in the Hungarian provinces."

## State Commissions May Fine Roads.

Washington.—The right of state railroad commissions to fine railroads which violate intrastate orders was sustained by the United States supreme court. The decision affirmed a fine of \$1000 imposed upon the Southern railroad for violating a ruling handed down by the Georgia state railroad commission.

## AMERICA RIGHT IS BRITISH REPLY

**Detention Will Not Stop, But Redress Promised if Fleet Exceeds Law.**

Washington.—Great Britain's preliminary reply to the note from the United States government, requesting improvement in the treatment of American commerce by the British fleet, was made public here and in London by mutual agreement between the state department and the British foreign office.

Briefly, the British note, while conceding the principles of the American government's contentions, points out difficulties in actual practice, refers to alleged fraudulent practices by shippers and cites statistics showing an increase, rather than decrease, in certain neutral commerce, in support of Great Britain's suspicions that Germany and Austria have been indirectly obtaining contraband through neutral countries. The note promises, however that Great Britain "will make redress whenever the action of the British fleet may unintentionally exceed" the limits of international law.

Britain's Answer Fails to Satisfy.  
The reply, while gratifying in the concessions it makes, has in many respects failed to satisfy the United States government.

Officials confidently hope that the second and complete answer from England will give the specific information requested by the United States and clear up the uncertainties which, according to the Washington government, surrounds the commerce of neutrals.

Administration officials were unwilling to discuss the note to any extent, declaring that it was better to judge the British attitude when its complete reply was in hand. General disappointment was evident in many quarters, however, for while the note conceded that the principles expressed by the United States were correct, the statistics, which it cited, were regarded as an adroit effort to evade the issue.

The general complaint of the United

States is that Great Britain, while promising redress and while conceding the principles of international law, does not square the practice of its fleet with the utterances of its foreign office.

## Neutrals Give Aid to United States.

While no formal arrangement has been made as yet for common action by all neutral countries in respect to contraband and shipping during maritime warfare, it became known that the United States had received the sympathetic support of practically all neutral nations in its negotiations with Great Britain.

Recognizing the interest manifested by the neutral governments in the initiative taken by the United States, copies of the British reply to the American note were ordered delivered by Secretary Bryan to all their diplomatic representatives in Washington. When the first note was sent there were many formal requests for copies and it was regarded as significant that the British note has been sent to them voluntarily.

## Food Inquiry Made in Congress.

A resolution calling on the secretary of agriculture for information as to the production, consumption and exportation of cereals, beef, pork and other food products, and for details as to the prices of wheat, was introduced by Representative Farr, of Pennsylvania. Mr. Farr explained that he wished to ascertain whether there was any danger of a food shortage in the United States because of the enormous increase in exportation since the outbreak of the European war.

## National Bureau to Help Jobless.

A national employment bureau reaching into every section of the United States will be put in operation by the department of labor this week.

The general plan of the employment bureau was outlined by Mr. Caminetti as follows:

"Notices will be posted in all post-offices announcing that applications for work or workers will be received by the postmaster, who will be supplied with forms to be filled out and forwarded to the department of labor agent in charge of the zone in which the office is situated.

"Applicants will then be informed of the place where they can obtain work of the kind they seek and at the nearest point to them the postal service acting as the distributing and collection agency for applications and replies throughout the transactions."

## Idaho House Probes.

Boise.—The house of representatives of the Thirteenth Idaho legislature decided to join the special grand jury and the corps of expert accountants and conduct an investigation into the charges against state officials. Three independent bodies are now probing into the affairs of state officers.

## Borneo's Queer Animals.

There is no country in the world more inviting to the naturalist than Borneo, where are found the flying squirrels, flying foxes, flying lizards, flying frogs, and the natives report flying snakes. Among the most noted birds is the little swift, Collocalia nidifica. Their nests are eaten by the Chinese and are regarded as a great luxury. These birds build their nests in limestone caves of a glutinous saliva which they produce from their glands. No sticks or any foreign substances are used. The collection of these nests is an important industry with the natives, though they must pay a tax on all they take to market. They are served at the great feasts of the Chinese, especially at weddings.

## How a Snake Sheds Its Skin.

The human skin is shed in such minute pieces that it ordinarily comes away unnoticed. But the skin of a snake comes away whole two or three times a year and is drawn off inside out from the head backward as the creature creeps through some bush, to which it is left attached. Before it is shed the skin loses its color, and the eyes become dim, because their outer skin is cast with the rest. The snake emerges very brightly colored from its old skin, and its markings are then most distinct.

## Peculiar Musical Instrument.

A peculiar musical instrument is used by the Moros. It consists of a hoop of bamboo, upon which are hung by strings a number of thin pieces of mother-of-pearl. When struck with a small reed these give forth a sweet, tinkling sound, a combination of which sounds is developed into a weird, monotonous fantasy, very pleasant to the ear for a short time.

## John Quincy Adams.

John Quincy Adams at the age of fourteen was secretary to Mr. Dana, then minister to the Russian court; at twenty-seven he was minister to Holland, at thirty he was minister to Prussia, at forty-two he was minister to Russia, at forty-eight he was minister to England, at fifty he was secretary of state and president at fifty-seven.

## IN GOOD TIMES AND BAD

Notwithstanding occasional periods of depression in financial matters, the business of this bank has shown a steady and consistent increase throughout the twenty-five years of its existence. Following are given the relative deposits on January 1st of the last three years:

|                      |              |
|----------------------|--------------|
| January 1, 1913..... | \$296,163.18 |
| January 1, 1914..... | 330,158.10   |
| January 1, 1915..... | 348,543.96   |

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