

# OREGON STATE NEWS OF GENERAL INTEREST

## Brief Resume of Happenings of the Week Collected for Our Readers.

The main mill of the Coos Bay Lumber company announced that operations in the main mill would be on a five-day schedule.

Fall-sown wheat is in good condition generally in Oregon, but weather conditions have prevented much seeding of spring grain.

McKenzie Pass is now buried under from seven to 12 feet of snow for a distance of 23 miles over the summit, according to recent reports.

Fire losses in Oregon, exclusive of Portland, during March, aggregated \$188,669, according to a report prepared by the state fire marshal.

The new state highway steel bridge over the John Day river at the Old Oregon Trail highway crossing near The Dalles has been opened to traffic.

A report of the three Baker banks shows resources amounting to \$4,876,741.87 and deposits of \$3,876,754.82, a gain of \$87,462.93 in less than three months.

The Clatskanie telephone company has asked the public service commission for permission to increase its rates in the city of Clatskanie, effective May 1.

Since the beginning of the system in 1920 to the present date, the Yamhill county court has spent a total of \$436,960.64 on the various market roads in that county.

Sprague river, small lumbering community 40 miles east of Klamath Falls, was in a fever of excitement as the result of discovery of placer deposits of gold and platinum.

Struck in the face by a golf club in the hands of a boy she was teaching the rudiments of the game, Mrs. Helen Copeland Kilgore, Culver, Jefferson county teacher, lost her left eye.

A heavy hail storm in Clackamas county last week slightly damaged the cherry and peach crop, but the apple blossoms, which are not far enough advanced, were not injured.

The directors of the Jackson County Fair association have set the dates of the fair earlier this year, August 31 and September 1 to 3, in hopes of getting better weather than in the past.

Louis Weber, who has a ranch at Long Prairie in Tillamook county, has a cow that gave birth last week to a calf with two bodies and eight legs but only one head. It lived only a short time.

At a recent meeting of the Lincoln county court contracts were awarded to Curry & Hamar of Toledo for the construction of bridges across Crab, Buck and Cascade creeks in the south end of the county.

Schools at Richland and Newbridge, in Baker county, which were closed for some time because of an epidemic of scarlet fever, have been reopened. All public meetings were called off during the epidemic.

Mr. and Mrs. P. P. Underwood celebrated their 54th wedding anniversary last Wednesday at their home in Dufur. They came to Wasco county in 1877 and settled at Dufur, where they took up a homestead.

Clatsop county will celebrate the annual Scotch Broom festival near Astoria on May 24 this year, at that time paying tribute to the shrub which banks the Clatsop plains region with gold each spring.

While oiling a chain on a caterpillar at Arlington, Bert Kane, the driver, caught his clothes in the machinery. His clothing was completely torn from his body, one arm broken in three places and his chest crushed in.

Governor Patterson announced the selection of J. K. Weatherford of Albany, H. J. Elliott of Perrydale, Polk county, and Judge J. Fred Yates of Corvallis, as members of the board of regents of Oregon Agricultural college.

Veda Miller, 4-year-old daughter of Leslie Miller of Siletz, was seriously burned last Sunday when sparks from a burned-off fern area flew some 15 feet through the air, catching in the child's clothing and enveloping her in flames.

A check for \$1,049,840.50, Lane county's share in the Oregon & California land grant tax refund, was received recently by Grace Schiska, county treasurer. The check was the largest ever to be presented at a Lane county bank.

Patrons of the Southern Pacific company at Seaside and Crabtree have filed with the public service commission a protest against the proposed action of the railroad corporation in eliminating daily round trip service on the Shelburn branch.

Mrs. G. T. Gerlinger of Dallas, C. C. Colt of Portland and William McKinney of Baker were reappointed by Governor Patterson as regents of the University of Oregon. They will serve for terms of 12 years. Their present terms expire April 18.

Fred Floeter, Jr., 14, of St. Helens, was shot fatally while on a hunting expedition with three other boys. The shooting took place about a mile from St. Helens in a wooded section where the boys had gone, with a .30-.30 rifle, to hunt cougar.

Representatives of the Marion and Yamhill courts held a conference in Salem recently and decided to proceed with the remodeling of the Newberg bridge during the present year. The cost was estimated at \$30,000, which will be borne equally by the two counties.

Claude V. Davis, 46, is dead of internal injuries suffered last Thursday when his team of horses ran away near Roseburg. Mr. Davis had been loading wood on a steep hillside when one of the reins broke, frightening the horses. They bolted, throwing him from the wagon, which passed over his body.

For the purpose of ascertaining the sentiment of the people toward the proposal to consolidate Oregon City, West Linn, Gladstone, Parkplace, Canemah and Clackamas Heights into a single municipality, there is a possibility of a trial ballot being taken by mail in the several communities concerned.

Garland Ganger, 10, lies in a Pendleton hospital with his left hand practically blown off and his right eye injured to such an extent that he may lose the sight, following the explosion of a dynamite cap, ten miles west of Pendleton. His hand was blown off with the exception of the little finger.

Coos county's share in the recent disposition of land grant moneys made by the government to Oregon and California under the Stanfield act of 1925 is \$503,706.98, it was announced by the county treasurer. A check for that amount has been received and the money is being assigned to the various county funds.

Portland has grown from a population of 347,781 to 354,000 in the past year, according to the estimate accompanying the new issue of the R. L. Polk & Co. city directory, just off the press. This, say the publishers, is a conservative estimate, despite the fact that the 1920 federal census gave Portland only 258,288 people.

Miners, assayers and chemists of central Oregon who have heard much in recent weeks about the "mystery metal" of the Grants Pass country, watched this white metal chill into large buttons when it was melted from rocks brought to Bend from the Golden Cross mine of Gold Hill, owned principally by Bend residents.

The Hawley Pulp & Paper Mill company will enlarge its plant at Oregon City to a new capacity of 200 tons of paper a day. The present capacity is 120 tons a day. Ground will be broken May 1 on the project and it will be completed January 1, 1925, at a cost of \$1,500,000, according to announcement made recently by Willard P. Hawley Sr. and his son.

A few days ago a large oil barge which was tied up at the oil station of the Pacific Spruce corporation at Toledo became fouled during the night and the following low tides stranded her, causing her to tip sideways and spill into the bay some 500 barrels of black oil, causing a loss of approximately \$1000. Some fear is expressed that it may result in the loss of clam beds along the shore.

Marriage in Oregon is losing ground in the contest with divorce, a report by the department of commerce, Washington, D. C., authorized for publication, shows. In 1924 there were 7085 marriages and 3086 divorces in the state, according to figures which the government has assembled from state and federal bureaus. Marriages increased 1.4 per cent in 1924 over 1923 and divorces 6.9 per cent.

A telegram rescinding the order to transfer the Southern Pacific passenger terminal from Roseburg to Eugene was received in Roseburg last week from William Sproule, president of the Southern Pacific lines. The order checked the preparations of passenger trainmen who were making plans to remove to Eugene immediately following the putting in operation of the new schedule, effective on April 17.

Members of the state highway commission held a meeting at Falls City recently and considered the boundaries for the proposed Falls-City-Valestz highway improvement district organized recently under an act of the 1925 legislature. The district proposes to construct a cutoff highway to the coast. The road would be 25 miles in length and would reduce materially the distance between Willamette valley points and Taft.

Bonds of the state of Oregon and its numerous subdivisions now outstanding total the stupendous sum of \$202,398,359.51, according to a report compiled by State Treasurer T. B. Kay. In addition to the bonds there are county, school district, city and other warrants outstanding aggregating \$10,173,704.46, making a total debt of \$212,572,063.97. As an offset to this debt, there are assets, including sinking funds, amounting to \$99,886,911.01, reducing the net debt to \$112,685,062.96.

## COMMANDER BYRD



Commander Byrd, hero of the flight over the North Pole, who was injured when the trans-Atlantic airplane, the America, turned over in landing.

## TO CLEAR THE AIR WITH BIG STICK

Washington, D. C.—The radio commission has decided to use the "big stick," if necessary, to enforce broadcasting stations into line on wave lengths, in order to accommodate existing broadcasters.

Chairman Bullard gave notice that all of the approximately 750 stations now operating could be accommodated under the "big stick" program, but he expressed some doubt as to the possibility of issuing licenses for the 300 pending applications.

The saturation point in broadcasting stations has been reached on the Atlantic and Pacific coast, Admiral Bullard declared, and future expansion in the number of stations must be restricted to the interior. New licenses for these points may be allowed, he added.

"We can and will take care of existing stations. They will follow our program," he said, after he had called at the White House to report to President Coolidge that he was on the job. "We may have to use the big stick to whip some of these stations into line, but they have got to get there."

## SHORT NEWS NUGGETS

Daston Leroux, famous author of detective stories, died at Nice, France. Joseph Walker, 68, president of the Chicago & Alton railroad, died at his home in New York.

A 3-cent gasoline tax was accepted by the Iowa house of representatives by a vote of 61 to 35.

William Sanborn, air mail pilot for the Varney lines to the Northwest, was found dead in his fallen plane near King Hill, Idaho. Appropriation of \$500,000 to purchase a building in Washington to house the Canadian legation, was voted by the Canadian house of commons.

## Arrest of Canadian Brings Protest.

Vancouver, B. C.—The arrest of Frank Parsons, representative of the Montreal Bonding company, in San Francisco, on a charge of being implicated in a million dollar liquor deal intended to defraud the United States in connection with the Volstead act, has caused much indignation in this city. Mr. Parsons is a prominent financial man and at no time, it was said, has he been associated with the liquor export companies, his firm being only a bonding concern.

## Court Rules Against Commission.

Washington, D. C.—The supreme court has ruled against the federal trade commission in its effort to obtain financial reports of corporations in conducting "high cost of living" investigations ordered by congress. The court's opinion was given in the commission's appeal from District of Columbia courts in the Claire Furnace company case, which has been pending since March 21, 1923. The decision was based on technical grounds.

## Chiang Sets Up New Rule.

Shanghai, China.—Formation of a government at Nanking by General Chiang Kai-Shek was reported. No details were given in the meager dispatches received, but it is understood that Canton, Shanghai and Nanking men figure largely in its composition.

## Girl Jumps Over 17 Feet.

Eureka, Cal.—Miss Elta Cartwright, Humboldt State Teachers' college student, jumped 17 feet 4 inches in the broad jump, taking that event in a field meet against the men students of the college and bettering the national mark for women by four inches.

## THOUSANDS DRIVEN OUT BY HIGH WATER

### Seven States Bordering on the Lower Mississippi River Suffer.

St. Louis.—Twenty-five thousand flood refugees in seven states, driven from their homes by the raging waters of the Mississippi and other streams below here, are receiving shelter under tents, according to figures compiled by the American Red Cross of this city.

Of this number approximately 15,000 are in Illinois, Missouri and Arkansas and about 10,000 in Kentucky, Tennessee, Mississippi and Louisiana. Increasing the burden on the weakened levees, the Missouri river began to swell and will keep the Father of Waters on the rise for another day or two.

At points where breaks have occurred in levees in Missouri, Illinois and Arkansas the streams will spread and add new acreage to the wide areas already inundated.

The situation still is alarming below here in Missouri and Arkansas, particularly where levees have given away. Red Cross headquarters for the southwestern district here has received many appeals for help and hundreds of tents for the homeless have been sent stricken areas.

The United States army is supplying the tents and the Red Cross is handling their distribution, the railroads carrying them free of charge.

The walls, which hold back the Mississippi, have crumbled under the flood pressure in several places, inundating thousands of acres of land and many towns. On the amount of water flowing through these breaks will depend the seriousness of the situation at other points.

Collapse of the river wall at East Prairie, Mississippi county, Missouri, flooded the town with four feet of water. Three hundred families were driven from their homes.

## AMERICAN FLIERS BREAK AIR RECORD

Mineola, N. Y.—Bert Acosta and Clarence D. Chamberlin, civilian aviators, landed after setting a new record for endurance flying by remaining in the air for 51 hours 12 minutes.

The record-breaking performance eclipsed by six hours the previous world's record of 45 hours 11 minutes and 59 seconds.

By the time of the landing the crowd had swelled to thousands and was held in check by ropes stretched along the runway and by police reserves called out when the throng became unmanageable.

Seven gallons of gasoline an hour were used in the flight. The last 10 gallons lasted for 2 hours and 12 minutes, and observers on the field felt sure that the fliers had remained in the air until the tank was absolutely dry.

As soon as the plane landed the cheering crowd broke through police lines and swarmed about the record-breaking plane and the two aviators.

## COMMANDER BYRD INJURED

Three Companions in Spill at End of Test Flight.

Hasbrouck Heights, N. J.—Commander Richard E. Byrd and Lieutenant Floyd Bennett, heroes of last year's flight over the north pole, and Lieutenant G. O. Noville, mechanic, were injured at the Teterboro airport when the trans-Atlantic airplane, the America, turned over in landing. Anthony Pokker, Dutch airplane designer, the fourth man in the plane, was not injured.

At the Hackensack hospital, where the men were taken, it was announced that Bennett and Noville were severely injured, and Byrd only slightly. Bennett suffered a broken leg, broken arm, several broken ribs and a broken collar bone.

Noville had a possible fracture of the pelvis and severe internal injuries. His condition was serious. Byrd had a broken left wrist.

## Tornado Toll Mounts to Sixty-One.

Rock Springs, Texas.—Sixty-one dead was Rock Springs' toll from the devastating tornado which leveled the town. Some of the approximately 170 injured persons taken to San Antonio hospitals were still in critical condition and it is feared deaths from injuries will increase the toll. Little hope is held out for the recovery of 12. Damage was estimated at \$500,000.

## Steel Corporation to Increase Stock.

Hoboken, N. J.—Stockholders of the United States Steel corporation, at the annual meeting of the corporation here, approved the proposed increase in capitalization by voting to issue 2,033,210 shares of new common stock, to be distributed as a 40 per cent dividend to present shareholders.

## SAM PICKARD



Sam Pickard, chief of the radio service of the Department of Agriculture, who has been named acting secretary of the new radio commission.

## NEW FARMERS' BILL WILL BE PREPARED

Washington, D. C.—After a conference with President Coolidge at the White House, Senator Fess, republican, Ohio, declared negotiations would be conducted during the summer between representatives of agricultural interests from all parts of the country in the hope of drafting a farm relief bill which the administration could support.

The president would never approve a measure containing the equalization fee to be levied on basic crops to handle the surplus, Mr. Fess said. Such a fee was provided in the McNary-Haugen bill, which Mr. Coolidge vetoed during the last congress.

Senator Fess predicted that the solution of the farm problem would be a bill based on low rate government loans to co-operate organizations, which would be empowered to buy the surplus crops and hold them for profitable prices to the producer.

He expressed the hope that Chairman McNary of the senate agriculture committee would continue to take the leadership in farm legislation and that he would agree to manage a measure that called for neither an equalization fee nor a subsidy. Mr. McNary recently announced that he would draft a bill which he hoped Mr. Coolidge could support.

## COAST GETS NAVY JOBS

Bremerton and Mare Island Yards to Build One Cruiser Each.

Washington, D. C.—The Mare Island, Cal., and the Bremerton, Wash., navy yards will each build one of the six 10,000-ton cruisers for which bids were recently opened at the navy department.

The remaining four cruisers will be built, one by the Bethlehem Shipbuilding corporation of Quincy, Mass., one by the American Brown Boveri Electrical corporation of Camden, N. J., and two by the Newport News, Va., Shipbuilding & Drydock company.

## Elk Hills Bids Refused.

Washington, D. C.—Bids of the Union Oil company, California, Standard Oil company of California, and the General Petroleum corporation for exchange of crude oil and gas products from the Elk Hills naval reserve in California for fuel oil were rejected by the navy department. The exchange propositions offered in the three proposals, the department announced, were not considered advantageous to the navy.

## THE MARKETS.

Portland. Wheat—Big Bend bluestem, \$1.35; B. S. Baart, \$1.35; soft white, western white, \$1.32; hard winter, western red, \$1.30; northern spring, \$1.33. Hay—Alfalfa, \$18@18.50 ton; valley timothy, \$18@18.50; eastern Oregon timothy, \$21@21.50. Butterfat—43c. Eggs—Ranch, 19@24c. Cheese—Tillamook, triplets, 25½c; loaf, 26½c per lb. Cattle—Steers, good, \$9.75@10.60. Hogs—Medium to choice, \$10@12. Sheep—Lamb, medium to choice, \$12@15. Seattle. Wheat—Soft white, western white, \$1.34½; hard winter, \$1.33½; western red, \$1.33; northern spring, \$1.35; Big Bend bluestem, \$1.39½; Big Bend dark northern spring, \$1.37; Big Bend dark hard winter, \$1.36. Hay—Alfalfa, \$25; timothy, P. S., \$22. Butter—Creamery, 45c. Eggs—Ranch, 25@28c. Hogs—Good, \$12.15@12.25. Cattle—Steers, choice, \$9.25@10. Cheese—Cream bricks, 25@26c; triplets, 26c; loaf, 26c. Spokane. Hogs—Good, \$11.85@12. Cattle—Steers, good, \$8.75@9.50.

## OREGON TRUCK LOAD LIMITATION UPHELD

### United States Supreme Court Rules Against Auto Lines.

Washington, D. C.—The Oregon law of 1921, under which the state highway commission restricted the use of certain highways by solid tire trucks, and reduced to 16,500 pounds the load they would be permitted to carry at certain seasons, was sustained by the supreme court.

When the suit, brought by Morris & Lowther and other trucking companies, was before the court last October, it was dismissed as moot, upon a showing that the order complained of had expired. When the order was renewed last winter, the companies obtained from the supreme court an order reinstating the appeal and reopening the controversy.

The companies contended that the commission had illegally reduced the maximum load the legislature permitted upon the Columbia River highway and other government-aided highways, and that the order constituted an illegal burden upon interstate commerce. The state described the order as intended to preserve the highways from damage during the winter months.

## DEPRESSION EXISTS IN AGRICULTURE

New York.—A general agricultural depression exists and calls for consideration as a national economic question, says a preliminary report of the business men's commission on agriculture, which will publish its complete findings this summer.

"The evidence which has been given is practically unanimous upon the fact of depression, but is varied and at times contradictory both as to its cause and remedies," said Charles Nagal, chairman, in announcing conclusion of nation-wide hearings by the commission, which were begun last January. "Those who have been consulted practically agree that the country's heritage of fertile land is being impaired and that for some, if not many, years we have been living on our agricultural capital."

"Some rural sections of the country are virtually bankrupt as communities and are for the time carried by the more prosperous urban areas of the state in which they are located," Nagal added. "Even the most efficient farmers seem of recent years to have done little better than hold their own by cutting their expenditures below their accustomed standard."

The commission was formed last November by the National Industrial Conference board and the Chamber of Commerce of the United States.

## AL SMITH ANSWERS QUERIES

New York Governor Sees No Conflict Between Church and State.

Boston, Mass.—Governor Smith of New York, in a letter to the Atlantic Monthly, declared that he recognized no power in the Roman Catholic church to interfere with the operation of the constitution of the United States or the enforcement of the laws of the land.

The governor, a Roman Catholic and potential candidate for the presidency, wrote the letter to the magazine in reply to an open letter, published in the monthly last month by Charles C. Marshall, New York lawyer and Episcopalian, who asked him a number of questions seeking to define his views on the relation of the Catholic church to the state. Mr. Marshall has been described as an authority on canon law.

## Churches Gain 489,556 During Year.

New York, N. Y.—A gain of 489,554 communicants of all religious faiths and sects in the United States in 1924 was reported in a census completed by Dr. H. K. Carroll, for the Christian Herald. The total number of communicants was given as 47,550,902, of whom 16,808,171 are Roman Catholics, 8,968,288 are Methodists, 8,670,895 are Baptists, 2,610,716 Presbyterians and 2,588,279 Lutherans.

## Oregon Auto Toll 13 in March.

Salem, Or.—Thirteen persons were killed and 292 persons were injured in 2030 motor vehicle accidents reported to the state traffic department during March.

## Severe Quake Jars Alaska Radio Base.

Cordova, Alaska.—A severe earthquake, lasting 30 seconds, jarred the United States naval radio station at Kodiak, according to reports received here.

## Rites Held for Washington Judge.

Olympia, Wash.—Funeral rites were held here in the marble foyer of the Temple of Justice for Judge J. B. Bridges, who died in Portland last week.