

## HILL LINES FILE PLANS FOR MERGER

Great Northern and Northern Pacific Ask I. C. C. to Combine Roads.

Washington, D. C.—Formal application was made to the interstate commerce commission for approval of the project to consolidate the Northern Pacific and Great Northern railroads. The complete plan, which has been drawn up and approved by stockholders and officers of the two roads, provides for creation of a new company, the Great Northern Pacific, under the laws of Delaware. Under this plan the corporation asks the commission to allow it to issue 4,970,976 shares of common stock, 2,479,950 shares of which would be exchanged for the outstanding stock of the Northern Pacific railroad and 2,490,981 shares of which would be exchanged for outstanding stock of the Great Northern company.

Most of the securities of the existing companies already have been deposited with committees in preparation for the contemplated exchange.

The new Great Northern Pacific company's plan also includes lease of the 900 mile system of the Spokane, Portland & Seattle railroad, which is now owned in common by the Northern Pacific and Great Northern.

While the definite application did not deal with the subject, the corporation also contemplates control of the 11,400 mile system of the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy railroad, which is now jointly owned by the Great Northern and Northern Pacific.

The new company, if the commission approves the project, will own or operate approximately 25,000 miles of trunk line railroad and will become by far the largest railroad system in the United States.

## FORD FRAMES HIS OWN RETRACTION

Detroit, Mich.—Indications that Henry Ford "did his own talking" and "played his own hand" in making his peace with the Jewish people were given added weight with further evidence that none of the army of regular Ford legal talent participated in the overtures that led to the automobile manufacturer's apology for anti-Jewish writings in his Dearborn Independent.

In disavowing these writings Mr. Ford explained that the wide scope of his activities had made it impossible for him to devote his personal attention to the conduct and policies of his publication and that he was obliged to delegate their management to others.

Mr. Ford's statement, copyrighted by the New York American and given out through Arthur Brisbane, expressed "great regret" over any injury the articles may have caused and added that a survey he had made showed him "that this journal (the Independent) intended to be constructive and not destructive, had been made the medium for resurrecting exploded fictions." The statement concluded with the assurance that "henceforth they (the Jews) may look to me for friendship and good will."

## NAVAL PARLEY PUZZLES

British Insistence on Big Cruiser Tonnage Unexplained.

Washington, D. C.—Increasing mystification over the insistent British demand at Geneva for a cruiser tonnage of 600,000 as a basis for a supplemental naval treaty was evident at the state department, where it was said that Great Britain had approved at the Washington arms conference five years ago a proposal to limit all auxiliary craft to a total of 450,000 tons.

Sir Esme Howard, the British ambassador, is remaining in Washington during the critical period of the deliberations.

It was pointed out here that the original American proposal at the Washington conference to limit auxiliary surface craft to a total of 450,000 tons for Great Britain and the United States was accepted without reservation by Lord Balfour of the British delegation.

Brotherhood Chief Out After 24 Years

Cleveland.—After serving as president of the International Brotherhood of Stationary Firemen, Oilers and Railway Shop Laborers for 24 years, Timothy Healy was defeated for reelection and his post voted to John F. McNamara, Boston, Mass. In one of the bitterest elections of the brotherhood's history, Healy lost out to his younger opponent by a vote of 74 to 66.

French Ace Hired to Fly "Columbia."

Paris.—Charles Levine announced that Maurice Drouhin, noted French airman, had been selected to fly the Columbia to America, and had accepted. Levine will go as a passenger.

C. D. CHAMBERLIN



C. D. Chamberlin, who piloted the monoplane "Columbia" in the flight from New York to Germany.

## M'NARY FARM AID PLAN IS DEMANDED

St. Paul, Minn.—Representatives of midwest farm organizations opened a two-day conference here to formulate a plan of action for farm relief legislation at the next congress.

Throughout the first session, speakers of national prominence urged the principles of the McNary-Haugen bill, vetoed by President Coolidge last winter, as affording the most satisfactory basis for farm aid legislation.

Congressman L. J. Dickinson of Iowa declared that if satisfactory farm relief legislation is not passed by the 70th congress next winter, "farm relief will become the major issue of the 1928 campaign."

Co-author of the McNary-Haugen bill, Congressman Gilbert N. Haugen, of Iowa, insisted the major political parties, through platform promises, are duty bound to pass legislation looking to relief of the agricultural situation.

The conference was called by the American Council of Agriculture, organized here two years ago.

The group includes representatives of 49 farm organizations, principally in Minnesota, North and South Dakota, Wisconsin, Iowa and Montana.

## SHORT NEWS NUGGETS

Lieutenant C. C. Champton, U. S. N., broke his own world's seaplane altitude record July 4 when he climbed 37,995.

John D. Rockefeller celebrated his 88th birthday anniversary Saturday by entertaining a few close friends in his home at Pocantico Hills.

John Drew, noted American actor, died in San Francisco after being confined to a hospital since May 31 with arthritis and rheumatic fever. He was 73 years old.

The federal trade commission held the Famous Players-Lasky corporation, Adolph Zuker and Jesse L. Lasky, guilty of illegal attempts to monopolize motion pictures.

Postal receipts of 59 selected cities totaled \$29,681,229.47 in June, as compared with \$28,719,454.55 for the same month in 1926, an increase of \$961,774.92 or 3.35 per cent, the postoffice department announced.

Government to Aid Plane Builders.

Washington, D. C.—A foreign trade and information service for American civil aviation was inaugurated by Secretary of Commerce Hoover with appointment of James D. Summers, Los Angeles, as the first United States aeronautics trade commissioner. Summers' territory will be Central and South America with headquarters in Panama and he will investigate air transportation developments and assist in the sale of American commercial aircraft and equipment. Trade commissioners for other foreign countries are to be named later.

200,000 Veterans Seek Insurance.

Washington, D. C.—Approximately 200,000 applications for conversion and reinstatement of war risk insurance were received in June by the veterans' bureau, according to estimates by Director Hines. More than 100,000 of these applications were from ex-service men who had allowed their insurance to lapse. The period in which insurance might be converted or reinstated closed at midnight July 2.

U. S. Ambassador to Mexico Quits.

Rapid City, S. D.—The resignation of James Y. Sheffield as ambassador to Mexico was accepted by President Coolidge shortly after it had been tendered. The post will remain for the time being in the hands of the charge d'affaires, as Mr. Coolidge has not decided when the resignation shall become effective.

## IRISH FREE STATE OFFICIAL IS SLAIN

Kevin O'Higgins, Vice-President, Shot Down While on Way to Church.

Dublin, Ireland.—Kevin O'Higgins, known as "the strong man" of the Irish Free State, was shot down in the streets Sunday and killed by assassins. As in the case of another "strong man," Michael Collins, his murderers lay in wait for him and as he was walking along from his home to Black Rock, a short distance from Dublin, an automobile pulled up beside him and three men pumped bullets into him.

The assassins drove away and thus far have escaped the police.

Mr. O'Higgins usually was accompanied by a detective, but Sunday when starting for the Booterstown Catholic church he told his escort for the first time in three years to remain at home. He was taken entirely by surprise when attacked. The first shot struck him in the abdomen, but he managed to stagger across the road, where he collapsed. His assailants fired five or more bullets into his head and body before springing into their car and driving furiously away.

As he lay on the road mortally wounded, O'Higgins, vice-president of the Free State council, minister of justice and foreign affairs, gasped out, "I forgive them all."

## INTERNAL REVENUE COLLECTIONS LARGER

Washington, D. C.—An increase of \$245,726,873 in the collection of income taxes during the last fiscal year over the preceding 12 months was reported by the internal revenue bureau, which showed total collections of \$2,219,831,014. A decrease of \$216,931,255 was shown in miscellaneous taxes, with collections of \$645,864,495.

Total tax collections from all sources showed an increase of \$29,695,617, reaching \$2,865,695,509.

Income tax collections totaling \$6,197,759 from the state of Oregon were reported for the fiscal year 1927, which ended June 30.

The 1927 total represents a drop of approximately \$200,000 from the total collections during the fiscal year 1926, which were \$6,399,176.

Income taxes from the state of Washington, including Alaska, showed an increase in 1927. The total payments from that revenue district were \$13,307,881 in 1927 and \$12,307,536 in 1926. Miscellaneous taxes in 1927 totaled \$694,556, bringing the aggregate collection from Washington and Alaska during that year to \$13,002,438.

## JAPANESE PATROL TSINGTAO

Official Count Shows 419 Americans Now in Menaced City.

Pekin.—Japanese marines, numbering 750, are patrolling Tsingtao, Shantung province, replacing the soldiers who have been sent westward along the railway in readiness for emergencies. It is reported that a Japanese cruiser has left Shanghai for Tsingtao carrying 450 additional marines. The Japanese war craft at Tsingtao are two cruisers and two gunboats.

Tsingtao and Tsinan are quiet and there is no immediate threat of disorder or occupation by the southern (nationalist) forces.

An official count on June 19 showed there was 419 Americans in Tsingtao, the majority of them refugee missionaries from interior posts or summer sojourners.

Virginia Schoolmarm Heads Educators.

Seattle, Wash.—Miss Cordelia Storrs Adair, class room school teacher of Richmond, Va., became president of the National Education association at the close of the general session of the organization here. Minneapolis was unanimously chosen by the board of directors for the 1928 convention.

Liberia's U. S. War Debt Paid.

Washington, D. C.—Liberia became the second nation to pay its entire war debt to the United States when it turned over to the treasury a check for \$35,610. Cuba is the other nation which has wiped its war debt slate clean.

Slayer of Wife Admits Murder.

Oregon City, Or.—Alvin McCurdy, 55, millworker, confessed that with three blows of a claw hammer he killed his wife, Ethel, 45, and then set fire to their home at Canemah, a village one mile south of here.

English Assembly Approves Revision.

London.—The proposed revision of the book of common prayer in the Church of England was approved by the church assembly in session here. The vote was 517 in favor of the revision and 133 against it.

RICHARD ANTRIM



Richard Antrim of Chicago, who heads the list of 25 young men chosen from the entire United States for a four-year course at the Annapolis Naval Academy.

## PRUNE SALES PLAN HAS BEEN APPROVED

Corvallis, Or.—A stamp of approval was given amendments to the grower-packer plan for marketing the Pacific Northwest prune crop by 75 delegates assembled here for the second meeting of the Pacific Northwest dried prune convention.

Under the plan, all Pacific Northwest dried prunes will be marketed by present cooperative growers' organizations and private packers, under supervision of a central marketing board, to represent organized and unorganized growers and private packers; prices will be determined by a growers' committee of five.

Work will begin at once, under direction of the central committee of nine, in organizing the prune growers of the state and of Clark county, Washington, by members of the present committee of 100. All present independent growers will be organized into units. The private packers and the cooperatives will then act as sales agents for all the growers.

## FIND FLOGGER GUILTY

One of Five Men Who Whipped Woman Convicted.

Toccoa, Ga.—W. G. Acree, principal of the Stephens county high school, was found guilty by a jury of assault and battery in connection with the flogging June 12 of Mrs. Ansley Bowers.

Mrs. Bowers and her son Lloyd were taken from their home here by a masked and robed band of men into the country and flogged. They told her they were whipping her because of "immorality and because you do not go to church."

Five men were indicted for the flogging, four of whom remain to be tried.

"Fag" Fully Reinstated in Kansas.

Topeka, Kan.—Kansas has been buying cigarettes legally for several weeks, and now it can advertise them in its newspapers. The state supreme court ruled that advertising of cigarettes in the state could not be prohibited, and declared invalid that section of the new law, legalizing their sale, which sought to prohibit advertising of them.

20,000 Pheasants to be Set Free.

Portland, Or.—More than 20,000 Chinese pheasants will be liberated in Oregon this year by the Oregon state game commission, Harold Clifford, state game warden, predicts in his June report.

## THE MARKETS.

Portland.  
Wheat—Big Bend bluestem and hard white, \$1.39; federation, soft white and western white, \$1.38; hard winter, \$1.35; northern spring \$1.37; western red, \$1.33.

Hay—Alfalfa, \$18@21; valley timothy, \$20@20.50; eastern Oregon timothy, \$22@22.50.

Butterfat—39 1/2c.

Eggs—Ranch, 19@22c.

Cattle—Steers, good, \$9.50@10.25.

Hogs—Medium to choice, \$9.50@11.25.

Lambs—Medium to choice, \$10@12.50.

Seattle.

Wheat—Soft white or western white, \$1.44; hard winter, \$1.43; western red and northern spring, \$1.42; Big Bend bluestem, \$1.53; Big Bend dark northern spring, \$1.52; Big Bend dark hard winter, \$1.49.

Hay—Alfalfa, \$25; timothy, P. S. \$22.

Butterfat—43c.

Eggs—Ranch, 19@22 1/2c.

Cattle—Steers, choice, \$9@9.75.

Hogs—Prime, \$11.40@11.50.

Spokane.

Cattle—Steers, good, \$8.25@8.75.

Hogs—Good, \$10.50@10.60.

## OREGON STATE NEWS OF GENERAL INTEREST

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

Bandon proposes to have a golf course ready by 1928 on which visitors to that beach city may play.

Complete renovation of the Forest Grove postoffice will be under way within a few days, it was announced recently.

Dale Drew, 21-year-old son of Chas. Drew, prominent Klamath rancher, was drowned at Lost River dam, 10 miles south of Klamath Falls.

Lane county's bonded indebtedness is now \$1,531,700, \$136,800 having been recently paid off with Oregon and California land grant tax refunds.

Establishment of a new postoffice at Beaver Marsh, in Klamath county, is announced by postal authorities. William Zumbunne is postmaster.

The Baker County Cow Testing association has completed organization and the new tester, Leroy Wright of Klamath county, has begun work.

The plant of the Capital City Bedding company of Salem was destroyed by fire last week, with a loss estimated at \$30,000, partially covered by insurance.

Oregon's filbert crop will be light, possibly less than half a crop, while the walnut crop will be large, according to growers who met last week at Dundee.

Dedication of the new Crooked river bridge crossing the Crooked river canyon in the extreme southern part of Jefferson county will take place Friday, July 15.

Arrangements are being made for the Sandy pioneer and early settler's picnic, which is announced for July 31 at the Robert Konsrud grove, on Bluff road near Sandy.

While engaged in stringing wire on a power line near Jacksonville, J. H. Harrington of Ashland was killed when he accidentally came in contact with a 2200-volt wire.

Ike Barker, 55, of Mapleton, who had been employed at the W. H. Dandy sawmill at Junction City died in a Eugene hospital following an automobile accident on Lake creek.

Ground was broken last week for the construction of an \$18,000 exhibit building on the Klamath county fair grounds. The large structure will be completed by September 1.

Building permits at La Grande for the first six months of this year show an aggregate construction figure of 0763,715, a higher total than for any one year in the city's history.

James R. Nunamaker, 73, owner of one of the largest aggregate holdings of Hood River valley orchards, dropped dead last week while sitting in his automobile talking to a neighbor.

The appointment of George Alexander of Hillsboro as state prohibition commissioner to succeed William S. Levens, effective July 15, was announced by Governor Patterson last week.

A special election will be held in Boardman July 16 for the purpose of voting on increasing the corporate boundaries of the city, and taking in the school and other property to the Columbia river.

Charter of the McKenzie river lodge of Masons, organized in Eugene some time ago, was presented last Saturday night. Several grand lodge officers were in attendance to conduct the ceremonies.

Connie J. Grabb of Baker was elected president of the Oregon State Elks association without opposition at the final session of the 1927 convention held in Baker last week. Astoria was chosen as the 1928 convention city.

With the heaviest traffic on the highways in the history of the state there was not a single fatal traffic accident over the Fourth of July holidays in Oregon, according to T. A. Raffety, chief of the state traffic squad.

Sixty-one different varieties of wheat were inspected at the Umatilla county grain nursery north of Pendleton last Monday, when the annual field day of the county grain growers was held. D. E. Stephens, superintendent of the experiment station at Moro, and George R. Hyslop, head of the farm crops department at Oregon Agricultural college, explained the results obtained in the development of new types of grain and the benefits of certain types of fertilizer.

The cherry crop in the Ashland section is exceeding all expectations, according to officials of the local Fruit and Produce association, who stated that instead of only one car for shipment to the east, the crop will total several cars.

With a program that has attracted poultrymen from southern California and northern Washington, as well as from all parts of Oregon, the fifth annual convention of the Oregon Poultrymen's association was held in Corvallis last week.

Water is now being released from the McKay reservoir for irrigation purposes in the west end of Umatilla county. Only the normal flow of McKay creek has been released but it is now planned to utilize 350 acre feet a day.

Fire of unknown origin caused an estimated damage of \$50,000 to the M. & M. department store in Medford last week. The loss was due mainly to water and smoke. The blaze raged for an hour in the basement before it was brought under control.

Water has been turned into Ashland's new equalization reservoir, although it will be several days before the reservoir will be filled for use. This is part of Ashland's new water system, for which \$450,000 bonds were approved at a recent election.

Two hundred and seventy-eight vessels of a combined net register of 925,973 tons entered the Oregon customs district direct from foreign ports during the year ended June 30 compared with 204 vessels of 653,106 tons that entered direct the preceding year.

The Coos river consolidated school district, one of the richest in the state for its class, is considering an innovation for accommodation of its five teachers. It is proposed to dispose of a tract of 11 acres, purchased when the consolidation was made, and build them a home.

Jackson county will not have a fair this year, the directors of the Jackson county fair association have decided, because of the lack of finances, due to defeat of the proposed mill tax for the support of the fair and the county court's inability to advance any funds for the purpose.

Northwest wheat and flour shipments combined, the latter being reduced to wheat measure, amounted to 55,415,665 bushels for the 1926-27 cereal year. For the 1925-26 season they were 41,923,571 bushels, during the 1924-25 period they were 37,021,957 bushels and in the 1923-24 season they reached 70,688,233 bushels.

Bonds of \$37,000 were voted in Roseburg last week at a special city election. The sum will be used to construct a highway bridge over Deer creek, just inside the city limits. The present steel structure, held to be too narrow and unsafe, is to be removed and a reinforced concrete bridge the full width of the street erected.

The district about Arago on the Coquille river is growing excited over oil prospects. More than 1000 acres of land have been obtained on an oil leasing basis. The cause of the movement is a well which was drilled on a ranch in that territory to a depth of 170 feet. The owner had a fine supply of water, but in a few days it was spoiled by oil indications.

Ben Bennettson of Portland was rescued from a tunnel at the Hauser Construction company rock quarry on Coos river after being entombed for 24 hours. Bennettson was drilling a tunnel underneath a rock cliff for a big charge of dynamite when a rock slide of hundreds of tons shut off the entrance. More than 100 men worked steadily for 24 hours to release him.

Despite the fact that his horse was rammed and killed by a mad bull, George Baker, 17, escaped without injury. The horse, after being mortally wounded by the infuriated animal's horns, carried his master to safety and then collapsed. Young Baker was attempting to herd the bull into a corral on the Hyde ranch near Trent, where it had wandered from the highway, when the animal charged his horse.

Deeds to the right of way for the Roosevelt highway through the platted section of Winchester Bay were received recently by the Douglas county court, settling a controversy that has been existing for considerable time between the court and the highway commission. The Roosevelt highway was laid out at an angle through the Winchester Bay townsite, and as the county is required to furnish the right of way the cost was greatly increased.

There was a total of \$6,173,434 of state funds on hand July 1, according to a report compiled by State Treasurer Kay. Of this amount \$1,402,842.52 was credited to the general fund of the state, \$3,106,009.16 to the highway fund, \$636,336.57 to the soldiers' bonus fund, \$372,236.47 to the common school fund, \$233,454.88 to the industrial accident fund. Included in the general fund as shown in this report are \$791,467.99 of automobile registration fees which will be apportioned September 1, leaving only \$611,374.52 in this fund with which, together with between \$300,000 and \$350,000 in insurance, corporation and miscellaneous, to run the state.

A large body of high-grade ore has been reported uncovered in the old workings of the Red Oak gold mine. This property, situated below the Kubli mine on Galls creek, is an old-time producer, but has been closed down for a number of years.

M. V. Keeves of South Baker, 102 years of age, enjoyed the Baker Fourth of July celebration so much that after riding with other civil war veterans in the parade he danced to music in the park for the entertainment of the crowd during the barbecue.