

M'NARY-HAUGEN BILL INTRODUCED

New Measure Contains Equalization Provisions Slightly Modified.

Washington, D. C.—The McNary-Haugen bill vetoed last session by President Coolidge has been started on its way through congress again in slightly modified form.

Senator McNary, republican, Oregon, new chairman of the senate agricultural committee, put the new bill in the senate legislative hopper.

The new measure contains the controversial equalization objected to by the president as unconstitutional in vetoing the original bill, as a means of raising funds to meet the cost of marketing surplus crops.

The equalization fee, however, would now be invoked only after cooperative marketing associations with the aid of government funds found themselves unable to handle the surplus and the fees then would be applicable to all commodities, when required, instead of to only a part.

Republicans Control Senate

Continuation of republican control in senate was assured with an announcement by the five western independents that they would assist the old guard in organizing that body.

Their declaration was made after Senator Curtis, Kansas, republican leader, had assured them that a majority of the republican senate conference "took the position that there should be no unnecessary delay in securing a vote" on the three measures which the independents had proposed.

These are a farm relief bill along the lines of the McNary-Haugen measure a bill to curb the issuance of labor injunctions by the federal courts and a resolution proposing an inquiry into the administration policy in Latin America.

While agreeing to go along on the question of organization, the five independents—Blain and LaFollette of Wisconsin and Frazier and Nye of North Dakota, republicans, and Shipstead, farmer-labor, Minnesota — announced that they would reserve their rights "to pursue an independent course of action upon questions which may arise during the session."

Senate Bars Vare

William S. Vare of Pennsylvania trod the pathway upon which the senate started Frank L. Smith of Illinois. Vare, a republican, was, in effect, stopped at the senate's door. The oath was denied him until the special campaign funds committee can further investigate and report upon the charge of fraud in both his primary and general election.

Like the senator-elect from Illinois, he will have an opportunity to present his case in person and through counsel before the committee and then will be heard on his own behalf on the senate floor.

Hopes of the friends of Vare that his case would prove stronger than that of Smith were shattered, for the senate vote to deny him the oath of office was 56 to 30 while that in Smith's case was 53 to 28.

Mexican Quiz Ordered

An inquiry into charges published in Hearst newspapers that President Calles of Mexico ordered more than \$1,200,000 paid out of the Mexican government treasury to four United States senators was passed by the senate.

Co-operation of the state department in the investigation was asked by Senator Reed, republican, Pennsylvania, who offered the resolution of inquiry and was named chairman of the investigating committee. The committee membership includes Senators Jones, Washington; Johnson, California, republicans; and Robinson, Arkansas, and Bruce, Maryland, democrats.

Gun Elevation Voted

The "big navy" bloc won a victory when the house, without a record vote, approved overwhelmingly an appropriation of \$940,000 to elevate the guns on the battleships Oklahoma and Nevada to meet the range of British and Japanese warships.

An amendment was attached, however, to prohibit use of the money for any modernizations on the ships that would violate the Washington disarmament treaties. This, in effect, puts up to President Coolidge the determination on gun elevations.

Placing the full support of his administration behind it, President Coolidge transmitted to congress the army engineers' plan for controlling Mississippi river floods.

The proposal deals with the lower valley alone, from Cairo, Ill., to the gulf, and would cost \$296,400,000, to be expended in ten years.

In a letter presenting the report to the president, Secretary Davis of the war department said the plan "seems to afford the maximum of protection with the minimum of cost."

The total appropriations recommended by the president exceed last year's budget by \$244,222,641, and the amount actually appropriated by congress for the current year by \$118,649,219.

JUSTICE F. L. SIDMONS



Justice F. L. Siddons, who presided at the trial of Albert B. Fall and Harry Sinclair on charges of conspiracy to defraud the government in connection with the Teapot Dome oil reserve.

I. C. C. RAILROAD VALUATIONS UPHELD

St. Louis, Mo.—The railroad's contention for valuation on basis of cost of reproduction new was given a blow when a special court of three federal judges upheld the valuation of the St. Louis & O'Fallon railroad as fixed by the interstate commerce commission largely on the basis of original cost.

This was a test case, involving a difference of more than \$10,000,000,000 in the value of the nation's railroads. The opinion was written by Kimbrough Stone, circuit judge, and concurred in by Arba S. Van Valkenburg, circuit judge, and C. B. Paris, district judge.

The case has been called "the biggest lawsuit in history," because of its acceptance by both the interstate commerce commission and the railroads as a test of the principles and methods to be employed in valuation of all the railroads of the country, both for the purpose of rate making and for the recapture by the federal government of one-half of excess earnings above 6 per cent.

BILLIONS SPENT ON ROADS

Federal Aid Less Than Eight Percent of Total.

Washington, D. C.—The nation's yearly highway bill exceeds \$1,000,000,000, including all expenditures of the federal, state, county and other local governments, for construction, maintenance and administration.

In making this announcement, T. H. MacDonald, chief of the bureau of public roads, said the federal government expenditure was less than 8 per cent, and the states spent, of their own funds, more than six times the amount they received as federal aid.

Federal payments last year totaled \$1,371,013, or about \$6,000,000 less than the previous year, which in turn was \$8,000,000 lower than the year before.

American Mobbed in Bucharest.

Bucharest.—The United States minister has handed the foreign office a note protesting against the wounding of Captain Gutfried Keller of Pennsylvania, whom a mob of rioting students insulted and stabbed at Gross Warden. The note demanded immediate satisfaction for Keller's maltreatment. An official statement admitted that many persons had been seriously injured in the Gross Warden riots.

Big Chicago Lumber Yard Burns.

Chicago.—The main yard of the Hines Lumber company, covering an entire city block, was destroyed by a spectacular fire. Damage was placed at \$500,000.

THE MARKETS

Portland

Wheat—B. B. bluestem, \$1.36; hard white, \$1.29; federation, soft white, western white, \$1.26; hard winter, \$1.24; northern spring, \$1.25; western red, \$1.22.

Hay — Alfalfa, \$16.50@17; valley timothy, \$16.50@17; eastern Oregon timothy, \$20.

Butterfat—49c.

Eggs—Ranch, 34c.

Cattle—Steers, good, \$9.50@10.85.

Hogs—Medium to choice, \$8@9.50.

Lambs — Medium to choice, \$11@12.50.

Seattle.

Wheat—Soft white, western white, \$1.26½; hard winter, \$1.25; western red, \$1.23; northern spring, \$1.26; bluestem, \$1.36; dark northern spring, \$1.45; dark hard winter, \$1.39.

Hay — Alfalfa, \$25; timothy, \$28; P. S., \$22.

Butterfat—54c.

Eggs—Ranch, 26@35c.

Cattle—Steers, choice, \$9.25@10.25.

Hogs—Prime, \$9.75@9.90.

Spokane.

Cattle—Steers, good, \$9.50@10.

Hogs—Good, \$9.35@9.50.

OREGON STATE NEWS OF GENERAL INTEREST

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

Postal savings on deposit at the Astoria postoffice December 1 amounted to \$351,788, an increase of \$5000 during November.

Ground was broken in Klamath Falls last week for the construction of a two-story brick garage to cost in the neighborhood of \$30,000.

The Madras state bank, which closed December 10, 1926, has declared a 50 per cent dividend to all commercial depositors and paid all savings accounts December 10.

More than 12,000 people from all parts of the United States and Canada visited Klamath Falls and the Klamath basin during the tourist season from June 1 to December 1.

Winfield Charles Clarke of Klamath Falls has been named by President Coolidge a candidate for West Point military academy. He will take the examination March 6, 1928.

Yamhill county's share of the state market roads for 1928 is to be \$34,043, or \$1189 more than the 1927 apportionment. The county is to match this from its own road fund.

Owners of property in the city of Astoria in 1928 will pay a tax levy of approximately .92 mills on each dollar of assessed valuation, as estimated by Charles Henrys, county assessor.

Seven years in prison and a fine of \$2500 was the sentence imposed upon J. V. Burke, convicted president of the defunct Bank of Kenton in Portland, by Circuit Judge Stevenson, last week.

After four weeks of rigid quarantine the city of Marshfield lifted the ban at midnight last Friday. Schools reopened Monday, after being closed for four weeks on account of infantile paralysis.

Checks distributed during the past week by the receiver of the First National bank of Bandon brought the total liquidation of the bank's affairs up to 75 per cent. The institution failed two years ago.

Approximately two-thirds of Oregon's 130,000-pound mint oil crop has been sold, according to statements made by Salem dealers. The growers received an average of \$2.50 a pound for their product.

Mrs. Gemma Beach, 85, pioneer resident of Ontario, passed away in her sleep last Friday night. When she did not arise Saturday morning her aged husband went to ascertain the cause and found her dead.

Prominent Odd Fellows from all over the northwest gathered at Salem last week and participated in the diamond jubilee celebration conducted by Chemeketa lodge No. 1, the oldest lodge of the order west of the Rockies.

The interstate bridge will be made free of tolls, save for common carriers, December 31, 1928, according to a tentative agreement which was reached between the Oregon state highway commission and the Multnomah county commission, at a conference in Portland last week.

A representative of the state banking department will have charge of the liquidation of the defunct Farmers and Stockgrowers' bank of Vale, according to a decision reached at a meeting of the state banking board at Salem last week. The bank failed to open its doors Monday.

James M. Smith, Marion county commissioner, has issued a call for all county judges and commissioners in the state to meet in Portland January 25 and 26 to consider the proposed initiative measure looking to a reduction of motor vehicle license fees in Oregon to \$3 per year.

L. G. Lwelling, district attorney of Linn county, was elected president of the Linn County Bar association at its annual meeting in Albany last week. A. S. Tussing of Brownsville was named vice-president; M. D. Shanks, Lebanon, treasurer, and C. C. Bryant, Albany, secretary.

Klamath basin as a seed pea source for California is regarded as a possibility, following an investigation of climate and soil conditions by a representative of the California Packing corporation. Officials of the packing corporation have tentatively agreed to provide seed for approximately 100 acres of Klamath land as an experiment.

President Coolidge has signed an executive order withdrawing from the public domain rocks and pinnacles along the Oregon coast. The order was made that the coast may be protected against misuse and the marring of its scenery.

The fifth anniversary of the fire that destroyed the heart of Astoria in 1922 was observed last week with speeches describing the big strides in progress and recovery the city has made in the past five years. Newspapers printed special editions.

Shipping of Christmas trees has become a large industry at Sandy this season, and for the first time carlots are being forwarded. Everett Bros. of Sandy are loading their fifth car for W. E. Gilbert, which will leave the docks Saturday for California. One car has also been shipped to Chicago.

Establishment of a radio broadcasting station in Salem will be undertaken within the next few days by J. R. Hughes and K. B. Aldrich of Portland. This was announced after information had been received from Washington that a permit would be issued by the federal radio commission.

Medford is ready to accept the community chest method of charity distribution. This was decided by prominent business men at the joint meeting last week of the chamber of commerce and the Lions club, at which members of the victorious Medford high school football squad were guests of honor.

Central Oregon stock will go into the winter of 1927-28 in the best condition in recent years, due to unusual fall range conditions. An abundance of green grass, still free from snow, covers the midstate range lands. The sheepmen and cattlemen in Crook, Jefferson, Deschutes and Lake counties have plenty of hay.

Lee Love and James Cooper, both pioneer residents of Douglas county, fell dead within a few hours of each other last week. Mr. Love died of heart disease while working in the barnyard at his home in Camas valley and Mr. Cooper collapsed and died while watching men unload stock near his home in North Roseburg.

With laying of steel completed, contractors have only six days of surfacing and after that approximately two weeks of trimming left before the Great Northern extension south from Bend to a connection with the Southern Pacific at Chemult will be ready for trains. It is expected that work will be finished by December 20.

Ticket validations in Portland between May 15 and October 31, the tourist season, totaled 12,756, or a gain of a fraction more than 10 per cent over the 11,591 reported for the same period of 1926, according to the report just made public. The figures give a fairly accurate check on the growth of rail tourist travel enjoyed by that city.

Strict enforcement of all laws affecting the importation of nut trees into Oregon, and steps looking toward the enactment of additional laws for the protection of the nut growing industry of the state, were urged upon the state board of horticulture in resolutions passed by the Western Nut Growers' association in its closing session at Salem last week.

A timber sale, resulting in the disposal of seven tracts of government timber on grant lands in five counties, was conducted by the Roseburg land office last week. The government realized \$92,626.17. The next sale is to be held January 16, and it is expected that the coming sale will be one of the largest to be conducted for several years. It will include some valuable timber lying east of Portland.

Enthusiasm for the proposed new road from Portland to the Clatsop beaches via Vernonia was augmented at a meeting in the grange hall in Vernonia with representatives of Portland, Seaside, Banks and Vernonia present. A resolution was adopted pointing out that since the new route would be about 40 miles shorter than the present Columbia highway and the expense of widening the present highway about the same as building the new road, the highway commission be asked to give early consideration to surveys of a short road from Portland to the seashore.

One-fifth of the net land area of Oregon and Washington is embraced within the boundaries of national forests, according to a statement for the last fiscal year issued from headquarters of the North Pacific district at Portland. There are 22 national forests in this district, covering a total net area of 22,959,074 acres—13,239,369 acres in Oregon, 9,352,103 acres in Washington and 377,602 acres in northern California.

A public meeting to consider an appropriation of \$275,000 for the construction of a courthouse was called for Roseburg, January 21, in an order signed by the Douglas county court. The court recently set aside \$200,000 from the Oregon & California grant-land funds for this purpose and is adding \$75,000 already on hand, but in order to comply with the law must call a public meeting before the expenditure can be authorized.

A peppermint oil factory has been started in Salem quietly and is now running steadily at a capacity of 25 pounds per hour. It is announced. The plant is owned by L. O. Herrold, and is soon to be increased to 225 pounds per hour capacity.

The John DeWalt and O. J. Goar partnership boar went on a rampage last Saturday near Seio and attacked the horses belonging to these men, with the result that one of Mr. Goar's horses was so badly poisoned from the animals' tusks it had to be killed.

COL. N. B. JUDAH



Col. N. B. Judah, prominent Chicago lawyer, who has been appointed ambassador to Cuba by President Coolidge.

DRAIN OPPOSES POLL ON PROHIBITION

Spokane, Wash.—Demand that Edward E. Spafford, national commander of the American Legion, withdraw his statement asking for a national poll of legion posts on the prohibition question, was issued here by General Jas. A. Drain, past national commander of the legion.

General Drain's demand was incorporated in a telegram addressed to National Commander Spafford, copies of which he announced he was sending to all national officers of the legion and all state commanders.

Contending that the national commander does not "have a right to direct or even to suggest a poll upon a highly controversial national political question," General Drain insists that "it is your duty to and therefore you will issue a public statement of correction."

New York.—A poll to ascertain the attitude of the membership of the American legion and its women's auxiliary toward prohibition is to be made, Edward E. Spafford, national commander of the American legion, announced here. He made the announcement at the annual dinner of the legion's department of New York, and prefaced it with the statement that "in a democracy, no law should be enforced except such a one as has the approval of the majority."

The legion, he said, is neither "wet" nor "dry," and the meeting halls of all legion posts from now until May 15, when the poll will be taken, will be thrown open for a discussion of the question.

BRIEF GENERAL NEWS

The 1928 republican national convention will be held in Kansas City, beginning Tuesday, June 12.

More power to control and direct railroad consolidation policies was sought from congress by the interstate commerce commission.

The interstate bridge connecting Portland, Or., and Vancouver, Wash., will be toll free after December 31, 1928, save for a small franchise toll placed on common carriers.

Amendment of the 1924 immigration act to apply its quota provisions to Mexico, Cuba, Canada and other countries of continental America is provided in a bill introduced in congress by Representative Box, democrat, Texas.

Two million married women in the United States are working daily for gain outside their homes, according to the annual report of Secretary of Labor Davis.

W. C. T. U. Calls Month of Prayer.

Oklahoma City, Okla.—The Women's Christian Temperance union of Oklahoma has entered the controversy between Governor Johnston and members of the state legislature with a call to its 70,000 members to pray that "our dry governor . . . may not be impeached." Mrs. Elizabeth House, state president, and Mrs. Josephine M. Buhl, state evangelistic director of the W. C. T. U., issued the call, which asks for a month of prayer.

Seattle Vessel Ashore in North.

Seattle, Wash.—In a raging snow storm and a rough sea, the steamer Northwestern of the Alaska Steamship company ran aground at Cape Mudge, B. C., about 200 miles north of Seattle, and its 112 passengers and crew were taken ashore on the gas boat Explorer.

Auto Insurance to Be Increased.

New York.—Automobile owners will have to pay an increase of approximately 16 per cent for personal injury insurance, the national bureau of casualty and safety underwriters announced. The increase was caused by increasing frequency of claims.

OKLAHOMA GOVERNOR BARS LEGISLATURE

Calls Out State Troops to Prevent Meeting to Impeach.

Oklahoma City.—Three companies of Oklahoma City units of the national guard were called out by Adjutant General Charles F. Barrett, under proclamation of Governor Johnston, to prevent meetings of the state legislature.

Governor Johnston in his official statement to General Barrett asserted his belief that all matters connected with the meeting of the legislature should be held status quo until the various court actions had been decided.

General Barrett said business would go on as usual at the capitol with the general public and employees of the statehouse admitted as usual.

It also was said that members of the legislature would be admitted to the capitol as such, but would not be permitted to assemble for official business.

Calling of the militia followed the voting of five charges of impeachment against the governor by the insurgent house committee, ready to be passed on by the house scheduled to reconvene Monday.

The insurgents also announced they had voted three impeachment charges against Harry B. Cordell, president of the state board of agriculture.

The insurgents first became outspoken against the governor months ago over the retention of Mrs. O. O. Hammonds, wife of the state health commissioner, as his confidential secretary. The insurgents charged Mrs. Hammonds was the "boss" of the Johnston administration.

FEDERAL DRY AGENTS MADE 64,986 ARRESTS

Washington, D. C.—Sentences aggregating 4,477 years and fines totaling \$5,775,225.48 were imposed this year for violations of the dry law, Dr. J. M. Doran, prohibition commissioner, declared in his annual report to Secretary of the Treasury Mellon.

Doran presented a matter of fact story of the bureau's accomplishments, asked for no new legislation, delivered no lectures on prohibition, and made no spectacular claims about enforcement work.

"Prohibition agents made 64,986 arrests during the year ended June 30, 1927, and seized 7,137 automobiles, valued at \$3,529,296.70, and 353 boats, valued at \$316,323," he reported. "As a result of the work of such agents 51,945 prohibition cases against individuals were handled in federal courts and 35,546 persons were convicted, of which number 11,818 were given jail sentences."

This was the sum and substance of his report on "enforcement operation."

WAR CLOUD DISPELLED

Poland and Lithuania Agree to Settle Their Differences.

Geneva.—Poland and Lithuania formally declared themselves at peace at a special session of the council of the league of nations. They agreed to enter into direct negotiations with each other for the settlement of their differences. This probably means that full diplomatic relations will be restored shortly.

Premier Waldemaras of Lithuania and M. Zaleski, Polish foreign minister, announced before the council that they accepted the Polish-Lithuanian settlement.

Premiers Pilsudski and Waldemaras have agreed to enter negotiations as soon as possible in order to establish relations between their two states which will "insure a good understanding between the nations, upon which peace depends."

The league council is to name the committee which will examine into Lithuania's complaint that Lithuanian minorities have been wronged by Poland.

Plane Blows Up in Air.

Denver, Col.—Jack Taylor of Pasadena, Cal., was killed when an air express plane which he was piloting to Cheyenne, Wyo., exploded in mid-air near Lowry field, national guard airport. The plane burst into flames as it struck the ground.

\$700,000 Given Library of Congress.

Washington, D. C.—John D. Rockefeller Jr. has presented the library of congress with \$700,000, the larger part of which is to be used in the acquisition of source material for American history.

Lindbergh to Visit Mexico.

Mexico City.—Colonel Charles A. Lindbergh's acceptance of the invitation of President Calles to make a flight to Mexico City has excited great interest in Mexico.