

BASIN PROJECT IS OPPOSED BY GRANGE

Depression of Land Values and Increase of Surpluses Feared.

Washington, D. C.—A demand that congress hold in abeyance the development of the Columbia river basin reclamation project in Washington state was made on behalf of the National grange.

I. J. Tabor, master of the grange, made the demand in concluding a presentation before the house irrigation committee against further development at this time of irrigation and reclamation projects on the ground that surpluses would be increased.

"We have no objection to surveying the Columbia basin project and planning for its development when the additional acreage is needed," he said, "but we do object to its definite, immediate adoption as a reclamation project and to pledging the appropriation of \$315,000,000 for its irrigation." He argued that the adoption of the project would depress land values immediately, and estimated that 20,000,000 acres of farm lands have been abandoned in the past several years which would come back into cultivation as conditions improve.

A. S. Goss of Seattle, master of the Washington State grange, also contended that it was inadvisable to adopt the project as a reclamation measure at this time.

He said that many farmers were being forced to abandon other reclamation projects in the west because they were unable to sell their products sufficiently high for them to meet the cost of production and pay the water charges.

HAGENBARTH AGAIN HEADS WOOL GROWERS

Ogden, Utah.—With the re-election of Frank J. Hagenbath, Spencer, Idaho, as president for his 15th consecutive term and the adoption of a resolution condemning any effort to revise the tariff, the 63d annual convention of the National Wool Growers' association adjourned.

Phoenix, Ariz., was selected for the 1929 meeting place.

Fred R. Marshall, Salt Lake City, was re-elected secretary-treasurer, without opposition.

Other resolutions adopted included: Recommending congress to appropriate \$400,000 annually for more effective control of predatory animals, and urging western states to enact bounty laws similar to that of Utah.

Recommending federal legislation to compel identification of substitutes for virgin wool in fabrics.

Requesting congressional action to divorce the affairs of the federal farm loan banks and the federal intermediate credit banks, on the ground that the former deal chiefly with real estate and the latter with livestock.

GENERAL GOETHALS DIES

Won Fame as Chief Engineer of the Panama Canal.

New York.—George W. Goethals, cleaver of continents, who literally moved mountains to bring true a seemingly hopeless dream, the Panama canal, died at the age of 70 in his home here after a lingering illness.

Mrs. Goethals and two sons were with the famous engineer at the end.

On February 26, 1907, Major Goethals was appointed chief engineer of the Panama canal and had the honor of finishing the great work.

The task which confronted him when Roosevelt and Taft elected him to finish the canal was one of staggering proportions. French engineers had failed; private contractors were floundering, and nature herself seemed bent on balking this attempt at severing the two continents she had joined together. Disease and the sheer force of tropical growth and the rust of its mists were the chief enemies. Goethals had to fight. His victory was a victory of sanitation, as well as engineering.

He retired in 1914 to private life, only to be recalled for war duty, serving in various capacities.

Illinois Governor Scores Senate.

Chicago, Ill.—Illinois has received an unwarranted affront from the United States senate in its refusal to recognize Colonel Frank L. Smith as one of its senators, Governor Len Small declared in a formal statement in which he served notice he would refuse to recognize the senate action.

Rich Seattle Girl and Reporter Ellope. Seattle, Wash.—Despite the strong objections of their parents, Miss Pamela Leonard, daughter of A. W. Leonard, millionaire Seattle traction magnate, and Ransom G. (Mike) Foster, Seattle newspaper reporter, eloped and were secretly married.

G. S. FERGUSON



G. S. Ferguson, democrat, from North Carolina, who was appointed a member of the federal trade commission by President Coolidge.

U. S. LEADS WORLD IN OIL PRODUCTION

Washington, D. C.—World production of petroleum during 1927 totaled 1,254,000,000 barrels, an increase over 1926 of 156,000,000 barrels, the department of commerce announced.

The United States led the world with 965,800,000 barrels, an increase of 135,000,000 over 1926. The American production was 70 per cent of the world supply.

It was estimated that 9,800,000 barrels were consumed on leases or added to storage. Russia moved into second place as a producer for the first time since 1917, with a total of 72,400,000 barrels, while Mexico topped to fourth place, with 64,200,000, Venezuela taking third rank with 64,400,000.

INCOME TAX BILL FILED

Labor, Grange, Farmers' Union and Conductors' Behind Measure.

Salem, Or.—Copies of a new state income tax bill sponsored by the State Federation of Labor, State Grange, Farmers' Union and Order of Railway Conductors were filed with Secretary of State Kozler with a request for a ballot title preliminary to the circulation of petitions for signatures to place on the November ballot. According to Kozler, the measure will require 12,228 signatures to complete the petitions.

The measure is said to provide for a graduate income tax ranging from two per cent on the first \$1000 to six per cent on taxable incomes in excess of \$9000. It provides exemptions of \$1500 for single persons and \$3000 for married persons with an additional exemption of \$400 for each dependent.

Hartley Decides to Open Capital.

Olympia, Wash.—After having refused for months to allow the new capitol to be occupied, Governor Hartley announced that the building would be thrown open to use after January 30. The building will be occupied by the chief executive, the secretary of state, the state auditor and the state treasurer.

Meredith Will Not Run for President.

Des Moines, Ia.—Edwin T. Meredith, ex-secretary of agriculture, is not a candidate for the presidency. He gave this assurance to state party leaders, in session here, after a proposal had been made that Iowa democrats get behind Mr. Meredith as a "favorite son" candidate.

THE MARKETS

Portland
Wheat—B. B. bluestem, \$1.42; hard white, \$1.32½; federation, \$1.29; soft white, western white, \$1.28½; hard winter, \$1.24; northern spring, \$1.25½; western red, \$1.23½.
Hay—Alfalfa, \$18@18.50; valley timothy, \$18@18.50; eastern Oregon timothy, \$20.50@21.
Butterfat—50@54c.
Eggs—Ranch, 32@37c.
Cattle—Steers, good, \$11.75@12.65.
Hogs—Medium to choice, \$7.75@7.35.
Lambs—Medium to choice, \$11.50@13.00.
Seattle.
Wheat—Soft white, western white, \$1.30; hard winter, western red, \$1.26; northern spring, \$1.29; bluestem, \$1.46; dark northern spring, \$1.48; dark hard winter, \$1.42.
Hay—Alfalfa, \$25; timothy, \$28; P. S., \$22.
Butterfat—53c.
Eggs—Ranch, 36@39c.
Cattle—Steers, choice, \$11.50@12.25.
Hogs—Prime, \$9.10@9.35.
Spokane.
Cattle—Steers, good, \$11@12.
Hogs—Good, \$8.35@9.00.

OREGON STATE NEWS OF GENERAL INTEREST

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

Mrs. Elizabeth Jane Fisher Robinson, 87, a covered wagon pioneer of Oregon and a resident of The Dalles for nearly half a century, died there last week.

Raymond Walls, 26, suffered fatal injuries Sunday afternoon when struck by logs in the three-mile chute at the Ralph Davis camp on Bear creek in Wallawa county.

Egg producers of Coos county have formed the Coos County Egg Producers' association with a total of 12,000 hens, the object being to find a home market for eggs.

The first wool sale in Ontario for 1928 was reported last week when Steve Woodward of Westfall sold the crop from 1400 sheep to J. M. Johnson for 35 cents a pound.

The 1927 hop crop of the Willamette valley is practically all sold, only a few small lots remaining in the warehouses, for which a price of 20 cents a pound is being offered.

Firemen answered 2028 alarms, of which 444 caused a total loss of \$731,275.12 last year, Edward Grenfell, fire marshal at that time, declared in his annual report, filed recently.

Ten cougars in 10 days is the record recently made by Delmer and Stanley Colegrove in the Pistol river region of Curry county. They were paid a bounty of \$25 each for the animals.

Members of the Linn-Benton county Jersey Cattle club at their annual meeting in Albany last week unanimously endorsed the proposal to restore a county agent to Linn county.

Portland's infant mortality rate for 1927 was 46.2 to every 1000 births, a "rate seldom attained by cities in our class," Dr. John G. Abele, city health officer, declared in his annual report.

C. P. Ragsdale, stockman and rancher of eastern Oregon, is the owner of an artesian well that was tapped recently on his ranch near Jamison that is flowing at the rate of 270 gallons an hour.

The stork was extremely kind to Mr. and Mrs. William Gray of Ponsosa, near Baker. They became parents of triplets born at St. Elizabeth's hospital last week. They were girls, all of them.

The annual mid-winter meeting of the Wing, Fin and Fleetfoot club of Union county will be held in La Grande on the evening of February 7, with clams as the main item on the dinner menu.

Miss Marie Iverson of Medford was elected president of the Crater Lake union of the Christian Endeavor in the annual convention of the southern Oregon district, which was held in Grants Pass last week.

A committee of Medford business men is considering a proposition of E. C. Miller of Portland, to erect a temporary modern office and store building in that city to cost \$325,000, local interests to furnish \$75,000.

Forty hotel managers of southern Oregon and northern California were guests of the Del Rogue hotel at Grants Pass when the southern Oregon branch of the Hotel Men's association was formed last week.

An excellent outlook for the dairy industry of the northwest and of that section in particular was pictured to dairymen who attended the annual meeting of the Eastern Oregon Dairymen's association at Haines last week.

Pneumonia took the greatest toll in Portland in many weeks when 15 deaths were reported for last week by Dr. John G. Abele, city health officer, and the total of 101 deaths from all causes also was an exceptional week's record.

Students in agriculture in the college in Corvallis have joined with others of the institution in favoring the use of the designation "Oregon State college," in preference to the title Oregon Agricultural college, by which name the institution has long been known.

The first community auction sale idea is proving popular with farmers throughout Yamhill county. The idea of their getting together to sell goods in a co-operative sale seems to appeal, and numerous listings have been received. Household goods, live stock and farm implements are the most frequent entries.

Sweet Home and Foster have quite a few new residents. The people are mostly those interested in the highway and railroad building. They have been forced in many cases to locate in private homes for accommodation.

Miss Betty Rackleff, pretty telephone operator of Reedsport, received shock and burns last week when the Coos and Curry telephone office was destroyed by fire. The blaze started from an explosion in the wood-burning stove used to heat the quarters.

John Yoakum of Coquille was elected to the Port of Bandon commission at the meeting of the board there last week. He succeeds Philip Johnson, resigned.

Mid-year students graduating from Portland high schools will number approximately 755, the office of the superintendent of schools reported. Of this number 356 are boys and 399 girls. Jefferson high school, with 115 to receive diplomas, has the largest outgoing class.

Pacific university celebrated the 74th anniversary of the granting of its charter Sunday night in the college gymnasium at Forest Grove. A huge white birthday cake with the span of years written upon it—1854-1928—was served to the student body and faculty members.

William Heitman, 74, was kicked and trampled to death by horses on his farm near Dodge, Or., southwest of Estacada. One horse kicked him under the belly of the other and the second horse then joined in the attack. The man was dead before a doctor could reach him from Estacada.

The total apple shipments from Imbler will be 250 carloads, according to E. J. Hazen, Union Pacific agent at that point. Mr. Hazen has been agent in Imbler for several years, and has given the local apple market careful study. He also stated that 30 carloads of potatoes would be shipped.

Within 11 years, second-growth timber on Grand Island has grown sufficiently to merit another logging off. The land was completely cleared in 1916, since when the alder and fir have grown so that they are declared to be equal to the product of 50 years of normal growth. Logging operations will soon take place.

A serious epidemic of scarlet fever, with some chickenpox and influenza, exists at Valselt, isolated lumbering town in the coast range mountains of western Polk county. Dr. A. B. Starbuck, county health officer, visited the place last Thursday and ordered strict quarantine in homes where the disease has broken out.

Nevius hall, the fine new community house recently completed by the Episcopal church in Baker on the property adjoining St. Stephen's church on First street, just north of Broadway, was dedicated with an interesting service last week. Bishop Remington delivered the dedicatory sermon. The hall cost about \$12,000.

The large new dairy barn on the D. D. Longbottom farm about four miles west of Aulsea burned to the ground last Saturday night. Four horses, 30 dairy cows and three young heifers were burned to death. All the contents of the barn, including about 50 tons of hay, a gasoline engine and a new cream separator, were destroyed.

Six hundred feet of track was destroyed and two carloads of logs were dumped at Camp No. 7 of the Coos Bay Lumber company at Powers. This was the second accident in a few days when logging cars took a downward trip to destruction. Loggers ran to safety as the cars, heavily loaded with logs, careened down the incline.

Construction of a modern milk condensing and powdering plant will be undertaken soon by the Lower Columbia Co-operative Dairy association, stockholders of the organization decided at their annual meeting in Astoria recently. The structure will be near the business center of Astoria and will represent an investment of more than \$50,000.

For construction and improvement of roads in and adjacent to the national forests of Oregon, \$621,000 has been allocated for the next fiscal year, together with \$453,000 for roads required mainly for forest protection and administration. Oregon forest roads thus are granted approximately \$1,075,000 out of a total of \$7,500,000 available for all the national forests.

Mrs. Elizabeth Gaston Lyons celebrated her 101st birthday in Eugene last week. Mrs. Lyons, oldest member of Lewis and Clark chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution, of Eugene, is a descendant of Lieutenant-Colonel Robert Gaston, one-time captain of a regiment of minute men in the revolutionary war and a member of the New Jersey committee of safety.

Thirteen persons were killed by traffic accidents in Oregon during the month of December, according to a report prepared by T. A. Rafferty, chief inspector for the state motor vehicle department. Approximately 466 persons were injured. The report showed that there were a total of 3363 accidents reported during the month. Of these 1368 were due to carelessness on the part of drivers. A total of 246 accidents were due to speeding. In 75 cases the drivers were intoxicated.

Date for a special election at which the Klamath Falls electorate will vote on the \$300,000 sewer bond issue was set by the city council for February 28. It is proposed by the city to build a new trunk line sewer and disposal plant.

The Miles Linnen mills, which were established in Salem two years ago, now are on a sound financial basis and will pay dividends on future operations, according to a report filed with the directors at their annual meeting in Salem recently.

H. H. BACHKE



H. H. Bachke, the new minister from Norway to the United States, succeeding H. H. Bryan, who was recalled.

FARM RELIEF FORCES SPLIT ON FEE PLAN

Washington, D. C.—Within the short space of a week's hearings by the house agriculture committee, the outlook on farm relief legislation has shifted, and the well-drilled house farm bloc, which last year had the McNary-Haugen bill passed has split into at least two camps. The equalization fee die-hards are under one tent, and some of their ex-allies are banded together to support a bill which they believe would meet administration approval.

Further crystallization of opinion is expected with continuance of hearings.

It was the equalization fee provision in the McNary-Haugen bill which was held primarily responsible for President Coolidge vetoing that measure last session, and that is the reason given by some of its ex-supporters for surrendering it.

The secession movement was led by Representative Williams, republican, of Illinois.

As the McNary-Haugen bill now stands, this fee would be collected from producers of various commodities to finance marketing of the surplus. President Coolidge questioned its constitutionality, terming it a price-fixing provision.

Sentiment in the agriculture committee now seems to lean toward the McNary-Haugen bill minus the debated fee section, although Chairman Haugen, a firm believer in the fee, has said that it would be useless to report the bill "stripped of everything essential to its operation."

BRIEF GENERAL NEWS

Brigadier-General Frank R. McCoy, who has been delegated by President Coolidge to supervise 1928 presidential election in Nicaragua, has arrived at Corinto.

The Norwegian cabinet of Ivan Lykke, which assumed office in March, 1926, resigned as a result of conservative losses in October elections, when the labor party won a striking victory.

With two ex-United States senators—Lenrow of Wisconsin and Thomas of Colorado—as their spokesmen, public utilities corporations came out into the open before the senate interstate commerce committee in opposition to any blanket inquiry into their industry.

Myron T. Herrick, American ambassador to France, returning to his post after a long sick leave, was received like a conquering hero as he landed on the soil of France, military bands playing national airs and steam whistles of harbor craft at Havre joined in shrieking welcome. Arrival in Paris also was the scene of enthusiastic reception.

Woman Accused of Census Graft.

Albany, N. Y.—Criminal action against Mrs. Florence E. S. Knapp, accused of maladministration of the last state census, and against four others, was recommended to Governor Smith by Randall J. Le Boeuf, who was appointed by the governor to investigate the charges. Mrs. Knapp is dean of women at Syracuse university and was the first woman ever to be elected secretary of state in New York. It was as secretary of state that she had charge of the 1925 census.

Vare Files Statement Denying Charges

Washington, D. C.—General denial of the charges of fraud and corruption made by his democratic opponent, William B. Wilson, are contained in the answer filed with the senate by William S. Vare, republican senator elect from Pennsylvania.

U. S. HAS NO POLICY OF IMPERIALISM

Hughes Declares Stable Government Sole Purpose in Nicaragua.

Havana.—The United States, far from harboring imperialistic designs upon Latin-America, desires to see south of the Rio Grande independent, strong and prosperous republics, Charles Evans Hughes, chairman of the American delegation to the Pan-American conference here, told the American chamber of commerce of Cuba at a banquet.

The ex-secretary of state listed independence, stability, good will and co-operation as the four pillars upon which Pan-Americanism rests. He declared: "It is the firm policy of the United States to respect the territorial integrity of the American republics. We have no policy of aggression."

But it is also the policy of the United States "to encourage stability in the interest of independence," Mr. Hughes continued, for the former is "essential" to the full enjoyment of the latter. It was while acting on this principle that the United States entered Santo Domingo, Haiti and lastly Nicaragua, Mr. Hughes said, but in every case the endeavors of the United States were directed toward the earliest evacuation possible.

"We are at this moment in Nicaragua," the American chairman said, "but what we are doing there and the commitments we have made are at the request of both parties and in the interest of peace and order and a fair election. We have no desire to stay. We wish Nicaragua to be strong, prosperous and independent. We entered to meet an imperative but temporary exigency and we shall retire as soon as it is possible."

"If we had cherished an imperialistic purpose," Mr. Hughes told his audience, "we would have remained in Santo Domingo but we withdrew."

The United States will quit Haiti at any time it has reasonable expectation of stability there, said Mr. Hughes. Meanwhile it is trying to establish this stability.

SENATE REFUSES TO SEAT FRANK L. SMITH

Washington, D. C.—Illinois seems destined to have only one-half of its constitutional representation in the United States senate during the present congress, unless Frank L. Smith resigns or mandamus proceedings are brought to compel the secretary of state to provide for an election of a senator.

Governor Small's announcement that he would refuse to recognize the action of the senate in declaring Smith's seat vacant means that Illinois will have only one senator at least until December, 1929, unless an election is forced in Illinois this year.

The senate declared vacant the seat to which the people of Illinois elected Smith by a vote of 61 to 23—more than a two-thirds majority. Twenty-one republicans and the one farmer-labor senator joined with 39 democrats in voting to declare Smith's seat vacant, while two democrats joined with 21 republicans against such a declaration.

FLIER HOYT DEAD

Body Found 10 Miles From Where Plane Crashed in Canyon.

Boise.—The body of Fred Hoyt, lost in an airplane en route between Salt Lake and this city, was found 10 miles west of where his plane crashed in a canyon 20 miles northwest of Holbrook, Idaho. The body was found by a rancher in the open country and was brought into Holbrook on a sled.

Holbrook is in the extreme southeastern corner of Idaho near the Utah line. The exact cause of death has not yet been determined, but from the location of the body it is assumed the aviator abandoned the plane after the crash and died from exposure while seeking a settlement.

Labor Asks for Real Beer.

Miami, Fla.—The American Federation of Labor will demand of both major political parties the inclusion of 2.75 beer in their campaign platform. This announcement was made here by President William Green after the legislative council of the federation had heard the plea of the United Brewery Workers, presented by Joseph Overfeld.

Cuban Decree Limits Sugar Producers.

Havana.—President Machado has signed a decree limiting Cuban sugar production to 4,000,000 tons a year. United States consumers may be affected by the limitation, designed to stabilize prices and bring higher returns to Cuban producers. Of the limited production, 3,300,000 tons will go to the United States.