

ASK QUIZ ON LEGION CENTRALIA DEATHS

Methodist Conference Would Investigate 1919 Armistice Day Shooting.

Tacoma, Wash.—Special investigation of the case of seven Industrial Workers of the World incarcerated in the state penitentiary at Walla Walla for participation in the Centralia Armistice day shooting of 1919 will be undertaken by a special committee of Methodists who will be directed to bring a thorough and impartial report before the 1929 session of the Puget sound and Columbia river conferences which, by that time, will be merged.

Action to this end was taken in the 45th annual session of the Puget sound conference after a hot debate extending more than an hour. The question came up in a resolution proposed by the conference social service commission, headed by Rev. J. Herbert Geoghegan of Hoquiam.

Rev. Geoghegan, a member of the last legislature, but defeated for re-nomination in the primaries, led from the floor of the assembly the movement to have the cases of these men investigated thoroughly.

The fight then started as to the complexion of the investigating committee and number to serve on it. The resolution was redrafted with the word "political" omitted.

A proposal of the commission that three of the members of the investigating committee be Professor C. W. Topping of Tacoma, Clint Lee, Seattle layman, and Rev. Richard Decker of Everett was rejected.

Rev. E. M. Randall, a retired pastor of Vashon, formerly of Chehalis, assisted in the demand for investigation, declaring that "the evidence of guilt of these men was not as clear as it should be in a Christian conscience."

DELEGATION SUPPORTS COLUMBIA BASIN PLAN

Wenatchee, Wash. — Members of Washington's congressional delegation gave assurances of active and unreserved support of the Columbia basin irrigation project, when more than 200 members of the Columbia Basin Irrigation league met here for the seventh annual convention. The meeting was characterized by the most enthusiastic and constructive discussions in the history of the league.

United States Senator Jones spoke in behalf of his colleagues in promising united action. The entire delegation is in accord for the bill, he asserted.

"The Columbia basin bill will go through," Senator Jones predicted. "We will neglect no opportunity to get the measure through, and have found a friendly feeling toward it, with little organized opposition."

Hervey Lindley, Seattle, "grand old man" of the basin league, was unanimously re-elected president under suspension of rules, and John W. Langdon, Walla Walla, vice-president for Washington. E. C. Sammons, Portland, was elected vice-president for Oregon.

LOANS TO VETERANS LARGE

\$25,898,525 Borrowed by Oregon Ex-Servicemen.

Salem, Or.—A total of \$25,898,525 in state bonus funds have been lent to 10,709 Oregon veterans of the world war and the Spanish-American war since the state aid act became operative May 1, 1922, according to Secretary of State Kozier.

All of these loans are secured by first mortgages on real property. To date there has been repaid on these loans \$3,246,632.27 and interest aggregating \$3,407,380.61. Approximately \$4,580,000 has been dispensed in cash bonuses, of which \$353,145 has been repaid by veterans who later elected to take advantage of the loan privilege.

In spite of the large number of loans made the state has found it necessary to foreclose on only 349 loans aggregating \$869,125.

Release of Mining Man Demanded.

Washington, D. C. — Secretary of State Kellogg was urged by Senator Waterman, republican, Colorado, to exert every effort to obtain the release of E. J. Bumsted of Los Angeles, who was kidnapped August 25 and held for ransom by Mexican outlaws at Ixtlan Del Rio, Mexico.

Oregon Auto Crashes Kill 122.

Salem, Or.—During the first eight months of this year 122 persons were killed in motor vehicle accidents, according to a report prepared by Sam A. Kozier, secretary of state.

Prominent Labor Leader Dies.

Quincy, Mass.—James J. Duncan, first vice president of the American Federation of Labor, died here at his home after a long illness.

MRS. T. G. WINTER



Mrs. Thomas G. Winter, prominent clubwoman of Minneapolis, is directing the republican "kitchen campaign." It is Mrs. Winter's job to line up the housewives and their daughters in support of Herbert Hoover.

FOUR MISSING BOYS DECLARED SLAIN

Los Angeles.—Charges of Sanford Clark, a 15-year-old youth that four missing southern California boys had been held captive and then put to death on a small ranch near Riverside, Cal., resulted in the detention here of Cyrus George Northcott, 57, the ranch owner.

On the strength of the story as told by Clark, who said he had been held captive on the place and had been forced to participate in the killing of one of the boys, search was begun for the son of the rancher, Stewart Northcott, 21 years old. The officers believe young Northcott fled to Canada after young Clark's arrest by immigration authorities here investigating his entry into the United States. The elder Northcott was arrested in Los Angeles, and police believe he and his wife vacated the farm at the same time the son fled.

OUST DRY INFORMERS

Use of "Stool Pigeons" in Prohibition Department Discontinued.

Washington, D. C.—Use of "stool pigeons" by prohibition enforcement agents has been discontinued as an "unnecessary evil," Commissioner Doran of the prohibition bureau announced.

The bureau has had a fund with which informers could be paid. Recently perjury charges were filed against informers of this class in Washington, D. C., which caused the commissioner to announce that orders had been issued some time ago to discontinue the employment of such persons.

Coast Labor Conditions Improve.

San Francisco.—Industrial activities in California, Washington and Oregon increased noticeably during August with an actual shortage of labor in certain sections. This is the trend of the August industrial employment survey report of the department of labor.

Northern Chinese Flee in Disorder.

Shanghai.—General Chang Tsung-Chang's last remnant of northern nationalist forces south of the great wall is reported in dispatches as having crumbled before the advancing nationalist forces.

Bobby Jones Defeats British Rival.

Newton, Mass.—Bobby Jones won his fourth national amateur golf title in five years by overwhelming Phil Perkins, the British champion, 10 up and 9 to play, in the final match.

THE MARKETS

Portland
Wheat — Big Bend bluestem, hard white, \$1.37; soft white, \$1.15½; western white, \$1.14½; hard winter, northern spring and western red, \$1.09.
Hay — Alfalfa, \$17@17.50; valley timothy, \$17@17.50; eastern Oregon timothy, \$20.50@21.
Butterfat—54c.
Eggs—Ranch, 25@40c.
Cattle—Steers, good, \$11.50@12.35.
Hogs—Medium to choice, \$11@12.50.
Lamb—Good to choice, \$11@12.50.
Seattle
Wheat—Soft white, western white, \$1.15½; hard winter, northern spring, \$1.08; western red, \$1.10; bluestem, \$1.35.
Hay — Alfalfa, \$24; timothy, \$30; p. s., \$24.
Butterfat—52c.
Eggs—Ranch, 30@44c.
Cattle—Prime steers, \$11.75@12.50.
Hogs—Prime, \$12.60@12.75.
Lamb—Choice, \$11.25@12.50.
Spokane
Hogs—Good and choice, \$11@11.25.
Cattle—Steers, good, \$11@11.75.

OREGON STATE NEWS OF GENERAL INTEREST

Principal Events of the Week Assembled for Information of Our Readers.

Hop-picking was finished at the Molan hopyard in Peoria last week. Good weather was had all through the picking.

Lee & Son of Baker last week shipped six cars of lambs out of Baker valley and Grant county, the consignment going to Omaha.

As a means of raising money for building a new grange hall a most successful district fair and rodeo was recently held at Crawfordsville.

Dr. William de Kleine has resigned as director of the Marion county child health demonstration to become health officer for the American Red Cross.

Douglas county will have approximately 75,000 turkeys for the Thanksgiving and Christmas trade, according to information from Roseburg.

The first frost of the season occurred in certain parts of the Mohawk and McKenzie valleys last week, according to reports reaching Eugene.

The 26th annual session of the Oregon federation of labor ended in La Grande last week with selection of Tillamook as the 1929 convention city.

The Franklin school district in Hood River county has purchased a hand-some bus to transport pupils to and from school. The car will accommodate 30 children.

The forest service was put to \$45,600 expense fighting 110 fires in the Umatilla national forest this season, according to Lester Moncrief, assistant supervisor.

A committee of business men has been appointed by the Kiwanis club to inquire into the need for charter revision to modernize Salem's system of city government.

Linn county will hold its annual fair at Albany September 19-22. There will be the usual extensive exhibits of products but admission will be free to the general public.

At noon last Friday 2830 carloads of pears had been shipped from the Rogue river district to eastern markets. They are being moved at the rate of 50 carloads a day.

A city caucus is to be held in Wheeler September 24 to nominate candidates for the city election November 6. A mayor, five councilmen, recorder and treasurer are to be elected.

The W. R. Pickering Lumber company of Klamath Falls was successful bidder for the Badger Springs unit of the Modoc national forest. The tract has been cruised at 400,000,000 feet.

Contracts has been let for the erection of a new school building at Denabo in Lane county to replace the one that was burned a few weeks ago. L. F. Allenbaugh of Eugene has the contract.

A monster yellow pine tree was felled recently in the Butte Falls district by the Owen-Oregon Lumber company in their logging operation in the timber, which cut 11,000 board feet of lumber.

The state prohibition fund, which under the law cannot exceed \$50,000 in any one year, reached the limit several days ago and all funds derived from prosecutions will go to the various counties.

The campaign for opening moving picture theaters in Eugene on Sunday has been put under way and as an opening gun the Active club at its weekly luncheon unanimously voted in favor of the measure.

The success of Vernonia's first flower show greatly exceeded the expectations of the Garden club, which was sponsoring it. The room which was used for the purpose was filled to overflowing with gorgeous blooms.

The Lane county court will ask the state highway commission at its meeting September 25 to provide for the surfacing of the Willamette highway over the three sections now under construction above Lowell bridge, according to announcement by members of the court.

From 30 acres of volunteer clover in the Niel Stoutenburg farm near Dayton, 84 bushels of red clover seed was produced. Three years have elapsed since clover was raised on this land. One crop of corn and one crop of wheat has been produced and deep plowing has been done twice. A heavy hay crop was cut from this field last spring.

Linn county's vote in November may break records, it is indicated by registrations to date. Already the total of registered voters in the county is past the 10,000 mark and lacks but 1000 of equaling the maximum on record.

Births are falling off in Portland. It developed recently when the August report of the city health office showed that there were fewer births every month so far this year except January than there were for the same months last year.

Fire at Vernonia last week destroyed the Square Deal garage and ten automobiles with a loss of \$19,000.

Estacada prune growers are harvesting their prunes this week. Some orchards are almost barren, while others within a few miles have an average yield. The fruit is exceptionally delicious, being large and juicy. Most of the prunes are being shipped to Newberg, where they will be canned.

Sixteen elk in one herd was sighted Friday by Moss Averill while motoring down the Roosevelt highway. They were grazing in the open at Hunter's head, nine miles below Gold Beach, and within a few yards of the highway. There were seven calves in the herd, indicating that they are on the increase.

Melon and tomato growers in some sections of the Umpqua valley reported that a light frost last week nipped the vines but did little damage. Temperature recorded at Roseburg was the lowest for so early in September since 1910, the minimum being 39 degrees. Only three times in 50 years has the minimum gone below 40 by September 10.

In a robbery for which its coolness and audacity has few precedents in southern Oregon, the Parks grocery store was looted early Sunday of merchandise valued at \$1000 and also a 400-pound safe containing valuable papers, but no cash. Unable to open the safe, the burglars rolled the heavy vault out of the store and onto a truck.

Fire losses in Oregon, outside of Portland, aggregating \$3,269,000 for the eight-months' period ending August 1, were more than \$1,000,000 in excess of the losses for the same period a year ago, according to reports filed with Clare A. Lee, state fire marshal. Losses for August alone, aggregating \$492,000, were nearly double the fire losses for August, 1927.

Oregon apple prospects declined slightly during August and total production is now estimated at 6,427,000 bushels. Last year's estimate was 4,500,000 bushels and the five-year average is 6,487,000 bushels. The commercial crop is estimated at 4,177,000 boxes. Last year's commercial crop was estimated at 2,925,000 boxes, and the five-year average is 4,534,000 boxes.

As a sanitary measure to improve health conditions in the Berrydale community between Central Point and Medford on the Pacific highway, the city of Medford has decided to supply water from the city's mains. About 400 families are residents of Berrydale. They will form a water district of their own and install a system at an expense of approximately \$20,000.

The town of Haines was threatened by fire last week when flames in a sawdust pile spread to the Klordan planing mill and the grain warehouse of D. W. Hearing. A high wind made the battle difficult for the fire-fighters, who were aided by five Baker firemen, who used 800 feet of hose. The loss was estimated at from \$25,000 to \$35,000, most of which was in the planing mill as the warehouse, fortunately, was nearly empty.

Oregon's outstanding bonded indebtedness amounts to \$64,163,960, according to Secretary of State Kozier. This is divided as follows: Highway bonds \$33,555,000; soldiers' bonus bonds, \$28,000,000; irrigation district bonds, \$2,148,960; and rural credit bonds, \$450,000. By the first of the year the grand total will be reduced to \$62,826,460 through the retirement of \$837,500 of highway bonds and \$500,000 of soldiers' bonus bonds.

Som A. Kozier said he will relinquish the office of secretary of state on Monday, September 24. He will be succeeded on the same date by Hal E. Hoss. Kozier resigns to become state budget director, an office created by the 1927 legislature. Hoss is the republican nominee for secretary of state in the November election. The governor's appointment of Hoss to fill the unexpired term has not yet been announced, but it is expected in a few days.

A parade of pioneer day transportation vehicles was a feature of the Old Fort Dalles Frolics which was held in The Dalles last week. A Union Pacific locomotive and coaches of the type known in the early '60s led the parade up Second street. Moving under its own power and filled with bewhiskered Legionnaires and the whisker band, the train presented a novel sight. For many weeks members of the Legion have been in keen competition in whisker raising and the results of their desire to truly portray early settlers were gratifying.

Living in a town and having deer steal his potatoes in a most scientific way is the experience of Frank Owens of Wedderburn. Mr. Owens missed his potatoes and could not account for it except to suspect somebody was laying in a winter supply. He was surprised one morning to find six deer busily engaged in pulling out the tops and digging the spuds with their hoofs. Mr. Owens had to shoo the animals out of his garden, as they were deeply interested in satisfying their appetites before leaving.

WILLIAM F. WHITING



William F. Whiting of Holyoke, Mass., who was appointed secretary of commerce to succeed Herbert Hoover.

NAVAL PERSONNEL IS SHORT 2349 MEN

Washington, D. C.—Although enlisted personnel of the navy will be increased by 750 men during the present fiscal year through economies and extra finances, the force for peace-time operations of the fleets remains short by 2349 men.

Rear Admiral R. H. Leigh, chief of the bureau of navigation, analyzed the situation and found that an average of \$4,410 enlisted men could be maintained through the funds available, compared to \$3,560 last year, 410 of whom do duty in naval hospitals administering to Veterans' Bureau patients. Enlistments of 19,385 men will expire this year, and with 65 per cent re-enlistments 6785 will have to be replaced, along with about 9170 expected to be lost through desertions, court martials, sickness and accidents, making a total of 15,955 to be recruited.

The navy is facing a shortage of 2718 petty officers and 2400 students are sought among the bluejackets for service schools to fit them for promotion. Of the 60,186 men destined for sea duty this year, 10,000 are of less than one year's service.

BRIEF GENERAL NEWS

General John J. Pershing celebrated his 68th birthday September 13.

Jean Claud Justine Charpiet, 103, said to be the oldest man in the southwest, died at his home in Hardin county, Texas.

At President Coolidge's request the American Red Cross appropriated \$50,000 for immediate relief in hurricane-stricken Porto Rico.

The American government may be invited to participate in a revision of the statutes of the permanent international court of justice.

Mrs. Myrtle Huddleston, 35-year-old New York city matron, set a new endurance swimming record for both men and women when she emerged from the Ravenhall pool at Coney Island after having remained in the water for 60 hours.

Dispatches from Porto Rico indicate one of the greatest disasters in history of Caribbean hurricanes. Reports say 70 per cent of the homes in San Juan and 30 per cent of the buildings were destroyed. A third of the city's population is believed to be without shelter.

World Church Conference Planned.

Geneva.—A world religion peace conference will be held in 1930, probably in India, it was decided by the church peace union committee of which Dean Shailer Mathews of the University of Chicago is chairman. An organization committee of 1000 will be appointed and all religious sects will be invited to send delegates.

American Foreign Trade Grows.

Washington, D. C.—The total value of exports from the United States during July, 1928, totaled \$378,768,065, as compared with \$341,809,006 in July of last year. The total value of imports during July of this year was \$317,804,183, compared with \$319,298,211 in July, 1927.

Newton D. Baker Given Medal.

Washington, D. C.—The distinguished service medal was awarded Saturday to Newton D. Baker of Cleveland, war-time secretary of war. It was conferred "for exceptionally meritorious and distinguished service."

Spain Holds Revolutionary Plotters.

Gibraltar.—Numerous arrests in connection with the Spanish revolutionary plot are being made in southern Spain. More than 50 took place in La Linea, near Gibraltar.

GERMANS OPPOSE PROPOSAL OF ALLIES

Partial Evacuation of Rhineland Plan is Not Acceptable.

Geneva.—Immediate evacuation of the second occupied zone is understood to be the offer made by the allies to Germany in return for German acceptance of a special commission of conciliation and verification to control the Rhineland.

The allies have further suggested that this commission continue to function during the life of the Rhine pact negotiated at Locarno. In the German view this would extend the commission's life indefinitely. The Germans point out that the Rhine pact remains in force until the league of nations council by a two-thirds majority decides that the league itself insures sufficient protection to the Locarno signatories.

The Germans are said to be absolutely opposed to accepting such a commission beyond 1930 and some of them think that it would be infinitely better to drop all evacuation negotiations than to give their consent to the allied proposals.

The French idea is that the five countries signatory to the Rhine pact—France, Germany, Belgium, Great Britain and Italy—should be represented on the commission. Whether it would sit permanently at Cologne or merely meet when occasion justifies is still under discussion.

CABINET ASKED TO CUT DOWN EXPENSES

Washington, D. C.—President Coolidge has every expectation that sufficient economies can be carried out in the operation of the government before June 30 so that there will be no treasury deficit on that date, as estimated by the budget bureau.

The president took up the question of reducing governmental expenditures at a cabinet meeting. He urged all heads of departments to refrain from expending any appropriations which were not strictly necessary for the operation of the government, and he obtained sufficient assurance of possible economies to satisfy him that no treasury deficit will be incurred in the current year.

Mr. Coolidge pointed out to his cabinet officers many appropriations for the year which should be wiped out. One unexpected governmental financial burden has been the \$45,000,000 expenditure resulting from a recent decision of the interstate commerce commission increasing the railway mail rates by \$15,000,000 a year, retroactive for three years.

WARNING GIVEN BY CHINA

Note on Pact Calls Far East "Danger Spot."

Shanghai.—Although the text of China's reply to the American invitation to sign the Kellogg-Briand anti-war pact has not been revealed, it is learned that in it the foreign minister, Dr. C. T. Wang, has congratulated the United States on efforts in behalf of world peace and has pledged Chinese support.

It is understood, however, that in addition he has called attention to the unsettled conditions prevailing in the orient, terming the far east "a danger spot in which it is possible to originate another world conflict, due to the presence of foreign armed forces in China."

He also urged greater American interests in Chinese questions.

Middle West Storm Toll Fourteen.

Chicago.—At least 14 persons were killed, scores were injured and many farm buildings blown away or demolished by two tornadoes which swept across portions of Nebraska and South Dakota. Eight lives were lost in the Nebraska twister, which first struck near Pender, 80 miles northeast of Omaha, and cut a narrow swath reaching almost to Sioux City, Ia.

Coolidge to Visit His Boyhood Home.

Washington, D. C.—President Coolidge left here for a three or four-day trip to New England. With Mrs. Coolidge, he will spend Thursday morning in Northampton, Mass., the home of Mrs. Coolidge's mother, and proceed to Vermont on an inspection tour of the district flooded last spring. He will spend a day and night at his boyhood home in Plymouth.

Wisconsin Is After Summer Capitol.

Superior, Wis.—A movement to establish a permanent summer home for presidents of the United States is being pushed by the public affairs committee of the city of Superior. The committee would have the state of Wisconsin purchase the 4000-acre Cedar Island lodge on the Brule, where president and Mrs. Coolidge spent the past summer.