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McNary's Farm Bill Offered in the House

Measure Will Not be Considered Until After Holiday Recess.

Washington, D. C.—Terminating ten days of uncertainty as to his attitude on new farm relief proposals, Chairman Haugen of the house agricultural committee Monday endorsed the McNary bill and, virtually unchanged, introduced it as a companion measure in the house.

His measure, like that of Senator McNary, republican, Oregon, provides for an equalization fee on five principal commodities including cotton, and this is expected to precipitate a controversy between Haugen and Representative Fulmer, democrat, South Carolina, who has introduced the McNary bill modified to exempt application of the fee on cotton until two years after enactment.

Immediately the farm forces began to lay plans for bringing the new bill to a vote this session, but a decision by the house agriculture committee to discontinue further meetings until after the holidays indicated inaction until January. The senate committee also plans no meetings until after the recess.

Senator McNary has attempted to include in his new farm relief plan all the features of similar measures introduced at the last session which he believes acceptable, including parts of the Trenchard and Fess bills. The "agricultural fund," which is the principal feature of the new bill, is to be created from equalization fees laid upon the "unmarketed units" of each commodity. It is to be used in "removing holding or disposing" of the surplus, under terms similar to those of the old bill.

All mention of price standardization or price levels, however, is omitted from the present legislation.

CHRISTMAS MELON CUT BY U. S. STEEL

New York.—A \$200,000,000 Christmas gift in the form of a 40 per cent stock dividend came as a reward to common stockholders of the United States Steel corporation after years of waiting to share in the company's huge surplus of more than \$500,000,000. The finance committee and the board of directors of the world's largest steel company unanimously approved a proposal to increase the common stock by 2,633,310 shares, subject to the ratification of stockholders at their annual meeting next April. This action represents the capitalization of some \$200,000,000 of the corporation's surplus and will mean the distribution to stockholders of one of the largest dividends ever paid by a industrial company.

TAX GROSS EARNINGS

Oregon Inquirers Favor Real Property Exemption from State Tax.

Portland, Ore.—Elimination of state taxes on real property and raising state revenues from a gross earnings tax levied on corporations.

This, it is reported, will be the recommendation made to the legislature by the tax investigating committee, which has been working on the tax problem for months.

The committee, of which John H. Carlin, who will be speaker of the house of representatives, is a member, returned from California last week and is said to favor the California plan of financing the state through a gross-earnings tax.

La Grande Selected for New Normal.

Salem, Or.—The board of regents of state normal schools, by a vote of five to four, selected La Grande as the location for the new state normal school which was created under a measure approved by the voters of Oregon at the last general election.

Landis Investigates Base Ball Stars.

Chicago, Ill.—Ty Cobb and Tris Speaker were linked in an investigation conducted by Baseball Commissioner Landis involving an alleged irregularity of a game between Detroit and Cleveland played in Detroit September 25, 1919. Commissioner Landis, without making a decision, made public more than 100 pages of testimony taken in connection with the case.

Athena Boys Win And Girls Lose To Pilot Rock Team

Friday night the basket ball teams of Athena high met and split games with the teams representing Pilot Rock. The girls' official did not arrive and the Pilot Rock coach, Mr. Hopf, refereed the first half, and Wilbur Harden, Athena, took the second half. The game was somewhat slow, and the score was close. Pilot Rock won, 9 to 6.

Athena	Line-Up	Pilot Rock
E. Pittman	R. F. Carnes	
Anderson	L. F. Smith	
Geissel	J. C. Bracher	
De Freese	R. C. Byrd	
Charlton	R. G. James	
Smith	L. G. Sherwood	
Cannon	Subs.	Beck
L. Pittman, T. Schrimpf.		

The referee was on hand for the boys game with all his accessories. In all fairness to the referee tho, it should be mentioned that both coaches asked him before the game to call everything close. Suffice it to say that he carried out all that was requested. The game started with a rush and continued that way throughout. The score at the end of the first half was 9 to 5 in favor of Athena, with foul shots accounting for most of the points.

In the second half there were more field baskets and both teams ran out of substitutes to take the place of men put out with four personal fouls. In the last quarter Athena got over her fear of fouling, played the ball, and began to make points.

In those few minutes the boys rang up 13 points to 3 for Pilot Rock and closed the game with a final score of 28 to 18. In all departments of the game, the boys showed promise, which with hard work will bring results.

Athena, 28	Line-Up	Pilot Rock, 18
Stephens	R. F. Michael	
Radtke	L. F. R. Smith	
Kretzer	C. J. Smith	
Taylor	R. G. Miller	
Cannon	L. G. Wayatt	
Johnson	Subs.	Sherwood
McDonald, Lieualten and Myrick.		

Referee: Cruson from Walla Walla. Scorer: Miller, Athena.

Athena Takes Doubleheader

Athena High school took a doubleheader at the Weston gym Wednesday evening, from Weston high. The boys won 22 to 16. Athena girls ran their score up 31 points to 7 for the Weston girls. The boys game was fast and well played. The Weston girls could not connect with the basket, Athena leading all the way on the offensive.

"The Nativity" Pageant Was Well Presented

The Christian church was well filled Sunday night when "The Nativity" a Christmas pageant was presented.

The auditorium was appropriately decorated with greens and garlands, forming a fitting background for the participants. Christmas carols interspersed through out the performance were beautifully rendered while the costuming and lighting effects were beautiful.

The presenting of the pageant as a whole was one worthy of much praise and was much appreciated by the large audience present.

Accidentally Drowned

Miss Margaret Hamilton, 38, born and raised at Walla Walla, was accidentally drowned in Lake Wahiawa, Honolulu, Tuesday. Of recent years she had taught in the schools of Portland and Yakima. She went to Honolulu last June to teach in the schools there. Her father, Gavin Hamilton, resides at Lewiston, Idaho.

Christmas Tree Exercises

An interesting program was rendered at the Christmas tree exercises held at the school house in District No. 2, Wednesday evening. The program consisted of music, songs and recitations. Miss Savely, teacher, had charge of the program, which was enjoyed by those present.

Postoffice Busy Place

The Athena postoffice has been about the busiest place in town, this week. A larger number of Christmas packages than usual have been mailed through the office, and noticeably the greeting card volume has also increased.

Here From Condon

Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Eosher who reside at Condon, are in Athena visiting at the homes of relatives and friends.

Clackamas County Is Boosting For Agent

New Umatilla County Agent Is Praised For Previous Work.

The East Oregonian says that a copy of resolutions passed by the Greater Clackamas Union of clubs composed of the civic clubs of Clackamas county in which is expressed the high esteem in which Walter A. Holt, new Umatilla county agent is held have been received by County Judge I. M. Schanney.

"This is not a mere good fellowship resolution, but tells the story of Mr. Holt's entire career, and through his attitude won the esteem and friendship of all the people. He was given an ovation when this resolution was passed by the 350 representatives of the clubs voted," says a letter accompanying the resolutions signed by E. A. Koen, Oregon City, secretary and treasurer. The resolution follows:

Whereas, Walter A. Holt, Clackamas County Agricultural Agent, loyal friend and worker in this organization, and a valuable citizen of the community, has determined that his interests will be better conserved by transferring to another part of the state; and

Whereas, This change will be made within the next few weeks and before another meeting of this organization is held; therefore be it

Resolved, That the Greater Clackamas Union of Clubs in regular session assembled at Gladstone, Oregon, this 28th day of October, 1926, that we deplore the conditions that appear to have necessitated the change; and be it further

Resolved, That we extend to Walter A. Holt a vote of appreciation for his splendid co-operation and assistance to this Club, and for the general good that he has done in Clackamas county during his six years' work here; and we congratulate him upon his promotion to one of the best agricultural agents' positions in the state; and be it further

Resolved, That we pledge our full support to John J. Inskip, his successor in office here, realizing the importance and value of county agricultural work; and be it further

Resolved, That copies of these resolutions be forwarded to Mr. Holt, to the county court of Umatilla County, Oregon, and to the Extension Service Department of the State Agricultural College at Corvallis.

Wind Drifted Snow

While the chinook wind was melting the snow here and on the foothills, Tuesday, drifts accumulated on the highway, between Athena and Adams. Auto stages were held up Saturday and Sunday on account of ice and sleet on the pavement. The Union Pacific ran a train on the schedule of their auto stage, the four part of the week.

Right Leg Removed Between Knee and Hip As a Last Resort

Elmer Merritt, who has been a patient for eight months at St. Mary's hospital Walla Walla, was forced to undergo an operation Monday, for the amputation of his right leg, as a last resort to save his life. He withstood the operation better than expected, and now has a fair chance for recovery.

Mr. Merritt had his leg broken last summer, when he was struck down by an automobile, which ran into a band of sheep which Merritt was driving along the highway. The fracture proved to be a most serious one, the bone being splintered. It did not yield to treatment readily, and three operations prior to the amputation were found necessary, one being the result of a wheel chair collapsing, which caused the patient to fall to the floor, again breaking the leg.

After the leg was broken a second time, the fractured bone would not knit, and the limb was gradually shrinking, leaving amputation the only recourse left.

A compromise for damages was made out of court, Mr. Merritt receiving \$2000 and hospital, medical and professional services paid up to the first of last July. Henry Barrett was present when the operation took place. It was performed by Dr. Kaylor, in the presence of three other surgeons.

Sid McLean Died Friday, Funeral Is Held Here Sunday

Sid McLean, 44, farmer of the Dry Creek neighborhood, and well known in Athena, died at a hospital in Walla Walla, early Friday evening of last week while under an operation for relief from stomach trouble.

Mr. McLean had been ailing for some time, and Thursday night became worse. A physician was called and had the patient removed to a hospital, where preparations were at once made for the operation.

The remains were brought to Athena Saturday and the funeral was held at the Methodist Episcopal church here, Sunday afternoon at 2 o'clock.

Mr. McLean is survived by his widow and one daughter, his mother, Mrs. McLean of Athena; two brothers, James McLean of Washtucum, Washington, and Will McLean, of Dry Creek.

Post Elects Officers

At a meeting of Athena-Weston American Legion Post, Monday evening, the following officers were elected for the ensuing year. Penn T. Harris, Commander; Justin C. Harwood, Adjutant; Victor T. Hirsch, Finance Officer; Glenn C. Dudley, Grant S. Prestbye, Curran L. McFadden, Herman O'Hara, Everett E. Zerba, Executive Committee.

Miss Seville Marty of Pendleton, spent Sunday in Athena with friends.

New Normal School Goes To La Grande

Pendleton Is Nosed Out For the Location By a 5 to 4 Vote.

A Salem special to the Portland Oregonian, says the board of regents of state normal schools, by a vote of five to four, selected La Grande as the location for the new state normal school which was created under a measure approved by the voters of Oregon at the last general election.

Members of the board of regents who voted for La Grande were E. E. Bragg of Salem, J. H. Fuller of Ashland, Frank Miller of Albany, Governor Pierce of Salem and R. R. Turner, state superintendent of public instruction. Regents who voted for Pendleton on the final ballot were W. C. Bryant of Moro, George A. Hartman of Pendleton, C. L. Starr of Portland and Sam A. Kozier, secretary of state.

The location of the new normal school was determined through a process of elimination. There were originally 12 applicants for the school of which four were eliminated early in the meeting. They were Arlington, Weston, Redmond and Elgin. There was no discussion by the regents with relation to the merits of the applicants.

On the second elimination ballot La Grande received nine votes, Milton one, Pendleton eight, Bend one, Hood River one, and The Dalles seven votes. Under the rules adopted for balloting, all of the applicants were eliminated on the second ballot with the exception of La Grande, Pendleton and The Dalles. Each regent voted for three locations on the second ballot.

C. L. Starr then moved that The Dalles be selected as the location for the normal school. Only three of the nine regents, including Fuller, Starr and Bryant voted for this motion. With The Dalles eliminated from consideration the regents then divided by a vote of five to four in favor of La Grande. After the final vote had been announced it was decided that the action of the regents should be considered unanimous.

The city of La Grande, through its commercial organizations, has offered to deed free to the state for normal school purposes the choice of three sites. Two of the sites are within the city limits, while the third is located a short distance from the municipality.

It also was agreed that the grade school buildings at La Grande should be turned over to the normal school regents for practice teaching, and that the city should provide adequate water and sewage systems.

If new grade schools are erected in La Grande the normal school regents shall be consulted in connection with their architecture and design.

Lodges Will Hold Joint Installation Next Monday Night

Joint installation of officers will be held at Masonic Hall Monday evening of next week, by Dolph Lodge No. 80, A. F. & A. M., and McKenzie Chapter, No. 112, O. E. S.

Masons and their families will attend, and a banquet supper will be an event of the evening. A range has been placed in the lower room of the Masonic lodge building, and the supper will be prepared there.

The following officers for the ensuing year will be installed by Dolph Lodge: Herman Hoffman, W. M.; Clarence Tubbs, S. R.; Louis Keen, J. R.; N. A. Miller, Treasurer; Ralph Cannon, Secretary; Read Hill, Tyler. Chapter officers to be installed are: Stella Radtke, W. M.; A. R. Coppock, W. P.; Kathleen Barrett, A. M.; Persephone Watts, Secretary; Virginia Watts, Treasurer; Minnie Ferguson, Conductress; Alma Ames, Associate Conductress.

A Christmas Program At the Baptist Church

The Christmas spirit was manifested Thursday night at the Baptist church when members of the church and Sunday school cooperated in presenting a program.

A profusion of red and green garlands were used and a glittering tree was the feature of the decorations. The program follows:

Song, "Joy to the World"..... Congregation
Scripture Reading..... Mr. Hadley
Musical Prayer..... Helen Barrett
Welcome Song..... Sunday School
Recitation..... Maybelle Clemons
Recitation..... Laura Jean Payne
Recitation..... Paul Kibby
Recitation..... Gene Miller
Recitation..... Billy McFadden
Recitation..... Raymond McFadden
Recitation..... Beverly Barrett
Recitation..... Clark Zerba
Recitation..... Teddy Miller
Solo, "Star of Hope"..... Mrs. R. B. McEwen
Recitation..... Arleen Foster
Recitation..... Jack Pierce
Solo..... Clark Zerba
Recitation..... Raymond Murphy
Recitation..... Roland Wilson
Recitation..... Cecil Clemons
Recitation..... Nadine Elder
Duet..... Robert and Barbara Lee
Recitation..... Clair Elder
Recitation..... Arthur Crowley
Song..... Young People's Class
Recitation..... Nellie Pierce
Recitation..... Goldie Pierce
Christmas Story..... Sunshine Girls
Recitation..... Bryan Kibby
Solo..... Choir
Talk..... Rev. Bollinger

Snow Blinds Driver Cars In Collision

When Lester Bergevin and his mother were driving along the highway between Weston and Athena, Wednesday morning Mr. Bergevin became blinded by the snow and collided with an approaching car.

Both drivers attempted to avoid the accident by using their brakes causing them to skid.

The Bergevin car was quite badly damaged the running board and radiator being smashed and an axle sprung, while the occupants were bruised and shaken. The other car escaped with only a few scratches.

Struck Machine Headon

Norman McIntyre, in making a getaway from a bunch of snowballers, Wednesday afternoon, met with what might have terminated in a serious accident. Attempting to turn the corner at Stoves while running, he plunged headon against Mrs. M. L. Watts' car which was turning the corner from Third street. The car was running slow and this fact saved Norman from being badly hurt. As it was he came out of it with a bruised shoulder and a couple of abrasions on his forehead.

Dance New Year's Eve

The Athena-Weston American Legion Post will give a big dance on New Year's eve, next Friday night. A special invitation is extended to all to come and dance the old year out and the new year in. Music will be furnished by the Jolly Joy-Maker's orchestra.

George Mayer, Pioneer

George Mayer, a resident of Walla Walla for forty years, died in that city Tuesday morning, at the age of 65 years.

Wets Starting In To Modify Amendment

Cider of 2.75 Per Cent With Wine at 8 to 12 Per Cent Proposed In Bill.

Washington, D. C.—House wets made their first move Monday toward introduction of a composite prohibition modification measure, while from Wayne B. Wheeler, counsel for the anti-saloon league, came a broadside against members of congress who successfully eliminated \$500,000 from the treasury appropriation bill as expense for undercover prohibition agents.

Representative Hill, republican, Maryland, wet, leader, completed drafting a bill which would amend the prohibition act to permit the manufacture and sale of beverages which are "not in fact intoxicating as determined in accordance with the laws of the respective states."

Hill would place his amendment directly after the provision which exempts from penalties individuals manufacturing nonintoxicating cider and fruit juices.

"Cider of 2.75 per cent," he said, "can be legally made in the home of the farmer, and from 8 to 12 per cent wine can be legally made in the farmer's home, because it is legally non-intoxicating. If it is legally non-intoxicating, there is no reason why in those states which desire it, such beverages, including malt beverages, may not be commercially sold under such restrictions as such states may make."

Wheeler prescribed the blocking of the \$500,000 undercover appropriation as an attempt to "starve the prohibition cat so it cannot catch the liquor mice." His statement included a denial that such appropriations would authorize funds for the anti-saloon league. He said the league seeks no government money.

The wets, he claimed, "seek to cripple the enforcement agents by making them personally finance the capture of big prohibition offenders and rum-runners."

EXPENDITURES FOR SCHOOLS INCREASE

New York.—Expenditures for public grammar schools and high schools in the United States since 1900 have increased seven-fold, while the population during the same period has increased only by about half, according to a study of public education expenditures made by the national industrial conference board.

Extension of educational facilities and raises in teachers' salaries account for part of the increase, the report discloses.

The annual budget for primary and secondary schools in 1900 was \$211,955,000, but in 1924, the latest year for which figures are available, grammar and high schools required an expenditure of \$1,820,743,000, the report shows. This is an increase of 747 per cent. The increase in per capita cost in the four years was 474 per cent.

In 1924 the highest amount expended in child education was the \$159.35 for each child of from 5 to 17 years of age spent by California. Nevada ranked second with \$129.19 and Wyoming third with \$106.23, according to the report.

PLAN CHURCH CONFERENCES

Series of Conventions to Be Held in Pacific Coast Cities.

San Francisco, Cal.—A series of inter-denominational conferences under the auspices of the United Stewardship council will be held in leading cities of the Pacific coast in January. The meetings, arranged through the federation of churches, will be participated in by all the Protestant clergy and leading religious workers in the cities included in the itinerary.

The schedule of meetings includes Spokane, Wash., January 7-8; Seattle, Wash., January 15-17; Sacramento, Cal., January 20-21; San Francisco, Cal., January 22-24, 25-26; Fresno, Cal., January 27-28.

New Mark Set by Air Mail Pilot

Washington, D. C.—A record flight from Chicago to New York was made by John E. Miller and H. A. Chesbrough, transcontinental air mail pilot, who covered the 1200 miles in 4 hours and 20 minutes flying time, dipping 15 minutes off the previous best air record.

To All the World

