

## NATION-WIDE DRY REFERENDUM ASKED

### Removal of Question From Politics Would Please Leaders.

Washington, D. C.—A studied effort is under way here to interest dry members of congress in a nation-wide referendum on the prohibition question.

Of all the proposals advanced by the wets, this one now is looked upon by the wet leaders as the most promising means of solving the wet and dry problem which has agitated both houses for several seasons to the exclusion of pressing public business.

Dry senators and representatives have been told by the wet leaders that congress cannot effectually settle the controversy without a direct expression from the people, who, the wets contend, never have received an opportunity to pass on prohibition either before or since the 18th amendment was ratified.

Removal of this subject from the field of national politics would be welcomed by leaders of both of the major parties, but they do not believe it can be done through the medium of individual state referendums such as those held in the last general election because of the different forms in which the question would be presented.

## NATIONAL FOREST FIRE LOSS \$638,351

Portland, Or.—Forest fires in and near the 22 national forests of Oregon and Washington did \$638,351 damage to tangible resources, according to the annual fire statistical report, just issued by the district forester's office here.

The report covers 1490 fires, which burned over 241,432 acres of federal and private lands.

Figures include damage to merchantable timber and protection for, e. g., \$430,456; valuable young tree growth, \$130,781; forage, \$1591; improvements and miscellaneous, \$3395. These damage figures do not include such real economic losses as soil damage, wild life, water conservation and recreational values, on which figures are not available.

Of the area burned, 93,032 acres were mature or merchantable forest; 82,718 acres valuable for the protection of stream flow, and 57,165 acres, potential forest land. Merchantable timber burned amounted to 157,672,000 board feet. Practically none of this timber is salvable.

Cost of fighting fires amounted to \$500,070. It is found that 690 fires were started by lightning, and 800 were man caused. Smokers started 231 fires; campers, 238; incendiary, 88; railroads, 83; brush burning, 31; lumbering, 22; miscellaneous, 59.

## IDAHO WANTS LAKE WATER

### Legislature Forestalls Possible Use by Other States.

Boise, Idaho.—To forestall any possible steps toward storage of water in Idaho lakes and streams for use in other states, until such time as careful study proves that Idaho does not need the water, house and senate of the Idaho legislature passed a bill empowering the governor to appropriate and hold in trust for the people of the state the water in Priest, Pend Oreille and Coeur d'Alene lakes.

This was done a few hours prior to a joint committee hearing at which representatives from Oregon and Washington placed the merits of the Columbia basin project before the legislature. Headed by J. A. Ford, secretary of the Columbia irrigation league, this delegation met the waterways committees of both house and senate.

## Norwegian Envoy Will Stay.

Washington, D. C.—Heimer H. Bryn, who has been recalled by his government after serving as Norwegian minister here for more than 15 years, will remain in Washington with his family indefinitely on account of the condition of his son, Johannes, who was injured recently in an automobile accident. His recall is presumed to have resulted from a disagreement with his government over the wisdom of pressing certain shipping claims against the United States. Johannes Bryn has applied for American citizenship.

## New McNary-Haugen Bill Starts On Way Through Congress

The McNary-Haugen bill was approved by the senate agriculture committee, the action clearing the way for a renewal in both houses of congress of the perennial battle over farm relief legislation.

The measure, which would levy an equalization fee on basic crops with a view to controlling surpluses, was reported recently by the house agriculture committee, three of whose members, opposed to it, filed a minority report setting forth their views.

The proposal, sponsored jointly by Chairman McNary and Haugen of the two committees, is now on both the senate and house calendars, with its proponents determined to force a vote on it before March 4, adjournment, and its opponents resorting mainly to the Curtis-Crisp bill as a weapon to defeat the equalization fee provision.

Managers of each bill plan to press them forward next week with sponsors of the McNary-Haugen measure, predicting that modifications made in the bill will overcome the opposition that resulted in its defeat in both the senate and house at the last session.

Chairman McNary declared in a statement that "his bill" "provides a way for producers of the basic agricultural crops to adjust supply to demand in their most profitable markets to their best interests, while the minority report of the house committee members—Representatives Tinch of Kansas, Pratt of New York and Fort of New Jersey, republicans—branded the measure as "more objectionable and certainly more unconstitutional than the original proposal presented at the last session."

The action of the senate committee with two absentees, was unanimous and without amendment. Under the measure a federal revolving fund of \$250,000,000 would be appropriated to be administered by a federal farm board for the export of the surplus of cotton, wheat, corn, swine and rice, which would be repaid by an equalization fee collected against the crops at the processing point. Limitation of outstanding loans for any one commodity at one time, would be fixed at \$25,000,000.

While the senate committee was acting, the house agriculture committee approved the Tinch bill to enable members of farmer's co-operative association to obtain seats on grain exchanges.

The two measures in controversy are unlike in several respects, but the most important of these is the equalization fee by which the McNary-Haugen bill would control crop surpluses. The Curtis-Crisp plan omits this feature.

In addition to declaring the fee to be a tax and unconstitutional, the minority report said the bill containing it was a price-fixing measure; that it would upset all existing trade channels, kill cooperative marketing organizations and increase production if it actually succeeded in increasing prices.

The method of selecting the federal board to administer the McNary-Haugen plan also was assailed as unconstitutional because it tended to interfere with the president's constitutional right to appoint government officials without advice except from the senate.

Nancy Jane McKinney Dead  
Nancy Jane McKinney, aged 91 years and seven days, died Monday at the home of her daughter, Mrs. George Lieuellen, near Athena. Funeral services were held at the Methodist church yesterday afternoon at 1:30. Mrs. McKinney was born in Missouri January 17, 1836. She came to Oregon, settling in the Willamette valley in the early 60's later coming to Umatilla county. She is survived by two sons and six daughters.

Weather Moderation  
Fears that the seven-inch blanket of snow might be removed from the fields and piled up in deep drifts were lifted yesterday morning when on the wings of a mild chinook, temperature was boosted upward and the snow began to melt. For more than a week the snow lay on the ground unmolested by wind, and now water soaked, it is storing away needed moisture.

Purchase Registered Stallion  
George Gerking, Art Douglas, Herb Hale, Sheldon Taylor, and Will Piper, have organized a partnership in the purchase of a prize winning registered Belgian stallion.

## Former Athena Boy Is Victim of Suicide In Los Angeles Home

Clarence Brotherton, born and raised at Athena, committed suicide by shooting himself in his home at Los Angeles, last week. A Los Angeles paper gives the following details of the young man's tragic end:

Clarence Brotherton, 34 years of age, a police officer attached to the University Division, shot and killed himself yesterday in his home at 4391 Sycamore street, Lenoxx. Ill health, which resulted in a nervous breakdown three months ago, is believed to have prompted the act.

Brotherton left his wife, Mrs. Harriet Brotherton, in the yard early in the morning, returned to the house and shot himself through the head with a heavy police revolver. Dr. Dale Wheeler was summoned but the officer died an hour later without regaining consciousness.

Brotherton leaves two brothers, W. C. and L. A. Brotherton, of Los Angeles, and a step-father and mother in Long Beach.

After his breakdown, Brotherton had returned to his duty and was assigned as a special guard in Exposition Park.

Clarence was the son of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Brotherton, who lived north of Athena, on a farm for many years. He attended the grade schools in Athena. The family left here about fifteen years ago, going to Waitsburg, where Mr. Brotherton died. His widow married a Waitsburg man about two years ago, and lately they have been residing in California.

## Beryl Hodgen Elected Captain of Oregon Eleven

Beryl Hodgen, former Athena high school athletic star has been elected to the captaincy of the University of Oregon football team. Hodgen's splendid work on the Oregon team, especially during the past year under Coach McEwan, has easily placed him in the enviable position he now occupies.

Athena is proud of the lad's advancement, but there is one other whose pleasure reaches plumb out of bounds over Beryl's success, and that is Coach John Murray, of Pendleton. Murray is the staunchest friend and patron that Oregon athletics has ever had.

He groomed Hodgen as he has other high school athletes in coaching them to enter his alma mater. Seeing that Beryl was making good he has never missed a chance to encourage him and assist him in every way possible. He is keeping the same careful eye on Wilbur Harden, and this Athena boy already owes much to John Murray for the advancement he attained on the freshman team this year.

The athletic department of the University of Oregon has many a friend and ally, but there is only one John Murray.

## Athena High School Too Good for Mc-Hi Third String Players

Athena is always just good enough to spring the unexpected any time opportunity presents itself in high school athletics, and Friday evening Coach Stolzheise's youngsters kicked over the bucket of dope by handing a trimming to Mac-Hi in a merry tune of 23 to 19.

And everybody in Athena was happy.

At that, it was about the luckiest game of basket ball ever played at the local gym. For a week sickness and injury had doled out huge gobbs of gloom, and with the arrival of the day for the game, three were still counted on the sick list and another had barely recovered from injury.

The score 16 to 6 at the end of the half went to substantiate in a measure the crippled condition of the Athena team, and things evidently looked easy to the McLaughlin coach, for he began to tinker with his machine.

Turning in a bunch of substitutes at the beginning of the second half, he figured that he had a safe margin on the game, and in the last quarter, just to show 'em what he could do, he wigwagged his third stringers into the fray.

Well, And that wasn't all. Athena had been holding the prunepackers down to a gain of three points in the last half, and with but two minutes to go she tied it up in a knot, 19-19.

And there you are. Then from the side lines, from the showers, from everywhere the Mac-Hi coach beckoned for his regulars. They came, they saw, but they couldn't conquer.

Athena had struck a stride that could not be denied. For the two minutes she held the enemy scoreless while she deftly looped in two baskets, winning the game 23 to 19.

Stephens, Kretzer, Johnson, Myrick, Radtke, Taylor, Gross and Moore played for Athena. Warren of Pendleton High, refereed the game.

## "Stop Flirting" a Fine Wholesome Comedy

Of course you will never forget "Charley's Aunt." Well, Al Christie has given to the screen another of his fine, clean, wholesome comedies in "Stop Flirting," which comes to the Standard Theatre tomorrow night. Even though Wanda Hawley and John Murray were not in the leading roles, the Christie trademark would be sufficient to put over the production with a whiz.

Sunday night an especially fine photoplay is offered by Metro-Goldwyn in the presentation of Monta Bell's "The Boy Friend," featuring Marceline Day and John Harrison in the starring parts. Good comedies are featured in both programs.

"Pals First" and "The Brown Derby" two gilt edged productions have been booked for early showing at the Standard.

## Pheasants and Partridges Have Hard Time In Finding Food

Chinese pheasants and Hungarian partridges are having a hard time finding food with a six inch snow covering making their quest almost hopeless in the fields of this part of the county, and unless something is done for them immediately, sportsmen will face a closed season on these birds, next fall.

Deputy Game Warden Albee has issued a call to the hunter and sportsmen of Umatilla county for help in feeding the birds until such time as the snow disappears to give the birds a chance to shift for themselves.

He says any grain distributed to the starving game birds will be paid for by the state game commission, and that what is needed promptly at this time is volunteers to see that grain is placed where the birds can get it.

Dead birds are being found in all parts of the county, the warden reports, and assistance must be given at once, else the mortality will be so great that several closed seasons may be necessary to restore breeding stock, to say nothing of any surplus.

It is understood that farmers in some instances have been putting out grain for the birds, but what is really needed is immediate and responsive cooperation in a general effort to get food to the birds.

## Third Term President of the Association

At the recent annual meeting of the Athena Commercial Association, E. C. Rogers, for the third time was elected president of the organization, by acclamation of the membership body present.

During President Rogers' incumbency over a two year period, the Association has accomplished much good for Athena and vicinity in the matter of securing permanent market road improvement.

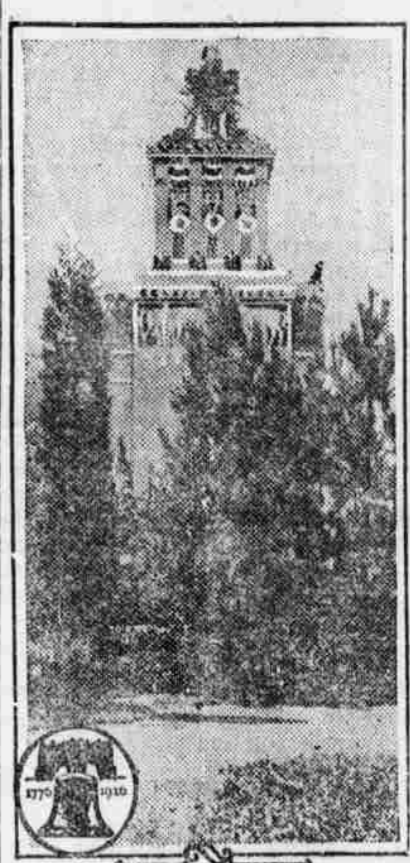
President Rogers and the Association had the advantage of assistance from an active road committee comprised of Homer I. Watts, Tim McBride and A. H. McIntyre, and in his appointments for the ensuing year, President Rogers has again named these men to serve on this committee.

W. P. Littlejohn was re-elected vice-president, Brooks Anderson secretary, and M. L. Watts treasurer of the association. President Rogers appointed O. O. Stephens, Art Douglas, Bert Ramsey, Mose Banister and Donald Johnson, members of the house committee. E. B. Richards, F. B. Boyd and Homer I. Watts constitute the Harpoon committee.

## Lewiston Editor Dead

A. H. Alford, editor of the Lewiston Tribune since it was established in 1892, died Monday night while he slept, at Hot Lake sanitarium. He had arrived at Hot Lake the day before, for a short rest from his newspaper work.

## "A Thing of Beauty Is a Joy Forever"



## Spirit Behind School Band Makes Champion

Elkhart, Ind.—It's the spirit of a town, and not the number of its inhabitants that determines the size and quality of its high school band, according to James F. Boyer, widely known musician and supervisor of the Conn Music Center here.

As proof of his contention, Mr. Boyer cites the case of Joliet, Illinois, home of America's 1926 champion high school band. Census figures give the population of Joliet as under 50,000, yet public-spirited fathers and musical ly ambitious sons have here made possible a 65-piece prize-winning band. In their natty full-dress uniforms, the boys made a sensation as they marched down the streets of Pistoria Ohio, on their first lap toward national band honors.

## Asbestos Long Known but Little Employed

People of modern time are engaged in a ceaseless search for ways to improve living conditions. Safety, comfort and reduction of expense rank among the principal things to be considered. Asbestos, a material known for centuries but put to use only a comparatively short time ago, has done as much or more toward the realization of these three fundamental things than any other one thing in its class. Traces of its use have been found in ancient China, in Persia, by the early Greeks and Romans, and later, in about the sixteenth century, in the island of Guam, now a possession of the United States. The sudden emergence of asbestos, from the long period in which it was almost entirely the subject of myths and legends, or treated merely as a costly curiosity, into one of the world's most important minerals and industry's most important aids, is remarkable. Even electricity did not have quite so sudden a transformation.

## British Army Club

The Union Jack club is a national institution of Great Britain where soldiers, sailors and airmen can go when on leave or passing through London, a place where they may deposit their kits and valuables, where they may obtain at moderate charges good meals and comfortable bedrooms to themselves and where they find the usual amenities of a club, including library and writing room, billiard room, baths, barber shop and also a club shop in which articles of everyday use and almost everything that service men require may be purchased. The Union Jack club was erected by public subscription as a national memorial to those who had fallen in the South African war and other campaigns, and was opened on July 1, 1907, by his late majesty, King Edward VII.

## Trust to Pictures

In these days of hustle and bustle, hyper-activity and constant "go," there is one thing that every one can do to neutralize to some extent the restlessness that has invaded our life. That one thing is to surround oneself with beautiful and restful pictures. Pictures take the mind off the worrisome, petty details that are so irritating to the nervous system. A good-natured jolly Cavalier to look down on us understandingly from the wall, or a lovely Madonna to fill us with peace and contentment are like real companions and friends, and have an advantage that even the best friends do not have; they make no demands and expect no favors; they are always equally dependable—ever ready to serve.

## MAILED FIST SHOWN CHINESE BY POWERS

### The Armed Forces of Great Britain and Japan Are Mobilized.

Shanghai.—The mailed fist, as exemplified in the armed forces of Great Britain and Japan, thrust itself into the foreground of the Chinese situation. With additional reports of constantly spreading anti-foreign and anti-Christian agitation, and the success of negotiations for the return of foreign concessions to China undecided at Hankow, both powers made unmistakable military moves which, however, were described as "merely precautionary measures."

From Hong Kong the British dispatched three companies of Punjabi, northern India, troops to Shanghai, while from the Sasebo naval station four Japanese destroyers departed for unannounced points in China.

In Hong Kong it was stated that the departure of the native Indian soldiers marked the commencement of the British quota for the defense of Shanghai, in accordance with an agreement with the United States, France and Japan, revealing for the first time that the powers had so completely considered the possibility of the foreign settlement being attacked that it had been decided how many men each power should supply for the defense of the concessions.

The dispatch of the Punjabi troops to Shanghai follows closely a disturbance here Saturday night, during which scores were injured when police of the international settlement battled with celebrating tramway strikers.

## U. S. TO AGT ALONE IN CHINESE CRISIS

Washington, D. C.—The American government is preparing to act independently of other powers in the present Chinese crisis, it was plainly indicated at the White House after a cabinet meeting at which the situation was discussed.

President Coolidge does not consider there is any similarity between the American situation in China and that of the other foreign powers. He pointed out to callers that the British and other foreign powers had extensive concessions in China, where the United States has none. Therefore, he does not believe the respective situations are analogous.

Simultaneously with the promulgation of this official viewpoint by the White House, the house foreign affairs committee voted unanimously to report favorably the Porter resolution, calling upon President Coolidge and Secretary of State Kellogg to pursue an independent course in China and to negotiate treaties with China on a basis of equality.

## BAN JOHNSON REMOVED

Ill Health Declared Cause for Relieving American League President.

Chicago.—Ban Johnson is no longer active president of the American league, the organization he founded 27 years ago.

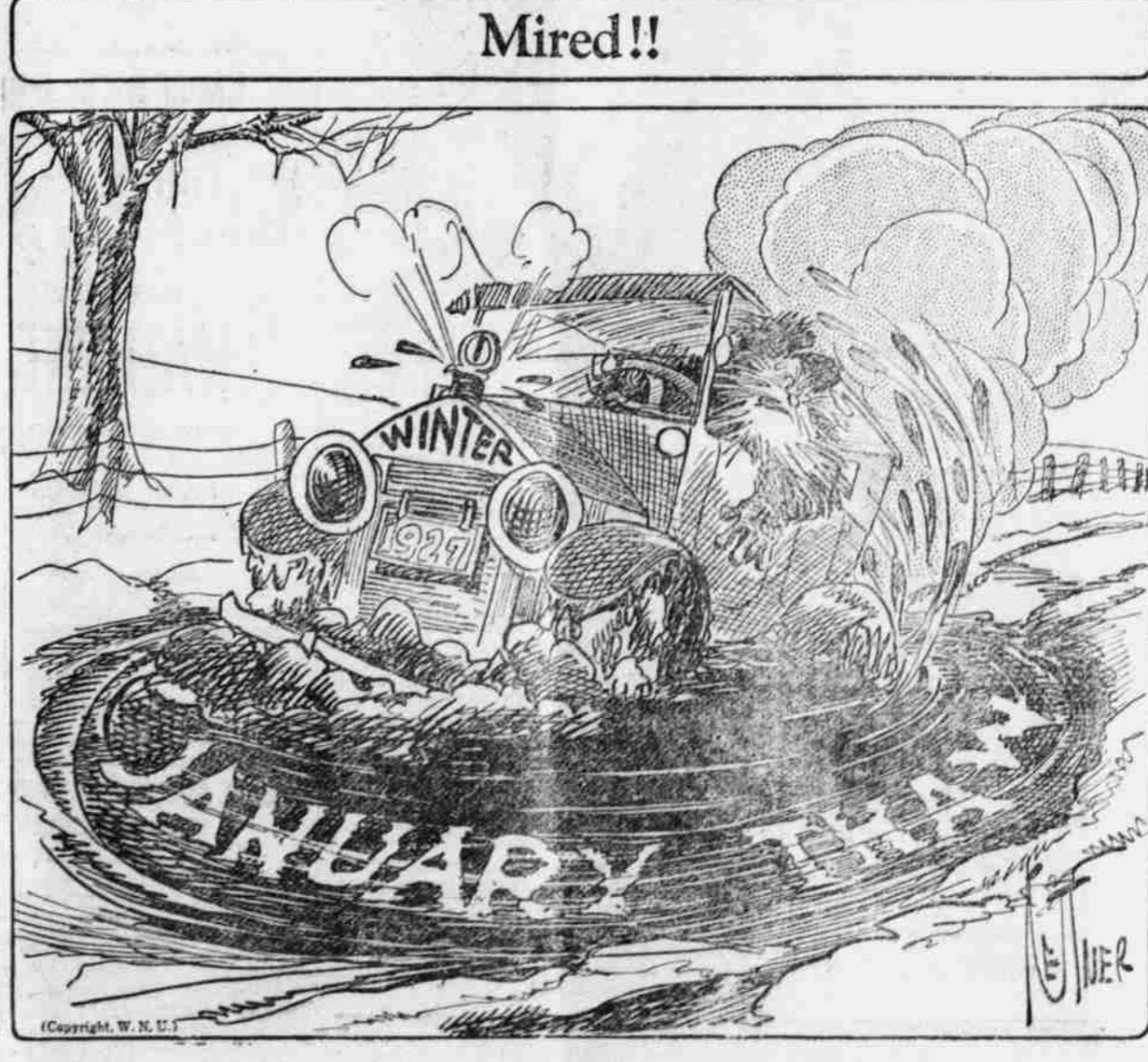
The American league executive, baseball's stormy petrel, was removed from actual control by his club owners Sunday night on the plea that he was suffering from ill health. He will retain his salary for the present as his contract runs until 1935, but it was said that he would never again be in active control of the league's affairs.

The showdown between Kenesaw Mountain Landis, baseball commissioner, and Johnson, over the dismissal of Ty Cobb and Tris Speaker, did not come off.

Frank J. Navin, president of the Detroit club, and vice-president of the league, was named to assume the duties of president.

Hagenbarth Heads Wool Growers.  
Butte, Mont.—Frank J. Hagenbarth of Spokane Falls was elected president of the National Wool Growers' association for the 11th consecutive year. The next annual meeting will be held in Ogden, Utah.

Lee Named Insurance Commissioner.  
Salem, Or.—Clare A. Lee of Eugene was appointed state insurance commissioner to succeed Will Moore, who has resigned.



(Copyright, W. N. C.)