

The Athena Press

Entered at the Post Office at Athena, Oregon, as Second-Class Mail Matter

VOLUME 48.

ATHENA, UMATILLA COUNTY, OREGON, FRIDAY MORNING, MARCH 4, 1927

NUMBER 9

President Coolidge Vetoes Relief Bill

Veto Message Says Measure Uneconomic, Illegal Discriminatory.

Washington, D. C.—President Coolidge's veto of the McNary-Haugen farm relief bill has met with an avalanche of comment of approval and disapproval, with predictions that the issue, practically dead as far as this session of congress is concerned, will be presented again next December and probably carried into the 1928 political campaign.

President Coolidge took his stand against the bill in unequivocal fashion. In a long veto message dissecting the measure he declared it an "economic folly" to attempt to regulate farm surpluses by levying an equalization fee on basic farm commodities; pronounced the proposal discriminatory because it did not apply to all farm products, and said in plain terms that it was a scheme for price-fixing that would raise the cost of living and would not benefit the farmer. For good measure, he sent along to the capitol an opinion by Attorney-General Sargent declaring the bill unconstitutional in its vital provisions.

As an alternative, to meet an agricultural condition which he conceded to be unsatisfactory, the president renewed his recommendation for passage of other plans proposed in congress for the recovery of agriculture.

He declared these programs "offer promise of sound assistance to the farmers without these unconstitutionalities, invasions of executive authority, this contracting with packers and flour millers and other manufacturers, this overproduction with its inflation and inevitable crash, without this indirect price fixing, buying and selling, this creation of huge bureaucracies," involved in the McNary-Haugen measure.

HIGH COURT CANCELS DOHENY CONTRACTS

Washington, D. C.—The government won its fight to cancel the oil leases and contracts awarded Edward L. Doheny while Albert B. Fall was secretary of the interior.

In a sweeping opinion the supreme court held that the lease by which Doheny interests were to develop the Elk Hills naval oil reserve and the contracts by which they were to build storage facilities at Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, were tainted by fraud and corruption.

The decision cancelled both the lease and the contract, confirming the findings of the lower court.

The highest tribunal based its decision on evidence deduced in the trial court and previously brought to light in the famous senate oil inquiry, showing how the negotiations were conducted without competitive bidding and in secrecy, and how before the deal was consummated Doheny sent Fall \$100,000 in a little black bag.

COMMITTEE TRIP IS OFF

Senate Body Decides to Do Its Investigating at Home.

Washington, D. C.—Administration senators on the foreign relations committee won their fight to keep that committee out of Mexico and Nicaragua during the recess of congress.

With his resolution proposing such a visit facing defeat in the committee itself, Chairman Borah accepted an amendment by Senator Swanson of Virginia, the ranking democrat, authorizing the committee to sit during the recess, but confining its activities within the borders of the United States.

Administration senators held out against the resolution even in this form, but they were out-voted by the democrats and Senators Borah and Johnson, republican, California, the poll standing 10 to 8 for a favorable report to the senate on the modified resolution.

Deal Above Board, Quiz Decides.

Washington, D. C.—The senate public lands committee absolved officials of the forestry service of charges of collusion in connection with the Herick lumber contract, leasing 900,000-300 feet of standing lumber in the Malheur national forest in Oregon.

After a Long Illness Mrs. Oliver Holcomb Dies at Her Home

Mrs. Oliver Holcomb, after a protracted illness, passed away at her home west of Athena, near Adams, last Friday. Funeral services were conducted at the home Sunday afternoon by Rev. Bollinger. Interment took place in Athena cemetery.

Rezilla Stewart was born in Pilot Grove, Lee county, Iowa, on December 24, 1848 and passed away at her home near Adams, Oregon, February 25, 1927, at the age of 78 years, two months and one day.

On November 18, 1869 she was united in marriage with Oliver Holcomb. In the year of 1870 they moved to Nebraska where they lived for a number of years on a homestead near Tobias, Saline county. They moved to Athena, Oregon, September 10, 1891 and in 1900 moved to their present home one mile north of Adams, Oregon, where she remained until her death.

At the age of 17 she became a member of the Presbyterian church. She was a kind and loving mother, self sacrificing for her family and those near her. During her life illness she was very patient in her suffering. Mr. Holcomb passed away just 11 months ago.

She leaves to sorrow for her a son, J. C. Holcomb of Adams; two daughters, Mrs. Lola Payne of Adams and Mrs. Stella Keen of Athena; four grandchildren, Zola Keen of Athena; Floyd Payne of Pendleton; Ross Payne of Athena and Rex Payne of Adams; three great grandchildren, Annabel Payne, Billy Payne and Laura Jean Payne; one sister, Mrs. Hannah Vinsen; three brothers, William Stewart, James Stewart and Robert Stewart, besides many friends.

Reception and Fun at the Christian Church

As a token of the regard in which she is held in the community, a reception was held Monday evening in the Christian church basement, honoring Mrs. Harvey Hill (Mattie Foss Mitchell) a recent bride, and her husband.

A large number of her friends were present to wish the newly married pair success in their new home near Nampa, Idaho.

As a special feature of entertainment, a mock wedding was staged, when Miss Henrietta Worm became the bride of Mr. Dinkelspiel Dudenheiser—or some such name—the bride, divinely tall and most divinely fair, being attended by pretty bridesmaids, dainty flower girls and a petite ring-bearer in approved style, while the dapper little groom in conventional black, was attended by a handsome groomsmen. The bride's father, a dark browed dago, succeeded in giving the bride dead away. The knot was loosely tied by the irreverent I. B. Hornswaggled. The ceremony was performed following a musical recital "I Love You—Maybe" as touchingly given by Miss Iona Flivver.

After the fun, refreshments were served by a committee of ladies, with Mrs. E. J. Burchill of Pendleton, pouring tea and Mrs. Harvey Hill pouring coffee. Games rounded out a very pleasant evening.

Pleased With Prospect

Barney Foster has a fine stand of Federation in a field on high ground south of Athena, that presents a most flattering prospect at this period of the growing season. He would be badly disappointed should conditions change to the detriment of this prospect, for he would "like to see just what the darned stuff will yield as she's growing now," to use Barney's expression.

Men's League Tonight

The regular monthly meeting of the Men's League will be held tonight at the Baptist church. Tonight's meeting is the postponed meeting of last Friday night because of the basketball tournament. M. L. Watts will talk on banking, and other numbers on the program will consist of readings and songs. A cordial invitation is extended all to attend.

Construction Work Begins

Excavating for the new grain storage addition to the Farmer's Grain Elevator company plant in Athena, began Monday morning under supervision of Contractor G. R. Hugenin. The excavation for the new addition is being made on the southside and adjoining the present plant.

New Auto Laws Have Made Many Changes

35-Mile Speed, Safety Stops, Non-Liability for Motor Host Provided.

Much new legislation of particular interest to motorists and those who use the highways of the state was enacted during the legislative session.

Among the new rules of the road is an amendment which permits a speed of 35 miles an hour on the highways, with a maximum of 20 miles in incorporated cities and towns.

Another new law, if signed by the governor, will require all vehicles to come to a full stop when entering upon a primary state highway. Under the present law vehicles are required to slow down to a speed of five miles an hour before entering primary highways, but this rule has been found hard to enforce.

Other road and motor vehicle legislation is summarized as follows:

House bill No. 484 follows the Hoover code and provides a load limit of 8000 pounds on each axle of a motor truck when the axles are spaced less than eight feet apart and which will prevent carrying excessive loads on six wheel motor trucks.

House bill No. 493 provides that the "acceptance of a free ride as a guest in a motor vehicle shall be presumed a waiver of said guest of liability for accidental injury caused by owner of driver of such motor vehicle."

Senate bill No. 74 relieves the counties from cooperation on the maintenance of state highways and requires that all maintenance expense be met from the state highway fund. Since all state highways have been maintained by the state without cooperation from the counties for several years, this legislation will not cause added expense to the state highway fund.

Senate bill No. 75 provides that, on all future railroad grade crossing eliminations on state highways, the proportion of expense to be borne by the public shall be paid from the state highway fund. A further provision permits counties to cooperate with the state at their option. The new law does not disturb present existing agreements with the counties on projects under contract.

Senate bill No. 1118, if approved by the governor, will require the railroads to cooperate with the public authorities on a 50-50 division of the cost of the elimination of railroad grade crossings on county roads or state highways.

Senate bill No. 223 eliminates the traveling salesman from the additional 50 per cent motor license fee required for commercial vehicles. The scope of this bill has also been enlarged to include anywhere for hire busses and trucks requiring a 50 per cent additional license fee

ADMIRAL R. H. LEIGH



Rear Admiral R. H. Leigh, who has relieved Rear Admiral William R. Shoemaker as chief of the bureau of navigation of the United States navy.

James B. Morgan an Invalid for Years, Dead

James B. Morgan, resident of Athena for the past two years, died suddenly Thursday afternoon of last week. He had been an invalid for a number of years. His passing came during a short absence from the home by his wife, who was down town. Mrs. S. L. Spencer called at the house and found Mr. Morgan dead in his chair.

Funeral services were held at the Methodist Episcopal church, Saturday afternoon. Rev. Holback of Weston, conducted the services.

James B. Morgan was born June 6, 1858, in Lane county, Oregon. He came to Eastern Oregon in 1879, and was united in marriage to Mrs. Nancy Ellen West May 30, 1883.

For a number of years he was employed on the farm of the late William Steen north of Athena. Fourteen years ago he moved to Seattle where he was engaged in the grocery business until ill health forced him to retire.

The deceased is survived by his widow, one daughter, Mrs. Lola Myers of Sedro Woolly, Washington; two step daughters, Mrs. Lucy Allbridge, of Sunnyside, Washington and Mrs. Ollie McWilliams, of Seattle; one sister, Mrs. Jennie Gross of Athena; one brother, Millard Morgan of Athena.

Fine and Jail Sentence

Everett Knight was arrested here Saturday evening by Deputy Sheriff McSherry who filed a charge of illegal possession of liquor in Justice Berkeley's court at Pendleton Knight had his hearing Monday, and was fined \$250 and sentenced to 30 days in the county jail.

Law Makers Leave State Purse Flat

Final Coup of Administration to Put Tithe Plan Across Fails

With a final bitter struggle between the executive and the senate over the administration's tithe bill, the 34th legislative assembly adjourned sine die at 1 o'clock Saturday morning without enacting the measure.

It was precipitated in the evening session of the senate on a motion to reconsider the bill and the vote stood 17 for reconsideration and 13 against.

The senators voting for reconsideration were: Bailey, Banks, Bell, Butler, Carsner, Davis, Dunn, Eddy, Elliott, Hunter, Kiddle, Mann, Marks, Miller, Norblad, Staples and Corbett—17.

Those voting against were: Beals, Brown, Butt, Dunne, Hall, Hare, Jones, Joseph Klepper, Moser, Reynolds, Strayer and Upton—13.

This last battle over the measure was a climax to a series of clashes between the governor and senate and was due in a large measure to the administration's unwillingness to consider any taxation program save its own.

The first real battle between the two came along the middle of last week over the administration's income tax measure.

It was a victory for the administration—its forces in the senate arbitrarily throttling all attempts to amend the bill.

The second real struggle came last Monday over the administration's tithe bill.

It was a victory for the so-called anti-administration forces, the measure going down to defeat with a good sized majority against it.

Proceeding and between the two battles there had been more or less skirmishing and maneuvering between the two camps.

Following the defeat of the tithe bill in the senate there was a series of taxation and revenue measures introduced in the house, but the administration would consider none of them.

Finally as a last resort leaders of both houses at a conference Thursday afternoon agreed to accept the tithe bill with amendments protecting the highway fund by reimbursing it over a five year period from the general fund.

They also adopted as a part of their program a constitutional amendment to be submitted to the people along with the income tax bill raising the 6 per cent tax base.

The executive, however, declined to state outright that he would veto the amended measure, and the caucus leaders finally decided to enact it and pass it up to him for such action as he might deem expedient.

Pendleton to Represent the District in the State Basketball Tournament

Pendleton won the district championship at the basketball tournament at Pendleton, Saturday night by defeating Helix runnerup, by the score of 32 to 19. The state tournament will be in Willamette gym at Salem.

In the elimination contests, Athena had no trouble in defeating Hermiston by the overwhelming score of 43 to 7. This game was played Thursday evening. Other games Thursday were Pendleton 45, Ione 10; Condon 19, Echo 14; Helix 49, Weston 25; Adams 38, Umatilla 8.

Athena drew Pendleton for her contestant Friday night and the local lads held the Pendleton machine down to the score of 16 to four, the two big guards being mainly responsible for Pendleton's win over Athena. That it was a hot contest is indicated by the score of 5 to 4 at the end of the first half in favor of Pendleton. Myrick, who had made 16 points against Hermiston, could not get going against Pendleton, and for some reason or other Stephens was put in for only a short period. Otherwise the score may have been different.

Other Friday night games resulted: Pilot Rock 17, Condon 16; Helix 22, Adams 15; McLaughlin 47, Stanfield 10.

Saturday Helix eliminated McLaughlin and Pendleton defeated Pilot Rock, then in the evening, in the play-off for third place, McLaughlin won from Pilot Rock in a slow game.

Two Athena Players are Given Honorable Mention

The sports editor of the East Oregonian suggests from the following basketball ball players a star team could be selected:

At forward one would have a good field to select from in Campbell, Helix, Sullivan, Pendleton, Myrick, Athena, Robbins and Vancil, McLaughlin and Hodgen, Adams, Laing, Pendleton, Karker, MacHii.

Pevey of Helix and Johnson of McLaughlin stood out from other centers. They were the class of the tournament.

There were a number of good guards; Allen and Jones, Pendleton, Garrett, Helix, Tuck Hodgen, Adams, Stephens, Athena, were outstanding in their work.

Primary Teacher Re-Elected

At a meeting of the board of directors of School District No. 29, embracing the grade schools of Athena, Miss Evelyn Sellars was re-elected primary teacher for the coming year. The faculty of the Athena schools has been elected for the next year with the exception of assistant to the superintendent, who will also qualify as coach of athletics. The personnel as elected by the boards of Districts No. 29 and No. 7 are Lee Meyer, superintendent; Miss Bateman and Miss Cornelison, high school; M. I. Miller, eighth grade; Miss Rodman fifth and sixth grades; Miss Terry third and fourth grades; Miss Sellars, primary.

Rural Electric Lines

Henry Drexel and Ted King, linemen and electricians for the electrical department of the Preston-Shaffer Milling company, recently completed the line out to the Frank Coppock farm residence, south of Athena. Other patrons served by this line are the country homes of E. A. Dudley, William Campbell, and Henry Koepke. Other rural lines furnish service to the homes of Amell Schubert, George Sheard and Mrs. Joseph Sheard, northeast of town, and to Flint Johns west of Athena.

Pet Deer Released

Two pet deer in the D. Swearingen park on the Umatilla river have been released in the mountains. The buck was given his freedom at a point near Meacham, and the doe was liberated in the High Bridge district.

Satisfactory Increase

Sheepmen are satisfied with the lamb increase, the per centage running high. Lambing is going on in different parts of the county under very favorable conditions so state reports from the camps.

A Heavy Frost

The mercury dropped below the freezing point Saturday night, with the result that this section was visited by a heavy frost. A warm rain fell Tuesday night and Wednesday.

Two U. S. Fliers Killed In a Crash

Goodwill Airplanes Collide Upon Their Arrival at Buenos Aires.

Buenos Aires.—The planes Detroit and New York of the United States army Pan-American flight collided in mid-air here, killing Captain Clinton F. Woolsey and Lieutenant John W. Benton of the Detroit and injuring Lieutenant E. C. Whitehead of the New York.

Major H. A. Dargue, commander of the flight escaped uninjured, and Lieutenant Whitehead escaped death, both by leaping from their careening plane with parachutes.

The four planes arrived safely and alighted in the harbor of Buenos Aires. After being officially welcomed, the planes arose again and flew to Palomar field, a flying field 10 miles away. It was while circling preparatory to landing here that the crash occurred 1000 feet above the field.

Woolsey and Benton were unable to use parachutes. Woolsey was burned to a crisp when he fell with the flaming Detroit.

Thousands of people Sunday filed past the biers of Captain Clinton F. Woolsey and Lieutenant John E. Benton to pay a last tribute.

The bodies lay in state in the Circulo Militar (military club), surrounded by numerous floral tributes from Argentine government officials, the army and navy and from private persons and institutions. Delegations from all branches of the army and navy rendered them the military honors due heroes.

U. S. CONTROL OF NICARAGUA OFFERED

Washington, D. C.—The Diaz Nicaraguan government's proposal for an American protectorate was brought into the open for the first time when the Nicaraguan legation here announced details of the proposed "treaty of alliance" between the two countries.

Under the Diaz proposal, Nicaragua would be guaranteed, according to President Diaz, "the uninterrupted maintenance of a government adequate for the protection of life, property and individual liberty."

The United States, on the other hand, would be assured of its rights to a Nicaraguan canal and naval base, arranged under the Bryan-Chamorro treaty, and would have the right from Nicaragua "to intervene in Nicaragua whenever it might be necessary in order to make effective the guarantees named above."

BRITAIN FAVORS ARMS PLAN

Acceptance of Coolidge Scheme, However, Contingent on Conditions.

London.—Great Britain's acceptance of President Coolidge's disarmament proposals was announced in the house of commons.

The announcement, made by Sir Austen in his accustomed manner of placidity, was greeted with loud cheers from the members. The labor benches were particularly enthusiastic. Sir Austen announced all of the British dominions and the Irish Free State gave approval to the reply.

After Sir Austen had read the note of acceptance, considerable attention was attracted to the fact that Great Britain, in its acceptance, had emphasized special consideration must be given to its position. This dampened the ardor of some.

Radio Control Bill Gets Coolidge, O. K.

Washington, D. C.—President Coolidge approved the radio control bill. Under its terms a commission of five will control radio for one year and after that period expires the commission will have power to pass on all questions in dispute and all those which may be voluntarily referred to it by the secretary of commerce.

Columbia River Pact Time Voted.

Washington, D. C.—A senate resolution to extend to December 31, 1930, the provisions of an act providing for allocation of the waters of the Columbia river between the states of Washington, Idaho, Oregon and Montana, was adopted by the house. It was then sent to the president.

