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MEIER PLAN TO HAVE OPEN ROAD

Loneragan Would Let Governor Free To Formulate His Power Program.

Salem.—Governor Meier and his water power program, which is based on the promise of public power development without cost to the taxpayers, are to be given more than a fair shake in the house of representatives. While the senate will consider the program in the customary way, the house plans to yield special privileges to Mr. Meier by creating a special utilities committee and permitting the governor to select the members of the committee. This plan, if accepted by Mr. Meier, will assure the power program of safe conduct through committee.

The concession to Governor Meier was planned by Speaker Lonergan, who is willing to surrender some of the rights of the speakership and legislature to clear the path for the governor's power program. Proposed changes in the house rules, which probably will be adopted soon provide for a special utilities committee, limited to nine members, to consider executive bills relating to power development. Thereupon, Speaker Lonergan will offer Governor Meier the unprecedented privilege of naming the members to serve on the committee.

Permitting the governor to select a legislative committee is a new departure from legislative procedure, inasmuch as it is a form of invasion of the legislative branch by the executive department, which, under constitutional government, is required to operate independently. Mr. Lonergan, it might be explained, is fully aware that his plan is a breach of established policy, but he also feels that Oregon is in an unusual political situation and is willing to disregard legislative tradition for the sake of harmony and to preclude the probability of a complaint that the Meier water power program was not given a fair deal in committee.

But President Marks of the senate will not depart from customary procedure, planning to send the executive power bills to one of the regular committees.

It is not certain, however, that Governor Meier will consent to the Lonergan plan, the speaker having not yet determined whether the governor would be winning to select a legislative committee. But the special committee is to be created, whether selected by the governor or the speaker, and will be required to consider, only the bills having to do with the governor's water power program.

Report of County Nurse Shows Busy Dec. Month

The report of Miss Samson, county nurse, for the month of December shows that she visited all towns in the county and made a trip to Portland.

The holiday season influenced the December activities to a considerable extent. Investigations of needy families were made and names were given to the Elks, the White Eagle Grange and some of the local organizations in the outlying communities so that they might see that no family was without its share of Christmas cheer.

At the Christmas party of the Business and Professional Woman's club, each member presented a toy to another member, names having been drawn at a previous meeting. After opening the packages the contents were turned over to the county nurse for distribution among the children who Santa might not remember on his annual trip.

To each of the five Umatilla county patients at the Eastern Oregon Tuberculosis Hospital at The Dalles, the Umatilla county health association sent a Christmas gift for distribution at the hospital's Christmas tree.

Annual Meeting

Members of the Christian church and congregation held their annual meeting and basket dinner Sunday. Reports of the several organizations of the church were read and accepted. Rev. Arrant pastor of the Christian church at Milton, gave an inspiring talk. Miss Glea Sias rendered several pleasing piano numbers and Mrs. Floyd Pinkerton and Mrs. Ed Montague sang duets, with Mrs. Lloyd Michener at the piano.

Brother-in-law Killed

Mrs. V. A. Gholson of Wichita Falls, Texas, who formerly resided in Athena, at the home of the late S. L. Spencer, renewing her subscription to The Press, writes that her brother-in-law, Peter Gholson, of Wichita Falls, was recently killed when an automobile struck him while crossing a street in that city.

Kipp Tells of a Big Demand for Navigation Aid

Walla Walla.—Reporting that a survey of 200 communities, organizations and individuals disclosed that the larger majority favors navigation of the Columbia river before other development, R. H. Kipp, executive secretary of the Columbia Valley association, told the Walla Walla Chamber of Commerce Tuesday. With this approval, he declared the Columbia Valley association has sent him out to get action in behalf of the Steiwer-Summers measure now before congress providing for appropriations of \$850,000 for the development of the river.

Declaring canalization of the river would be a project taking at least 50 years for completion Kipp asserted plans made by the association called for use of the barges almost immediately if the appropriation proposed by Senator Steiwer and Congressman Summers, Walla Walla, is passed.

Six dams are essential for canalization, he asserted, and the demands for these dams are coming from many sections. He declared the association was taking no part in this struggle. Twenty-six counties, 10 in Oregon, 11 in Washington and five in Idaho will profit directly from barging on the river, he said, with accruing benefits to many sections which could have combination of rail and water rates.

Mr. Kipp spoke in Milton-Freewater, developing his idea further and explaining points of the proposed plan.

"We have written the Congressional delegates of all three states saying that our people are not in a frame of mind to accept the answer 'can't.' The only thing we will accept, if compelled to do so, is 'won't,' in connection with our insistence that the channel improvement work on the Columbia and Snake, for which we are asking \$858,000 be authorized as a project itself now," Mr. Kipp said in an interview.

"Securing the appropriation will be a small job in itself, but the principal work will be to secure the authorization of the project mentioned, which calls for a seven foot straight channel on the Columbia and a five foot straight channel on the Snake to permit of the use of two barges, and which is necessary for this present economical accepted type of transportation and the deepening and straightening work necessary. Then it would not be for old type boats, which a study shows are today not practical or economical on any inland river of the United States."

First National Stock-Holders Elect Officers

At the annual meeting of the stockholders of the First National bank of Athena, held in the bank offices Tuesday afternoon, the officers and directors were elected to succeed themselves for the ensuing year. The officers are: E. H. Leonard, president; M. L. Watts, vice-president; F. S. LeGrow, cashier; Max B. Hopper, assistant cashier. Directors: E. H. Leonard, M. L. Watts, F. S. LeGrow, M. W. Hansell, Henry Dell.

The bank directors declared a dividend to stockholders on the splendid showing made by the institution for the year 1930, a year which has been marked with depression and business failures in many parts of the country.

Since the closing of the bank at Weston, the First National has been directing special attention to the needs of customers of the neighboring town and its facilities are appreciated there as is evidenced by the following excerpt from the Weston Leader of last week:

"The report published elsewhere of the First National Bank of Athena is that of an institution with which it is a pleasure to do business, in the confident knowledge that one's money is safe."

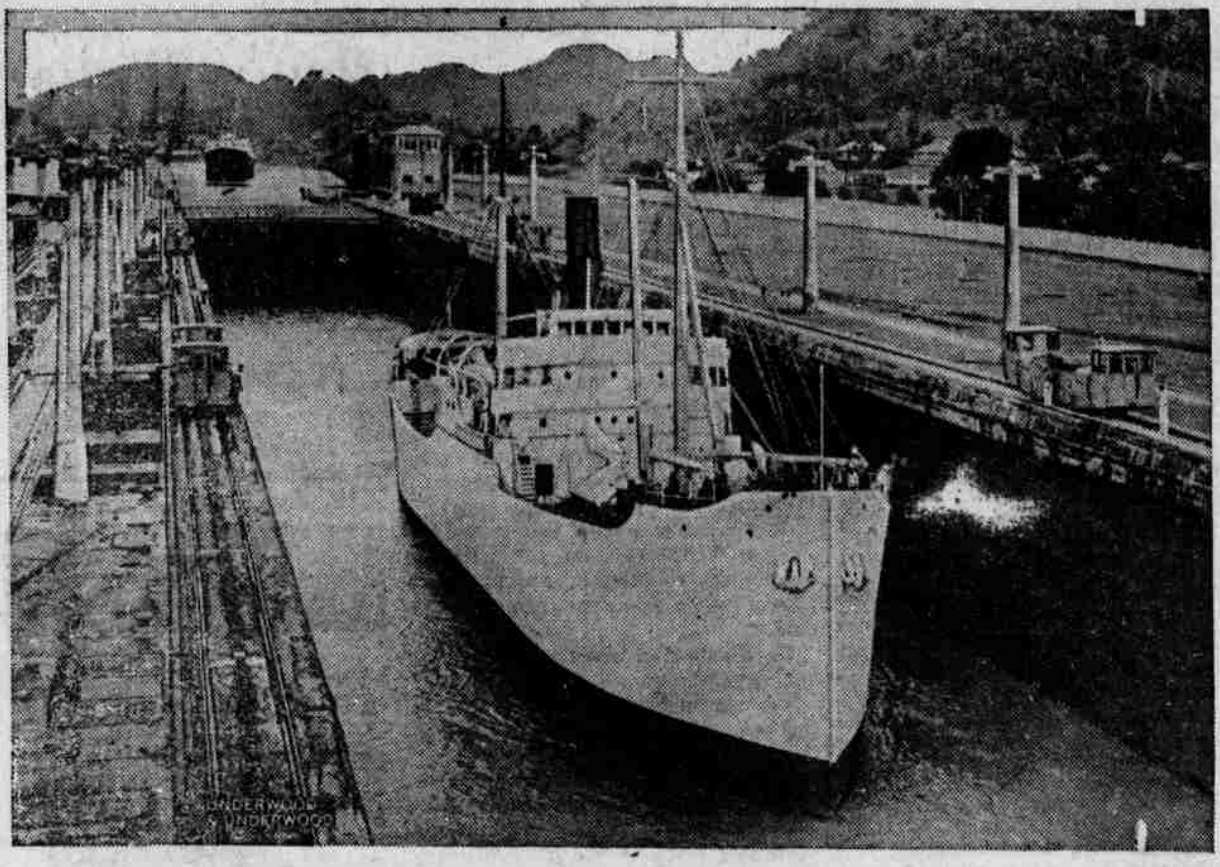
Five Hundred Party

"Five hundred" was the diversion of the evening last Saturday when Mr. and Mrs. Ross Catron were hosts at their country home near Athena. Mr. and Mrs. Jake Booher won high score and Mr. and Mrs. Duffield the consolation. Supper was served following the play. Those present were, Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Walker, Mr. and Mrs. Jake Booher, Bonners Ferry, Idaho, Mr. and Mrs. Lee Johnson, Mr. and Mrs. Fred Gross, Mr. and Mrs. Jess Smith, Mr. and Mrs. R. A. Duffield, Mrs. Ethel Montague, Miss Jennie Walker, Mrs. Elmer Johnson, Alvin Johnson, Mr. and Mrs. Ed Montague and Merle Johnson.

Court of Honor

At the regular January Court of Honor of the Blue Mountain Council of Boy Scouts of America, held at Walla Walla, with L. C. Sutherland in charge, Wayne McLeod and Edward Tracy, Troop 10, were granted second class scout awards, and Billy Duncan, of the same troop, was given a first class ranking.

West Coast Gets Its First Nautical School Ship



Here, passing through the Panama canal, is the steamer State of California which is now anchored in San Francisco bay as the west coast's first nautical school ship to train cadets to be officers of the American merchant marine. The school is rated as a junior college and already 120 California youths have registered for the service which is of three years' duration.

Kiwanis League Team Takes Athena Game

The Pendleton Kiwanis Blue Mountain Basketball League team won from the Athena Athletics on the home floor Wednesday night by the score of 32 to 22, in a fast, well played game.

Athena held Pendleton to a close lead of 17 to 14 in the first half, but the visitors played more consistently in the last half, the game ending with both teams going at a fast clip. Wayne Pinkerton, Athena center, was seriously injured when he fell on the court, receiving a cut lip and bruised hip. Gordon Watkins finished the game at center for Athena. Wayne was high point man for Athena with 17 markers. Athena meets Milton on the local court, next Wednesday evening. It will be the last game of the season between these teams, and a record-breaking crowd is expected to witness it.

In a practice game Saturday night, Athena won from the Milton K. of P. team on the local floor, 31 to 19. The preliminary games are proving popular with the fans and are drawing cards at each game. The preliminary Saturday night between the "fats" and the "leaves" was a scream, with Jack Calder of Weston, refereeing the fracas. In Wednesday night's preliminary the "farmers" took the "business men" to a cleaning to the tune of 9 to 7, and it is claimed the reason the farmers won is because they had Art Douglas and Lee Foster on their team. A preliminary game is being arranged for Wednesday evening, between the Athena "dudes" and the Milton "dudes."

The Stubblefield Home Finances Are Considered

Walla Walla.—The county commissioners at their regular meeting Monday considered a recommendation that the board of county commissioners appeal to the attorney general's office for a ruling on whether or not the board can give financial assistance to the Stubblefield Home for children.

A committee appeared before the commissioners last week asking for possible aid because of the fact that the Home's largest item of revenue comes from wheat and the universal low price of the grain has cut their income.

W. G. Coleman has submitted the recommendation and stated that the best procedure would be to refer the question to the attorney general of the state because he has probably decided upon a similar question before, and too local feeling will not enter into his opinion.

It is believed that the board will be unable to offer the aid asked through strict laws governing public monies.

Northern Pacific Road Flooded By Heavy Rain

Bert Ramsay, Northern Pacific Railway foreman, reports that a heavy rain Sunday night north of town caused portions of the track to be flooded. No serious damage resulted to the roadbed, although the track was inundated in several places for sometime as late as Monday forenoon.

The flood waters rose out of the channels on both sides of the roadbed, and overflowed on the flat above town.

With the frost out of the ground, it is thought some of the moisture soaked into the soil. However, this applies to stubble fields more than to fields of growing grain where in some parts of this district the ground was frozen to a depth of several inches.

Need Road Improvement

The road leading south of Athena past the W. O. Read farm is in a deplorable condition and in need of improvement. Those who are compelled to travel it say that if suitable culverts and drainage facilities were maintained in connection with proper grading, the road would be passable the year around. With these conditions prevailing, farmers out that way could keep the road in good shape by dragging, they say. It is possible that an effort will be made to have the county court give attention to improvement of the road.

United In Death

The Weston Leader reports Mrs. E. Z. Whitman, formerly of Weston, died December 11 at her home in Bountiful, Utah, one day after the funeral of her husband, the late Dr. Whitman. She was 82 years old. Inseparable in life, this estimable old couple were thus united in death.

Prosecuting Attorney At Walla Walla Clamps Lid Over Slot Machines

Walla Walla.—Bernard Lehrer, Walla Walla county's 26-year-old prosecutor, "dynamited" friends and foes Monday when, on assuming office, he issued orders to Sheriff McInroe to close all operations of slot machines and punch boards. The sheriff's force immediately started issuing the orders.

Coming with the assumption of office the move proved a surprise to liberal elements in the community that had supported Lehrer for election in opposition to W. G. Coleman, a stringent dry and blue law advocate. Slot machines and punch boards, long unused, came out shortly after election and the liberal element freely predicted that young Lehrer would be "easy" in his enforcement.

The prosecutor refused to comment on his opening crusade but forces close to him indicated he would follow up with further lid clamping activities.

Mac-Hi Trims Athena By Score of 38 to 10

"Pike" Miller's Athena high school team played a bang-up good article of basketball against Mac-Hi at Milton Friday night, but the strong Pioneer quintet were too strong and fast on offense for the local lads.

Athena exhibited good team work, had plenty of shots at the hoop, but it was just one of those nights when nobody was on when it came to looping the ball through the netting.

The play was close at the beginning, but at the half the Pioneers led 18 to 3. Athena came back in the third period with a fast breaking offense, making two baskets in quick succession. However, Mac-Hi bore down quickly on her checking and at the end of the game the score stood 38-10. In the last quarter Eddie Buck ran in his reserves. The lineup:

Athena	Position	Mac-Hi
Hansell	F	Markam
Crowley	F	Hayse
Huffman	C	Miller
Jenkins	G	Monahan
L. Jenkins	G	Crimmins

Prominent Pendleton Woman, Known Here

Athena friends of Mrs. Fred Donert of Pendleton were shocked to hear of her death, Monday, shortly after noon. Learning of an operation performed for mastoid trouble last Saturday, friends were totally unprepared to hear of her death.

Mrs. Donert is survived by her husband, Fred Donert; her daughter Patsy, aged 11; her parents, Mr. and Mrs. G. W. Wright, of Albany, and the following sisters: Mrs. Nelson Wilbur of Drewsey, Oregon; Mrs. H. W. Fish, of Seattle, and Mrs. Ernest Gabriel, of Portland. She was a niece of William Blakley of Pendleton; a niece of J. B. Cooley and a cousin of Carl Cooley.

Mrs. Donert was graduated from Albany College and also from the University of Oregon, being a member of the class of 1911. Her college career was marked by scholastic brilliance, coupled with much popularity among her fellow students. She was a teacher following her graduation.

Her marriage to Fred Donert took place January 20, 1917, in Albany and they came to Pendleton in that year.

Funeral services were held Wednesday afternoon from the Church of the Redeemer at Pendleton and the body was taken to Albany, Oregon, Mrs. Donert's girlhood home, for burial.

Athena Bridge Club

Mrs. Glenn Dudley entertained the Athena Bridge Club last Friday afternoon. Four tables were in play and Miss Jessie Deane Dudley and Miss Helen Hansell were guests. Mrs. H. I. Watts held high club score and Miss Hansell high guest score, and Mrs. Lloyd Michener the consolation. The club decided to play off a tournament at the next series of meetings. Members will meet at one o'clock, the hostess serving luncheon.

Forest Service Begins Work

As an unemployment relief measure the forest service began on two forest road projects Wednesday, it was announced by J. F. Irwin, supervisor of the Umatilla national forest says the East Oregonian.

A Slippery Highway

The Oregon-Washington Highway was a glare of ice on its surface Tuesday morning, and several cars skidded into the ditch as a result of the slick going. The east-bound Union Pacific stage gently eased into the ditch east of the E. A. Dudley farm home and it took the assistance of the Dudley caterpillar to coax the big machine back on the highway.

A Solon Expires After a Speech In Legislature

Olympia, Wash.—The 22d session of the Washington legislature started with tragedy Monday, when Clement G. Scott, representative from Clark county, died immediately after seconding the nomination of Edwin J. Templeton for speaker of the house.

Scott slumped lifeless in his chair shortly after he had finished his maiden speech as a legislator.

The body was removed to a lounge room. Dr. W. C. Watkins, Grays Harbor county representative, and Dr. Walter J. Taylor, Port Angeles senator, pronounced him dead.

Scott suffered from high blood pressure, he had told reporters shortly before the session convened.

In his speech he said: "I feel rather nervous. In fact, I feel more nervous than I did when I was out that night waiting for the returns of the election. However, I have long striven to come here. I do not know all the new members, and I do not know all the old members. But I do know this—the number of things I have promised Clark county."

"During all these 60 days I must be in evidence so my constituents will know I am on the job. So I am here just for that reason only. And in conclusion I have the greatest pleasure and the great honor, from Clark county, to second the nomination of Edwin J. Templeton for speaker."

Shortly after he had finished the words and sat down, Scott toppled forward on his desk.

Scott came to Vancouver shortly before the S. P. & S. bridge was built and worked for that railway before going into business for himself.

He was active in the state affairs of the Elks lodge, at one time serving as grand lecturing knight. He also was a member of the Shrine. He is survived by the widow.

Eggs Among Best and Cheapest Foods, Says OSC

Oregon State College.—Eggs are among the most valuable, and at the present time, most economical articles of the American diet, says Miss Claribel Nye, state leader of the home economics division of the Oregon Extension service.

Because of their high food value and easy digestibility when properly cooked, eggs are one of the first foods to supplement the mother's milk in a baby's diet. They are among the richest sources of iron in human food, and also contain phosphorus and calcium in usable form. Miss Nye points out, all of which minerals are vital to the growth and development of the body.

Eggs are also rich in protein, a substance needed for the growth and repair of muscle, bone and blood. They are wisely used as a substitute for meat in the daily menu occasionally, because in addition to furnishing the protein found in meat, they also supply the vitamins, which are lacking in meat, says Miss Nye. At present they are more economical than any but the cheapest cuts of meat.

Asks for Money for Hermiston Experiment Farm

Washington.—Appropriation of \$25,000 for a new experiment station east of Hermiston was requested by Senator Steiwer, appearing before the senate sub-committee on appropriations dealing with agriculture, of which Senator McNary is chairman.

Dr. William A. Taylor, chief of the bureau of plant industry of the department of agriculture, and Dr. Powelson of Oregon State college, who is here on temporary assignment, spoke in favor of the project, which is to supplant the existing station west of Hermiston. It is planned to deal especially with experiments in utilizing the sandy lands east of the Cascades. Favorable action by the senate is expected.

He Makes Violins

Donald McFadyen is at the present engaged in making violins. These musical instruments are made wholly by hand, and when one is completed represents considerable time, patience and skilled work. Well-seasoned maple and spruce are the woods employed by Mr. McFadyen in making violins. All but the top is made of maple. Spruce forms the top piece of the instrument. It requires two days time to form and complete the violin head piece. Mr. McFadyen has two violins finished and three more under way.

Red Cross Asks \$10,000,000

President Hoover is behind the national Red Cross in its endeavor to raise \$10,000,000 to assist the destitute population in the drought stricken districts, by popular subscription. A drive for the fund will be made by the Red Cross and already quotas have been listed. The quota given Portland to raise, is \$65,000.

MEIER SLIGHTS SUPREME COURT

New Executive Takes Oath of Office From a Circuit Judge.

The correspondent of the Portland Journal in reporting the inaugural of Governor Meier at Salem, Monday, says:

Monday, for the first time in Oregon's history, perhaps for the first time in history of any state in this nation, two elected officials theoretically slapped the chief justice and the members of the supreme court of this state in the face by pointedly—in one instance vociferously—refusing to permit a member of that high tribunal to administer the oath of office to them.

Governor Meier, standing on the threshold of his high office, with the chief justice and the other members of the court sitting behind him, held his right hand up before Circuit Judge L. H. McMahan of Salem, who pronounced the oath that formally completed the new governor's induction into office.

That was at 2:30 o'clock this afternoon. In the forenoon Senator Sam Brown of Marion county told his colleagues of the upper house that he "would walk out of the senate when the chief justice walked in." And he did that thing, going down to the first floor, where he took his oath before Secretary of State Hal Hoss.

In closing his address the new governor attacked the state supreme court again, terming its disbarment of the late Senator George W. Joseph "one of the greatest disgraces ever attached to judiciary." His statement was greeted with applause.

As Meier concluded his remarks President Marks adjourned the assembly. The new governor then held an impromptu reception on the floor of the chamber.

And so, with the spirit of peace on earth brooding over the historic capital, the vaulted dome of which has looked down upon political and personal bitterness during years gone by, but never so finely distilled before, opened the 36th legislature and the new administration. So far as open hostilities on the floor of the house went the Lonergan-Gordon speaker-ship fight flattened out until nothing but the voice of Elbert Bede, the reading clerk, calling the roll ruffled the air. But underneath it was not so calm.

When, Sunday night, at the Marion hotel, Arthur Lawrence of Benton county made the motion that bound the minority in the speakership wrangle into a Gordian knot of permanent organization, with Representative Winslow as chairman and Lawrence as secretary, to "meet from time to time throughout the session," it did not bode fair weather for the taut hours sure to come during the middle and toward the end of the session.

Speaker Lonergan was generous with his foemen in their defeat, in his treatment of them on committee assignments. This may, if he lives up to his promise of studied fairness to all as the session goes on, tend to shatter the ranks of the Gordon bloc. But that remains for time and the heat and turmoil of the session to disclose.

Over-ruling the opposition of Senator Sam Brown by an overwhelming vote at the opening of the session the senate by a vote of 26 to 1—with two members absent—invited Chief Justice Bean of the supreme court to administer the oath of office to the new members.

Senator Sam Brown, renewing his protest voiced before the senate caucus Sunday night, made an impassioned plea for support of his motion that the secretary of state and not a member of the supreme court be invited to administer the oath, declaring, that he, for one, would not be sworn in by a member of the court.

It looked for a time as though Brown was not going to find even enough support to secure a second to his motion until Senator Bennett, explaining that he was acting only out of courtesy to his colleague, provided the necessary "second."

Highway Improvement

Weston Leader: The state highway construction crew which has been operating in this vicinity for several months with headquarters at Weston, is now engaged in the fill for the new connection north of town at what is known as the Banister corner. This improvement will both straighten the curve and shorten the distance up the hill. Rock is being obtained with a steam shovel from the county quarry on North Washington street.

While Returning From Dayton to Athena, Mrs. Steeman, Mother of Mrs. W. J. Crabb, Had Her Ankle and Foot Injured in an Automobile Accident, at Dixie, Wash.

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