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Moro, Sherman County, Oregon. Friday, January 28, 1916.

Five Cents

CHIEF ISSUES IN CONGRESS UNSOLVED

Little Headway on Preparedness and Revenue Legislation Yet Made

Washington.—Although in session nearly two months congress has made little progress in solving the problems of preparedness and revenue. Hearings and committee conferences on the military and naval program seems to have accomplished little toward shaping proposed legislation.

The Philippine government bill has slowly made its way through house and senate, setting the first place in general legislation. Debate upon it was of a long and arduous nature, a large measure of self-government for the people of the islands, the chief controversy lay in the definition of the present granting independence at some indefinite date in the future. The only other general legislation advanced in either house has been the leasing bill dealing with water power sites and the miners' leasing bill of the public domain. The house has passed the leasing bill, but the senate, where the real struggle is to take place.

Supreme Court Upholds Income Tax

The income tax was declared constitutional by the supreme court in an unanimous decision which swept aside every objection raised against it, and in the opinion of congressional leaders opened the way for increasing the tax rate on great fortunes to help pay for national defense.

Proposals are pending in congress to tax incomes of more than \$1,000,000 as high as 50 per cent. Leaders on all sides agree that out of the income which the decision will give such proposals are likely to come a definite movement to levy on the revenues from great private fortunes for some of the millions the government must raise to carry out the army and navy increases.

New Lusitania Offer Made by Germany

Germany has submitted to the United States, through Ambassador von Bernstorff, another written proposal designed to bring about a settlement of the controversy over the sinking of the steamship Lusitania.

There were indications that the document might bring to a satisfactory termination negotiations which have been in progress for eight months.

Immigration Bill Limits Oriental

Draconic restrictions would be thrown about the immigration of Japanese into the United States and both Hindus and Chinese virtually would be barred from the country by a provision that has been written into the immigration bill to be reported to the house this week by the immigration committee.

The new features relating to immigration grants from Japan would have their most far-reaching effect, in the expectation of committee members, in shutting off effectually the influx of Japanese laborers whose competition with American labor on the Pacific coast has aroused a pronounced anti-Asiatic sentiment.

Taxation Under Ferris Bill Uncertain

Whether the public land states or their counties can tax improvements made on public lands leased under the Ferris waterpower bill or under the coal, oil, gas and phosphate leasing bill, probably will have to be determined finally by the supreme court of the United States. The house refused to incorporate any provision specifically recognizing the right of the states to tax such improvements. It incorporated in the general leasing bill an innocuous provision relative to state taxation.

It is the judgment of some western senators and representatives that congress should incorporate a specific provision recognizing the right of the states and counties to tax improvements on government lands leased under these bills.

National Capital Activities

The German government informed the United States that German submarines were not responsible for the sinking of the liner Persia.

General Leonard Wood advocated before the senate military committee a standing army of 210,000 men and ridiculed the continental army plan of Secretary of War Garrison.

The house pension committee reported favorably a bill granting pensions of \$12 a month to widows of Spanish war and China expedition veterans and \$5 a month to their children until 16 years of age.

The board which examined the submarine B-2, which was damaged by an explosion which killed five and injured nine, reported that hydrogen gas from the batteries mixing with air caused the accident.

Indorsement of the administration's continental army plan was given by Henry L. Stimson, former secretary of war under President Taft, at the final session of the National Security League's congress here.

FRANCISCO VILLA



Photo by American Press Association.

General Villa, the Mexican rebel chief who was erroneously reported to have been captured last week.

CARRANZA AVENGES DEATH OF AMERICAN

El Paso, Tex.—Bernardo and Federico Duran, the Mexican cattle thieves condemned to die by the Carranza authorities for the killing of Bert Akers at San Lorenzo, a few miles below the international boundary, were executed in the cemetery at Juarez.

The bodies of both Mexicans were buried immediately, but that of Bernardo, who confessed to having fired the shots that killed Akers, was exhumed to satisfy a doubt concerning the identity of the slayer. Douglas Downs, another American who was with Akers seeking stolen cows and who escaped the bullets of the Mexicans, declared after seeing Bernardo Duran that the prisoner was the man.

The execution was attended by about 50 Americans, among whom were several women.

VILLA DENIES KILLING

Says Responsibility for Santa Ysabel Massacre Unjustly Charged.

El Paso, Tex.—General Francisco Villa sent a message to the American people, saying he was not responsible for the murder of 15 Americans at Santa Ysabel. It came through Major Theodore Prieta, a staff officer. Through Prieta he said: "I took no part in the massacre, and did not know of it until afterward. It was merely an act of the Carranzistas to bring me into disfavor with the United States and it was similar to their previous methods to defeat me." Prieta said that Villa gave him the message at El Rubio, Chihuahua, where he left Villa as the latter was departing with his troops for Durango.

Oregon Governor's Son Wed.

Union, Or.—Governor James Withycombe, with Mrs. Withycombe and their son, Earl, visited here to attend the wedding of their son, Robert Withycombe, superintendent of the Western Oregon State experimental station at this place, to Miss Mabel Hutchinson.

Turks Bank Persia in Late Version. London.—An Amsterdam dispatch to the Hindustan Telegraph company says:

"According to a Berlin report the Turkish ministry of marine is about to publish a statement to the effect that a Turkish submarine sank the steamer Persia."

French Airmen in Daring Raid. Paris.—The Serbian towns of Montenegro and Glogovici have again been attacked by a squadron of French aeroplanes, 16 in number; the Athens correspondent of the Havas agency telegraphs: It is estimated 100 persons were killed or wounded at Glogovici.

THE MARKETS.

Portland.
 Wheat—Club \$1.06; bluestem \$1.36; red Russian, \$1.02; forty-fold, \$1.06; red life, \$1.03.
 Hay—Eastern Oregon timothy, \$18.50; alfalfa, \$19.
 Butter—Creamery, 29c.
 Eggs—Ranch, 32c.
 Wool—Eastern Oregon, 25c; valley, 26c.
 Hope—1915 crop, 10@12½¢ per lb.
 Seattle.
 Wheat—Bluestem \$1.13; club \$1.07; red Russian, \$1.02; forty-fold, \$1.10; life, \$1.04.
 Barley—\$23.50 per ton.
 Hay—Timothy, \$18 per ton; alfalfa, \$19 per ton.
 Butter—Creamery, 29c.
 Eggs—32c.

OREGON NEWS NOTES OF GENERAL INTEREST

Important Occurrences of Past Week Briefly Compiled for Our Readers.

The Daffes will have a municipal open air ice skating rink.

Multnomah county spent \$1,682, 799.77 in 1915 for good roads.

Deer, driven in by the snow, were seen in the city limits of Roseburg.

Twenty cattle have died from the effects of rabies at 319, in Klamath county.

The deep snow is seriously interfering with logging in the Sumpter valley district.

Two dozen farmers sold 120,000 bushels of wheat for \$1 a bushel at La Grande.

The Port of Astoria is to erect coal bunkers and conveyors at Astoria, to cost \$60,000.

What is said to be the first shipment of Oregon hops to South Africa has left Independence.

The Eugene school board has authorized the construction of a new public school building.

During the past year, 47 miles of new graded and gravelled roads were constructed in Linn county.

H. H. Owens of Oakland has been appointed stock inspector for Douglas county by Governor Withycombe.

Registrations for the first two weeks of January in Oregon, as reported to Secretary of State Olcott totaled \$860.

John Rudolph lost both his hands by a premature explosion while working on an irrigating ditch at Gateway.

The thirteenth annual session of the Oregon State Federation of Labor convened in Portland Tuesday, January 25.

D. M. McFadden was arrested at Vale charged with the murder of Clara O'Neil at Riverside, Malheur county.

Roseburg and Douglas county will ship more than 100 cars of broccoli to the eastern markets during the present year.

Twenty-five shipments of whiskey and one of beer have been made into Linn county since the prohibition law took effect.

The date for the meeting of county assessors at the capitol has been fixed by the state tax commission for February 15, 16 and 17.

The 10th annual convention of the Oregon Retail Hardware and Implement Dealers' association convened in Portland January 25.

The Grants Pass city council has made a cut in the salaries paid the municipal officials, effecting a heavy reduction in the payroll.

R. B. Thompson of the Oregon agricultural college has been elected a member of the faculty of the New Mexico agricultural college.

The practically new school at Richfield has been destroyed by fire, caused by a defective flue. The loss, including furnishings, totals \$8000.

According to the annual report of County Clerk Leno, fishing and hunting licenses aggregating \$4887 were issued at Roseburg during the year.

Officers of the Roseburg commercial club have begun negotiations for supplying an eastern firm with dried flower petals in lots to exceed 10 tons.

Plans have been made for a \$40,000 building to be erected before fall at the University of Oregon for the schools of education, law and architecture.

A party of Southern Pacific engineers under the direction of O. L. Zenbier is at work surveying the proposed route for a spur from Cushman to Florence.

Only one pupil, George D. Zunderlein, of district No. 164, near Woodburn, received a diploma, as a result of the recent eighth-grade examination in Marion county.

N. H. Bogue, chief engineer for Robert E. Strahorn, with a party of 13 men, has begun work on the survey for the Oregon, California & Eastern railroad east of Bend.

A. R. Chase, a graduate of Oregon agricultural college in the class of 1915, has been appointed by the board of regents to the position of county agriculturist of Wasco county.

At a recent meeting of the Independent colleges of the state at McMinnville, a resolution was adopted advising against any of the schools maintaining intercollegiate athletics.

The office of county recorder in Linn county will be abolished if Linn representatives approve a bill to be introduced in the next legislature by Senator E. D. Ousick of Albany.

According to the weekly report of the state industrial accident commission there were 149 accidents reported to it during the week ending January 20, but none of them proved fatal.

Secretary of State Olcott has just completed the apportionment to the counties of the money received from motor vehicle and chauffeur licenses for 1915. The total receipts amounted to \$108,491.50. Of this amount \$87,320.05, or 80-1-10 per cent of the total receipts, was returned to the counties.

Fire destroyed the emergency light plant at La Grande and the regular plant was frozen, so the city secured electricity from Baker.

Orders have been issued from the adjutant general's office for annual federal inspection of all troops of the O. N. G. The inspections will begin on March 4 and continue until March 23.

Work on the new \$85,000 state training school building for Oregon Normal school is being rushed and according to present plans the new structure will be ready for occupancy by February 1.

Lloyd Harrison, a freshman in the school of agriculture at the Oregon agricultural college, has been appointed to the United States naval academy at Annapolis by Representative Hawley.

The supreme court denied a motion by Governor Withycombe and State Treasurer Kay for a rehearing of the case in which State Engineer Lewis was held to be head of the state highway department.

A. H. Lee was named secretary of the state fair board at Salem to succeed W. A. Jones. J. H. Booth of Roseburg and N. K. West of La Grande, supporters of Jones, resigned following the election of Lee.

Establishment of a plant to manufacture binder twine at the Oregon penitentiary is advocated by State Treasurer Kay as a result of his inspection of a twine plant operated at the Minnesota penitentiary.

A short course, entitled the "Economics of State Administration," with state officials the instructors, will be tried out in the University of Oregon next semester under the supervision of the economic department.

More than 36 prominent O. W. R. & N. officials and engineers attended a banquet given by Pendleton business men in celebration of the Coyote-Rio cut off and the opening of the new terminal yards at Pilot Rock Junction.

State Engineer Lewis has assumed charge of the state highway department as a result of the supreme court denial of the highway commission's petition for rehearing of the case in which he was declared highway engineer.

Superintendent Hale of the state training school told the state board of control that half the boys sent to the school are dependent and not delinquent. The board authorized Hale to parole boys he deemed improperly committed.

An Oregon pioneer and one of the most prominent lumbering and steamboat men of the lower Columbia river district, Melville P. Callender, died suddenly at the home of his daughter in Astoria, as the result of a stroke of apoplexy.

Remnants of a number of inlets of Coos Bay, including North, Haynes, Willamach, Kentuck and Tammie lakes, have in mind the formation of a growers' and producers' association, for the object of obtaining better prices for their farm produce.

Professor Warren D. Smith, head of the department of geology of the University of Oregon, has been asked by the Chinese legation at Washington, D. C., to consider appointment as the head of the geology department of the Chinese government at Peking.

With the population of the state prison 109 greater than it was a year ago and steadily increasing, there seems to be little question that the emergency board will have to be called together before the end of this year to provide for a deficiency.

Pronouncing conditions at the penitentiary at Salem unsanitary and conducive to immorality, prison reform advocates have indicated their intention of asking the board of control to appeal to the next legislature to make provision for remodeling the institution.

A gift of \$600 recently was received by President Dewey of Willamette University from Henry Claws, a prominent New York financier, to be used in the erection of a memorial alcove in the university library to the late Dr. John H. Coleman, a former president of Willamette.

The state public service commission has set February 2 as the time for hearing at Eugene of the application of the Southern Pacific company for permission to construct a track at grade across Jefferson, Madison, Monroe and Van Buren streets and the River road in Eugene.

Among those counties in which are located national forest reserves, Secretary of State Olcott has apportioned \$19,676.53. The money was received from the federal government from forest reserve rentals, sales of timber and other forest reserve sources for the year ending June 30, 1915. The amount was disbursed to the counties in proportion to the forest area within each county.

The Oregon prohibition law was set aside for the first time at Oregon City when ethyl alcohol was found necessary to save the life of Floyd Barlow, age 28. Barlow was being bathed in the alcohol as treatment for pneumonia and the limit of two quarts allowed by the prohibition law had been used when District Attorney Hedges told the druggist to disobey the law and sell the alcohol.

By the Merciless Waves

By DWIGHT NORWOOD

During the winter of 1914, being in England and desiring to see something of the pan-European war, I crossed the channel to Flanders. But when I got there I was not permitted to go to the scene of conflict. Not caring to return immediately I went to a hotel on the seashore, intending to spend several days there.

The weather was cold, and the channel, stretching out indefinitely toward the northwest, was a gloomy sight to behold. One morning I heard a booming out at sea, but had no knowledge of what it portended. During the day there was always booming on the land north and south of me, and sometimes it came faintly from the east. These sounds continually reminded me that I was surrounded by war and its consequent distress.

But it was the channel that most affected me. I knew that out there many a merchant crew was sailing in danger of being sent to the bottom of the cold, black waters. Many a submarine crew was dredging lest their vessel become entangled in the enormous wire nets laid by the British trawlers to trap them.

One evening when there was a misty moonlight I was tempted to go out and walk on the beach. I was warmly clothed and enjoyed the icy air that blew against my cheeks. So enjoyable was my jaunt to me that I walked for an hour toward the north, then was about to turn and retrace my steps when I saw something denser than the surrounding atmosphere a short distance ahead of me.

I stood watching it. A thin cloud that had covered the moon passed from it, giving a slight increase of light and revealed what seemed to me to be a knot of men huddled together. I had once seen a ship at sea about to founder, and these shadowy beings reminded me of its crew standing together about a mast, doubtless gaining some slight comfort from one another while waiting for the fatal plunge.

Curiosity led me to approach what I saw, and I walked forward. But somehow I got no nearer to them, though they gradually became less indistinct, for by keeping my eyes fixed upon them they became individuals, though confused with one another. Their relative position was that of men discussing some momentous question. Nevertheless I heard no sound, nor could I discern any one of them addressing the rest.

Then it seemed to me that they were all looking toward me, but this was rather their position with reference to one another, for I had no evidence that they were facing me. Immediately after this they began to move away from me. I followed, and since I did not gain on them I hastened my steps. But the faster I walked the quicker they receded. Sometimes it seemed that they were tramping, sometimes that they were moving from me without taking steps.

When at last I saw them, or what they appeared to be, leave the beach and move out on the surface of the water I began to suspect that something was wrong with me. I swung my arms, pinched myself, rubbed my eyes. The group remained in my vision till they had gone a few hundred yards from the shore, then stopped and slowly settled down, it seemed, into the water—either this or they faded before me; I could not tell which.

This was the end of my dream, hallucination or whatever it might be. I waited for some time, peering out to where the men had disappeared, wondering if they would return, but they did not, and I considered it high time that I went back to my hotel. Before doing so I noted the locality that I might know it again. There was a little stream of running fresh water that flowed from a lake or swamp a short distance from the beach.

The next morning after an early breakfast I started to go over my walk of the night before. Soon after leaving the hotel I found myself in an unfrequented region. There was not a house in sight. I walked to the runnel I had seen and knew that I was where my vision had disappeared. Turning seaward, I scanned the waters.

It was ebb tide. The waves were high under a west wind. Presently, after a wave had rolled over a certain point, I saw in the hollow it had left something that looked like the top of a small steamer's smokestack. Another wave passed over it, and when it had moved on I saw the article again.

I had no glass, and the interval between the waves was too brief to enable me to get a good view of it. So far as I could judge, I saw the top of a smokestack of a sunken vessel.

I concluded to return to the hotel and report what I had seen. I made no mention of my vision. After a good deal of talk and many assurances that I had seen evidence of a wreck a tug was sent to examine what I had seen. I was aboard and directed the captain to the point sought. As we approached it he swept the water with a pair of binoculars and presently exclaimed:

"It's the periscope of a submarine."

And so it was. It was subsequently raised and proved to be a German torpedo boat. In it were twelve Germans, all dead.

This is the only mention I have ever made of my vision or whatever it was, and to this statement my true name is not appended. I do not care to be considered either a liar or a fool or to have broken down nerves.

REPRESENTATIVE HAY



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James Hay, the Virginia Congressman who is chairman of the House Committee on Military Affairs.

BRIEF WAR NEWS

Austria has fixed the age limit for the war at 55 years.

Through the good offices of the United States, the German and other consuls arrested by the allies at Saloniki are to be released.

In none of the major fronts of the field of war in Europe are notable military operations in progress so far as the official reports show.

The Montenegrin consul in Paris makes the official announcement that all negotiations between Montenegro and Austria have been broken off and that Montenegro has decided to fight to the bitter end.

From the northern front in Russia to Bessarabia there are no changes in positions of the various forces, according to official reports.

Indications are that the Russians have again ceased, for a time at least, their attacks on the Austrians near the southern end of the line, while Berlin mentions only artillery activity in sectors where German troops are holding the front.

The Franco-Belgian front is undergoing a period of comparative calm, which probably is to be explained by the reasonable conditions.

There are frequent outbreaks by the artillery on both sides, however, several such being mentioned in the current official statements.

Berlin mentions the shelling of German positions and villages behind the lines between the Moselle and the Vosges, while Paris apparently describes the same series of artillery operations as being directed against provision trains and groups of hostile troops.

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