

# Sherman County Observer

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## UNITED STATES NOW OWNS 9,000 ISLANDS

### All Are Outside the Boundaries of States.

Washington.—Acceptance by congress of the Samoan islands as part of the United States territory definitely adds six more bits of land to the thousands of islands the nation now owns.

"The United States has acquired some 9,000 islands outside the boundaries of the 48 states," says a bulletin from the Washington, (D. C.) headquarters of the National Geographic society.

"This host of territorial islands is scattered from the South Pacific north across the Arctic circle. They sprinkle the seas of both hemispheres for a distance of 15,000 miles from St. John, in the Virgin Islands, to Balabac island, on the outskirts of the Philippines.

A "Milky Way" of islands. "While 9,000 islands are few, perhaps, beside the island collections of Great Britain, Holland and France, yet American territorial islands decorate the oceans like star galaxies ornament the heavens.

"The Philippines are the 'Milky Way' of the United States island constellations. They alone comprise approximately eight thousand islands. Every one knows about Luzon, the monster Philippine island, as large as Ohio in area. Almost nothing is known of the seven thousand islets in the Archipelago having an area of one-tenth of a square mile or more.

"Then there is the scarf of Aleutians swung across the blue sea void toward Asia. The United States coast and geodetic survey does not know for sure how many Aleutians there are, but it is endeavoring to find out by airplane surveys. Then, down in the panhandle of Alaska lie many more islands behind whose protecting flanks, steamers thread their way up the inland passage. Other islands fret the Alaskan coast, including a famous little sandbar of an island behind which Wilkins and Eielson took off to fly across the top of the world.

"How large is Hawaii? That all depends upon how the territory is measured. By square miles of land the Hawaiian islands have an area equal to Connecticut and Rhode Island. By their spread over the Pacific ocean the islands occupy a region as long from east to west as the United States is wide. Wake island, of the territory of Hawaii, an uninhabited atoll 18 feet above sea level, lies nearly 3,000 miles away from the island of Hawaii.

"To American citizens who wish to be marooned on an uninhabited island with ten selected books, the United States offers endless opportunities. In the West Indies there are some very nice islands on which nature, barring occasional hurricanes, maintains the quietness of a good library. Wake island, previously mentioned, asures at most perfect privacy. The nearest bit of land is 300 miles away.

Choosing a Sequestered Spot. "Rose island, in the Samoan group, has unusual advantages for the seeker of literary leisure. It is 80 miles east of its nearest neighbor; remote, equable; real estate, one island half a square mile in area comfortably situated within a coral breaker; in habitants, none; fishing, excellent, although many species are poisonous. New packets of ten selected books could be obtained by the small boat which comes to these island annuities to deposit emergency stores of food and water for the use of sailors who might be shipwrecked.

"The Samoan islands loom large in the history of the United States' foreign policy. The joint agreement of Great Britain, the United States and Germany to establish a protectorate over the islands, represented, it was said, the first departure from our nation's historic attitude toward alliances. The joint protectorate did not work out well, so by treaties in 1900 and 1904, the United States took control over the eastern half of the islands containing Pago Pago harbor, the finest in all the South seas. Congress, after all these years, has passed a resolution accepting the twenty-year-old gift of the islands from the Samoan chiefs.

"In the lists of American territorial possessions one group of islands seldom appears. The status of 70 guano islands scattered all over the Pacific is indefinite. Even the position and existence of some of them is indefinite. By a law passed in 1856 the United States extended temporary protection to American citizens exploiting guano deposits on bird islands. While the United States is not obliged to maintain sovereignty over guano islands, neither has she surrendered all rights. Over some islets and banks such as Navassa island, between Jamaica and Haiti, Quita Sueno bank, Roncoador cay, Serrana bank, and Swan islands, all in the western Caribbean, and Santa Hermosa of Swains island near Samoa, the American flag flies without question.

Loaded With Narcotics. Calcutta.—Narcotics valued at \$35,000 were taken from a ship raised by police here recently. The vessel was from China and was found to contain firearms, besides the cargo of narcotics.

Golf Ball Explodes. Chicago.—Harold Carver, aged ten, threw a golf ball into a fireplace "to see what would happen." It exploded and his face was badly burned.

## GLENNA COLLETT



Glenna Collett, American golf star, won her way to the final round of the British women's championship at St. Andrews, but was then defeated by Joyce Wethered, England's star player.

## RETIREMENT OF DEBT ADMINISTRATION PLAN

Washington, D. C. — Rapid retirement of the public debt will continue to be an administration policy under President Hoover and Secretary of the Treasury Mellon.

Despite a program for increased expenditures for public works and a possibility of another tax cut within a year or two, it is estimated that the outstanding public debt can be substantially wiped out within less than 18 years.

Retirements through the sinking fund, together with amounts to be received from European governments under present debt-funding agreements, will pay off the entire debt, now standing at a little less than \$17,000,000,000, by 1947. By adding to these debt retirements surplus revenues the debt can be paid off in a somewhat shorter period.

During the present fiscal year ending June 30, next, it is anticipated that about \$540,000,000 of the principal of the public debt will be retired, not including whatever margin there is during the fiscal year between ordinary receipts and expenditures. The surplus for the year seems certain to amount to at least \$100,000,000 and possibly to \$150,000,000 or more.

## NEW MONEY OUT JULY 10

Bills to be Smaller Than Present Currency Now in Use. Washington, D. C.—The new currency adopted by the government, different in design from the present bills and smaller length and width, will go into circulation Wednesday, July 10.

In making the announcement recently, the treasury said the old, larger notes also would continue to be used until unfit for circulation. After the first issue of the new currency all orders for paper money will be filled by the treasury with portions of both the old and new designs.

Declaring that they appreciated the inconvenience that would be caused by having two sizes of currency in circulation at the same time, treasury officials urged that the public be patient and co-operate until the last of the old bills have been worn out.

## \$8,000,000 to Be Spent on Birds.

Washington, D. C. — Eight million dollars of government funds will be spent by the bureau of biological survey in the next 10 years for development of refuges for migratory wild fowls.

Rotary International Picks Newsom. Dallas, Tex.—Eugene Newsom of Durham, N. C., was named president of Rotary International at its closing session here, at its 20th annual convention.

A man arrested in St. Louis is charged with stealing eight phonographs. Probably looking for one that sang baritone, or something.

A western humorist has been warned that if he doesn't discontinue Scotch jokes his correspondent will stop borrowing the paper.

Whatever became of the old-fashioned genial stranger who, if you slipped kiplunk on the ice, would observe, "X marks the spot?"

Chicago cops are eating garlic to keep influenza away. This is a tip they must have had from the Chicago gunmen.

Among other things the airplane has brought us the past twenty-five years is the application of the word "minedness."

Bandit Returns Funds. Acapulco, Mexico.—J. Calderon, a famous local rebel chief, has earned for himself a reputation for scrupulous honesty. He invariably returns money obtained from public offices in the towns he raids. He considers such money "borrowed" for the cause.

## SENATE MAY GIVE UP DEBENTURE FEATURE

### Farm Relief Legislation Expected to Pass This Week; Recedes in Sight.

Washington, D. C.—Enactment of farm relief legislation this week is the goal of congressional leaders, who believe the controversial export debenture provision of the senate measure can be eliminated on reconsideration.

With wheat selling below the dollar-a-bushel mark, the lowest in 16 years, all interest at the capitol is centered on the farm problem. Blame for this condition is being passed freely around. The debenture group, which had a bare majority in the senate, asserts the condition justifies the need for such a provision. The administration supporters opposed to debentures contend the effort for this proposition must be abandoned in the interests of speedy enactment of a farm measure acceptable to the president.

The conferees of the senate and house are expected to reach an agreement during the week on their long-standing controversy over farm relief, and there are indications that the senate group will yield on the debenture in the interests of an agreement, thus forcing the issue again before the senate.

Vacation plans of the administration leaders are still centered on the all-summer recess, but this discussion has been laid aside to await the final disposition of the farm measure. While the senate is waiting for the report of the house-senate conference, it will be taking up another administration proposal for the extra session repeal of the national origins immigration quota basis.

## LIQUOR VIOLATIONS INCREASE IN NUMBER

Washington, D. C.—Prohibition violations brought into federal courts were about 2900 more in number during the last six months of 1928 than during the corresponding period of 1927.

Statistics made public by the department of justice showed, however, that individual convictions were about 2400 fewer and fines assessed about \$200,000 less during the latter period.

A total of 27,575 cases were tried during the last half of 1928, the report showed, with 23,853 convictions and \$3,222,146 assessed in fines. A total of 3205 years imprisonment was imposed in sentences during the 1928 period, while the total for the same months of 1927 were 3477.

Compared with the same months of 1925, there were about 5000 more cases instituted and about 9000 more in 1928. Fines were about \$30,000 less than for the 1925 period and \$600,000 more than for the 1926 period. Steady decreases in cases, fines and assessments during the three years, the report showed, have occurred in southern California districts, western North Carolina, middle Tennessee and the first and second divisions of Alaska.

## QUAKE HITS ARGENTINE

Parts of 11 Provinces Jarrred by Five-Hour Temblor; 100 Injured. Buenos Aires.—News filtering into Buenos Aires over crippled lines of communication shows the destruction of two villages, with at least 50 dead and more than 100 injured, as a result of violent earthquakes which for five hours shook a large area of the Argentine republic last week.

The La Planta observatory describes the quake as the most violent and extensive of recent years. It embraced a triangular territory 750 miles northward along the Chilean frontier from the city of Neuquen to the province of Catamarca, 750 miles northwest to southwest as far as Olavarría in the province of Buenos Aires and 500 miles east to west from Olavarría to Neuquen, thus taking in parts of 11 provinces and territories.

Top Erupted From Alaskan Peak. Cordova, Alaska.—Eruption of an unnamed mountain on the south end of Aquitan island, 1000 miles southwest of Cordova, was reported here by residents of the Far Westward, who said it appeared likely that lava would everspread the entire island. The top of the mountain appeared to have been blown off, residents said, and lava was flowing two-thirds of the way down the mountainside.

Polish Guns Pop in Class Battle. Warsaw.—Several persons were wounded in a fusillade of shots exchanged at the opening of the Polish trades union convention here recently. The disturbance came when 100 communists who previously had been ousted from the trades unions, attempted to force their way into the convention hall.

## This Year's Wheat Crop Prospects

Prof. F. L. Kent, agricultural statistician for the U. S. department of agriculture and Oregon Agricultural College, says that more winter wheat is to be produced in the United States in 1929 than last year, but less in the Pacific northwest, according to present indications. The estimate for this year's harvest in Oregon is 16,638,000 bushels, for Washington 22,982,000, for Idaho 11,096,000 and for the United States 595,335,000. Last year's production was, Oregon, 20,088,000 bushels, Washington 35,600,000, Idaho 10,488,000 and United States 578,964,000. Mr. Kent says that no estimates for the 1929 spring wheat crop are yet available, but with the big crop in winter wheat indications it seems certain that the 1929 total wheat crop of the Pacific northwest will be several million bushels less than last year. The 1928 spring wheat production for the three states was estimated at 19,442,000 bushels and 1927 crop at 26,860,000 bushels.

## Railroads Reduce Accidents

Within the last ten years the number of persons killed on railway property, owing to conditions within railway control, has been reduced 61 per cent. In contrast to this, grade crossing accidents have materially increased.

It has been repeatedly held that railroads are not responsible for accidents due to persons crossing their tracks. Every effort has been made to protect the public. And the motorist who fails to investigate before venturing across tracks or attempts to race trains, must do so on his own responsibility.

The futility of trying to force the railroads to remove grade crossings is shown by recent records. Tremendous amounts have been spent for this purpose. Yet in 1927, the last year for which official statistics are available, grade crossings increased 952, due to the construction of new highways and streets across railroad property.

In every phase of the accident menace over which the railroads have control, improvement has been made. Under circumstances where control is within the jurisdiction of the public accidents have increased. Clearly, the railroads are creditably discharging their share of the responsibility and the rest is up to the people.

Lost 125 miles from home as a result of an automobile accident, Nookie, a cat owned by Mrs. J. Rugg of Cincinnati, returned after two months.

## Chair of Religion Is Established at OSC



Dr. E. W. Warrington

Oregon State College, Corvallis.—A privately supported, non-sectarian chair of religion became a reality here with the organization of a state wide committee to back the venture which has been in preliminary operation all this year, sponsored by a few individuals.

Dr. E. W. Warrington, for many years Y. M. C. A. secretary on the campus, has been named professor of religion and will teach a series of courses of strictly collegiate grade, for which credit will be given. Dr. Warrington has recently completed two years graduate study in religious education at Columbia university, New York.

Funds will be raised to support the work here for three years, after which a permanent endowment fund will be sought in case the chair continues to be successful. This year starting with no previous announcement, the courses offered have attracted increasing numbers of students totalling more than 200 in the three terms.

The headquarters of the work will be in Shepard hall, a building owned by the college "Y" near the center of the campus. The college board of regents has approved the plan and President W. J. Kerr is giving enthusiastic support to the new work.

## REPARATIONS REPORT OUTLINES NEW PLAN

### Debt Experts Map System Favoring International Bank for Settlement.

Paris.—The loss by S. Parker Gilbert of his job as general agent for reparations payments will be one of the consequences of the report of the second Dawes committee, now well toward completion, if the governments accept it. Another important result will be the practical suppression of the reparations commission as a medium for payments, while an experiment with big possibilities in it will be the recommendation that a new international institution be set up to handle reparations called "the bank for international settlements."

Specific recommendations in the report will be:

1. Substitution of Mr. Young's annuities, as agreed upon, for the Dawes plan.
2. Substitution of "the bank for international settlement" for the reparations commission and agent-general for reparations in receiving and distributing payments.
3. Settlement by the governments as soon as possible and at the latest within two years of the question of the obligations incurred by the successor states to Austria territory.
4. Reduction and recovery of taxes imposed by creditor countries on German imports from 26 to 20 per cent.
5. Modification of the Dawes lien on German railroads so as to permit Germans to finance them.
6. Any eventual reduction in the allied war debts to the United States to be applied in reducing the annuities due from Germany.
7. A moratorium of two years to be eventually accorded on half of the protected part, of 1,350,000,000 marks, of the first series of annuities when financial difficulties of the reich may require.
8. Commercialization as becomes possible of the amount representing the present value of 500,000,000 marks of the first 37 annuities.

## FLOOD ENDANGERS WYOMING CAPITAL

Cheyenne, Wyo.—Property damage estimated at \$350,000 resulted from flood waters of Turgid Crow creek, which inundated the bottom lands of west and south Cheyenne early Sunday, claimed one life and carried away four dams on the Herford ranch, eight miles east of here, and a number of other smaller reservoirs down the valley near the Colorado-Wyoming state line.

Every bridge between Cheyenne and Carpenter, 15 miles southeast of here, was reported to have been washed out, and the telephone line that crossed Crow creek just below the upper reservoir was leveled and communication with Herford and Grover, Colo., has been interrupted.

A number of persons who were incredulous, refusing to believe a dangerous flood condition could develop, did not evacuate their homes and were rescued by city firemen operating from boats.

## PUBLIC WORKS INCREASE

\$5,443,265 Expended in May; June Expected to Exceed. Seattle, Wash.—Public works contracts awarded in the Pacific northwest in May totaled \$5,443,265, a figure which probably will be passed during the month of June, a survey released here shows.

The report names 33 public works projects on which contracts will be let in Washington, 24 in Oregon, four in Idaho, six in Montana and one, a federal road job, in Alaska. Bids will be called on a score of other important projects within the next ten days in addition to a number of jobs of minor importance.

## Six Months More Given to Sinclair

Washington, D. C.—After completing his present 90-day sentence in the district jail for contempt of the senate, Harry F. Sinclair must serve an additional six months on the charges growing out of the jury shadowing which caused the Fall-Sinclair conspiracy trial.

Banana Growers Bar Liquor. Tegucigalpa, Honduras.—Announcement has been made that the sale of liquor on all banana plantations will be forbidden on pay days. The measure will diminish government revenues, but is expected to prevent disturbances of the peace.

Aged Man Killed by Sting of Bees. Pittsburg, Kan.—N. J. Wood, 71, was fatally struck by a swarm of bees, which attacked him at his home near Franklin. He was cutting limbs from a tree when the bees swarmed over him.

Japanese Village Surrounded by Fire. Tokyo.—The village of Tomial on the east coast of the island of Saghalien was surrounded by the forest fire which has raged for the past week there. Its 1000 houses were isolated and conditions in the town were not known here.

Typhus Epidemic Hits Germany. Heppenheim, Germany.—Numerous cases of typhus have been reported here. Twenty-five cases were sent to the Heidelberg hospital, where there were two deaths. The source of the infection has not been located.

## CHEICK RAFAI RABAL



Cheick Rafai Rabal, venerable Arab, who claims he is 155 years of age. He is keen of mind and remembers the details of an Arabian massacre of 1811. He remembers when George III was king of England.

## BRITISH PREMIER RESIGNS MINISTRY

London.—Premier Stanley Baldwin, who has governed England since October, 1924, at the head of a conservative cabinet, placed the resignation of his ministry in the hands of King George Tuesday at Windsor castle.

His action, caused by the defeat of the conservative party in the general elections May 30th, is in agreement with constitutional usage and with the advice of powerful conservative leaders and most of the conservative press.

Thus for the second time within five years the labor party, which 30 years ago held not a single seat in the house of commons, will come into power. It will rule as the strongest party in the house and not as a stable majority government. Labor held only 287 seats out of 308 necessary for a majority after the general election.

The liberals, under the leadership of David Lloyd George, hold the balance of power with 57 seats, the conservatives being reduced to 254 from the 413 with which Mr. Baldwin faced parliament after the last general election.

## SHORT NEWS NUGGETS

The dean of Westminster announces that thanksgiving service for King George's recovery planned for June 16 has been indefinitely postponed.

General Matias Ramos, who defended the city of Juarez against a rebel attack early in the recent rebellion, has been appointed under secretary of war.

Prince Henry, duke of Gloucester, on arrival in Victoria, B. C., from Japan, expressed concern for his father, King George, and announced cancellation of all his engagements in Canada and will leave for England.

President Vincent Mejia Collindres has ordered that military instruction be introduced in all public schools in Honduras. The ministers of war and public instruction are preparing to make the order effective at once.

Reports from Nanking, Chinese national capital, say Chinese diplomatic representatives and consular officials at Moscow have been recalled. Friction between Nanking and Moscow ascribed to recent raids by Chinese in Manchuria on Russian consulates.

Lindy and Anne Cruise in Yacht. New London.—The honeymoon trail of Colonel Charles A. Lindbergh is a patch across the waters of Long Island sound. This was revealed recently when Louis Rounds, skipper of a motorboat that piles between New London and Block Island, told of helping the flying colonel dock a new motor yacht at Block Island to take on supplies.

Surplus Army Shoes Offered for Sale. Washington, D. C.—The war department has advertised for bids for 150,496 pairs of surplus service shoes stored in quartermaster depots at several posts in different parts of the country. The stock were accumulated during the World war.

Too Many Bowlegs; Judge Rules on 'Em. Lexington, Ky.—The family of Jerry Miller, residing near Irrington, Ky., southwest of here, is the champion bowleg family of Kentucky, according to a revelation just made before Judge Holland in county court. The family has seven children and scores 100 per cent in bowlegs.

The father was recently brought before county Judge Holland by officials of the hospital bureau and an effort made to force him to have his younger children operated on to straighten their legs. After consideration of the problem Judge Holland decided that an operation was not necessary as Mary Miller, aged fourteen, the oldest of the seven, who had bowlegs for several years of her earlier life but has now practically outgrown this imperfection.

## KAISER'S SISTER IS WRATHY AT CRITICS

### Defends Her Marriage; Will Join Husband.

Paris.—Princess Victoria, the kaiser's sister, is angry with her critics in the Hohenzollern family and in Germany itself.

Her husband, the first Baron Zoubkoff, cheerfully explained that his wife was entirely out of sympathy with those who have protested the marriage, and stated further that Princess Victoria still thinks the world of him.

Zoubkoff himself is still the happy adventurer that he was, and despite the number of contracts that he has had offered him recently he has let them all pass, preferring to contemplate the world from the viewpoint of an aristocrat.

### May Work Together.

"I am going to bring the princess to Paris," Zoubkoff said, "and, if necessary, we will go to work together. We might even open up a night club. The princess says she will work as a bar maid rather than yield to her critics. This is entirely possible, as the princess will do anything I tell her."

The princess herself is still furious with the officials of Buckeburg, the capital of the German principality of Schaumburg-Lippe, who have protested so actively against the ex-kaiser's sister marrying Zoubkoff. The princess said in a recent interview:

"The measure of brutalities and humiliations they have heaped upon me is full, and I shall defend myself to the last breath against the unchivalrous and malignant fighting methods of my antagonists. I do not believe there is anyone besides those nearest to me who realize what means my enemies have used to bring me to death. They may force me into the worst of calamities, but they can never break my will.

"I know the fight is directed not so much against my own person as against my husband. But my enemies at Buckeburg utterly fail to realize that their brutal tactics are driving me ever closer into the arms of those they so lovingly wish to liberate me from. I am alone. They have forcibly taken my husband from me. All the cares and problems of the last few months have fallen on me alone.

"What ridiculous nonsense it is to claim that my husband and my lawyer are exploiting me. One cannot rob where there is nothing to rob. The Buckeburgers have left me nothing, not one penny of annuity."

Princess Victoria admitted that her lawyers might conceivably have used strange methods to collect money for her, but she points out that, after all, money was necessary to keep up her modest household.

### Had Title Annulled.

She said, further, that the officials at Buckeburg had her title annulled behind her back despite the fact that the title is properly registered in the palace at Bonn.

"Without warning I was told I must vacate the greater part of the palace and that certain parts would be walled in for use of the Buckeburgers. The walls were built in, excluding me from my drawing rooms and apartments. My house, thus arbitrarily rented out to others, brings in \$400 yearly, which I do not get. This is only one example of my enemies' tactics.

"The worst of all is that I am no longer in touch with my husband, because I have no longer use of the postal facilities; but I will stick to him through thick and thin.

"I long to be with him in Paris."

## Ceremony Takes Place After 300-Year Wait

Washington.—A ceremony has just taken place in the city of Mantua, Italy, which was planned for the year 1660. At that time, under the city's ruler, Duchess Maria, arrangements were made to put a golden crown studded with jewels on the head of a statue of the Blessed Virgin, under whose protection Mantua had offered her, but she died in 1631, and the ceremony did not take place.

A second attempt was made a couple of centuries later and every year was ready when Napoleon's army overran the town and his soldiers carried off the crown.

Finally another subscription was taken up for the crown, and it has at last been placed on the head of the statue, which waited nearly 300 years.

## Judge Rules on 'Em

Lexington, Ky.—The family of Jerry Miller, residing near Irrington, Ky., southwest of here, is the champion bowleg family of Kentucky, according to a revelation just made before Judge Holland in county court. The family has seven children and scores 100 per cent in bowlegs.

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