

Sherman County Observer

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OREGON STATE NEWS OF GENERAL INTEREST

Principal Events of the Week
Assembled for Information
of Our Readers.

After a brief illness Donald McLeod, master of the largest flock of sheep in Malheur county, died last week. He was a bachelor.

The first two carloads of Jerusalem artichoke tubers to be shipped out of Linn county have been forwarded by Schuler Bros. from Crabtree to Santa Rosa, Cal.

Testing for infectious abortion is taking great strides in Polk county. Five communities are now working together to have the test applied to their herds.

The city of Jacksonville has filed with the county court the list of lands owned by the county that it desires as a watershed for its contemplated water system.

Nwberry crater in the Paulina mountains south of Bend will be partly circled by a rim road, according to plans announced by the Deschutes national forest officials.

The 1928 tax rolls of Polk county turned over to Sheriff Hooker for collection in 1929 show a delinquency of slightly over 10 per cent. This is the best record since 1925.

State and county taxes in Umatilla county will be six-tenths of a mill less next year than this year even if the voters authorize the creation of a fund to erect a new courthouse.

E. T. Holbrook, predatory animal hunter for Deschutes county, says he has caught 125 coyotes in traps since May and fully as many more have been poisoned in the same time.

Eight Eugene city employees will be discharged January 1, it was announced by Mayor Wilder. The city will save \$10,000 a year by this reduction in the force of employees.

Pursuant to its annual custom the United States reclamation service loaned one of its large trucks at Klamath Falls to the postoffice to be used in delivering holiday parcels.

Two crews of surveyors are working on the Oregon Coast highway between Port Orford and Denham preparatory to widening the roadbed to 22 feet, after which it will be gravelled and oiled.

Radio station KORE of Eugene, which has been off the air for two weeks, will soon resume broadcasting. It was closed down because of failure of a permit to change location in Eugene to arrive.

J. W. Barney, who has been roadmaster for Columbia county for the past two years, has resigned to accept a similar position with Washington county. His resignation is effective January 1.

Klamath County Pomona Grange council has lodged a protest with the county court against the budget for 1930. Objection is made to having the state tax commission assisting in fixing valuations.

Members of The Dalles police force will soon appear in new standard uniforms. Because of the increasing number of strangers on the streets of the city a uniformed officer is considered necessary.

Farmers of Linn county, who were recently predicting dire disaster as the result of the unusual dry spell, are now becoming optimistic on account of the heavy rainfall. Grain is in no way damaged.

Twenty-six persons were killed and 406 injured in 2888 traffic accidents in Oregon during November, according to a report prepared by the state motor vehicle department. A total of 1450 accidents were due to reckless driving, while 161 accidents were caused by drivers failing to give proper signals. In 445 accidents the drivers did not give right of way.

THE MARKETS

Portland

Wheat—Big Bend bluestem, \$1.38; soft white, western white, \$1.26; hard winter, northern spring, western red, \$1.24 1/2.

Hay—Alfalfa, \$23.50@24 per ton; valley timothy, \$20.50@21; eastern Oregon timothy, \$22.50@23; clover, \$20; cat hay, \$19; oats and vetch, \$20 @20.50.

Butterfat—35@40c.
Eggs—Ranch, 29@41c.
Cattle—Steers, good, \$10.50@11.85.
Hogs—Good to choice, \$9.25@10.50.
Lamb—Good to choice, \$10@11.

Seattle

Wheat—Soft white, western white, \$1.26; hard winter, western red, \$1.25; northern spring, \$1.27; bluestem \$1.38.
Eggs—Ranch, 32@43c.
Butterfat—44c.

Cattle—Choice steers, \$10@11.
Hogs—Prime light, \$10.50@10.65.
Lamb—Choice, \$10.50@11.

Spokane

Cattle—Steers, good, \$9.25@10.25.
Hogs—Good and choice, \$10@10.10.
Lamb—Medium to good, \$9@9.50.

COOK SEEKS PAROLE



Dr. Frederick A. Cook.

Leavenworth, Kan.—Application of Dr. Frederick A. Cook, Arctic explorer, for parole from his sentence of fourteen years and nine months for conspiracy to use the mails to defraud will be heard at the January meeting of the federal parole board. Doctor Cook, admitted to the federal penitentiary here April 6, 1925, has served one-third of his term and automatically is eligible for parole on his record of good behavior.

HOOVER NOW HOUSED IN LINCOLN'S STUDY

Fire Destroys West Wing of Executive Mansion.

Washington.—The spacious old study in the White House where Abraham Lincoln directed the affairs of the nation during the Civil war and where he signed the proclamation of emancipation again is the office of the Chief Executive of the United States for the first time since the martyred President left it.

Until more extensive quarters can be set up for him in the State and War building, President Hoover will conduct the affairs of the nation from the old Lincoln study. It was announced at the White House. The President's former office is a shambly as a result of a disastrous fire in the west wing of the Executive Mansion. How long the President must have his office in the White House proper is not known but it will be for some days at least.

In the meantime the suite in the State and War building, which formerly was used by the secretaries of the navy and their staffs has been prepared for the use of the President until the executive offices are rebuilt. The Lincoln study is on the second floor of the east wing of the White House proper. It is still furnished with some of the chairs and other articles that were used by President Lincoln.

The offices in the State and War building, which are to be used by the President have been occupied by Gen. John J. Pershing as chairman of the battle monuments and memorial commission. Adjoining rooms have been occupied by staff officers of the army and are cleared out for the Presidential secretaries, and the White House clerical staff.

The cause of the fire was definitely traced to an overheated fireplace chimney in the office of Secretary Newton.

Lieut. Col. U. S. Grant III, director of public buildings and public parks, estimated the damage to be approximately \$50,000. Further inspections showed that, although it will be necessary to completely rebuild the structure, there was no irreparable damage.

President-Elect Rubio

Calls at White House

Washington.—Received with honors that usually are reserved for an officially inaugurated head of a nation, Pascual Ortiz Rubio, president-elect of Mexico, arrived in Washington, exchanged visits with President Hoover and became the guest of the nation for a few days.

The cordiality of his reception manifestly affected the future Mexican president. The unusual honors President Hoover ordered for him were a mark of deference to the important position Mexico occupies in relation to this country.

Canada to Redeem \$20,000,000 Loan

Ottawa, Can.—Charles Dunning, Canada's new minister of finance, told a radio audience that the dominion would redeem in cash a loan of \$20,000,000 payable on February 1.

Hoover Signs Veterans' Bill

Washington.—The bill authorizing the construction of new veterans' hospital facilities throughout the country at a cost of \$15,050,000 was signed by President Hoover.

War Shrine for 100,000 Heroes

Paris.—President Domergue, Raymond Poincare and other leaders are backing a movement to raise \$200,000 to complete an immense shrine for entombment of 100,000 unidentified war dead.

Forbid Children at Bull Fights

Madrid.—Children under fourteen years of age were forbidden to attend bull fights or boxing matches in Spain by an order of Premier Primo de Rivera.

LEGGE DENIES GRAIN MEN RUN FARM BOARD

Chairman Asserts Dealers Must Protect Selves.

Washington.—Chairman Alexander Legge of the federal grain board put completely to rest reports that the board has been influenced to change its program by the group of grain dealers and business men represented by Julius H. Barnes, chairman of the board of the United States Chamber of Commerce.

In characteristically plain words Mr. Legge made it clear that the board does not propose to protect private grain traders by withdrawing cheap money from farmers co-operatives, nor will it be dictated to by the traders on any of its other policies. If the board's program hits the middlemen, he said, "they will have to adjust themselves to new conditions," as the buggy manufacturers did when the automobile era arrived.

"I am not going to be drawn into a public quarrel with Mr. Barnes," the farm board head declared, "but some of his statements have apparently been misconstrued. I want the farmers to get things straight."

Mr. Barnes made his statements a few days ago when he was quizzed before the Caraway senate body investigating committee regarding a conference between Legge himself and several grain men. Previously a bulletin questioning the board's policies had been issued by William Butterworth, president of the National Chamber of Commerce.

Mr. Legge's statements recently were in the form of an interview, a written announcement, and letters to Mr. Butterworth and Senator T. H. Caraway (Dem., Ark.), chairman of the lobby committee.

Because of its vital importance in the administration of the farm loan act, Mr. Legge discussed in detail the board's plan of giving the farmer advantage of loans from its five hundred million dollar revolving fund.

The law, he said, makes it mandatory upon the board to lend its money at the government rate of interest about 3 1/2 per cent. Instead of loaning directly to local co-operatives, however, the plan is to lend to the national co-operative corporations now being set up. These corporations will add to the interest charge their cost of handling the money, as will the local co-operatives, but in no case will the interest charge to the farmer be higher than the current commercial rate, now 6 per cent.

"Will the farmer, then, have to pay the commercial rate?" Mr. Legge was asked.

"Not necessarily," he replied. "Unquestionably in most cases it will be less. The rate to the farmer will be determined by the co-operatives themselves which control the corporations. If the handling charge is higher than necessary, then the co-operatives will pocket the difference; if it is lower they will benefit just the same."

Discussing this point in his letter to Senator Caraway, Mr. Legge said:

"The board from the beginning recognized that in order to cover their expenses and possible losses in handling loans it would be necessary for the co-operatives to and a small additional charge to the farm borrower. This addition may vary somewhat as to particular communities, but any saving made becomes the property of the farmers through their co-operatives."

If Mr. Barnes, as indicated by his testimony before the lobby committee, suggested that the board has made a blanket order that no cheaper money shall be available to local co-operatives than is available to private buyers, he was mistaken, according to Mr. Legge.

Commenting on the suggestion by Mr. Barnes that the board intended to consult the grain men before carrying out its policies, Mr. Legge declared that he had made no such agreement.

"We are conferring with somebody night and day," he added, "but that doesn't imply any limitation whatever on our freedom of action."

In his letter to Mr. Butterworth Mr. Legge took direct issue with the advice in the Chamber of Commerce bulletin that the board should base its co-operative program upon the relative costs of grain handling by co-operatives and private concerns.

"On the other hand, if gradual marketing of what the farmer has to sell through a longer period instead of within a few weeks, as is now the prevailing practice, can be brought about, it may be possible to make a small reduction in the returns to the producer."

"If, in carrying out such a program, certain reasonable adjustments on the part of existing agencies to adapt themselves to new conditions are found necessary, this should be regarded as incidental to a changing business condition rather than attacking anybody's business."

Declaring that the Butterworth bulletin "has rather missed what we believe to be the principal object of the agricultural marketing act," the letter continued:

"Perhaps on an average a comparison of the cost of these co-operatively managed local institutions with that of private concerns doing the same service would be in favor of the privately owned operations, but yet this could not have any bearing on the broader problem as to whether the marketing system as a whole is susceptible to change which would be advantageous to the producers."

\$190,000,000 REFUND MADE TO TAXPAYERS

8,000 Individuals and Companies Are Repaid.

Washington.—Tax refunds totaling \$190,164,350 to more than 8,000 individuals and companies were made public by Secretary of the Treasury Mellon in a report to the house expenditures committee.

These taxes were illegally or erroneously collected by the government and represent rebates to the taxpayers.

Refunds were made upon decisions of the board of tax appeals and as a result of audits by the Treasury department.

Life insurance companies reaped a golden harvest from the treasury as a result of a Supreme court decision. More than \$30,000,000 of the total went to such companies.

Millions of dollars in refunds were made to German firms, whose property has been held by the alien property custodian since the World war. The Carnegie Steel company of Pittsburgh received the largest rebate totaling \$25,857,289.

The next largest went to the William Waldorf Astor Trust, New York, \$16,456,829.

The important individual refunds included:

John D. Rockefeller, Sr., \$157,227; Sir Harry Lauder, living in New York, \$1,454; D. W. Griffith, Inc., \$35,588; Mrs. Mildred Zukor Loew, \$9,551; Mrs. Elizabeth C. Morrow, wife of Ambassador Morrow, \$2,222.

Mrs. Ganna Walska McCormick, \$17,298; Henry H. Rogers, \$33,064; Mortimer L. Schiff, \$507,302; Cornelius Vanderbilt, \$7,438; estate of Frank W. Woolworth, \$226,044; Mrs. Lottie Zukor, \$10,106; Mrs. Jesse W. Donahue of New York, \$374,144.

Lola Moran, film actress, Beverly Hills, Calif., \$2,000; Ann Pennington, actress, \$997; Otto Skinner, \$782; Mrs. Mary Pickford Fairbanks, \$10,103; the Pickford Corporation, \$67,800; Mrs. Charlotte Pickford Smith, estate of Dennis F. O'Brien, \$10,214.

Douglas MacLean Productions, Los Angeles, \$8,769; Mrs. Bessie Lasky, Los Angeles, \$7,415; Mrs. Bella G. Fleischacker, San Francisco, \$24,884; Herbert Fleischacker, San Francisco, \$3,801; R. Stanley Dollar, San Francisco, \$4,264.

James D. Phelan, San Francisco, \$10,800; Mrs. Arthur D. Brandeis, Omaha, Neb., \$4,224; Cyrus H. McCormick, Chicago, \$4,162; Harold F. McCormick, Chicago, \$15,739; Mrs. Ruth Hanna McCormick, Chicago, member of congress, \$3,082.

Anna Harriman Vanderbilt, \$6,293; Efron Zimbalist, the musician, \$2,323; John E. Andrus, New York, \$2,323; estate of Ambrose and Maude M. Monell, New York, \$1,404,376; Nicholas Brady, copper king, \$4,893; and Mrs. Alice G. Kales, Detroit, \$3,143,780.

Among the larger corporation refunds were:

W. R. Grace & Co., New York, \$3,510,449; Standard Oil of Kentucky, \$2,014,552; Northwestern Mutual Life of Milwaukee, \$2,461,709; Westinghouse Air Brake of Pittsburgh, \$1,729,436; Westinghouse Electric and Manufacturing company, \$1,500,574; Westinghouse High Voltage company, \$27,814.

American Window Glass company of Pittsburgh, \$1,800,216; Aluminum Company of America, \$620,338; Central Leather company, New York, \$1,104,849; P. Lorillard company, New York, \$1,027,001; Youngstown Sheet and Tube company, Youngstown, Ohio, \$1,234,155.

France Pays \$12,067,934 on the World War Debt

Washington.—The treasury announced receipt of \$12,067,934 from the government of France, completing payment of annuities due up to this time under the Mellon-Berenger agreement for funding the \$4,025,000,000 war debt France owed the United States.

The announcement said the payment had been received in treasury notes and first Liberty loan bonds.

The payment was the first made since congress approved the Mellon-Berenger agreement, which was signed on December 18 by the President.

Up to the time that the agreement was ratified France had paid \$112,932,065 to this government, while the total annuities due up to June 15 on the agreement, which was reached on April 29, 1928, amounted to \$125,000,000.

250 Shippers of Milk Barred From Portland

Portland, Ore.—The city health department has barred 250 shippers of milk from bringing their product into Portland. The city ordinance prescribes not more than 200,000 bacteria to the cubic centimeter and this has not been complied with by a number of dairies, according to Dr. John G. Abele, health officer.

Match Sharkey and Campolo

New York.—Jack Sharkey and Victorio Campolo, the giant Argentine, have been matched to fight at the Miami Beach stadium on February 27. It was announced at Madison Square Garden.

16 Communists Convicted

Warsaw.—Sixteen out of twenty Communists on trial here on accusations of subversive action, were convicted and sentenced to prison. The other four were acquitted.

1929 CROPS SMALLER, BUT VALUE GREATER

Decrease of 4.8 Per Cent, Reporting Board Says.

Washington.—Despite a decrease in production of 4.8 per cent, the 1929 crops of the United States were worth \$55,000,000 more than in 1928, according to the crop reporting board of the Department of Agriculture.

The 50 leading crops of the nation, it was estimated, had a total value of \$8,580,528,000. Last year they were worth \$8,495,788,000. Grain crops were valued at about \$3,800,000,000, compared with over \$4,000,000,000 a year ago. Cotton and cottonseed were worth \$1,436,000,000, compared with \$1,585,000,000 last year.

Hay was valued at \$1,349,000,000, compared with \$1,240,000,000 last year; potatoes increased in value from \$251,000,000 last year to \$470,000,000 this year, and sweet potatoes from \$71,000,000 last year to \$200,000,000 for this season.

Fruit crops had a combined value of \$608,000,000, compared with \$480,000,000 in 1928.

Production of the five leading grain crops of the country this year is 558,562,000 bushels smaller than that of 1928, according to the final estimates made by the Department of Agriculture. The total yield of wheat, corn, oats, barley and rye amounts to 5,015,055,000 bushels.

The report shows a wheat production of 806,508,000 bushels over the preliminary estimate and compares with 914,876,000 bushels, the revised figures for 1928. Most of this increase over the earlier returns was in winter wheat, which crop is now estimated at 578,326,000 bushels against preliminary figure of 568,233,000 bushels and 578,073,000 bushels last year.

Spring wheat production is given as 175,702,000 bushels compared with the earlier figure of 171,857,000 bushels and revised figure of 238,012,000 bushels last year. Crop of durum wheat is given as 52,380,000 bushels compared with 51,678,000 bushels in October and 97,291,000 bushels raised last year. Final estimates on total wheat area is 61,141,000 acres against 57,724,000 bushels last year.

Wheat production is shown to be about 100,000,000 bushels less than in 1928, but this is offset by a larger amount of wheat carried over from the previous crop than was the case last year.

Production of corn is estimated at 2,622,180,000 bushels, slightly above the November estimate, but 196,712,000 bushels smaller than the crop of last year, the figure on which was revised downward by 17,000,000 bushels.

Oats crop is given as 1,238,054,000 bushels, about 12,000,000 bushels larger than the preliminary estimate and 20,000,000 bushels smaller than raised in 1928.

Total production of bread grains is 111,900,000 bushels less than in 1928, while yield of feeding grains is shown to be 417,000,000 bushels smaller than last year.

Hoover Signs Tax Bill

With His Official Pen

Washington.—When income tax reduction of \$100,000,000 was enacted recently President Hoover signed the joint congressional resolution providing for the slash in the presence of only two of his secretaries, George Akerson and Lawrence Ritchie, using the pen with which he transacts routine business.

A statement prepared by the treasury shows the rates of income made under the old law, under the new and the amount of the reductions as follows:

Net Income.	Present Rate.	New Rate.	Reduction.
\$ 4,000	18	5.63	\$ 1.88
5,000	16.58	5.63	1.125
6,000	15.00	10.00	20.00
7,000	13.13	14.38	28.75
8,000	11.67	26.25	37.50
9,000	11.88	43.83	46.25
10,000	12.00	65.00	55.00
11,000	15.25	92.50	63.75
12,000	20.25	130.00	72.50
13,000	25.75	177.50	81.25
14,000	31.00	225.00	90.00
15,000	36.25	262.50	98.75

The figures are based upon the net income of a married man with no dependents. Net income up to \$5,000 is considered as earned income and over \$5,000 half of the net income is considered as earned income.

House OK's Resolution for Haitian Inquiry

Washington.—President Hoover's request for authority to appoint a commission to investigate Haitian affairs won approval in the house.

As adopted, the resolution authorizes the President to appoint a commission of not more than seven members "to study and review conditions in Haiti and the policies of the United States in that republic." The commission is directed to report within six months to the President, with such recommendations as it may deem wise.

Ex-Bank Employees Plead Guilty

Flint, Mich.—Nine of fifteen former officers and employees of the Union Industrial bank here who were involved in the loss of \$3,522,000 of the bank's funds in stock speculation pleaded guilty.

Plans Non-Stop Tokyo-Seattle Flight

Seattle.—A nonstop transpacific flight from Tokyo to Seattle next May will be sponsored by the Pacific Aero-nautic Research foundation, recently organized.

GENERAL SMUTS COMING



Gen. Jan Christian Smuts.

New York.—Jan Christian Smuts, former premier of the Union of South Africa, is due to arrive here early next week for a speaking tour of the United States and Canada as a representative of the League of Nations.

GERMANS REFUSE TO REJECT YOUNG PLAN

Nationalists in Dismal Failure in Securing Approval.

Berlin.—The Nationalist bill "against the enslavement of the German people," which would have rejected the Young plan of reparations payments, failed to obtain more than one-fourth of the required vote to give it effect.

A provisional total return for the entire 35 electoral districts showed that with 6,231,000 ballots cast, only 5,782,000 votes favored the bill, submitted to the people by the German Nationalist party.

Since the German electorate numbers 41,520,000 only about 13.5 per cent voted in support of the bill, instead of the 21,000,000 necessary to pass it. The number in support was slightly greater than that which had supported the demand for referendum last October. The increases were largely in the Berlin, Saxeburg, Breslau, Leipzig and Dresden districts.

The reichstag last month by an overwhelming majority had defeated a similar bill. Following that defeat the Nationalist party split into factions, and several of its leading representatives in the government withdrew from the party.

In the northern section of Berlin two unidentified men forced their way into a polling station at the point of pistols, seized part of the election registers and escaped in a waiting automobile. Police said they were convinced that the gunmen were communists.

Nowhere were the usual election posters displayed, and voters making their way to the various polls in Berlin were inconspicuous in the Christmas shopping crowds.

All other of the larger cities reported that the referendum passed off quietly with little interest shown, especially in the Rhineland, where the event was practically unnoticed.

43,690,000 Acres Winter Wheat Sowed Past Fall

Washington.—Farmers of the United States sowed 43,690,000 acres in winter wheat the past fall, according to a report by the Department of Agriculture. This is about 2 per cent more than was sown last year when the area was 42,820,000 acres, revised figures.

However, the acreage is large and condition of the crop as it entered the winter was above average. The government report makes the condition 86 per cent, which compares with 84.4 per cent a year ago and a ten-year average of 84.6 per cent. Based upon this condition figure and average abandonment of acreage, a crop possibility of 624,000,000 bushels is shown. The winter wheat crop this year was 578,236,000 bushels on a harvested area of 40,162,000 acres. The report states that the abandoned acreage this year was 6.2 per cent of the area sown.

Area sown to rye is given as 3,466,000 acres compared with 3,456,000 acres last year. Condition of the crop is placed at 87.2 per cent against 84.4 per cent a year ago.

206-Passenger Planes Chicago-N. Y. in 7 Hrs.

Chicago.—Plans for inauguration of a new air line under the name of the Air American Super-Transport company to fly passengers, freight and mail between Chicago and New York by the end of 1930 in huge 206-passenger land planes were announced here. The ships of the new company would be capable of carrying 20 tons of cargo and would cover the distance in seven hours.

250 Chinese Passengers Drown

Shanghai.—The Chinese steamer Lee Cheong, plying between Hongkong and Swatow, foundered in a heavy storm, carrying down 250 Chinese passengers, including many women and children, the Chinese crew, and 44 Indian guards.

Britain's New \$2,250,000 Sub O. K.

London.—The submarine Odin, which was laid down in 1927, was inspected and passed as ready for service. The cost was \$2,250,000.

Florida Truck Crops Damaged