

THE COURIER
Is devoted to the best interests
of SPRAY and WHEELER
COUNTY. The liberal patron-
age of the citizens of this sec-
tion is respectfully solicited.

Spray Courier

Published every Thursday by
RUSSELL D. PRICE.
Subscription Rates
Per Year \$1.00
Six Months50
Three Months25

VOL. XIII.

SPRAY, WHEELER COUNTY, OREGON, THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 1915.

NO. 2.

NEWS NOTES OF CURRENT WEEK

Resume of World's Important Events Told in Brief.

Another Los Angeles Times dynamite suspect has been taken in Seattle.

Hotels and restaurants in New York give daily lunches to thousands of unemployed.

The French government has succeeded in restoring train service which was materially impaired by the war.

Government records show that 129 ships have been transferred to the American flag under the new registry law.

Solons of West Virginia have been vaccinated for prevention of smallpox. The governor, who is a physician, helped do the job.

Germany loses two war balloons in North Sea; one by an explosion and the other was sunk by weight of snow on the envelope.

A hundred and fifty prosperous Chicagoans, who were once newsmen, sold papers one day to raise funds for the aid of the destitute.

The funds of Sarah Bernhardt are said to be low, and on the eve of an operation upon an injured knee, her friends are flocking to her assistance.

The "bank" of Monte Carlo is said to be in "full bloom" again after four and a half months' inactivity. Ivory checks, however, have taken the place of shining gold and silver.

The U. S. War department asks congress for bigger coast defense guns, claiming the present artillery is out-ranged. Sixteen-inch calibre is advised and the expense is estimated at \$40,000,000.

Germany decides to run the British gauntlet in the established "war zone" and will insist on a blockade of all neutral ships. Hunger, it is said, will be made an ally by both countries as far as possible.

Asserting that polygamy still exists in some parts of the United States, a joint resolution memorializing the national congress to enact laws to prevent polygamy was adopted by the Indiana legislature.

Seven million dollars for the development of the two salt lakes in South-eastern Oregon, is ready. The state leased the lakes to an Eastern firm, who will immediately employ 5000 men and lay a \$2,000,000 pipe line to the Columbia river.

The Swiss authorities are studying the organization of the male citizens over 48 years old for military purposes. The army counts 300,000 men of the landwehr and landsturm, but there are numerous old soldiers still fit for territorial and convoy service and patrolling, who in case of an invasion would be ready to defend their motherland.

Rheims continues to be bombarded daily by the Germans and hundreds of persons have taken refuge in the immense cellars of the large champagne companies. The cellars also are being used as schools for the children. Night and day classes are being held. The authorities have notified parents that they cannot be responsible for accidents to their children.

Nebraska legislature passes an anti-tipping law.

Forty airmen raid four towns in Belgium held by the Germans.

Germany notifies United States that relations with that country are "strained."

After six weeks deadlock the Illinois legislature has elected an avowed "wet" speaker.

The embargo put on potash by Germany is seriously affecting American fertilizer manufacturers.

Pawn shops and loan sharks are to be regulated if a bill passed by the Oregon legislature, becomes a law.

German government increases prices of potatoes in order to conserve the food supply, which is admittedly growing short.

British steamer is blown up and sunk off the coast of Cape Antifer, by two internal explosions. Large number of the crew lost their lives.

The relations between Greece and Turkey apparently are becoming more strained. Although Turkey has offered reparation for the insult to the Greek military attaché at Constantinople, it is reported that the Greek minister has left the legation in charge of a secretary, being dissatisfied with Turkey's attitude. The Turkish minister has also left Athens. This is believed in some quarters to be the first step in the rupture of diplomatic relations between Greece and Turkey, which are said also to have been affected by the Albanian invasion of Serbia.

Panama-Pacific Fair Is Formally Opened

San Francisco—Instead of a lone sunrise gun that brings in other days of the year, dawn Saturday in San Francisco was acclaimed by salvos of artillery from the batteries on both sides of the Golden Gate and from the warships at anchor in the bay. Five minutes later, 20 drum corps rolled and swagged through the streets shrilling to all the town a call to rise and welcome the opening of the Panama-Pacific International exposition.

President Wilson sent by wireless the vivifying spark that energized the exposition, but since he could not be here in person it was arranged that the people themselves enter on their ownership in their own way.

There was a parade, of course, but it was a parade like no other—a parade as nearly as possible without spectators. All the city marched and none were left to watch.

By tens of thousands, in societies and fraternities, in civic, neighborhood and business organizations, the people enrolled. As they approached the entrance to the concourse fronting the Tower of Jewels, there assembling in the California building at 9 o'clock the president and vice president of the exposition, the directors of the state exposition commission, the national exposition commission, the women's board, representatives of the army and navy, directors of divisions, chiefs of departments, heads of bureaus and others.

These marched down the Avenue of Palms, escorted by exposition guards, United States Marines and the exposition band, to the temporary grandstand erected in front of the Tower of Jewels. As they took their places, Governor Johnson, of California, Mayor Rolph, of San Francisco, and other officers of the state and city entered the grounds at the head of the citizens' procession. The citizens assembled in the concourse, while the governor, the mayor and their parties passed through a lane of soldiers and marines to the stand, where the president and directors of the exposition received them.

After the exercises were concluded, President Moore called President Wilson in Washington on a long distance telephone line previously set up and waiting, at noon Pacific Coast time, and notified him that the exposition awaited his touch to be opened. The President touched a button, a wireless spark flashed through the air across the continent, and upon its receipt the National colors were raised, salutes fired, and the Fountain of Energy leaped upward.

England Justifies Using American Emblem

London—The British foreign office issued a note in reply to the representations of the United States government concerning the use of the American flag by British vessels.

The note says that the Cunard line steamer Lusitania on her recent voyage from New York to Liverpool raised the American flag "to save the lives of non-combatants, crew and passengers."

It adds that in spite of the fact that American passengers embarking on the Lusitania on her outward voyage for New York asked that the American flag be hoisted, "the British government did not give any advice to the company as to how to meet this request and it is understood the Lusitania left Liverpool under the British flag."

After discussing the Lusitania incident, the memorandum makes this statement:

"The British government have no intention of advising their merchant shipping to use foreign flags as a general practice or to resort to them otherwise than for escaping capture or destruction."

Two Norwegians, One Frenchman, Sunk

London—The Norwegian steamer Nordkyn has been sunk through striking a mine near Bornholm Island, in the Baltic sea, according to a dispatch. All of the crew were drowned.

An official statement issued by the admiralty says the Norwegian tank steamship Belridge was struck by a torpedo fired by a German submarine near Folkestone. Pieces of the torpedo, it is asserted, have been found on the ship.

A dispatch from Dieppe says that a German submarine sank the French steamship Dinorah, bound from Havre to Dunkirk, off Dieppe.

"Watchful Waiting" Is Aim.

Portland, Or.—"What does the vice president of the United States do?" asked Circuit Judge Morrow during the examination of a citizenship applicant. The applicant stared blankly. This question was not given in the book.

"What are his duties?" continued the judge. "How does the vice president occupy his time?"

The applicant beamed suddenly. "Oh, I know," he said. "He waits for the President to die."

U. S. SHIP SUNK IN NORTH SEA

Mine Encountered Off German Coast Thought Cause.

Captain and Crew Saved; Cotton Cargo Goes Down—Investigation Starts Immediately.

Washington, D. C.—The United States government was advised officially Monday night of the first instance of the destruction of an American vessel on the high seas since the outbreak of the European war. American Consul Fee, at Bremen, cabled that the steamer Evelyn and her cargo of cotton, bound for Bremen, had been "blown up at Borkum," just off the coast of Germany, but that the crew had been saved.

The cause—submarine or mine—was not given in the dispatch.

After a conference with President Wilson, Secretary Bryan cabled Ambassador Page, at London, and Ambassador Gerard, at Berlin, to make an exhaustive inquiry as to the facts, and, if the crew was landed in either of their respective jurisdictions, to furnish every care and convenience to Captain Smith and his men, so that they might return home safely.

While the extent of sea zones of war proclaimed by Germany was never defined exactly, Borkum Island is considered far distant from the danger areas of submarines, although the waters of that vicinity are filled with mines for defensive purposes, through which Germany always has piloted incoming ships.

Early press dispatches from Berlin announcing the loss of the vessel by a mine caused somewhat of a sensation in this capital, where the tension has been more or less pronounced over the situation in the war zones since the dispatch of warning notes by the United States to both Great Britain and Germany.

Allies' Artillery Forces Said Gaining Ascendancy

Paris—An official eyewitness account of the recent fighting in France and Belgium was given out by the French War department. The writer says:

"During the past ten days detestable weather, continuous rains in some parts and violent snow squalls in others and thick fog have hindered the operations nearly everywhere on the western battle front. In spite of the conditions this period has been favorable to us.

"Our artillery obtained brilliant results and the enemy evidently was unable to equal our fire. The French superiority in ammunition and supplies is being more and more confirmed.

"Our infantry showed an aggressive spirit in the Artois, Champagne, Argonne and Alsace regions, and their operations were crowned with success. We thus obtained appreciable results. That the German official communications after having flatly denied, have now partially admitted that prisoners and materials have fallen into our hands, moreover, are the best proofs of our success."

Wounded Die on Field.

Geneva—The German counter-attack on the village of Aspach-le-Bas developed a formidable clash of the two forces at the point of the bayonet. It was impossible to pick up the dead or succor the wounded, as the artillery continued to sweep the position. Among the dead lying about 400 yards from the French trenches were 27 wounded French soldiers who were unable to get back and whom it was impossible to reach. During the conflict seven of these men were seen to huddle together to keep from freezing and share their last rations. A heavy fall of snow came on and covered not only the dead but the wounded.

Blacks Torture Germans.

Berlin, (By wire to Sayville, N. Y.)—The Overseas News Agency gives out the following: "Herr Schwarz and Herr Gehr, missionaries of the Basle mission, on the Sanga river, in Kamerun, West Africa, report that British troops are promising rewards to the natives to deliver Germans as prisoners or to kill them. For the reason several Germans have been drowned or cut to pieces by the natives. Others have been tortured and delivered to the British."

Date of Amputation Set.

Bordeaux, via Paris—It was decided definitely Sunday by the surgeons at the hospital of St. Augustin of Arcachon to amputate the right leg of Sarah Bernhardt. Mms. Bernhardt maintains her courage, being described as apparently cheerful. She is receiving a large number of telegrams expressing sympathy.

NORTHWEST MARKET REPORTS.

Portland—The wool market in the East is in a most excited condition and stirring times are looked for in the Western states when the buying season opens. Everybody in the trade is bullish, the growers because they are practically certain to get very high prices, and the buyers because they cannot be otherwise.

The contracting movement is beginning to get a little headway in the West. It would be booming were there enough sellers. Buyers stand ready to contract for wool anywhere in Eastern Oregon, but they are not able to make any impression yet on the growers, and may not be able to do much in this line before shearing time, unless they offer a good deal more than they are talking now. Dealers would be glad to contract for good medium clips at 22 cents, such clips as they bought last year at 17 to 18 cents, but sheepmen turn a deaf ear to such proposals. While values are going to be high this year it would be folly to predict any definite prices.

The hop market is plainly moving in an upward direction, under the influence of a strong export demand and with stocks at a low ebb. Fourteen cents was paid this week for choice Oregon hops. This quotation has not been seen since the middle of last September.

This top price, 14 cents, was paid by Louis Lachmund to Henry Eoff, of Independence, for 400 bales. Harry L. Hart bought 177 bales from Robert Ankeny, of Rickreall, at 12 1/2 cents.

Wheat—Bid: Bluestem, \$1.54; fortyfold, \$1.53; club, \$1.52; red Russian, \$1.42; red Fife, \$1.47. Millfeed—Spot prices: Bran, \$30.50 @ \$31.50 ton; shorts, \$32.50 @ \$33.50; rolled barley, \$35 @ \$36.

Corn—White, \$38 ton; cracked, \$39. Hay—Eastern Oregon timothy, \$14 @ \$16; valley timothy, \$12.50; grain hay, \$10 @ \$12; alfalfa, \$12 @ \$13.

Vegetables—Cucumbers, hothouse, \$1.25 @ \$1.50 dozen; eggplant, 8 @ 10c pound; peppers, 4 @ 1c; artichokes, 85 @ 90c dozen; tomatoes, \$1.75 crate; cabbage, 1 @ 1 1/2c pound; celery, 4 @ 4.25 crate; cauliflower, \$2; sprouts, 8 @ 9c pound; head lettuce, \$1.75 @ 2 crate; rhubarb, 10 @ 12c pound; carrots, \$1.25 sack; beets, \$1.25; parsnips, \$1.25.

Green Fruits—Apples, 75c @ \$1.50 box; casabas, \$1.65 crate; cranberries, \$11 barrel.

Potatoes—Oregon, \$1.10 @ \$1.15 sack; Yakima, 90c @ \$1.15.

Onions—Selling price \$1 per sack, country points.

Eggs—Fresh Oregon ranch, case count, 22 @ 23c; candled, 24c.

Poultry—Hens, 13 @ 13 1/2c pound; mixed, 12 @ 12 1/2c; broilers, 18 @ 20c; turkeys, dressed, 20 @ 21c; live, 16c; ducks, 13 @ 16c; geese, 8 @ 10c.

Butter—Creamery, prints, extras, 32c pound in case lots; 3c more in less than case lots; cubes, 26c.

Veal—Fancy, 12 @ 12 1/2c pound. Pork—Block, 9c pound.

Hops—1914 crop, 12 @ 14c; 1913 crop, 12c.

Cattle—Prime steers, \$7.50 @ 7.75; choice, \$7.25 @ 7.50; medium, \$6.75 @ 7.25; choice cows, \$6 @ 6.50; medium, \$5 @ 6; heifers, \$5 @ 6.25; bulls, \$3.50 @ 6; stags, \$4.50 @ 6.

Hogs—Light, \$6.25 @ 6.50; heavy, \$5.50 @ 6.20.

Sheep—Wethers, \$6 @ 7.15; ewes, \$5 @ 6.15; lambs, \$7 @ 8.20.

Seattle—Wheat—Bluestem, \$1.54; fortyfold, \$1.53; club, \$1.52; Fife, \$1.47; red Russian, \$1.44.

Barley—\$30 ton.

Tacoma—Apples—Cooking, 75 @ 90c box; Spitzenbergs, Winesaps, Rome Beauties, Arkansas Blacks, Staymen Winesaps and Black Twigs, 85c @ \$1.65; Delicious, \$1.50 @ 1.65.

Cider—30c gallon; Oregon, \$3 keg; 25c gallon.

Comb Honey—Yakima, \$3.25 crate; strained honey, \$5.50; Idaho, \$3.50; Nevada, \$3.50.

Pears—Yakima, \$1.50.

Cranberries—\$8.25.

Cabbage—Home-grown, 1c pound; Winningsstedt, 2c.

Carrots—Local, 75c @ \$1.

Beets—Home-grown, \$1 @ 1.25.

Turnips—Per sack, \$1.35.

Potatoes—Yakima, \$20 @ 22 ton; White River, \$17 @ 18; Burbanks, \$22; sweets, \$2.50 cwt.

Onions—Green, 20c dozen; Oregon brown, \$1.50 sack; Yakima, \$1.50; California, \$1.50.

DOINGS OF OREGON'S LEGISLATURE

A Brief Resume of Proceedings of the People's Representatives at the State Capital, Bills Introduced, Passed, Rejected, Etc.

Judiciary Committee Has Bill for New Districts

State Capitol, Salem—Four new judicial districts are provided for in the plan reported to the house by the judiciary committee by substitute house bill 308. This plan will give the state a total of 17 judicial districts and will supersede entirely the system proposed by President Thompson, of the senate, for 24 districts and an appellate court. It also disposes of the numerous independent district division bills introduced by various members of the house and the senate.

The new plan, as worked out by Chairman Olson, and other members of the judiciary committee, moved up a notch when the house passed Senator Thompson's bill creating the Fourteenth judicial district by detaching Lake county from the present Thirteenth district. This leaves only Klamath county in the Thirteenth.

Create the Fifteenth district to consist of Lane, Lincoln and Benton counties, by detaching them from the Second district.

Create the Sixteenth district, comprising Coos county, by detaching it from the present Second district.

Create the Seventeenth district by detaching Curry county from the Second district and Josephine county from the First district. Jackson county alone then will embrace the First district, with Judge Frank M. Calkins in charge.

This plan will leave Douglas county alone as the Second judicial district and the bill provides that Judge J. W. Hamilton shall remain the circuit judge of that district.

Voters to Register but Once.

State Capitol, Salem—House bill 191 providing for permanent registration was passed by the senate without argument. The law provides that as long as an elector resides in the precinct in which he registers and votes at one election held throughout the county within the biennial election period ending November 30 following the regular biennial general election, he shall not be required to register again.

If the elector fails to vote as stipulated he shall re-register or notify the county clerk in not less than 30 days nor more than 60 days after the regular November election that he resides in the district from which he registered and requests in writing that his name remain on the register of electors.

This is the second permanent registration law that has been passed by the Oregon legislature, one passed at the session in 1913 having been declared unconstitutional by the Supreme court. The new law provides that the county clerk shall use the card index system in keeping his register of electors. Each elector shall sign a card giving his name, age, political affiliation, etc., and shall take an oath that he is a citizen of the United States. The cards shall be public records and shall be kept in the office of the county clerks as other public records are kept.

Trading Stamp Bill Dies.

State Capitol, Salem—By agreeing to the indefinite postponement of Representative Forbes' bill to levy a heavy tax on trading stamps, those members who are opposed to the use of trading stamps in the state are centering their efforts on Representative Tom Brown's bill which probably be up for final passage soon. The mail of every member of the legislature has been flooded for the last few weeks with letters from constituents who represent either side of the question. The bill promises to arouse considerable debate.

Road-Merger Act Passed.

State Capitol, Salem—By provisions of Senator Hawley's bill passed by the house the Southern Pacific company will be enabled to proceed with the consolidation of its subsidiary companies, plans for which already have been completed by the railroads affected. The bill amends the present law so that one road may own and operate a competing line. The Southern Pacific plans to consolidate the Portland, Eugene & Eastern, the Corvallis & Eastern, the Salem, Falls City & Western and several other minor roads it owns for the purpose of reducing expenses and promoting efficiency in operation.

No-Party Bench Act Is Out.

State Capitol, Salem—Representative Tom Handley has consented to the indefinite postponement of his bill providing a non-partisan judiciary. The measure had been endorsed by the State Bar association. The attorneys in the house generally favored the bill, but they were opposed to passing it at this session, for the reason that the people defeated a similar measure at the recent election.

14 Appropriation Bills Provide \$778,706.40 Fund

State Capitol, Salem—Appropriations for sundry and miscellaneous departments of the state government aggregating \$778,706.40 are provided for in a series of 14 appropriation bills introduced in the house by the joint house and senate ways and means committee.

These bills carry the items for maintenance of the executive of the state government, including the salaries of the governor, secretary of state, state treasurer and their office assistants. The governor is given his usual allowance of \$500 a year for traveling expenses.

The only big state institutions provided for in these bills are the Soldiers' Home at Roseburg, with \$31,658.75 for the biennium, and the Tuberculosis hospital, with \$53,175.

An aggregate of \$110,000 is required for bounties on wild animals for the next two years. Of this sum \$20,000 is to meet a deficiency in the fund of the last two years. The present legislature voted to increase the bounty on coyotes and to place a bounty on seals, and additional expenditures will be required for those purposes.

Dry Act Signed by Governor Withycombe

State Capitol, Salem—"It is the best piece of constructive legislation in the world," declared Governor Withycombe Thursday afternoon as he attached his signature to the prohibition bill. "I heartily approve of its every provision. If the legislature does nothing else, this act alone is well worth the expense of the session."

The governor was in a happy mood when he signed the bill. He declared that it gave him a real pleasure to be able to have a part in so wholesome and so beneficial a piece of work. Members of the Women's Christian Temperance Union and other persons, who have been interested in the "dry" movement in Oregon for many years, stood about his desk.

House Passes Bill Against Use of Trading Stamps

State Capitol, Salem—An anti-trading stamp bill, introduced to drive the popular trade magnet completely out of the state, was passed by the house. The measure was introduced by Representative Thomas Brown, of Marion. Senator LaFollette, of Marion, was the author of a similar bill in the senate.

The measure levies a 5 per cent excise tax on the gross receipts not only of all concerns conducting a trading stamp system in the state, but on all merchants who use them. It was admitted by those who sponsored the bill that the measure probably will put an end to the trading stamp business. Ostensibly, however, the measure is intended to raise funds for the state, as the receipts from the proposed tax are to go into the state treasury.

Representative Brown painted a dreary picture of the misfortune of the small merchant who is made to compete with the concern that gives away trading stamps as an inducement to attract custom. He declared that the trading stamp is an unnatural trade condition, that it is an economic waste and that it really proves an expensive attachment to the business of the merchant who uses it.

Amendment Asks Change in Lease of Salt Lakes

State Capitol, Salem—The Forbes house bill approving the lease of Summer and Abert Lakes to Jason C. Moore has finally emerged from the senate committee on public lands.

Attached to the report of the committee is a recommendation signed by three of the members that the bill be so amended that the lessees will be required to execute a bond guaranteeing payment for all labor and materials contracted for. The amendment also makes the lease conditional upon submission by the lessees or their assigns to regulation by the State Land board in the sale of shares of stock.

There is strong opposing sentiment in the committee, as well as in the body of the senate, against imposing any new conditions on the lease. The reason for advancing the amendment are that certain laborers and material men have not received payment for work and materials furnished a former lessee of the lakes, whose enterprise was abandoned, and that the state should take precaution against turning its property over to a possible stock jobbing corporation to exploit.

Office Made Appointive.

State Capitol, Salem—The senate passed senate bill 255, which provides that at the expiration of the term of the present official the state engineer shall be appointed by the governor. A