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NATIONAL DEFENSE IS THE ISSUE

**President's Coming Tour Puts Question
at Head of the List—Mexico
Tension Relaxes**

Washington, Jan. 24.—President Wilson's determination to talk to the people of the Middle West on national preparedness has had the effect of restoring that issue as the uppermost subject of interest and discussion in congress.

For several weeks preparedness has been overshadowed by the Mexican problem and international questions growing out of the European war. Now, however, with the president about to tour the country to arouse the public to military requirements of the nation, administration and opposition leaders realize that lively times are ahead on Capitol Hill.

Democratic leaders in sympathy with the presidential views on preparedness are gratified over the purpose of the Chief Executive to take the field, inasmuch as there has been apparent in congress for some time a tendency to adopt a waiting policy among many members uncertain regarding the views of their constituents on the subject.

The president's tour, it is believed, will serve the double purpose of bringing out public opinion and stirring up members of congress.

On the other hand, opponents of preparedness see in the president's trip an opportunity to further their causes by replying to his arguments in the senate and house.

Uneasiness over the Mexican situation, which stirred congress for more than a week, has greatly abated and probably will not be revived soon unless noteworthy developments should occur in Mexico. Administration leaders regard the danger of being forced into difficulties with Carranza averted for the present.

A Cold January

The month of January has been unusually snowy and cold for Oregon and especially the Willamette valley. While we have had but a few days of rain, we have had more snow than for many years. In Scio we have had at no time more than three inches of snow, because of the frozen ground, it disappeared very slowly. On our coldest day the thermometer registered 10 degrees and at no time in the month has the mark been above 38 degrees.

Such weather as we have had would be regarded by easterners as very mild, but it makes us Oregonians shiver. In several Januarys of past winters, it has been warm enough to start fruit buds swelling and with injury to the crop by colder weather later on. This year we need have no fears in that respect, though we are not yet out of the woods. We may have weather in next month warm enough to start the buds and a cold snap following. Let us hope the weather man will be kind and give us our usual Oregon weather hereafter and we will be safe and happy.

Candidates Get Notice

Senator E. D. Cusick has given candidates for county recorder notice that he will attempt to have the office abolished by the next legislature. If the effort to eliminate the office in all the counties now having it fails, he will endeavor to have the office in Linn county alone abolished.

The following counties now elect county recorders: Benton, Clackamas, Jackson, Linn, Marion, Union, Umatilla, Washington and Yamhill.

WILSON MAY DELAY PHILIPPINE LIBERTY

**Independence in Not Less Than Two
Years or More Than Four is
Believed Desire**

Washington, Jan. 25.—Granting independence to the Philippine Islands in not less than two years and not more than four years may be favored by the Wilson administration. Senator Hitchcock, chairman of the Senate Philippine committee, discussed with President Wilson late today a provision to that effect which Senator Clarke, of Arkansas, has introduced as an amendment to the pending Philippine bill.

After conferring with the president, Senator Hitchcock, while he would not say what the president had told him, indicated it was probably the amendment would have the administration's support. He said he would have to talk with other senators before deciding definitely whether the change would be accepted. The President previously opposed another amendment proposed by Senator Clarke proposing independence for the Philippines within two years.

Oregon Flax is Best in the United States

Washington, Jan. 26.—Oregon's flax is pronounced by experts of the United States department of agriculture to be superior to any other fiber flax grown in the United States. This testimonial was given before the House committee on agriculture during the hearings on the agricultural appropriation bill.

Dr. Dewey, the department's flax expert, was making an argument in support of an appropriation for further experimentation with flax growing when he was asked about the fiber flax grown in the Willamette valley in Oregon.

"The Willamette valley fiber flax" said he, "is the best grown in the United States."

Dr. Taylor, chief of the bureau of plant industry, backed the opinion of Dr. Dewey.

Farewell Party

Miss Blanche Kopecky left Tuesday morning for a several months stay in Portland. On the eve before her departure her sister, Mrs. Henry Stepanek, gave her a farewell party, at which a number of the friends of both ladies were entertained.

CORSET FACTORY AND SCHOOL FOR ALBANY

**Mr. and Mrs. C. W. Calloway Have Rented
Suit of Rooms in the Schmitt
Block**

Establishing a corset factory and school, is the business of Mr. and Mrs. C. W. Calloway, representing the American School Corset system, who have arrived in Albany and will make their home there. They have rented seven rooms in the Schmitt-Flynn block for their factory, and some of the machinery is already there. In all about 12 people will be employed, with seven on the road soliciting. Mr. Calloway himself will spend his time on the road, while Mrs. Calloway will look after the establishment. They make corsets the same as a tailor makes a suit, fitting it as made, and also give instructions. Their system is also taught in public schools, and arrangements are being made for their introduction in the high school here. Two families, who have been with them, and know the business, will arrive this week, one from Walla Walla, the other from Butte, Mont. The intention is to make this city permanent headquarters for the business.

Mr. Calloway states that Albany was selected because of its splendid location for business, much being done through the mails. Albany being reached from all directions makes it especially well located for solicitors to reach the adjoining country.

HOLLEY ITEMS

John Gill has returned from Washington where he was called by the death of his brother.

There were several persons present at the literary exercises Friday evening. They had an interesting program.

Mrs. Lizzie Cameron, Lucy McCoy and Mrs. Maud Thompson and son, spent Thursday evening at the home of Mrs. Eliza Malone.

It is snowing again this morning.

Fred Malone has been confined to the house for several days with lagrippe.

Mrs. Ellen Malone has been confined to her bed most of the time with lagrippe.

Grandma Barr is getting quite feeble and tottery. She is at the home of her daughter, Ollie Rice.

Some of the neighbors have had Frank Leist removed to the asylum.

Fred Mineholt and Wallace Mack are sick with lagrippe.

Oregon's Stock

From the government live stock report, we learn that Oregon has 295,000 horses, valued at \$89 each, 10,000 mules, each worth \$98; 216,000 milk cows worth \$55 each; 553,000 of other cattle worth \$32.20 per head; 2,560,000 sheep, valued at \$5.20 each, and 396,000 hogs worth \$7.10 each. Goats were not listed.

Wilson Not to Be Trained

Miami, Fla., Jan. 25.—William J. Bryan today issued a statement saying he had no intention of following President Wilson on his trip through the Middle West to make speeches in answer to the president on preparedness.

He said he would leave for Lincoln Neb. February 20 to attend a birthday dinner and would make a few speeches on his way, but that the trip would have no connection with that of the president.

SISKIYOU MOUNTAIN SLIDES HOLD TRAINS

**Melting Snow Fills the Rivers; More
Trouble is Threatened East
and South**

Roseburg, Jan. 24.—Heavy snow-fall in the Siskiyou Mountain districts between Dunsmuir and Weed, Cal., landslides near Maline, Cal. and less serious slides near Wolf Creek, in Southern Oregon have played havoc with the movement of trains on the Portland-San Francisco line of the Southern Pacific railroad during the past 24 hours.

It was reported at the Roseburg headquarters of the Southern Pacific company late today that the snow storm near Dunsmuir was one of the worst of the season and that trains were operating in that vicinity with great difficulty.

The slide near Maline is also said to be serious. The north bound Shasta Limited, which was due to arrive here at 7 o'clock this morning, is reported 19 hours behind schedule, and will not reach here until 3 o'clock tomorrow morning. Northbound train No. 14 is 13 hours late and will be followed closely by train No. 16.

Lower Rates Obtained by County on Road Material

County Judge D. B. McKnight and Commissioners J. D. Irvine and T. J. Butler returned from Portland last night and report having had a very satisfactory conference with officials of the Southern Pacific Co. As a result of the meeting of the members of the court with the railroad officials a rate for the transportation of gravel and road building materials was obtained that will enable the county to assist the various road districts to a greater extent than ever in the building of good highways.—Albany Democrat.

Church Invites Public Speakers

The Baptist people at Grants Pass have inaugurated a new plan for Sunday evening service. The non-sectarian brotherhood is joining with the pastors and presenting public questions. The bankers are speaking of the abuse of money, the politicians of the need of righteous politics, the legislators of good and bad lobbying, as well as the great harm of machine politics, the lawyers of the ethics of the law and the doctors of the use and abuse of medicine.

AMERICAN DEMANDS GRANTED BY KAISER

**The New Lusitania Offer is Thought Acceptable—Hint Given Terms
Are Final**

Washington, Jan. 25.—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, with a loss of more than 100 American lives.

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

Although the greatest secrecy surrounds the negotiations, it was said tonight on excellent authority that Germany finally had agreed to eliminate from the text of the agreement any mention of the warning issued by the German embassy the day the Lusitania sailed on her last trip from New York. Mention of this warning is understood to have been contained in the last proposal which was rejected after President Wilson had considered it.

It is understood also that Germany has left out of her proposal general reservation of admission of wrong-doing on the part of the submarine commander, to which United States objected.

Road Supervisors Appointed

Last week the county court appointed the following supervisors to take care of Linn county roads during 1916:

1. J. D. Isom; 2. M. S. Coon; 3. E. Pugh; 4. J. C. Standish; 5. W. W. Cook; 6. Arthur Springgate; 7. W. M. Sawyer; 8. A. L. Kirk; 9. Orvis Wilson; 10. W. S. Scott; 11. J. D. Winkley; 12. John Maxwell; 13. T. Reidy; 14. T. J. Gibbons; 15. Riley Shelton; 16. W. A. Gilkey; 17. Jas. Arnold; 18. W. A. Bartley; 19. E. Hall; 20. W. H. Ingram; 21. W. M. Moss; 22. Dayton Harris; 23. Bert Bellinger; 24. T. M. Downing; 25. John Bender; 26. J. A. Dumond; 27. S. D. Brown; 28. J. A. Brown; 29. H. S. Heyne; 30. Raleigh Harold; 31. W. E. Withey; 32. A. C. Christensen; 33. C. Donahue; 34. Perry Parker; 35. J. E. Welch.

New Minister Here

Rev. H. B. Iler, who left Oklahoma some three months ago and who has been employed to supply the Federated church pulpit of this city, preached his introductory sermon last Sunday at the Christian church to a large and appreciative audience.

Mr. Iler will remove his family to Scio as soon as the parsonage is vacated. He is a very affable and pleasant speaking gentleman and an enthusiast on the federation of churches. The Tribune believes he will be successful in Scio and extends its best wishes to that end.

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