

What Shall America Do With Her Fleet of 1000 Idle Merchant Vessels

Senator Knute Nelson Holds Down Ship Subsidy Arguments to Few Painted Sentences.

Washington, Feb. 6.—According to figures of the United States Shipping Board the United States government on January 1 owned 1,272 merchant vessels with a capacity aggregating very nearly 10,000,000 tons. Of this number 984 were out of commission. This represented a idle capacity of practically 4,000,000 tons. Of the 288 government-owned merchant vessels listed up at the beginning of the present year, 274 are steel cargo ships.

The ship subsidy question is merely a question of what shall be done with this tremendous amount of idle shipping capacity. The problem has been concisely and accurately stated by Senator Knute Nelson of Minnesota in a letter written recently to one of his constituents who is president of a women's organization at Red Wing, Minnesota. Senator Nelson wrote:

"My dear Mrs. Stageberg: "Your favor of the 5th, relative to the ship subsidy matter, is at hand. I think you are laboring under a misapprehension. The facts are that during the war and for two years subsequent to the armistice, at an expense of upwards of three billion dollars, the government constructed something like 600 wooden ships, hastily built, of green timber, nineteen concrete ships of cement, and something like 3,000 steel ships.

"Of these ships, the wooden ships turned out to be utterly worthless, and have been sold in a lump, for a mere song. The concrete ships are of no value. Of the steel ships, we have in the neighborhood of 400 in operation by the government, but we are operating them at an annual loss of \$50,000,000. In round numbers, we have on our hands, lying idle and deteriorating in value, somewhere around three thousand steel ships, varying from a tonnage of 5,000 up to 10,000 each.

"The question what to do with these ships that we now have on hand is of a three-fold character: (1) Shall we try to sell them to our competitors in Europe, if possible? This would make it easier for our competitors in Europe to drive us from the ocean. (2) Shall we scrap them, throw them all into the scrap pile and mark it all as a dead loss? (3) Shall we make an effort to put them afloat under the American flag and encourage our own people to buy the ships and operate them in competition with the countries of the world? This is the real situation of the case.

"Owing to the high cost of living and the higher wages we pay in this country to our officers and seamen, it costs more to operate our ships than the ships of foreign governments, and the object of the so-called subsidy is to make it possible for our people to compete with the various countries of Europe by making up this difference in cost of operation."

"It is estimated that the subsidy proposed to our shipping will not exceed \$25,000,000 a year. We are now operating such ships as we have in the service at a loss of \$50,000,000 a year. This subsidy plan will cut down the present loss of \$50,000,000 a year one-half, and it seems to me that in view of the situation—in view of the fact that we have a thousand ships idle—it is our duty as good American citizens to aim to put these vessels afloat and in the service under the American flag.

"The government itself ought to get out of the business of operating ships. It has proved an expensive luxury as the government operation of our railroads."

Eastern Oil Concern Offers to Drill Here

Stockholders of the Northeastern Oregon Oil Exploration company which has headquarters at Hermiston and which has one well started there, are enthusiastic over the offer of the Acme Oil Company of New York of which Leonard Wood Jr is president, to join with the Hermiston company in drilling for oil on the present site of the well. It is not known whether or not the offer will be accepted, but it is understood that the deal is made between the two companies, that it will be on an equal basis.

The Hermiston well is one of six now being started in the west end of Umatilla county, in Morrow county and across the Columbia river in the Washington Horseheaven country. Geologists are reported to have declared that at the George Root farm near Hermiston the surface conditions indicate the best point. The well is down 130 feet and a small showing of oil was secured at 106 feet.

The Acme Oil company has secured many leases around that section and the contracts call for three oil rigs to be started by April, two being called for in the Butter creek country. This company is making arrangements through its representative E. E. Brown, to open offices in Pendleton for the sale of stock. It is announced by E. P. Dodd of Hermiston, president of the company, that 7000 acres of the best land in the Hermiston anti-cline have been placed under lease.—Pendleton Tribune.

T. G. Dennisee, contractor of the new church building, spent a few days in Portland the last of the week purchasing material for carrying on his work. He states that it was mighty cold and wet while he was in the city and he missed the fine Eastern Oregon sunshine.

John A. Williams and Robert Mathison, farmers of Ione, spent Saturday in Heppner. Mr. Williams has been making his home in Portland for a number of years, but a few months ago returned to Morrow county to again take charge of his wheat farm out southwest of Ione.

Clyde Wright was down from Hardman on Saturday. He listened to the address of F. V. Maris and heard the report of County Agent Calkins at I. O. O. F. hall during the sessions of the Morrow County Farm Bureau.

Mrs. Earl Gordon came up from Arlington on Sunday and has been spending the week as a guest at the home of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Nick Hall.

Mr. and Mrs. A. A. McCabe were in the city Saturday from their farm home on Rhea creek. They attended the farmers meeting while in the city.

Slat's Diary

By ROSS FARQUHAR.

Friday—Ma wanted me to carry out the ashes tonight and I set up a job on her and set I wood carry out the ashes if she would go and make me sum candy and popcorn after supper. She up and says You go on ahead and carry out the ashes and then when after supper comes we will discuss the other matters. She believes in the old proverb about Discussion in the best part of Waller.

Saturday—I seen a well of man refuse to give a poor tramp a dime for sum coffee this morning. & how did he no mabby the poor fellow was starving for all he new. I sat ga what wood you call a man with wood never give a tramp or a hobo and ect. a dime or nothing. And he replied and told me he gees you wood call him Bum Proof he gees.

Sunday—Erlly this morning ma awoke pa up and sed to him Pa you better get up and sed to me I believe they are a burglar or sum saddy down stares or sum thing. Pa was about 1/2 asleep & he groaned a couple times and sed Tell him Ma I don't want nothing this morning. Ma is telling all the neighbor wimmen and she thinks it is a good joak on pa.

Monday—Lizzy Seils which is a cle made has get a chance to get married with 1 of the politishuns here in town & she has got 1/2 a notion to take him up only she is not sure weather he is after her hart or after her vote. So she dont no what to do about it. My private opinion is she better take him.

Tuesday—My cuzzen cum to spend a visit with are family and they are enjoying there visit and pa is afraid they will like it so well they wont want to go home. But there is 1 nice thing about them they never fuss and they talk so nice to each other you woodent never think they was married a tall.

Wednesday—If pa dont lose his job on the newspaper I am no profit. He got his bed lines mixed up las week and where they was a peace rope about a play give by a yung mans club he got the bed line for a advertisement which was (CHRISTMAS NUTS).

Thursday—Pug Stevens ma dussent want his sister to study Logarithms because she dussent care for poetry. Logarithms was songs rote about trees & ect.

Mike Kenny, accompanied by his attorney, J. J. Nys, went to Portland Tuesday, where Mr. Kenny is interested in proceedings instituted in the federal court against him, by Peter McIntire, who is represented by F. A. McMenamin.

Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Gammell of Lexington spent Saturday in this city and were present at the farmers meeting.

George Peck, successful wheat producer of Lexington, was in Heppner Saturday to attend the Farm Bureau meeting.

Does It Pay?

Advertising has made the Victrola dog famous.

It has made the cash register a big brother to retailers all over the world.

It has introduced the world to a substitute for sole leather.

It is displacing the truck horse with 40-horsepower trucks.

It has helped you to an appreciation of Stetson hats, Walk-Over, Douglas and Emerson shoes.

It has made the hand-written letter an oddity in business.

It has put hair oil on heads where no hair oil would do any good, and on heads where no hair oil was needed.

It has put Castoria down your throat, left bristles in your gums, and then came along with a Rubber-set and took them out.

It has put Zozodont, Pebecco and Pepsodent on your teeth.

It has put a Gillette against your hayfield.

It has put Murine in your eye, sold you Cuticura for pimples, Pears for the bath and Ivory for the tub.

It has put Arrow collars around your neck and Ingersols around your wrist.

It has jammed your feet in Holeproof sox, put Paris garters on your legs, and Tiffany rings on your fingers.

It has stuck Robert Burns cigars between your teeth, worn out your jaws on Wrigley's and posted you on what to buy to cure corns, warts, bunions and ingrowing toe nails.

Go anywhere you want to, do anything you wish, and advertising has had a hand in it—absolutely.

And then some people ask "DOES ADVERTISING PAY?"

LOCAL NEWS ITEMS.

Relf Brown, who looks after the destinies of a band of sheep out on Butter creek for Ed Neill, was here today. He states that the January open spell was a great hay saver for that part of the county, and that but very little feeding of sheep has been done on the Neill place.

STRAYED—From my pasture about Jan. 20th, one bay mare, age 8 years, weight about 1200; mane was reached last Sept. Branded circle 3 on left shoulder. Notify C. N. Jones, Heppner; Phone 29751.

A. H. Turner takes a lot of interest in farmers affairs, and he came up from Ione Saturday to take part in the Farm Bureau meeting. He raises wheat extensively on a large acreage out north of Ione.

Mr. and Mrs. Oscar Keithley were Eight Mile people in the city over Saturday and Sunday, returning home on Monday. Mr. Keithley was formerly president of the Morrow County Farm Bureau.

Emil Carlson, who is rated as one of the biggest farmers of the Gooseberry section, was here yesterday to have a talk with the county court regarding road work in his district.

John Johnson of Ridgefield, Wash., brother of Mrs. George A. Miller of Cecil, was in Heppner on Tuesday, looking after matters pertaining to the estate of the late G. A. Miller.

Grant Olden and wife and daughter were in the city Saturday from their farm home west of Rhea creek. They took in the meeting of the Farm Bureau at I. O. O. F. hall.

Otto Lindstrom of Morgan spent a portion of Saturday in this city and took in the farmers meeting. He is one of the successful wheat producers in his part of the county.

Ernest Heiker is one of the successful grain producers living near Ione. He was in Heppner Saturday to attend the meeting of the Morrow County Farm Bureau.

Percy Jarmon raises a lot of alfalfa down on Little Butter creek. He was in Heppner on Saturday to transact business and attend the farmers meeting.

Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Padberg, Heppner Flat farmers, were in this city on Saturday and attended the Farm Bureau meeting.

KEY KONTST.

YOU ARE INVITED TO BRING IN YOUR KEYS AND TRY THEM IN THE LOCK. LAST DAY FOR TRYING KEYS FEBRUARY 15th Patterson & Son The Rexall Store

WHY BE SICK?

IF YOU CAN BE WELL? If you suffer from CONSTIPATION, from DIGESTIVE and NERVOUS DISORDERS, from COLIC, CATARRH or other CHRONIC AFFECTIONS, read "EXHIBERANT HEALTH" by Richard Roberts which explains in simple language the fundamental causes of all diseases and how they may be cured. Popular Edition \$1.00

The Brookside Press, 261 E. Colorado St., Pasadena, Calif.

Morrow Farm Bureau

(Continued from First Page)

At a meeting of the executive committee held in this city a few weeks ago, resolutions were adopted recommending that the Morrow County Farm Bureau withdraw from the state body. This action was taken by the committee after a thorough investigation of the affairs of the state organization, and after becoming convinced that the state body was hopelessly involved in a financial tangle for which the local body was not responsible, and which it should not be called on to help straighten out, as well as a number of other things unsatisfactory to the committee, and the recommended that the resolutions be adopted at the annual meeting.

Upon the reading of the resolutions, a motion to adopt was made and carried unanimously. The local organization will remain out of the state body until the abuses complained of have been set right. The resolutions provide that the money paid in for membership fees will remain in the treasury of the county organization, and that arrangements be made for the publishing again of the county farm bureau paper, which was suspended when the state organization went into the publishing business.

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WE MEET TRAINS NOS. 1, 2, 18

TO HEPPNER A.M. P.M. Arlington Lv. 9:00 2:00 Cecil Lv. 10:20 3:20 Morgan Lv. 10:35 3:35 Ione Lv. 11:05 4:05 Lexington Lv. 11:30 4:30 Heppner Ar. 11:55 4:55

TO ARLINGTON A.M. P.M. Heppner Lv. 9:00 4:00 Lexington Lv. 9:25 4:25 Ione Lv. 9:50 4:50 Morgan Lv. 10:05 5:05 Cecil Lv. 10:35 5:35 Arlington Ar. 11:55 6:55

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Elkhorn Restaurant Heppner

Illustrated lectures by Professor Sherman R. Cook and his wife, Carrie Pimm-Cook, who will speak of their experiences and observations of Palestine, Egypt and Greece. Mr. Cook has for the past three years been a professor in Robert College at Constantinople. Mr. and Mrs. Cook left just before the burning of Smyrna, when the city of Constantinople was threatened.

On Wednesday Mrs. Cook will give a very interesting lecture on "COME WITH ME THROUGH PALESTINE"

On Thursday Prof. Cook invites you to spend "A DAY IN CONSTANTINOPLE" with him.

Both of these lectures will be illustrated with slides, and part of each will be delivered while the lecturers are dressed in the native costumes. Prof. Cook will show some of the Turkish tools and how they are used.

Lectures begin at 8:00 o'clock each evening. Admission: Adults 50c; Children 30c, per lecture

Officers elected for the coming year are: R. W. Turner, president; R. B. Wilcox, vice-president; J. O. Turner, secretary-treasurer; Jack Hynd, J. O. Kincaid, Dwight Misner, Ralph Finley, Oscar Keithley, Cecil Warner, Garret Barrett and Roy Campbell, executive committee.

From 4 to 8 P. M. Wednesday, Feb. 14

THE CHRISTIAN ENDEAVORERS WILL SERVE A

Valentine Tea AT THE HOME OF The Livingstones

THERE WILL BE MUCH THAT IS GOOD TO EAT

Star Theater

Program for February 9th to February 15th

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 9th The DeHavens in "THE GIRL IN THE TAXI"

RUTH ROLAND in "THE TIMBER QUEEN"

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 10th The rollicking seven-reel comedy "TOO MUCH BUSINESS"

Sunday & Monday Feb. 11th and 12th HOUSE PETERS in "THE STORM"

No Show Tuesday Get a copy of our Illustrated Program for the week.

WEDNESDAY AND THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 14th and 15th

Illustrated lectures by Professor Sherman R. Cook and his wife, Carrie Pimm-Cook, who will speak of their experiences and observations of Palestine, Egypt and Greece. Mr. Cook has for the past three years been a professor in Robert College at Constantinople. Mr. and Mrs. Cook left just before the burning of Smyrna, when the city of Constantinople was threatened.

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It is not safe to carry money on your person when among strangers. Neither is money safe in the house. Money in the bank is safe and is always available by means of a check book. And this assurance of safety costs you nothing.

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