

### Local Happenings

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Hall were visitors here during the home of Mrs. Hall's mother, Mrs. Melissa Marlett. They returned to their home at Naches, Wash., the end of the week. Mr. and Mrs. Hall report everything coming along fine in the Yakima valley and prospects for a tremendous crop of fruit and other products this season.

Quite considerable traffic is now being routed through Heppner to avoid as much as possible that section of the Columbia highway that is receiving its coat of oil. Some cars come over Franklin hill, but more seem to be coming up Butter creek from Kehn. It makes quite a difference, at any rate, in the automobile traffic through Heppner.

Mr. and Mrs. M. R. Morgan of Ione were Saturday visitors in Heppner for a few hours. Mr. R. had a little business with the tax collector at the court house and was pleased to be able to get that gentleman off his hands. Good spring weather was on in the Ione country and vegetation rapidly putting forth.

J. S. Johnson, wheatraiser of the Ione country, was in Heppner on Saturday to interview the tax collector and look after some other business matters. Mr. Johnson was hoping for some warmer weather, stating that it would be quite beneficial to the coming crops.

The old hills around Heppner are getting well coated with green and there is a remarkable change in the appearance of the landscape. We heard someone say that they thought the hills were always brown here, but this is not a fact; they are green a part of the time.

J. B. Huddleston, well known Morrow county stockman with headquarters at Heppner, was a Pendleton visitor yesterday. Mr. Huddleston is very enthusiastic regarding the finishing of the 15 miles of highway between Vinson and Lena—East Oregonian.

Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Carlson were visitors in the city yesterday. The crops are coming good on the Carlson farm and his hard federation wheat is making a record growth. He believes this is a coming wheat for Morrow county.

Mrs. Eugene Penland and daughter, Mrs. Dorothy Patterson, departed on Monday for Portland, expecting to make their home in the city for the spring and summer months. Mr. Penland has been located in Portland for some time.

Joe Hayes, big sheepman of Butter creek, was doing business here the first of the week. He is in the midst of lambing now, has lots of good grass on the range, and is feeling pretty good over the prospects.

Matt Hughes was down from his foot hill ranch on Tuesday. Fine spring weather prevails at present out his way, there is abundant grass and the stock is looking well.

Anson Wright was in from his Hardman ranch on Tuesday and reports that spring seems to have fully arrived out that way and vegetation is growing fine.

#### Our Washington Letter

N. P. S.

WASHINGTON, D. C., April 7.—United States Senator Burton K. Wheeler, recent candidate for Vice President on the Third Party Socialist ticket, has been indicted in Washington by a special grand jury on a charge of conspiracy. The charges are that Wheeler conspired to obtain illegal use and possession of public domain of the United States in Montana, for the purpose of prospecting for oil and gas.

The indictment, which consisted of 23 typewritten pages, charged that from April 1, 1920, to January, 1924, the accused entered into conspiracy to defraud the United States out of the use and possession of 10,000 acres in Toole County, Montana, which lands were subject to permit for prospecting for oil and gas. Indicted with Wheeler were Edward S. Booth, former Solicitor of the Interior Department, and Gordon Campbell of Montana. This is the second indictment of Wheeler, the first having been returned in Great Falls, Montana, last year. It is understood that it was the desire to obtain an acreage of 20,000, which was 9,000 acres more than could have been controlled legally by any or all of the alleged conspirators. The securing of permits for vast acreage means that prospectors without large means would have greatly lessened opportunities to prospect for themselves. In the document are recited specifically 24 "overt acts." Numerous letters and telegrams alleged to have passed between Wheeler and Campbell were presented to the grand jury. The indictment bears the signatures of Peyton Gordon, United States Attorney, William J. Donovan, Assistant Attorney General, and John S. Pratt, R. P. Stewart and Oliver E. Pagan, Special Assistants to the Attorney General.

#### Gilliam & Bisbee's Column

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It is understood in Washington that the trial of Senator Wheeler on the first indictment brought against him will be held April 16 in Montana.

RADIO fans in the United States are far better off than they are in Germany, for about 13,000,000 gold marks, which equals approximately \$3,000,000 in our money, is paid the German postoffice department each year for radio licenses. There are now nearly 600,000 radio subscribers in Germany, and each one is taxed about 50c a month. To install a ra-

dia without first securing a license from the German government is punishable by a substantial fine.

OWING to the fact that numerous foreign countries were sending vast quantities of butter and other dairy products to this country and selling them at a price tended to severely injure, if not ruin, the dairy interests of the country, President Coolidge recently directed that the United States Tariff Commission make an inquiry into the matter, so that, if it were found necessary, he could, under the flexible rate of the tariff, adjust the duty on foreign dairy products. According to statistics an open meeting must be held by the Tariff Commission before the case is finally submitted to the President with the recommendation of the Commission. This open hearing will be held at the office of the Tariff Commission in Washington at 10 A. M., April 21st.

PRESIDENT COOLIDGE is unalterably opposed to private American loans being made to European countries if the money is to be used for military armament or for expenditures of like character by the governments of foreign lands.

The president's position will meet with the approval of the great body of the citizens of this country who are in favor of peace among the na-

tions of the world. The chief executive of the nation has made public his attitude in our duty to the rest of the world in the matter of aiding to our fullest extent in helping restore normal economic conditions, through the stabilization of currency, rehabilitation of commercial enterprises and any other such forms that are in the class of what may be termed legitimate peace time measures.

While the government of the United States has no authority to stop the floating of foreign loans in this country the majority of American investors usually seek to learn if such and such a loan meets with the approval of those who guide the affairs of the country. That is good business sense.

If Europe will realize that there is no more money for war it will mean a big step forward in the cause of peace; it will have a salutary effect.

President Coolidge is determined to bring to the attention of the world that this country is willing to help the rest of the world if the rest of the world will help herself by adopting a plan that will mean the cessation of war and the resumption of honorable peace time pursuits.

CONGRESSMAN JOHN M. NELSON of Wisconsin, presidential campaign manager for Senator LaFollette,

has issued a clarion call to the country to rally to the support of the Third Party Socialist congressional candidates. In certain democratic quarters the matter is once more being discussed as to how far they can or should sustain him, with the idea of creating more confusion for the republicans. Neither the call of Mr. Nelson or the possible adhesion of certain of the democrats need worry the republicans, for the reason that the people as a whole, as shown by the last election, already have a strong prejudice against these unholy alliances created particularly with destructive ideas in mind. If the reports coming out of Wisconsin are to be believed, there is also quite a possibility that Mr. Nelson, as field marshal for LaFollette Third Party Socialist combination, will be obliged to devote all his energy to watching the congressional seats in the Badger state.

WHETHER it likes it or not, Congress will be obliged to pass judgment on the Muscle Shoals program

at the next session. Furthermore, the desire to dodge this issue, which is admittedly prevalent in certain quarters, will be made harder by reason of the fact that to the new Congress the President will transmit a report of the special commission which is already appointed to investigate this subject in all its phases. To that commission he has named former Representative John C. McKenzie of Illinois, former Senator Nathaniel B. Dial of South Carolina, Professor Harry A. Curtis, of Yale University, William McClellan, New York City, and Russell F. Bower of the Farm Bureau Federation.

Muscle Shoals, to the farmers of the nation, means an opportunity for agricultural development. The President's attitude is that this is a particular side of the subject which deserves careful study, and support in the event of the farmers' conjectures proving to be justified. For that reason he will accompany the report of the Muscle Shoals Commission with a strong sustaining message calling for action and decision.

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## Getting Started

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