

### COUNCIL TO ACT IN SECRET SESSION ON BOND ELECTION

At the meeting of the city council Friday evening to consider the tentative draft drawn by City Attorney McCabe of the charter amendment for submission to the people, authorizing the issuance of bonds for the construction of the first unit of the Blue Ledge railroad, Councilman J. M. Keene went on record as opposed to municipal ownership of anything—even the water works, opposed giving the people any voice in the matter, opposed the railroad project and indicated that his role was to be that of obstructionist. The amendment itself was not discussed, consideration thereof being postponed for a secret session next Tuesday evening, from which the public is barred.

An hour's discussion was indulged in, principally regarding the proposed contract between the proposed city railroad commission and the Southern Oregon Traction Co., which was not at issue, but is for decision later.

City Attorney McCabe stated that the draft of the amendment had not yet been passed upon by the bar committee, and that it was tentative and submitted merely to expedite matters. The amendment is necessary to enable the council to put the matter up to the people. The bar committee will pass upon it Monday.

#### General Discussion Ensues.

Dr. Hargrave suggested that it would be putting the cart before the horse to consider that proposal at that time; the form of the contract with S. S. Bullis was what they wanted. The city attorney explained that they hadn't reached that point yet; that the proposed commission would take care of the contract and the fulfillment of its conditions when the time arrived for that feature of the work.

When the proposed millage tax was suggested for the purpose of providing for the ultimate redemption of the bonds, Councilman Mann became confused. He mistook the provision to mean that the city would immediately begin to tax itself to maintain the bonds, while it was intended merely to legalize the bonds so they could be sold.

Dr. Keene desired to know "what authority will the council get out of passing favorably on the initiatory papers, anyway?"

It was explained to him that the people of the city, at a special election, would confer upon the city all the authority it required to pass this matter to a final determination, and that it is for that purpose that this initial step is being taken.

#### Old Oregon System.

At this juncture a general talk ensued, in which Dr. Keene was conspicuous. "This is the old Oregon system—this is giving too much power to the commission—too much room for graft—I don't believe in the city's owning railroads, anyhow—what are you going to do about" this, that and other things too numerous to mention.

Councilman Davis declared that he didn't propose to give anybody outside of the council "authority to make any contract on this railroad business," and expressed distrust of a commission not yet authorized or appointed by the council to superintend the work of carrying out the details of the contract between the city and the builder of the road on the city's bonds.

The proposed charter amendment reads as follows:

#### Proposed Charter Amendment.

"Section 139. The city council, under the powers vested in it by the city charter, and especially section 23 of said charter, and in addition thereto, and in addition to its powers by virtue of section 65 of said charter, may levy a special railway building and operation tax not to exceed \_\_\_\_\_ mills on the dollar on the taxable property within the corporate limits of the city at the time of making out the annual budget as provided for by this charter as a part of the total city levy.

"Said tax levy shall be special, and in addition to the ten (10) mill tax limitation contained in section 65 of this charter, and the money from said special levy shall be kept in a separate fund and be used for redemption purposes of the bonds hereinafter authorized, and for no other purpose. In addition to all warrants and bonds authorized to be issued by sections 72 and 73 of this charter, the city council of the city of Medford is hereby further authorized and empowered to borrow money on the faith and credit of said city, and for that purpose to issue bonds and warrants in the manner provided by section 72 of this charter, for the sole purpose of obtaining the sum of \$300,000 to build, equip, purchase, acquire, lease, own and operate railways, operated by steam, electricity or other power, within or without the

### HINTS AMERICAN TROOPS BE RECALLED FROM MEXICO

EL PASO, Tex., April 8.—The American troops have assembled their object in destroying Villa's military power and should therefore withdraw from Mexico without delay, was the view expressed today by a well-known member of the Carranzista government speaking unofficially.

"The punitive force," he said, "has done all that it could expect to do. It has shattered the forces of Villa, who is now a fugitive, robbed of all prestige and power he ever held among the people. The people may be ignorant, but they are no fools. They will never again respect a man who turned tail and ran like a coward before the Yankees without even making a stand.

"Meanwhile, it must be admitted that the Mexican people have behaved well toward the American troops. They have received them courteously. But to allow them to remain in Mexico indefinitely, 20,000 men hunting for a single bandit who may not be caught in months, is another matter. To allow them to continue their progress to the south indefinitely is still more serious.

"Americans would not tolerate the presence of a Canadian military force within their borders. Similarly, the presence of Americans is beginning to irritate the Mexican people. It looks and feels like a surrender of sovereignty.

"With Villa crushed, now is the logical time for the punitive force to withdraw. No question of conflict have yet arisen and the air has so far turned out fortunately for both sides."

### GAS SCHOONER WRECKED AT REQUA

EUREKA, Cal., April 8.—Watchers ashore saw the crew of a rescue boat rescue three of the crew of the gasoline schooner Magnolia from the hull of the overturned vessel. It is unknown who were saved.

It is believed that others of the Magnolia crew are alive, probably clinging to the wreckage.

EUREKA, Cal., April 8.—The gasoline schooner Magnolia, manned by a crew of five men, was spotted floating hauled up off Klamath river bar today, according to a telephone message received here from Requa, a point about twenty miles north of here at the mouth of the Klamath. Indications were that all aboard had been lost.

The crew included Captain Edward Johnson, Edward Baker, engineer, and three others.

Tugs were sent out to search for survivors.

boundaries of the said city, and ranging from a point within the city of Medford to other towns, cities and points without the boundaries of the said city, and to that end may acquire rights-of-way, easements, real property or leases within and without its boundaries for any of such purposes, without any further authority or without submitting the question of engaging in any of said enterprises or for making any expenditure of money therefor to a vote of the qualified voters of said city."

### BAKER DEFENDS AVIATION SERVICE NEEDS ENLARGING

WASHINGTON, April 8.—Development of the aviation service and equipment of airplanes and machines with a large passenger-carrying capacity are the main thoughts of the army aviation department, Secretary Baker today told the house military committee. He detailed army airships and their activities and said a reorganization in personnel might be made by "addition if not by subtraction," but declared that the service has proved its worth in Mexico and has done as well as possible.

Mr. Baker asked for \$1,750,000 for the aviation service, mainly for regular army and national guard aviation purposes. There is about \$600,000 available under previous appropriations, and the secretary expects to buy thirty-two new machines. He said the fifty-nine aeroplanes now owned by the army are underpowered.

European belligerents, he said, are carefully guarding airship secrets from American military observers.

Mr. Baker said he did not believe there is need for a government aeroplane plant and thought it better to let individual manufacturers compete to produce the best.

Recent differences among the officers in the aviation service were attributable, he said, to impatience at being controlled by men whom they may regard as not knowing the work.

"I have determined," he said, "to reorganize the entire aviation section and put it under better supervision."

#### MEDFORD COLLEGE NOTES

Louise Williamson has secured an excellent stenographic position with C. M. Thomas, attorney.

A number of young people have recently enrolled for the different courses. Those entering this week are Willie Wilson, Royal Bebb and Irvin Bebb, all of Central Point.

Grace Taylor, a graduate of the bookkeeping department, visited with us Friday and took part in the contests. She maintained her usual good records, winning first place for accuracy in typing and worked 23 problems correctly in ten minutes.

Vada Altimus is in actual office practice, which includes both public and private stenographic work for the school. This gives her valuable experience in a number of different lines.

The civil service class is doing good work and the members are retaining all their wonted enthusiasm. Sarah Henry, who recently secured a position with the McCurdy Insurance agency, is intensely interested in her work.

An unusually large amount of outside work has been coming in lately, much to the delight of the students who thus have an opportunity to get actual experience.

Contest day was as interesting as ever. Owing to the fact that nearly all the students have secured the coveted awards, not many were made. Vivian Childers secured third honors in spelling; Vada Altimus, first honors in calculation; Walter Buntin made a splendid record in typing which will secure for him the Remington pennant.

A letter recently received from the Gregg Publishing company commends several of the students upon the excellence of their outlines, and special mention was made of the splendid work Walter Buntin has been doing.

#### MUTUAL MASTERPICTURE AT STAR THEATER TODAY



SCENE FROM "THE SOUL'S CYCLES," MUTUAL MASTERPICTURE, DE LUXE EDITION, IN FIVE ACTS, PRODUCED BY HOBBSLEY.

This picture will be shown at the Star Theater today. The story depicts the death of a man who is buried in a volcano. It is a story of love and sacrifice. The picture is a masterpiece of the art of picture making. It is a story that will interest all who see it. The picture is a masterpiece of the art of picture making. It is a story that will interest all who see it.

### NEW ARMY BASE NEAR CHIHUAHUA TO BE ESTABLISHED

EL PASO, Tex., April 8.—The rapidity of Francisco Villa's flight into the heart of Mexico was feared by Brigadier General Pershing to establish a new army base for the American expedition near Chihuahua City. Villa is near, if not already in the city of Parral, according to reports received from Mexican sources today. The bandit is probably not over fifty miles ahead of the flying detachments of Colonel Doble's cavalry.

When Villa turned eastward, after his defeat at Guerrero, and struck across country, passing San Antonio and Salera, a new and important factor in General Pershing's plan of campaign was brought into play—the use of the Mexican Central railroad. This road leads directly south from El Paso to Chihuahua, something over 200 miles.

The consent of the de facto government for the use of this railroad, even in a modified way, for the shipment of supplies to the American troops would permit General Pershing to move his main supply base from Casas Grandes to a point near Chihuahua and not only reduce his line of communications by about 200 miles, but the difficulties of transportation as well. Supplies to the army are now moving over the Mexican desert to Casas Grandes and thence laboriously southward over worn and difficult trails over 200 miles beyond to the front. Advance guards of American cavalry have lived for the last two weeks on beef and corn, with these supplies at a minimum.

### SENATE TO VOTE UPON ARMY BILL ON TUESDAY NEXT

WASHINGTON, April 8.—The senate today agreed to vote Tuesday, April 19, on the army reorganization bill and all amendments and to hold debate to ten minutes to each senator in any one day beginning April 13. Senator Lodge proposed an amendment to give the secretary of war full authority to maintain garrisons under whatever regulations or conditions he may wish.

Discussion of the plan for a government owned nitrate plant was taken up today as soon as the senate got to work on the bill.

Chairman Stone of the foreign relations committee stated that conditions in Mexico had nothing to do with the army bill.

"I wish to say that the proposal to increase the army or the navy of the United States has no special reference to the troubles in Mexico," he said. "I would have the people in Mexico understand that the movement to increase the power of the United States would have been just as great even if Mexico were one wide field of peace and prosperity."

Senator Chamberlain confirmed the statement of Senator Stone.

Medford to Ashland on the big gray cars, 20 cents one way, round trip 35 cents. On Sunday cars leave Medford at 8 and 10:30 a. m., and 1:00, 2:00, 5:20 and 9:30 p. m. Returning leave Ashland at 9 a. m. and 1:00, 4:20, 6:30 and 10:30 p. m.

### START BOOM FOR ELIHU ROOT AS G. O. P. NOMINEE

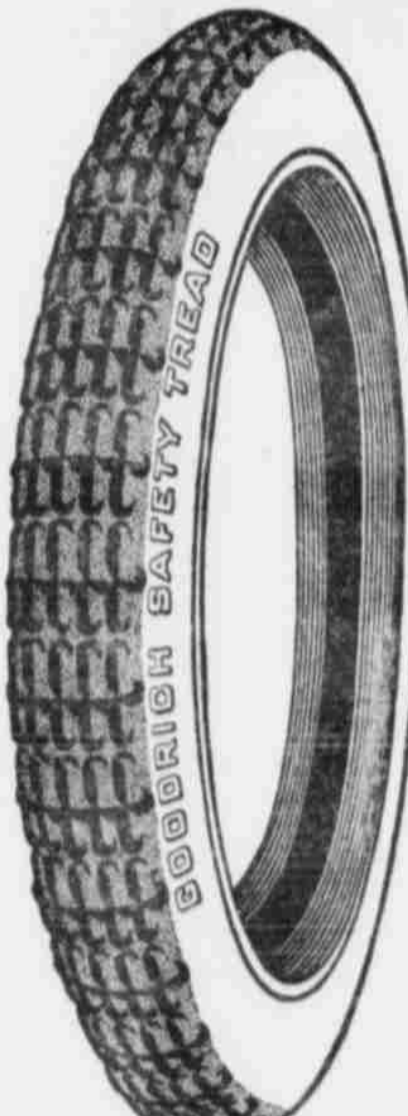
NEW YORK, April 7.—The boom for the nomination of Elihu Root for the presidency, suspended last night by a statement bearing the signatures of seventy-four prominent Republicans, is supported by former faces, former members of cabinet Roosevelt's cabinet and one of his closest friends. In a statement published today Mr. Bacon says:

"My first choice is Elihu Root, my second choice is Theodore Roosevelt."

Mr. Bacon last week was host of the luncheon which brought Colonel Roosevelt and Mr. Root together for the first time since the latter opposed Mr. Roosevelt at the republican national convention in 1912. William Barnes, republican national committeeman whose address favor the Root statement, declared there was nothing behind it except a desire to promote the nomination of Mr. Root. He denied emphatically a report that the statement was a maneuver to help the candidacy of Colonel Roosevelt. It was learned today that the Root movement crystallized at a conference held Thursday at the Union League club. Mr. Root, it is said, knew that the statement was to be issued and offered no objection.

Nineteen of those who signed the Root statement are delegates from New York state to the national convention. Among them are four of the delegates at large.

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Not  
E. M.  
BUT  
"Little" Joe Wilson