

BRYAN FAVORS REFERENDUM ON GERMAN ISSUE

Former Secretary of State Believes There Are Better Ways to Settle Disputes Than by Killing Fellow-Men and Outlines Proposals to Avoid Conflict With Germany.

By GILSON GARDNER. WASHINGTON, Feb. 12.—"While there is any chance to avert war I shall continue my efforts against it," said former Secretary Bryan, whom I came upon at a meeting of the Emergency Peace Committee at the Raleigh hotel.

"What are the chances for averting war, do you think—one in twenty?"

"Perhaps," he answered, "no one can tell. I must say the prospect is not encouraging, but those of us who believe there are better ways to settle disputes than by killing our fellow men will persist in hoping that a way out will be found."

"What do you suggest?" I asked.

Bryan's Suggestions. "I am suggesting three things: First—To postpone until after the war the settlement of any question which cannot be settled now; second, to avoid occasions of offence by keeping our ships and citizens out of the proscribed war area; and third, a submission of the whole question whether or not to go to war to a referendum.

"I am not committed to the above program. Indeed, I am not committed to any program. I am willing to accept suggestions from anybody and am willing to work with anybody who has any suggestion or help to offer; I am willing to eliminate myself entirely if it would help for me to do so. Sometimes I think there is a habit of prejudice against me which rather hurts any suggestions which I put out. I would like, if it were possible, that these suggestions should be put out by someone else; only let them go out. Let the people think about them. Let them make up their minds whether there is not a way out even at this late hour, with the full preservation of our honor and dignity as a nation."

Emergency Talk.

Colonel Bryan made a little talk before a group which was busy organizing an "emergency peace committee." This committee will arrange meetings and urge the adoption of something like an advisory referendum on the war. The peace committee did not take Bryan's plan as a whole, but decided to go ahead and work on the general lines suggested by Bryan. While this meeting was in progress in Washington a similar group was being organized in New York.

Colonel Bryan saw many members of congress and not only voiced his ideas, but tried to gather from them what is the sentiment of congress and what that body is likely to do in case President Wilson goes before them with a request that he be "given authority to take any measures necessary to protect American citizens." Bryan was informed that a very large proportion of the membership of the senate and house feel that there is no alternative but to stand by the president and if he asks for a declaration of war, to make it unanimous. One canvass showed only two members who have the courage to say that they will not vote for a declaration of war.

On the other hand, he was informed that there is a very considerable group in congress which will take advantage of any opportunity to discuss and postpone in the hope of averting what they regard as a calamity.

Growers Attention.

The Rogue River Fruit and Produce Association has closed arrangements for handling of Grasseil Arsenate of Lead Paste the coming season and expects delivery of the first carload before April first. We are not holding over any of last year's lead and our entire stock will be 1917 manufacture.

Our prices will be: For 600-pound barrels, \$.055 per pound.

For 500-pound barrels, \$.0575 per pound.

For 100-pound steel containers, \$.05 per pound.

For 50-pound steel containers, \$.095 per pound.

In ton lots a discount of 3/4 per cent will be made. These prices are only 1/4 above last year's and the terms, as usual, are extremely liberal.

Book your orders now. S. V. BECKWITH, Manager.

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PRACTICAL PHASES OF POULTRY WORK UNDER DISCUSSION

By W. W. WATSON, Secretary. After reception of committee reports and the transaction of routine business at the Southern Oregon Poultry association's meeting in the public library hall Saturday afternoon, a general discussion of matters of importance was held. Messrs. C. C. Cate, Henry W. Frame, Ernest Webb A. E. Strong, R. L. Wilson, J. A. Bickerdike, J. L. Demmer, P. E. Wyncook, C. F. Carpenter and others participating therein. The subjects discussed covered the field of poultry husbandry, from the production of eggs to marketing the product in carload lots.

Prof. C. C. Cate, county pathologist, kindly consented to attend to discuss with the members the practical phases of the industry and its local development. Before the close of the session he expressed a feeling of gladness that he had done so, for he learned that the organization was aiming at the promotion of the industry along essential lines and he desired to render whatever assistance he may.

Progress Among Children.

C. F. Carpenter and Howard A. Frame, members of the board of managers of the Junior Thrift department, reported progress in organizing interest in that work for the season now passing.

During the discussion of the question of feed and its supply at equitable prices the sentiment developed that poultry producers of this valley ought not to send away for feed, except to the extent of a few specialties, for we can raise here practically all of the staple foods that poultry should have. Since that had not been done heretofore, however, it was deemed necessary to import a certain quantity of staple stuff this year while the necessary feed is being produced for the flocks next year.

On the feed committee President Frame appointed R. L. Wilson, of Central Point; W. W. Watson, of Medford, and A. E. Strong, of Eagle Point.

Bring an Expert.

Pathologist Cate suggested that Prof. Lamb, of the Oregon Agricultural college, will be in the county during the month of March and that he could be had for discussion of such projects as come under the direction of his department in the college. It would be necessary to issue a request, signed by at least five members of the association, to have him make a date for Medford. Several times that number of names were at once obtained. A date will also be arranged for him at Eagle Point.

The officers of the association will accompany Ernest Webb, one of the directors of the organization, to Eagle Point next Saturday, at which place a poultry meeting will be held. Professor Cate will also attend; and an effort will be made to secure the attendance of Professor Reiner of the Southern Oregon experiment station.

Professor Lamb will discuss, among other important matters, the egg circle, its organization and uses in the development of the industry; proper housing of poultry; feeding for eggs and the treatment of chicken ailments.

NEXT BAND CONCERT TO BE HELD FEBRUARY 21

The Medford band's next concert will be held at the Page theatre, February 21st is the date set and the public is respectfully requested to hold this date so that the band may be assured of the whole-hearted support of the citizens.

The last concert drew the largest crowd of the season, and the band boys anticipate with the welcome announcement that they will hold forth at the Page, will attract an extraordinary audience for the entertainment on Feb. 21st. There will be several instrumental and vocal solos in addition to the popular contributions by the band. The mayor and council as well as the heads of other civic bodies are to be especially invited to attend and everything points to a most successful evening.

Patriotic music, instrumental and vocal will be featured, and an effort will be made to have the stage especially decorated for the occasion.

The Medford band which is at a strength of 40 is probably now in the best condition it has been since Bandmaster Rowland was appointed to the leadership, with the large stage and splendid acoustics of the Page, the organization should be heard to great advantage. The Boys' band which created such a favorable impression at the first concert will make its second appearance in conjunction with the Medford band on Feb. 21st.

BLUE LEDGE WINS FAVORABLE REPORT BY UTAH EXPERT

By W. W. WATSON. "The person familiar with mining, its advantages and disadvantages in the matter of natural facilities and supplies, will quickly observe the fact that the Blue Ledge district is abundantly supplied with timber and water, two important essentials," said Judge G. W. Bartch, after a two days' examination of that great copper field last week.

Judge Bartch, who has been a member of the supreme court of Utah for seventeen years, came to Medford to make an inspection of certain properties in the Blue Ledge territory. He resigned from the Utah bench to take up the development of mines and the revision of mining laws for large mining interests of the continent. His counsel on mining laws has been sought by the supreme court of the United States, while his knowledge of practical mining is equally extensive and trustworthy.

"Another great advantage you have in that district," continued the judge, "is found in the fact that it may be developed largely by tunnel work. That is an essential feature in the economy of mining."

Ought to Be Developed.

"While I came too early to make a thorough examination of your district, I was able to discern, in a somewhat superficial investigation, that you have a most extensive and attractive mineralization there which ought to be developed. That the Blue Ledge mine is an attractive property there can be no doubt. Sufficient exposure has been made to show that fact conclusively. I am sorry I did not know of its existence in time to notify one of the large companies I represent. It is a developing company. It buys mines at their intrinsic value and proceeds to operate them. It may be that it will soon pass into hands that will do that. I personally know the man at the head of the syndicate that will probably soon take it over. He is a thorough and very successful mining man and his company has ample capital for any undertaking of that character.

"I will return to Medford, after the season is a little further advanced," said the judge, "and make a further inspection of attractive properties in the Blue Ledge district. There is too much snow up there for that work at this time. There is abundant need for development work there, if owners of claims would have investors come for full examination on the first visit."

Transportation Essential.

"I do not desire to criticize anyone or anything in a useless way," concluded Judge Bartch, "but I will say that transportation facilities to and from mining districts is one of the first essentials—an absolute necessity. The road as surveyed and partially constructed to the Blue Ledge district must have been done hurriedly and without regard for elimination of grades. It can be improved very materially by a capable engineer who will follow more closely the grade of the water course, instead of so many 'ups and downs,' as is the case now. Those intervening hills must be avoided or eliminated. From a cursory survey of the situation as we went up to the mines, I am convinced that a much better grade can be obtained; and I would suggest that that feature of the work be among the first undertaken seriously by your organization, which is now busy with collecting data for the consumption of the outside world. You need that better road badly."

Judge Bartch left Saturday evening for his Utah home, but will return late in the spring to resume an investigation of the Blue Ledge district. He confessed that he heretofore knew nothing about it and while in Los Angeles and San Francisco he undertook to obtain information about the Blue Ledge district, but could find no one who had any definite knowledge of it. This is a suggestive fact. It amplifies local assumption to the effect that the present advertising campaign is a vital necessity.

LEGISLATURE HEARS LINCOLN DAY ADDRESS

SALEM, Ore., Feb. 12.—Abraham Lincoln's birthday anniversary was celebrated today at a joint meeting of the Oregon senate and house of representatives. Supreme Court Justice Wallace McCannam delivered an address on "The Life of Lincoln," and W. G. Mercer, sergeant at arms of the house of representatives, recited the Gettysburg address. Mr. Mercer was at Gettysburg when Lincoln delivered the speech. The program today was arranged by newspaper men here for the session.

GERARD PRAISED BY GERMAN PRESS FOR NEUTRALITY

BERLIN, Feb. 11, via London, Feb. 12.—The Berlin press is confining itself to the most perfunctory references to the departure of former Ambassador Gerard and the American embassy staff. The Lokai Anzeiger, the only newspaper printing editorial comment says:

"It can hardly be said that in the person of the representative of the United States who left yesterday a popular figure disappears from Berlin. The assertion that he was a pronounced opponent of Germany is stretching this case a bit, yet he surely was no friend of Germany, and it may be calmly set down that the relations of the United States and Germany would have reached a far less deplorable stage if the great transatlantic republic had been represented in Berlin in the person of a man who had possessed a greater appreciation of the difficulties and peculiarities of our position and who, further, had been inclined to keep his government correctly informed with respect to the campaign of lies and vilification to which we are daily exposed.

"If, on the whole, Mr. Gerard was no outspoken friend of Germany, he was equally disinclined to share the blind admiration for England and everything English with which his countrymen seem obsessed. From the beginning of the war he expressed his inability to see how the entente could ever be victorious over the central powers, and this opinion he never surrendered."

The following American correspondents have remained in Berlin:

James O'Donnell Bennett, Cyril Brown, William Bayard Hale, Oswald F. Schuette and Mr. Andris.

REVENUE BILL BEING REDRAFTED BY DEMOCRATS

WASHINGTON, Feb. 12.—Work of redrafting the administration revenue bill was begun today by democrats of the senate finance committee in accordance with the decision of yesterday's caucus of democratic senators, who finally approved the measure as it passed the house with slight changes.

New provisions to be written into the bill would provide for: Expiration automatically in four years of the excess profits tax; termination of the present 12 1/2 per cent tax on munition makers' profits in six instead of twelve months after the war ends, and deduction of this tax before assessment of the excess profits tax; exemption of mutual insurance companies from the excess profits tax, providing their profits are distributed to policy holders.

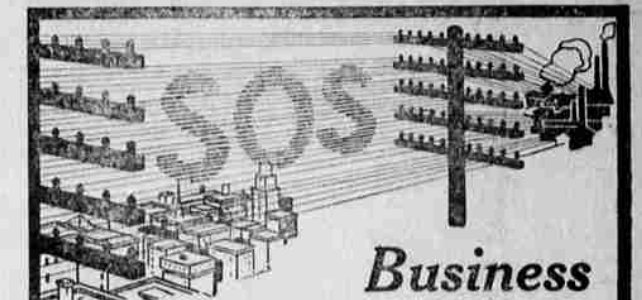
Senator Lewis' proposal to incorporate the Webb exporters' co-operative bill to the revenue measure was rejected.

The new bill will be reported to the senate within a few days and pressed for passage.

PARLIAMENT TO TALK UPON IRELAND

LONDON, Feb. 12.—The government agreed today to set aside a day for discussion in the house of commons of the Irish question as requested by the nationalists. John Redmond, the nationalist

leader, asked the government last week to arrange for an early discussion of a motion to the effect that it was essential without further delay to confer on Ireland the free institution long promised her.



Business

is congested. Orders are delayed. Manufacturers' desks are daily piled with "hurry ups."

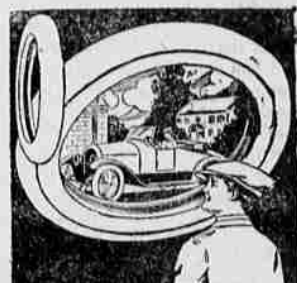
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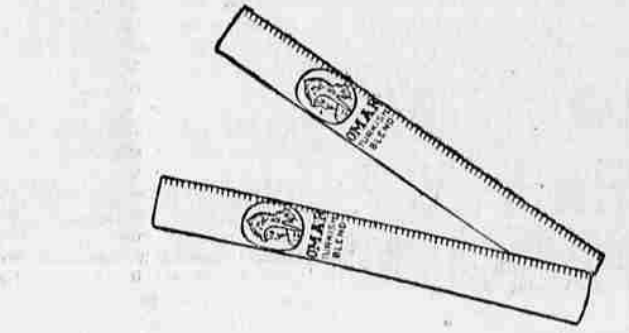
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