

# NEW DIRECTORATE TO PICK CHAMBER HEADS TOMORROW

(Continued from page 4)

The Valley Traffic association; and W. J. Warner, Dairyman's association.

The seven county directors are chosen each year by the agencies they represent.

The seven hold-over directors are B. E. Harder, Eugene Thorndike, William A. Gates, J. Verne Shangle, Albert Burch, A. S. V. Carpenter and George T. Frey.

The new board will meet in the Hotel Medford at noon tomorrow to elect a president, vice president, treasurer and manager.

The annual banquet-meeting of the chamber will be held in the Hotel Medford at 6:30 April 22. Earl Snell, secretary of state, will be the guest speaker.

## Comment on the Day's News

By FRANK JENKINS.

THE supreme court decision upholding the Wagner labor relations act is of tremendous importance to every citizen for these reasons:

1. The decision's political significance.
2. The Wagner labor relations act itself.

NOTE, please, that political significance is placed first. It BELONGS first.

The court (meaning by that a MAJORITY of the court) goes contrary to its previous reasoning on a question of primary importance—the scope of interstate commerce. The Wagner decision vastly increases the powers of the federal government and correspondingly decreases the powers of the states.

It was refusal of the court (that is, a majority of it) to rule as it has NOW ruled in regard to interstate commerce that brought on President Roosevelt's threat to increase the membership.

WHY did the court change its (the majority's) previously expressed opinions on the scope of interstate commerce?

That is a question no one outside the supreme court can answer, but it LOOKS as if the purpose was to head off, if possible, changes in our system of government that are so fundamental in their nature as to hold grave dangers for the future.

LET us put it more plainly: The president has said, in effect to the supreme court: "Since you have refused to rule as I wish, I propose to appoint enough new judges to make sure that I will GET the kind of ruling I WANT."

In spite of able opposition, it seems probable that he has power enough over congress to make good his threat. Making good his threat would have done irreparable damage to the system of checks and balances under which this country has grown up and become great.

It would have demonstrated the power of the executive to OVERTHROW the legislative and judicial branches and make the executive SUPREME.

THUS the road leading to dictatorship would have been made CLEAR AND PLAIN.

This writer, even in his gloomiest moments, does not believe that President Roosevelt aspires to dictatorship. But his successor MAY. Roosevelt's successor might be John L. Lewis.

There are few who will doubt John L. Lewis' inclination toward dictatorship.

SO the supreme court, in its private deliberations, may have come to this agreement:

"If, in the peculiar conditions now facing us, we persist in the opinions we have thus far held, we may invite reprisals that will so weaken our system of government as to pave the way to a dictatorship. Let us therefore ADAPT our opinions to the new conditions that have arisen and so ward off this danger and RETAIN our institutions in the form in which they have been handed down to us."

It is not intended to say here that this did happen. The purpose is merely to suggest that it MIGHT have happened. And if it did happen, who will say that the agreement so arrived at was not a patriotic one?



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posed to have informed the treasury that if it wanted a tax bill, it would have to get another congressional leader to handle it.

That threat will not be carried out, but it reflects the deep bitterness of all congressional leaders to the thought of additional taxation. They want to pass a resolution continuing excise taxes which expire soon, and let it go at that.

The warmth of their opposition and other considerations have delayed as to whether there is to be a tax bill. The decision will be made around May 15.

The only one who had an unkind word to say immediately about the Wagner decision was John Lewis, who made his workers sit down and the nation sit up.

No one in the know considered it strange that the leader of labor thus denounced labor's great victory in the courts.

If the decision is fairly enforced by the labor relations board, Mr. Lewis will become a mere agent of labor. He will lose his power to call sit-down strikes, his power to dictate wages and hours. His political prestige will wane.

The board will become the dictator, not Mr. Lewis.

Many a politico on Capitol Hill is surmising that the main reason for continuance of the president's court fight is to pack it for future White House generations.

They know of only one other legitimate reason for pursuing the issue. If the court is packed, the AAA crowd might be able to revive a stronger production control program. The truth is AAA-ers probably have enough power now to effect their purposes, although they would sooner die than admit it while the president is using that as an argument justifying his court program.

Nothing is now pending in the court to make packing advisable from a White House standpoint. The only case yet to be decided is the processing tax case, which might cost the treasury a billion dollars if decided against it. Another is the Alabama unemployment insurance tax, but indications are the court will certainly uphold that by a 5 to 4 opinion. The court was divided 4 to 4 on the same question in the New York case when

Justice Stone was absent. Mr. Stone clearly hinted, in his questioning of counsel during recent arguments, that he believes the tax should be upheld.

Few accept seriously the suggestion that the court might change its mind again, or that wage and hour legislation might be declared unconstitutional, if carefully drawn.

Justice Roberts has been working in his office at night frequently. The watchman noticed him plodding out rather late and suggested to the Justice that things were coming to a pretty pass "when a supreme court had no maximum hours law."

"Yes," ruled Mr. Roberts, "—no sit-downs for us."

A leading government attorney beamed at the Wagner victory. Particularly he liked the dissenting opinion of Justice McReynolds because it appeared to give some substance to the president's contention that the court was illiberal. Said the government attorney: "Justice Hughes saved the court and McReynolds saved the president."

### Editorial Coments

Southern Oregon Industries Ashland, Ore., is a city not only of scenic beauties, but is a center of large canning industries. From the California line on the south to the Canadian border on the north, and the Rocky mountains on the east, which territory would comprise the entire states of Oregon, Washington and Idaho, the Rogue River valley is the largest commercial-canning, tomato producing section in that entire area, and in Ashland is located the largest and best equipped tomato-canning factory in the entire north-west.

In 1936 the Ashland cannery received and handled something over 3000 tons of tomatoes, which graded, under United States government grading specifications, 75 per cent "U. S. No. 1's." And this is the highest grade of any tomato-producing section in the entire United States. From the 1936 crop of tomatoes was packed an exact total of 2,371,194 cans of tomatoes, tomato juice and other tomato products.

In the northwest territory the yearly consumption of canned tomatoes and tomato juice is conservatively estimated anywhere from 500,000 to 600,000 cases and up. Something less than 200,000 cases are produced in the area, approximately half of which production is actually packed in one cannery in Ashland.

The best and nearest available market for these tomatoes are Portland and the Willamette valley. Principal competition comes out of California, where in 1936 practically one-sixth of the entire nation's pack of canned tomatoes was produced, and where also one-sixth of the entire nation's pack of tomato juice was made. This makes competition exceptionally keen and implies an appeal to Oregonians to "buy Oregon."

As to the other commercial re-

sources, there are the vast undeveloped mineral deposits, great forests and many unexcelled products of agriculture and horticulture, such as the world-renowned Rogue River peaches and the Ashland district's famous cherries and luscious foothill peaches.

Less than 100 miles to the east, in the large Klamath basin, thousands of acres of high-quality potatoes are produced; there are also extensive lumber and livestock industries. And a few miles down the Rogue river, into Josephine county, are the fine grapes, with many other tree and field crops, as well as mineral resources.

Owing to the varying conditions of climate and topography of this state, many of these products are peculiarly and particularly adapted, and even confined, to given districts; which affords great possibilities for development of intrastate relations with other districts, whose specialties are not produced elsewhere in the state. Support is due the industries that develop this productive southern region of Oregon.—Oregon Journal.

### The Grange

Eagle Point Grange. Eagle Point Grange meets in regular session April 20. Regular business will be transacted. A good lecture hour is planned and refreshments will follow.

Moderation of the weather is causing a marked increase in Grange attendance. Members are urged to attend this meeting.

### Foreign War Vets Meeting Thursday

Regular meeting of Crater Lake Post No. 1833, V. F. W., will be held at the Armory Friday at 8 p. m. Commander Wall requests a large attendance as the ritualistic team which is training for a competition with other teams throughout the state will practice. There will also be an election for junior vice commander.

The auxiliary has been asked to join the post in their clubrooms later in the evening for a round table talk with Comrade Knutson, chairman of the 1937 Buddy Poppy sale will present his plans for conducting the sale May 21 and 22. At conclusion of this discussion, refreshments will be served.

### OREGON TO BE IGNORED IN SELECTING JUDGES

WASHINGTON, April 15.—(AP)—Senator Homer T. Bone said today he expects President Roosevelt to choose from Nevada, Idaho or Montana the two additional judges to be appointed soon to the ninth circuit court of appeals bench at San Francisco.

These states are not represented at present on the circuit court bench, said Bone, author of the measure which increased the number of judges from five to seven.

# STRICT BLOCKADE BY LAND AND SEA TO BEGIN MONDAY

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the four in the naval blockade—each will pay 16 per cent of the cost, the other 22 countries together sharing the remaining 30 per cent.

The land agents will operate on Spain's French and Portuguese frontiers.

Announcement of the co-operative isolation venture is to start, authoritative quarters predicted, probably will minimize opposition criticism of Great Britain's Bilbao policy.

Diplomatic sources contended the issue over British protection of her merchant marine against a Spanish insurgent blockade of the besieged Basque capital was clearly "a local situation."

Could Enter Bilbao Under international law, they argued, the British navy theoretically could escort merchantmen into Bilbao since the Basque government is willing. Even inside Bilbao, they said, Britain would regard an insurgent attack on her shipping as an act of piracy.

But authorized spokesmen expressed the belief the British government would see that its merchant marine would stay outside the Spanish three-mile limit.

The cabinet, cheered by the 345 to 130 vote of confidence after last night's stormy debate in the house of commons, stood firm on its policy of refusing to recognize the Franco regime as a belligerent.

As if in answer to laborite and liberal charges of "cowardice" and aiding the insurgents to "starve out women and children," the government sternly warned the insurgents they would be held responsible for any damage to British merchantmen.

How far Britain was prepared to go in such an eventuality was not disclosed despite the bitterly sarcastic question of former Prime Minister David Lloyd George: "What do you propose to do—sue Franco?"

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### TALENT GRANGE H. E. C. GUESTS OF MRS. BELL

TALENT, April 15.—(S.J.)—H. E. C. club of Talent Grange met with Mrs. Tom Bell, April 13. A covered dish luncheon was enjoyed. Members attending included Mesdames Miller, Lemming, Walters, Hartley, Robison, Poland, W. W. Robison, Garle and Boatwick. Visitors included Mrs. Gardner, Mrs. Penland, Mrs. Borg of Phoenix Grange and Mrs. Floyd Bell. Cut work for the overstuffed set went to Mrs. Beathel Mitchell of Washington.

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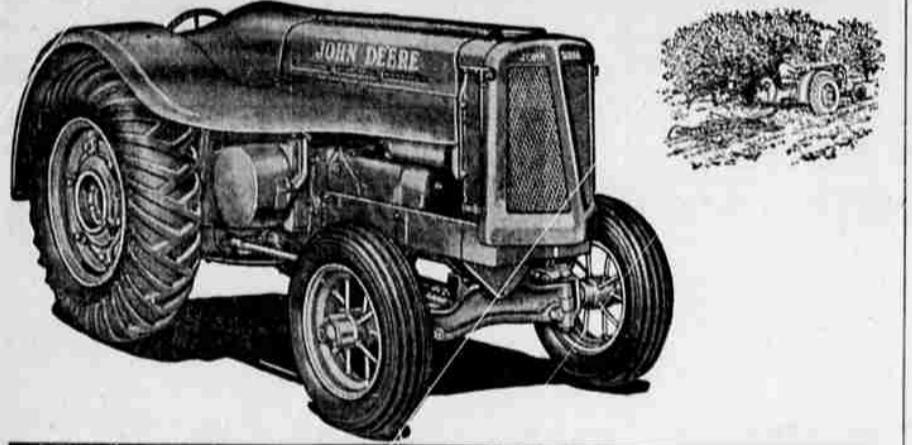
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