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OREGON BREVITIES

SALEM, Jan. 13.—Three events important in the commercial life of Salem will be combined here during the week of January 17-24, according to an agreement reached at the regular noon luncheon of the Business Men's league at the Commercial club rooms here. The week will be devoted to the buy-Oregon-made-products campaign, the sixth annual Marion county corn show and the thrift campaign.

MARSHFIELD, Jan. 13.—General Leonard Wood will have strong support here evidently, for there is already a Wood club in the field, although its officers have not been named, as the organization was just launched today.

SALEM, Jan. 13.—The conduct of rural dance halls in the vicinity of Salem was severely scored in the report of the Marion county grand jury made public Tuesday, the jury declaring the institutions not in the interest of good morals or good citizenship. Evidence presented to the jury is said to have shown that many of the patrons of these halls are young girls, considerably under age, who live in Salem.

PORTLAND, Jan. 13.—Directors of the Portland Chamber of Commerce have gone on record as strongly recommending to the members of the Oregon Legislature that legislation to correct the conditions that are depriving the schools of Oregon of teachers be framed for submission to the voters of the state at the coming primary election.

NORTH BEND, Jan. 13.—The North Bend Mill & Lumber company's mill, which has been closed down for the past two weeks for the purpose of making needed repairs and alterations after a continuous run of more than a year, resumed operation on a double-shift basis.

PRINEVILLE, Jan. 13.—During the heavy snow storm a jack rabbit took refuge in the manual training building at the high school grounds and on the assembling of the first class caused a small sized riot among the students, two of whom were bitten by the jack before he was captured alive.

BAKER, Jan. 13.—Mountains, forests and snow peaks are cutting queer antics around Long Creek valley in Grant county, according to word received in Baker, and residents are puzzled by phenomena never seen there before.

The mountain ranges north and west of Upper Long creek are reported to be assuming curious and startling shapes on clear days, rising at times to great heights, until they resemble huge pillars, then returning to their normal size, or becoming flattened until hardly visible, although but a few miles away.

These astounding apparitions are attributed to atmospheric conditions, and are believed to be mirages, but it is claimed that this is the first time in history that such seeming mirages have been shown in the Upper Long creek valley. Every clear day sees new forms among the mountains and discloses new natural wonders.

PORTLAND, Jan. 13.—Two automobiles and a revolver identified as property alleged to have been stolen from a store in Eugene on January 4, were found in the possession of Benjamin Cowan, who was arrested by Patrolman Woods. The guns were identified by serial numbers.

HOOD RIVER, Jan. 13.—A Hood River Shrine club will be organized and officers elected at a meeting to be called at Masonic hall here January 15, when plans for entertaining visitors to the 46th annual session of the imperial council to be held in Portland next June will be discussed.

HOOD RIVER, Jan. 13.—According to Roy D. Smith, Barrett rancher, a movement has been started here to establish an independent farmers telephone system.

CORVALLIS, Jan. 13.—Don Cupid's branch office in Corvallis did a thriving business during the year 1919, in comparison with that of his chief competitor, the divorce court. Records in the office of the county clerk show that the marriage license total for the year was ten times greater than that for divorce decrees handed down. The licenses numbered 140.

ALBANY, Jan. 13.—Work was started today on repairing bad stretches of the Pacific highway between Albany and Jefferson. When road improvement work stopped last fall it was believed enough gravel had been placed to support winter traffic while new grades would have an opportunity to settle to be in shape for paving next summer.

PENDLETON, Jan. 13.—Pendleton's automobile row was increased Tuesday by the entrance of the Dare Tire & Supply company, which announced plans for establishing an Eastern Oregon distributing station here for Diamond tires. L. A. Dare, formerly vice president of Piper & Taft company, Seattle sporting goods dealers, is to be manager.

MEDFORD, Jan. 13.—With the opening of congress on Monday the following telegram was sent to Senator McNary and signed by 20 Medford citizens:

Medford, Jan. 5.—Hon. Charles L. McNary, United States Senate, Washington, D. C.: Your constituents demand ratification of peace treaty, including league covenant, without material change.

People even of this backwoods country understand that the constitution and laws of the United States cannot be nullified by the action of peace committees, the president or the senate or if all of them combined. They have no fear of the provisions of articles 5 and 19 or any others of the league covenant. As a whole, it seems plain enough to the average person.

If Senator Lodge cannot understand it, procure some juvenile writer to prepare explanations and reservations, but for God's sake ratify the treaty.

PORTLAND, Jan. 13.—A project for port improvement here, running into millions of dollars, was placed before the city council waterfront investigation committee here today by City Engineer O. Laugaar.

The project contemplates the acquisition by the city of all waterfront properties for a distance of several blocks, and their subsequent improvement.

EUGENE, Jan. 13.—Joseph Irvine Barbee, a prosperous farmer living near Eugene, and Miss Eliza Lee Spencer, were married following an interruption of 40 years in their courtship. Both bride and groom are 63 years of age and it was in their early 20's that the courtship began. Then something happened and they parted. Last fall they met again and the courtship started all over

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TEXT OF OLCOTT'S MESSAGE TO SOLONS

To the Members of the Senate and the House of Representatives of the Oregon Legislature:

You have been convened in extraordinary session for the purpose of considering certain subjects which, information at hand, has led the chief executive of the state to believe of sufficient importance to warrant your careful and early consideration. These are abnormal times, and abnormal times are productive of emergencies. It could scarcely have been expected that in your regular session last year human wisdom could have conceived of meeting all possible contingencies during a biennial period fraught with shifting conditions.

To grapple with and overcome the essential emergencies and, as far as possible, to alleviate burdens and solve problems leading to constructive ends, I have exercised the constitutional duty of the executive to "on extraordinary occasions, convene the legislative assembly by proclamation." Following further the constitutional provision, I will state to you here in joint assembly the purposes for which you have been convened.

Workmen's Compensation

My primary object in calling together the legislators at this time is to meet a grave emergency seriously affecting the welfare, and, in many instances, the lives of the men and women employed in the industries of our state.

Compensation benefits provided for injured workmen by the Workmen's Compensation Law were established by the legislature in 1913, when living costs were very materially less than now. If the compensation payments were properly rated at that time, it is self-evident they are wholly inadequate under present conditions.

They are so low that the families of many injured workmen, who are incapacitated for any length of time, are brought to a degree of want that should not prevail when the state has undertaken to provide for its injured workers.

When the legislature was in session a year ago, the prevailing opinion was that the cost of living would soon begin to decrease. For that reason, it was not considered necessary at that time to make a material increase in the compensation benefits. Two changes was made, one increasing the amount to be allowed an injured worker for his children under sixteen years of age from \$6.00 to \$8.00 per month, and the other providing that the awards for permanent partial disability shall be in addition to the amount paid to the injured workman for temporary time loss.

With the cost of bare necessities continuously on the increase, conditions in the homes of injured workmen continue to grow worse, and the number of appeals to the State Industrial Accident Commission from injured workers or their wives for greater assistance grow in number.

When the members of the commission brought the situation to my attention, I decided it would not be just nor fair to these sufferers to wait another year until the regular session of the legislature should meet to give them relief. It is a condition which should be remedied immediately.

As the Workmen's Compensation Law was originally drafted by a committee representing the employers, the employees, and the public, I called for a committee representing these three interests to consider the present situation and make recommendations to this extraordinary session of the legislature.

This committee was comprised of five members selected by the organization representing the employers of the state, five selected by the organization representing the employees of the state, and five selected by myself to represent the public at large.

This committee of fifteen met, and has unanimously recommended that a flat increase of 30 per cent be made on all compensation payments dating back to December 1, 1919. A careful investigation into the funds available to the State Industrial Accident Commission indicates that this increase in compensation benefits may be made without an increase in the rates of contribution to the Industrial Accident Fund by the employers or employees of the state.

The special committee recommends that the increase shall be embodied in an emergency measure, and shall apply to all payments falling due between December 1, 1919, and June 30, 1921.

In addition to an emergency in-

crease in the compensation benefits, this special committee recommends that an act be passed giving authority to the Industrial Accident Commission to expend a portion of these funds for the vocational rehabilitation of injured workmen. It is intended that the commission shall turn its efforts to restoring permanently maimed men and women to positions of self-support where they will again become assets rather than liabilities in their community.

Industry, with its modern machinery and speed of production, is producing more cripples than all the wars that have been fought. As the result of industrial accidents men are losing their arms, or legs, or eyes every week in the year. It is right that these industries, functioning thru the State Industrial Accident Commission, should aid in restoring these cripples to sufficient earning capacity to enable them to be self-supporting citizens and not dependents upon society.

To do this it will be necessary to re-educate many of them, or train them in new lines of endeavor, and while they are gaining this new education or new training, it is necessary for someone to support them and their families.

I am already informed that the commission is obtaining good results in the physical rehabilitation of injured workmen, and that the commission contemplates immediate expansion of its efforts along this line. The commission should be given ample authority and the right to use a sufficient portion of its funds to carry on this work.

I fully endorse the recommendations of the special committee, and believe there will be no hesitation on the part of any member of the legislature in thus meeting a situation which affects so many thousand injured workmen and their families.

Approximately 25,000 industrial accidents, affected by the Workmen's Compensation Law, occur in Oregon each year. Considering the families of these injured workmen, it is estimated that between 50,000 and 75,000 persons will be directly concerned in these proposed measures of relief.

Educational Aid for Soldiers, Sailors and Marines

I desire to direct your attention to an action I deem necessary in connection with carrying out the provisions of the bill enacted by the people at the special election last June extending financial aid for the education of soldiers, sailors and marines who participated in the great war.

Under that bill a levy of two-tenths of a mill on the dollar of the total taxable property of the state is to be included in the state tax levy annually. This levy approximated slightly over \$198,000.00 for the first year. That amount is far below the sum which will be required to carry out the provisions of the act. In fact, it has developed on the basis of an estimate made in the secretary of state's office, that the sum raised by the two-tenths of a mill levy will just about pay the bills to the first of January this year with no actual funds left available to carry out the administration of the act during the balance of 1920.

As you will remember, the bill provides for the payment of \$25.00 a month toward the education of each of these men, but not to exceed a total of \$200.00 in any one year for any one man. This provides for aid during but eight months of the year. Consequently we must make provision for eight months of the year in 1920.

State Guarantee of Irrigation Bond Interest

Article XI-b of the constitution was adopted at the special election held on June 4, 1919, and provides for the payment by the state of interest on irrigation and drainage district bonds for any one or more of the first five years after their issuance. The Irrigation Securities Commission, composed of the attorney general, superintendent of banks, and the state engineer have encountered many obstacles in the operation of the provisions of the amendment, and while a number of changes could be made to advantage, it being a constitutional amendment, it cannot be changed by statute. However, it can be supplemented by legislation to advantage.

Capital Punishment

Since the adjournment of the regular session in 1919 a wave of crime has swept over the country. Oregon has suffered from this criminal blight and during the past few months the commission of a number of cold blooded and fiendish homicides has aroused our people to a demand for greater and more certain protection. Of all our assets that demand protection and conservation, none is greater in value than human

life. The first object of our laws should be for its protection and for that reason I am submitting to you at this time some recommendations relative to our criminal and penal codes which I trust will have your most careful consideration.

Because of a series of dastardly homicidal offenses a distinct public sentiment has developed that the people of the state should once more be given an opportunity to pass upon the question of the restoration of capital punishment and that there should be no unnecessary delay in bringing this question before the electorate.

Because of this urgency I am taking the liberty of suggesting that the matter of repealing the present constitutional inhibition on capital punishment and enacting such amendments to our organic law in that regard as may be deemed proper, be submitted to a vote of all of the people of the state at a special election to be held in connection with the regular primary elections on Friday, May 21, of this year.

At my request the attorney general has examined into the legality of holding such special election on primary day. He advises me, that after a thorough examination of the law, he is satisfied such an election may be held without fear of jeopardizing the validity of such constitutional amendments or statutes as may be enacted at that time. He advises further, however, that to legalize such an election would require a special legislative act.

The attorney general has called attention to the fact that following the abolition of capital punishment by the enactment of a constitutional amendment to that effect, the legislature repealed a number of statutes which provided for the carrying out of the death penalty for commission of certain crimes.

As a result, he points out, to merely deal with the constitutional phases of the question would not again place capital punishment in actual operation. To meet the situation he has suggested that the legislature, at this session, re-enact those old statutes or replace them with others. By the legislature pursuing this course, whatever statutes might be enacted would become effective at such time as the people remove the constitutional inhibition against the death penalty.

While it is a matter solely for legislative determination, I would be opposed to the calling of a special election to be held upon any other day than primary election day. To hold such an election upon any other day would entail an expense of approximately \$100,000.00 or possibly more. Hold upon primary day the election machinery used for the primary elections could be set under way for the special election and the expense to the state would be nominal at the most.

Criminal Legislation

While touching upon the question of capital punishment I feel it incumbent upon me to further mention some phases of criminal legislation which I deem of such urgency as to warrant your serious thought. These recommendations also deal with the safety of the lives of our citizens and consequently are of paramount importance.

By watching the operation of the parole law of 1919 with a careful first hand survey I am satisfied that its provisions are such, in many particulars, as to have a tendency toward placing the lives and persons of our citizens in jeopardy.

I wish to respectfully recommend that your body so amend the parole law that its operation will be suspended and that it cease to function entirely as to all persons convicted of commission of the greater crimes against the person. In my opinion the law should be so amended that flat sentences be imposed in cases where conviction has been had on charges of homicide in any degree; rape, where violence is an element of the crime; robbery of any kind; burglary, when armed with a dangerous weapon. There can be no palliation of such offenses, and I would have the word go forth that Oregon will in the future meet such offenses with a flat penalty that will be carried out to the end. The only mitigation I would suggest would be to allow the deduction from the total sentence of a reasonable number of days for good conduct, but this deduction should be nominal and not such a deduction as to make any decidedly appreciable reduction in the sentence.

For all classes of crime other than those enumerated, I would still leave the functioning of the parole law, but with such amendment as I am about to suggest.

Ratification of Suffrage Amendment

It will be my pleasure to have for-

warded to your honorable body for ratification the resolution of the Congress of the United States of America providing for an amendment to our federal constitution which will extend to the women of our nation the right of suffrage. This is a matter which I recommend to your early attention and I am certain you will not deem it presumptuous if I express the hope that you give your unanimous approval to the ratification of this amendment.

Fish and Game Legislation

Because of the relative value of Oregon's fish and game life in all that the state is endeavoring to accomplish in the attracting of tourists; in the move to make life better for our own citizens, and in light of the fact that it involves one of our greatest and most productive industries I feel that it devolves upon me to present at this special session of the legislature some pertinent recommendation in regard to the fish and game situation.

It is too well known a fact to need corroborative evidence from me that dissension and factionalism over the administration of this important branch of state government has resulted in robbing it of its highest degree of efficiency and materially impairing development and conservation work. I assume that all who have expressed conflicting opinions as to the situation have done so with honesty of purpose and the best of intent. Regardless of this, dissension has been evident, the people of the state have developed distrust, and a condition has grown up which demands a speedy and effective change.

In prefacing my proposals as to what I deem the most expedient and essential changes I wish to say frankly that my familiarity with the situation and with the temper of the people in all parts of the state convinces me beyond the shadow of a doubt that unless some material and beneficial changes are made the life of one of our greatest industries—the salmon industry—may be placed in jeopardy. In addition the conservation of our wild game birds and fish may also suffer and their propagation may decline.

I have no intention or desire to enter into the merits of the various controversies which have shaken the fish and game administration. Regardless of what the merits of these controversies may be, the fact remains that bickerings and wranglings have developed a hopeless situation which must be met by a new deal if we are to attain what we all desire—highest efficiency and the best results. Doubt and distrust have existed. We must recognize this fact, and that as long as such continue we will have a condition not conducive to the best welfare of the interests involved, or of the state as a whole.

To meet the situation openly and frankly, to forget old trials and tribulations may be difficult to do, but I deem it our duty in the premises to do so. For that reason I have formulated certain suggestions which I trust you will weigh carefully and consider advisedly. If my suggestions may be improved upon, if a better plan can be devised to bring about the same results, I will welcome that solution with the same sort of an open mind which I am asking all interested to have when they approach this situation for final determination.

Briefly I propose the following recommendations for your consideration:

Creation of a new commission of three members to have complete control and jurisdiction over the enforcement of all laws, over the expenditure of all money and over such other matters as may pertain to the state's administration of the commercial fishing interests of the state.

Creation of a new commission of five members to have complete control and jurisdiction over the enforcement of all laws, over the expenditure of all money and such other matters as may pertain to the state's administration of the wild game and fish life of the state.

For your information, I will advise that a week ago I called together in Salem members of the fisheries and game committees of both the house and senate to discuss various phases of the fish and game controversy and if possible to formulate a bill for presentation to this session.

As a result of that meeting such a bill, I understand, will be presented to you, providing, in a general way, for one commission with two separate divisions within the commission, to have control over the commercial and sportmen's interests, respectively. With an additional member

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GRIT, BONE, MEAT SCRAPS, EGG MASH FOR CHICKENS Murphey's Feed & Seed Store 126 South Sixth St. Phone 87