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Marion County Veterans Meet At Woodburn

One of the largest attended and most enjoyable meetings of the Marion County Veterans' association was held at the armory in this city last Thursday, large delegations coming from Salem and Silverton to enjoy the day with the Woodburn veterans. Among those invited to be present were veterans of the Spanish-American and the late great war.

At noon came the great spread of good things with the members of the Woman's Relief Corps waiting on the four tables, which were more than twice filled with those having whetted appetites, one table being set aside for and occupied by veterans of the Spanish-American war and those who have recently been released from the service. It would be impossible to itemize all of the many dishes set before the hungry and pleased assemblage and all relished the great treat.

In the afternoon a fine program was given in the auditorium of the armory, beginning with the invocation by Rev C. L. Dark the "Star Spangled Banner," sung by all, after which Mayor Jas. J. aHli welcomed the veterans in a very appropriate address. There was also a song by Miss Myrtle Wageman, an address by Gilbert Cole on his experiences in the radio service and ship hospital, instrumental music by Miss Nell Gibbons, address by Sergt. Bert Bird who has recently returned from the battlefields of France, vocal selections by Miss Maude Turlay, and remarks by Comrades Woodson and Lyle.

Gilbert Cole told some of his experiences on the water while in the service, on the battleship Louisiana, the trip through the Panama Canal, to Brest, France, and other ports, some of the narration being quite interesting and some of an exciting character.

Sergt. Bert Bird, who was a member of Company M 23d Inf. in which were also Bert Broyles of Woodburn, Joseph DeJardin of Gervais and two from Silverton, held the close and interested attention of the audience as for three quarters of an hour he recounted some of his experiences. He, with the other four boys, were the first to break away from Company I. He had been in the company for twelve years and wished to see some active service, not wishing to put in time training others while in France. He gave an account of his trip and the battles he was in from the time he left the United States. He was in the trenches and over the top, and five days after the big counter offensive began he was wounded in the hand by a piece of shell. He had it bandaged and went on. The next day he was hit in the heel by a bullet fired from a machine gun in a German airplane. During the fighting he had many narrow escapes from death. One time when he went over the top he began sneezing and thought it was on account of the sneezing gas used by the Germans. After he was wounded in the heel he was taken to a hospital and was there for months before he could walk. The narrative was intensely interesting. The 23d infantry was composed of the hardest American fighters at the front.—Independent.

FINANCIAL CONDITIONS ARE SHOWING IMPROVEMENTS

Henry Clews Says That Best News From Paris Not Featured

New York, April 5, 1919

In spite of confusion financial conditions have shown some improvement during the past week. The coming of spring invariably has a stimulating effect upon business, and this may conduce to optimism; but such an influence is strictly limited, and the present undertone of confidence is based upon something more tangible than the mere shifting of seasons. The doings at Paris must be classed as one of the most important factors. True, surface news has not been developed favorably, and vexatious delays are occurring with a persistency that incites considerable irritation. Much of the information given to the press, however, is apparently superficial, and dwells chiefly upon what is abnormal and threatening often omitting what is really assured. Public opinion the world over is becoming impatient at delay, and those in charge of negotiations are not blind to these protests, for both the peace treaty and the league of nations are probably nearer accomplishment than is generally supposed. When some of the present hitches are removed ,agreements will be reached more rapidly. Of course, the all important object is peace; a peace confirmed by mutual acceptance of terms. This is more pressing than the league of nations. Then the unhappy peoples of Europe can return to work, partially forget their sorrows and hasten the return to normal conditions. The sooner commerce and industry are allowed to resume their natural channels, the better for the whole world. That is the only cure for bolshevism, as well as the many other isms that are upsetting nation after nation. Force may be necessary in some instances to restore order; but the chief needs of humanity are an increased production and a better distribution of food, clothing, shelter and communication, all of which have been largely destroyed or deranged by war.

From now on the victory loan will loom larger and larger in national affairs. There is no doubt that the loan will be a success will prove a good short term investment, yielding an attractive return to the buyer. It should exert little if any effect upon the money market, as nearly $5,000,000,000 of treasury certificates have already been sold which can be turned in for the new bonds. To that extent the new bond issue has been largely discounted; but the more these bonds are taken up by the public the less will be the burden upon the banks whose resources will then be correspondingly free to take care of regular business requirements. It is of the utmost importance that these bonds be as widely distributed as possible, not merely as a matter of public policy, but also as a matter of aiding the restoration of business to more normal conditions. The most significant feature of the money market was the prompt oversubscription for the $300,000,000 war finance corporation bonds. These were issued on a 5 per cent basis, and show what might be expected if the forthcoming victory loan was also placed upon business terms. There is evidently a large amount of capital awaiting investment providing the terms are satisfactory. It is to be hoped the administration at Washington will disregard political considerations, and make the rate upon the new loan sufficiently liberal to insure its success. Other nations have met market conditions in such transactions, and a similar policy should be followed for prudential reasons by the United States.

General trade is fairly active, and the readjustment to peace conditions goes steadily on. There are still many uncertainties to be faced, particularly adjustments in prices and in the relations with labor. The conflicting forces are very strong. The entire public is interested in a lower cost of living, which can be accomplished only by lower prices. But lower prices cannot be accomplished under rising wages and shorter hours. Producers are frequently cutting prices at first hand, particularly in the textile and metals industries. Retailers, however, are generally unwilling to make corresponding reductions. Some effort has been made by the government to bring about an adjustment by government price stabilizing, notably in the case of steel products, which have already fallen 10 to 14 per cent. overnment efforts in regulating prices, however, proved a disappointment, Director General Hines, of the railroad administration, refusing to accept the figures named by the industrial board. Producers were naturally displeased at this failure to maintain values and secure more settled conditions, while consumers, on the other hand, were looking forward to the purchase of necessary materials at more reasonable figures. These conflicts of opinion must be expected for some time to come. They are likely to become more acute rather than less, and the uncertainty resulting will have to be philosophically accepted as a part of the readjustment process. There remains a feeling of uneasiness regarding the unreasonable demands of labor, which every intelligent person understands will tend to increase the already excessively high cost of living, that in turn must fall heaviest upon labor itself by reducing employment.

Transactions on the stock exchange were ordinary in volume and fluctuations somewhat erratic. Some of the industrials showed continued strength, while others declined under considerable realising, the action of the government on price fixing being an important factor; although there was a disposition to take profits on the recent rise. Railroads were somewhat neglected, the advance therein being checked by unfavorable reports of February earnings and the fact that the government has not arranged for their financial requirements beyond the month of April. The most conspicuous element of support to the market was the confidence in business circles and the partial revival of the spirit of enterprise. The latter was strikingly illustrated by the output of new charters in March, the total for that month in the principal states amounting to $370,000,000, compared with $197,000,000 a year ago, when the figures were at a low level owing to the war. The largest amount of new enterprises was in the development of oil, shipping and chemical concerns. The amount of new financing in March totaled $153,000,000, as against $75,000,000 last year. About one third of this total was for the railroads; bonds and notes predominating; while the remaining two thirds were for industrials, of which the major portion was stocks. Foreign exchange is still unsettled, though less so than a week ago. The latest feature was a sharp advance in sterling, due to rumors that the British government was supporting the market. Our foreign trade appears to have entered a new period. With the return of exchange to more normal conditions, our exports may be unfavorably affected for a brief period at least, since both Britain and France are likely to confine their purchases to absolute necessities, particularly food. On the other hand as industry is resumed in those particular countries, our imports from thence will tend to grow, the result being a tendency toward more normal conditions than existed during the war. For some time to come the trade balance will run heavily in favor of this country, though the extremes witnessed during the war period promise to be moderated.

—HENRY CLEWS.

TWENTY MILES ADDED TO HIGHWAY PROGRAM

Voters To Ballot On Paving 150 Miles In County. Instead of 130.

To the 130 miles already planned as the hard surfaced roads for Marion county, to be voted on at the special election June 3, the road location committee, at its session today at the Commercial club added 20 miles.

This will make a total of 150 miles as part of the Marion county program of good roads and the period of construction was extended to include seven years.

When the road program was presented to the county court today, it was pointed out by Judge Bushey and commissioners that the roads had not entirely been selected with reference to the taxable property of the county. Also that the road program would need to be revised before it should be submitted to the people.

Acting on the suggestion of the county court, the committee added 20 miles to the plans as already submitted. The location of this 20 miles is as follows: Stayton to Mehama, 7 miles; Stayton to West Stayton, 3 miles; Sidney to the Pacific highway, 3 miles; Salem to Pratum, 4 miles; Salem to Waconda, 1 mile, and St. Louis to Gervais, 2 miles.

Mehama presented a pettition to the road location committee signed by 250, asking for the additional mileage. Even without the road as first planned, Mehama was in for good roads with 150 names to the pettition.

The petition to the county court asking that the good roads bonds proposition be put on the ballot June 3, has received 1758 signatures and it is understood that about 500 more are to be turned in by mail, as those panning several petitions did not attend the session today. As already about 300 more than the necessary legal number have signed the petition, it was officially presented to the county court today. This is the first step in the good roads program for Marion county.

With the addition of the 20 miles to the program, it is thought that every part of the county has received due consideration in proportion to taxable property and that at the coming special election, the good roads program will go through with but little opposition.

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SPOKANE MEETINGS WELL WORTH WHILE TEACHERS' OPINION

Local Instructors Gain Much From Sessions Of Inland Empire Associaton.

In the opinion of the Salem representatives at the meeting of the Inland Empire Teachers association at Spokane they have enjoyed one of the greatest educational privileges that this country and this era can present. It was not so great in numbers as many other great conventions, but in its potentialities—its impetus toward efficiency and high ideals—it is without a peer on the Pacific coast.

The trio of delegates from the Salem schools—Supt. Todd, Miss Cosper and Miss Sterling—found themselves in the midst of a galaxy of educational stars and a program of events that covered every possible phase of modern school work.

Salem in Limelight.

Supt. Todd, while having no specific place on the program, took a lively part in discussions, with special attention to the work and problems of school superintendents. He found that the Salem school had acquired more or less notoriety by its experiments in vocational training and its system of organization and he was called upon to answer numerous inquiries as to methods and results. In the course of conversations and informal discussions he gathered that Salem was in position to give "pointers" to many of the schools of the northwest in these respects. It might not be saying too much to state that our city schools are second to none in the matter of progressiveness.

Miss Sterling devoted herself very closely to the English work which was ably directed in the Inland Empire council of English teachers. Miss Cosper gave special attention to the discussions along the line of superintendent's methods and problems—one of the most prolific and valuable departments of the program.

Banquet Big Feature.

One of the bright features of the convention, aside from the regular routine, was the banquet and reception to delegates held in Davenport's hall of Doges—a brilliant affair which was not only attended by Supt. Todd but in which he was invited to contribute vocal solos.

Among other notables present, Mr. Todd met Colonel S. A. Howard and had a brief conference with him in regard to the establishment of military training in the high school. On being informed by Mr. Todd that he had been authorized to secure the proffered equipment from the government, Col. Howard assured him that it was the purpose of the authorities to furnish the schools the very best military instructors obtainable for this work.

Federal Act Explained.

Because of the fact that the Salem high school had been alligned with the Smith-Hughes act in the establishment of vocational work, the Salem delegates were keenly interested in the presentation of the subject by such men as Arthur Holder, labor representative on the federal board of vocational training, who said in course of his address: "The Smith-Hughes act is one of the most progressive pieces of legislation ever enacted. It leaves to each locality the power to work out its own salvation. In other words, the educators of one locality can teach to the youth of that locality the vocations that are fitted to the place."

Dr. Geo. D. Strayer, of Columbia University, was another strong speaker on this subject, and he also spoke with a force that carried conviction on the bill to establish an educational department in the federal government, which carries with it an appropriation for $100,000,000. Mr. Todd states that the sentiment of the convention seemed to be strongly in favor of the measure and a resolution of endorsement carried strongly. In the course of a most effective address on the subject "Educating for Citizenship in a Democratic Society," Mr. Strayer said:

Teacher Must Be Leader.

"During the period of education two main principles should be kept before the minds of the pupils. First, the idea that this will enable them to earn a living, and second, that it will help them to understand the government, institutions and ideals of our country to the end that they may work together for the common good.

"For men and women of the communities the schools must be developed as a common center. The school house must provide for intelligent discussion of social problems in some measure comparable to the old town meetings in which American democracy was first developed.

"When we seriously think of training citizens for a democratic society we shall modify our method of instruction, even in the lower school rooms. We must teach less of autocracy and more of democracy in the class room.

"The teacher must be a leader of a social group instead of a czar whose commands are to be feared and whose approval is to be sought. The war gave us important educational programs from the standpoint of training for education in democracy."

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Military Company For Woodburn

Adjutant General John L. May was here last Thursday consulting with Captain Grover Todd and caling upon Col. J. M. Poorman. It is the general's desire that Woodburn have representation in the Oregon National Guard and continue to hold up its good name in having a military company here that will be an honor to Woodburn and the whole state. Many of the old Company I boys are willing to enter into the spirit of the movement and help form a company at this point provided their old commander, Captain Todd, will take hold.—Independent.

HAWLEY AT DALLAS

W. V. Fuller, county fire warden, has received word from Hon. W. C. Hawley, representative in congress from this district, that he expects to visit Dallas soon for the purpose of making a personal inspection of the timber land of the O. & C. grant at the heads of Canyon and Applegate creeks, which the city of Dalas desires to have included in the Siuslaw forest reserve for the protection of the city's water supply. Mr. Hawley had a bill introduced in congress during the last session for this purpose, but it was indefinitely postponed upon objection of a member from Illinois. He intends to bring up the mater again at the next session and hopes from personal knowledge to be able to explain away the objections of the member from the sucker state. When Mr. Hawley arrives here Mr. Fuller will drive him up to the intake of the city's water supply and some distance beyond.—Dallas Itemizer.

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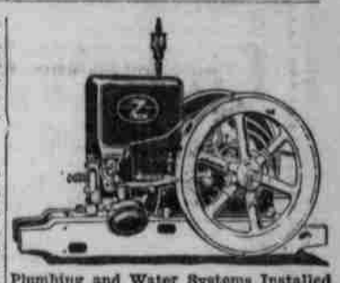

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