

## KNOX AND HARDING APPEAR AT ODDS

### League Challenge by Irreconcilable Scented.

## TWO-HOUR CONFERENCE HELD

### Sullivan Draws Conclusions as to What Happened.

## ONLY LITTLE IS LET OUT

### Senator Opposing Pact of Any Kind Says He Outlined Position to President-Elect.

BY MARK SULLIVAN.

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MAHON, O., Dec. 30.—Senator Knox, of the irreconcilables, came here today and in the judgment of all the more mature observers who watched the episode, either took the presidential camp, or else threw a challenge into Harding's teeth.  
My own judgment is that the latter is what happened and that a thorough-going cleavage is now on between Harding and the irreconcilable senators, between those friends of the league who have been to Marion recently and who thought that Harding would build his new association on a part of the present league, and on the other hand those irreconcilables who insist that the present league must be scrapped, killed, buried, and kept buried.

## Picking Together Needed.

Not all the episode is on the public record, and parts of the narrative must be pieced out by deduction. Knox made it clear that he had come in response to a telegraphic invitation. My guess, in the light of other events, is that the invitation was sent by Harding because he had heard that there was incipient rebellion among the irreconcilable senators and he hoped to smooth it out.

Apparently, the news had come to Marion that the irreconcilable senators were muttering about Harding repeatedly consulting with such friends of the league as Taft, Hoover, Bryan, Straus and others. There is evidence that Harding's first reaction to this discontent was to send the trusted Harry Daugherty to Washington to pour vicarious oil on the waters.

## Knox Called After Failure.

That failed and then followed the invitation to Knox to come to Marion. Knox came. He arrived before breakfast. He took breakfast with Harding and several others. Then Knox and Harding went into Harding's office and closed the door. Nearly an hour later Knox left Harding's office and stepped briskly down to the house where all of the newspaper men were. This was nothing unusual.

All the "best minds" after they have had their conferences with Harding come down to talk to the newspaper men.  
This is the routine. But there was all the difference in the world between the manner with which Knox came and the way in which the recent "best minds" have come trailing in a train of indignation and peace to their late contact with Harding, and there was all the difference in the world between the innocuous words of harmony that the best minds have been giving out and that distinctly "here I stand" manner and words of Knox.

## 10 COUPLES WED IN DAY

### 17 Licenses Needed at Vancouver to Equal Last Year's Record.

VANCOUVER, Wash., Dec. 30.—(Special.)—Ten couples were married here today, reducing to 17 the number yet needed to equal last year's record. The day before New Year's is always a big day at the marriage license bureau, and hopes are held that at least 17 couples will be married tomorrow. This is a fair day's number to be married here, but nothing unusual.  
Arrangements already have been made by some couples to secure licenses tomorrow.

## TARIFF ADDITIONS URGED

### Senator McNary Would Protect Several Pickled Products.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 30.—Amendments proposing to add pickled cherries, walnuts and filberts to the list of agricultural commodities on which higher duties would be imposed to the pending emergency tariff measure were introduced in the senate today.  
Senator McNary, republican, Oregon, presented the proposed amendments.

## GOLD MINERS IN DISTRESS

### Yellow Metal Costs More Than It's Worth, Producers Say.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 30.—Gold producers alone have not profited by increased prices. Representative Raker (democrat, California) told the house today, urging his bill to increase the price of gold \$10 an ounce. He said hundreds of mines were closed, as the metal cost more to mine than it could be sold for.

## "PILLAR OF FIRE'S" FOUNDER DENOUNCED

### OFFICERS OF RELIGIOUS BODY SUED FOR \$100,000.

### Allegation of Wife's Affection, Fraud, Deceit Charged by Former Member of Organization.

DENVER, Dec. 30.—That the "Pillar of Fire," a religious organization of nationwide scope, of which Alma White of Bound Brook, N. J., is founder, had alienated the affections of his wife and defrauded him of his property, was the declaration of Rev. Thomas A. Goode, a former member of the organization, who today filed suit for \$100,000 damages.

Goode names Alma White, L. F. Wolfgang, pastor of the local branch, the Pentecostal union and others as defendants.

He charges that Alma White, through fraud and deceit, has amassed a fortune of \$1,000,000.

That she requires all of her followers to turn over to her all of their money and property.  
That she maintains a hypnotic influence over the members of the organization.  
That she prevents her followers from leaving the organization by telling them they will go to hell if they desert her.

## CHAMBERLAIN IS BETTER

### Final Operation Is Expected to Be Undergone Today.

THE OREGONIAN NEWS BUREAU.  
WASHINGTON, Dec. 30.—It is expected that Senator Chamberlain will undergo a final operation for prostatic trouble tomorrow morning. At the emergency hospital here, his temperature which has given his physician and attendants much worry for several days, having returned to normal tonight.

His condition has not been at all satisfactory in the last few days, his attendants said, but there was reflected at the hospital a spirit of optimism as to the outcome of tomorrow's operation.

Telegrams have been reaching the senator from leading men in all parts of the country, expressing their sympathy and good wishes and the compliments of the season. Among these telegrams was one from Calvin Coolidge, governor of Massachusetts and vice-president-elect of the United States, saying: "I wish you a speedy recovery and a very happy New Year."

## STAGG MAY BE CHAPLAIN

### Kidnaper Arrives at Prison to Begin Long Sentence.

WALLA WALLA, Wash., Dec. 30.—George T. Stagg, sentenced to 10 to 15 years in the penitentiary for kidnaping his son, arrived at the penitentiary this afternoon from Tacoma. Stagg may be named assistant chaplain of the institution.  
"A newspaper man ought to make good at that job," said the warden. "We might also start a reform paper of our own here on the hill," he added.

TAKIMA, Wash., Dec. 30.—George Stagg who left this morning for Walla Walla, with other prisoners, after spending the night in the Yakima county jail, stated that "it is pretty tough to have to lose Bobby, after all, and then to have 10 years taken from my freedom. I did not know the full extent of the law in such cases." He declared that he hoped to devote much of his time in prison to writing.

## SUM SHIP BOARD ASKS TO FEEL AX

### House Committee Head Says 'Not a Single Cent.'

### Chairman Good Asserts Congress Will Take Care of Disabled Veterans of World War.

## CLOSE UP SHOP, IS DECREE

### People's Money Is Wasted by Incompetents, Charged.

## SALVAGING PLANTS URGED

### Chairman Good Asserts Congress Will Take Care of Disabled Veterans of World War.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 30.—In opening house debate on the sundry bill appropriation bill, Chairman Good of the appropriations committee today served notice that if he could prevent it "not a single penny" would be appropriated for the shipping board. He added that his committee felt "that it had to get behind the shipping board and compel it to sell its plant and equipment."

House leaders took up the big appropriation bill with the avowed purpose of disposing of it as soon as possible to make way for other important supply measures. The bill contains more than 1000 items and calls for an aggregate appropriation of \$383,611,232. General debate on the emergency hospital here, his temperature which has given his physician and attendants much worry for several days, having returned to normal tonight.

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## MORE RETAIL PRICE CUTS ARE FORECAST

### DEALERS DECLARED SLOW IN MAKING REDUCTIONS.

### Credit Men's Executive Secretary Urges Wise Buying to Keep All Industries Going.

NEW YORK, Dec. 30.—Reductions in retail prices after next week were predicted today by J. H. Tregoe, executive secretary of the National Association of Credit Men, in his January letter to the members of the organization throughout the United States.

Declaring the retailers have not followed the lead of manufacturers and wholesalers in cutting prices, he said retail merchants would have been better off had they taken their losses and distributed commodities to consumers while their purchasing power was still strong. Many, he explained, waited for the holiday trade before making reductions.

He urged consideration of the problem of preventing unemployment, which he termed "the serious thing of the moment."

"We urge wise and reasonable buying upon the part of all," he said. "This alone will keep industries moving and prevent idleness."

SEATTLE, Wash., Dec. 30.—(Special.)—Twenty sheepmen, who have been making a quiet investigation of the cost of woolen clothing, with the assistance of the extension service of Washington State college, will appear at the annual convention of the Washington Wool Growers' association in Spokane the second week in January, garbed from head to foot in Washington-made wools, to demonstrate that all-wool clothing is not necessarily expensive clothing.

The publicity stunt was told of by Dr. S. B. Nelson, director of the extension service, who arrived in Seattle today.

"Each of the 20 sheepmen bought raw wool, had it scoured, carded, spun and woven at the woolen mill at Washougal and then took the cloth to his own tailor to be made up," said Dr. Nelson. "The convention will hear what each suit cost and the data reported will be published for the benefit of wool consumers."

"I myself was honored with an invitation to form one of the experimenting committee, and my made-in-Washington suit is now waiting for me in a Spokane tailor shop."

## SPEED, NOT SAFETY, AIM

### Special Mail Delivery Hereafter Requires No Receipt.

BOSTON, Dec. 30.—Special mail delivery hereafter will not require receipt, the postmaster-general notified the postmaster here today. Such mail will be delivered to the addressee or to the person authorized to receive it and if delivery cannot be made to persons it will be placed in mail boxes and a notice left under the door.

The announcement said the change was in keeping with a plan to use the special delivery system solely for expediting mail matter and not for safeguarding it, a function cared for by the registry system.

## MINERS DESPERATE; WILSON UNPERTURBED

### APPEALS TO WHITE HOUSE FRUITLESS AS EVER.

### Lawmakers Vainly Endeavor to Get Action on Extension of Assessment Work Bill.

THE OREGONIAN NEWS BUREAU.  
WASHINGTON, Dec. 30.—Western senators and members of the house continued today to appeal to the White House for information as to the president's intentions regarding the bit extending for six months the time for doing 1920 assessment work on mining claims. Only one personal call was made at the White House, however, this plan of attack having been discouraged by the meager results obtained last night by Senator Ashurst of Arizona in his several hours' siege of the Wilson family domicile.

Senator Henderson of Nevada was brave enough to try and get into the White House today, but got no further than Secretary Tumulty, who gave assurances that he would do his best to get the matter before the president.

Other calls at the White House by western senators and representatives were made by telephone, and their inquiries were met with such indifference as to increase apprehension.

All day long messenger boys pined between the telegraph offices and the senate and house office buildings, carrying telegrams from frantic constituents back in the western mining states.

Some of these telegrams said that claim-jumpers were camped like buzzards in the vicinity of certain promising claims, and that if the president slipped the present claimants were in danger of losing their only title to anything worth while. Such telegrams created a sense of desperation among western representatives, who became more exasperated when they could awaken no more sense of the seriousness of the situation than appeared to have been aroused by the Ashurst onslaught and their frenzied telephone appeals to the executive mansion.

The slowness of the president to respond and the absolute denial of an audience to anyone seeking information were attributed by most western representatives to failure of the president to realize the importance of a matter which seemed to him to be so far away and also to that indifference which so often characterizes the mental attitude of the hired man who knows he is soon to be separated from the payroll.

John Barton Payne, secretary of the interior, is to return to Washington tomorrow, whereupon he will hear from the big men on Capitol hill who have tried in vain for three days to obtain some satisfactory answer from the president.

## RUSSIA EX-MINISTER SHOT

### M. Perevezoff Reported Victim of Reds at Sebastopol.

COPENHAGEN, Dec. 30.—M. Perevezoff, Russian ex-minister of justice in Prince Lvov's cabinet in 1917 was reported today to have been shot by bolsheviks at Sebastopol.

## NOISY NEW YEAR'S WELCOME BARRED

### Drastic Regulations Cast Pall Over Joyousness.

## FESTAL SPIRIT IS EXCLUDED

### Horns, Bells and Other Such Devices Forbidden.

## CONFETTI IS TABOO, TOO

### Police Order Seals Portland in Glad Hours of Early Morning. Serpentine Is Omitted.

Decorum, not to say solemnity, will characterize Portland's welcome to the glad new year, when that son of the centuries comes tumbling into the world at a split second after midnight. The festive spirit of other seasons will be chastened and subdued and carnival will not claim the city streets. It is as though the city sirens, through the long arm of the law, would enforce due sorrow for the passing old year, tottering into oblivion.

At least such was the view of Acting Chief of Police Clark, who issued yesterday, in accordance with the request of the council, the most drastic set of new year's regulations that ever cast a pall over that joyous occasion. Instructions which will be vigorously enforced by the police are to the following effect:

## Horns and Bells Barred.

That neither horns nor bells, nor any other noise-making device, shall shatter peaceful midnight with a pean of praise to the infant year.

That all folk, young and old, shall refrain their enthusiasm for door-to-door "dusters" to tickle friends or chance-met strangers, and shall otherwise proceed as to meeting.

That fireworks, explosives and confetti shall not contribute to the event, under penalty of arrest.

That all dealers are warned to beware the sale of the prohibited carnival wares, and to seek the furtive nickle and the elusive dime in other ways.

## Some Latitude Allowed.

The gist of the police order, which seals the city in the glad hours of early morning, is to this effect: "The young element will be allowed a certain amount of latitude in their merrymaking, but any unnecessary boisterousness or rowdiness must be promptly suppressed. The common council by resolution has prohibited the use of any noise-making device, such as horns, whistles, bells, etc., which must be strictly enforced. There must be no discharge of firearms or explosives, the throwing of confetti, or the use of 'dusters' to tickle anyone for violating any of the above mentioned regulations, or for any disorderly act."

If there is a single glimmer of cheer for the new year revelers, through the cloud of official gloom, it is the bitter absence of any mention of serpentine—the tenuous color of paper ribbons that stretch from here to there at a single cast and lightly enmesh a dozen pedestrians.

Serpentine Not Mentioned.  
"How about serpentine?" was the question put to Senior Captain Moore. "Serpentine," quoth the captain, rolling his eyes sadly, "seems to be in vogue for this occasion. Yes, sir, the council missed mentioning serpentine. I take it that it may be thrown. But the lad that picks it up from the street and tries another throw will jump into jail almost immediately. He will, indeed."

Just what the street throngs will find to amuse themselves, what artifices they will employ to gladden a somewhat hampered situation, is a perplexing problem to the police bureau. Its veterans are confident, recalling their happy New Years, that only a deluge of water will sweep the streets when the hour strikes. Likewise they are wedded to the belief that merriment will be to the fore. And they have orders to restrain such merriment as passes a vague and discretionary limitation. So reasoning, the police are preparing for any eventuality.

## Traffic Men to Report Early.

Captain Lewis and the uniformed Brummels of the traffic squad have been ordered to report for duty early tonight. Members of the day relief will rally round Captain Moore and proceed to overtime duty. The downtown district, Captain Inskip and the first night relief will hold the beats until midnight, afterward relieving Captain Moore's detachment.

In other words, putting it plainly for the uninitiated, the entire Portland police force will be assigned to the rubick of "unnecessary boisterousness or rowdiness." From almost any angle the imminent situation is cheerless.

## Fisgon Also in Dend Past.

Perhaps the downtown hotels may afford merry sanctuary to New Year's celebrants, but such accommodations are limited, and though the fortunate few have long since reserved tables for the midnight spread, what time the young year comes yawning, the larger proportion of Portland's festive populace will stand

## BOND HOUSE HEADS FACE MORE CHARGES

### FEDERAL ATTORNEY HINTS OTHERS MAY BE HIT.

### Fred S. Morris Can Be Held Criminally Liable for Crash, Opinion of Prosecutor.

## RECEIVER WHITCOMB'S WARNING TO CREDITORS.

When Temporary Receiver Whitcomb was notified last night by some of the creditors of Morris Bros. Inc., that "whisters" were said to be buying up interim certificates for 20 cents on the dollar, he made the following statement:

"It is not within my province, of course, to tell any creditor what he or she may do in this regard, but it would be, I should say, a tragedy for anyone to sell his certificates for anything like that. There is good reason to believe, I am sure, that eventually creditors will receive much more than that—possibly 100 cents on the dollar—and I hope no one will throw away his money like that. I advise everyone to retain his certificates and await the action of the federal court."

United States District Attorney Humphreys is in possession of a complete set of confidential advertising bulletins sent by the thousands to "prospects" of Morris Bros. Inc., through the mails to all portions of the Pacific coast, and there may be additional prosecution of John L. Etheridge and Fred S. Morris, perhaps others, based upon these.

Such was the announcement made by a meeting of the creditors of the defunct bond house at the public library last night by Walter H. Evans, district attorney for Multnomah county, who is prosecuting Etheridge on criminal counts under state statutes.

The large crowd of men and women present, nearly all of whom held interim certificates on Edmonton, Canada, bonds for which they paid sums in cash to Morris Bros. Inc., cheered loudly.

The theory upon which District Attorney Evans is now proceeding is that Mr. Morris whose name was used by Etheridge in the conduct of the business and who knew of Etheridge's criminal record, according to his own admission, can be held civilly and criminally liable for what has happened. The same is held to be true of Etheridge on the ground that he believed that he was acting in the name of Morris and that he believed that it would be possible for the creditors to recover from Morris or any others in the corporation, if there is property owned by them, in the full amount of their claims.

Mr. Evans gave it as his own opinion that Morris and others concerned in the corporation are liable and delinquent in the amount of \$1,250,000, until permission is granted by the federal court. This morning a federal court petition will be filed seeking to restrain the bank from disposing of the bonds except through proper order of the court.

It was announced by the receiver's attorneys that this action was being taken in order to permit the United States National bank to

## INQUIRY FACED BY MRS. ETHERIDGE

### Petition to Be Filed Soon After Return Here.

## RECEIVER TO TAKE ACTION

### Morris' Personal Property to Be Attached if Possible.

## MORE ASSETS ARE FOUND

### \$150,000 in Bonds Located by Auditors and May Reduce Losses of Investors.

Every known bit of property, either real or personal, which is in the possession of Fred S. Morris or that of his wife, will be sought by W. D. Whitcomb, temporary receiver for the defunct bond house of Morris Bros. Inc. If investigation now in progress develops that Morris' personal accountability can be established in the courts.

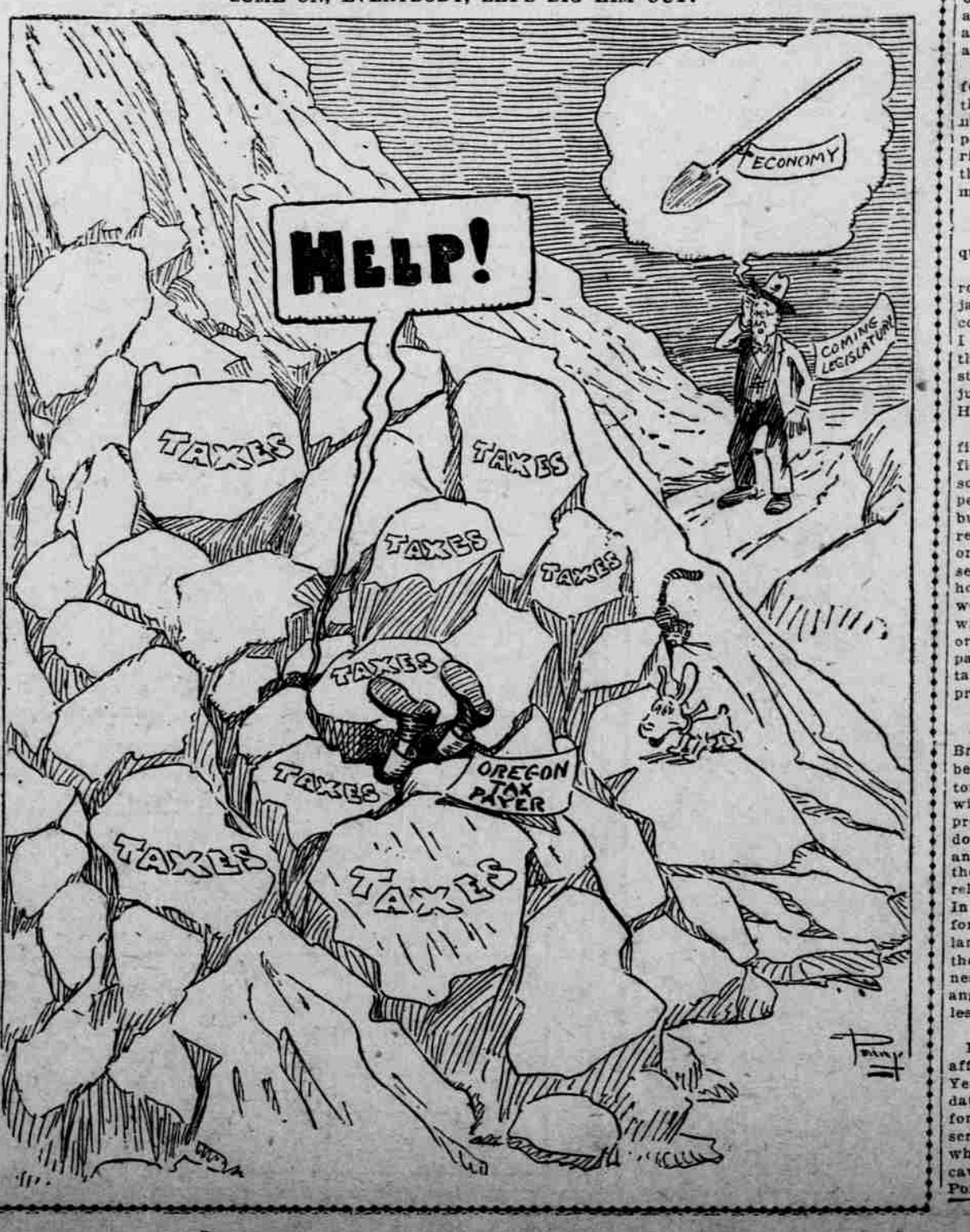
This decision was announced by Mr. Whitcomb yesterday through his attorneys, Griffith, Leiter & Allen. The first step in the plan to obtain full information concerning the status of Morris' real and personal property will be taken today when attorneys for the temporary receiver will file in federal court a petition citing Morris before the court for a full and complete examination.

Petition Being Prepared.  
Harrison Allen said yesterday that this petition is now in the course of preparation. Mr. Whitcomb wants to learn, if possible, the exact value of property now owned by Morris or by his wife, in order to determine just how much clients of the wrecked bond house might expect from this source in the event the federal court or the state court should hold that Morris is personally liable to the creditors of the institution.

Another petition citing Mrs. Etheridge, wife of John L. Etheridge, president of the concern, into court for a thorough examination also will be filed immediately upon her arrival in Portland next Monday, attorneys for Mr. Whitcomb announced yesterday.

Through his attorneys, Mr. Whitcomb yesterday served notice on the United States National bank not to remove the city of Edmonton bonds, in an approximate value of \$1,250,000, until permission is granted by the federal court. This morning a federal court petition will be filed seeking to restrain the bank from disposing of the bonds except through proper order of the court.

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## INDEX OF TODAY'S NEWS

- The Weather.
- YESTERDAY'S—Highest temperature 37 degrees; lowest, 44 degrees.
- TODAY'S—Rain, moderate; southeasterly winds.
- Foreign.
- Leslie now seeks economic reform. Page 3.
- D'Annunzio takes up making peace with Italy. Page 6.
- French deputies stand by government in vote against communists. Page 6.
- National.
- House committee chairman says ship could prevent it. Page 1.
- Lawmakers vainly endeavor to get action on extension of assessment work bill. Page 1.
- Three hundred millions army housing plan cost. Page 3.
- Presidential veto hits railroads hard. Page 2.
- Domestic.
- Harding and Knox appear at odds over league. Page 1.
- Founder of "Pillar of Fire" religious body sued for \$100,000. Page 1.
- Twelve realtors complete first 300 miles of great flight south. Page 2.
- More price cuts coming, says credit men's executive secretary. Page 1.
- Pacific Northwest.
- Electrical storm and floods sweep through Walla Walla valley. Page 4.
- Oregon to check up on oil and mining stock sales. Page 5.
- County threatened by state over Vancouver bridge fees which are overdue. Page 5.
- Sports.
- Football squads prime for battle. Page 12.
- Afternoon boxing appeals to many. Page 12.
- Commercial and Marine.
- Record movement of wheat to Europe strongest foundation of market. Page 19.
- Demand from millers lifts wheat prices at Chicago. Page 19.
- Railway rates again laid in Wall street transactions. Page 19.
- Foreign commerce of port is magnet. Page 14.
- Portland and Vicinity.
- Inquiry is faced by Mrs. Etheridge. Page 1.
- America crumbles if schools falter. Page 7.
- Captain David J. Jordan, Siberian war veteran and former Multnomah club football star, sues for divorce. Page 12.
- Oregon is looking short in European relief campaign. Page 1.
- Burglar antidote offered by police. Page 20.
- Two-year drug sentence joint to underworld. Page 9.
- Noley New Year's welcome in Portland is barred. Page 1.
- Terminal hearing set for January 14. Page 15.
- Draft of measure providing for consolidation of port bodies completed. Page 14.
- General taxpayers stand out of driveway. Page 15.
- Teachers adopt pay schedule as guide for school board. Page 13.
- Port consolidation explained to Multnomah legislative delegation. Page 6.
- Bond house heads face more charges. Page 1.

(Concluded on Page 3, Column 1.)

(Concluded on Page 3, Column 1.)

(Concluded on Page 7, Column 1.)