



WATHER yesterday 52  
last night 35  
and Sunday  
and rain.

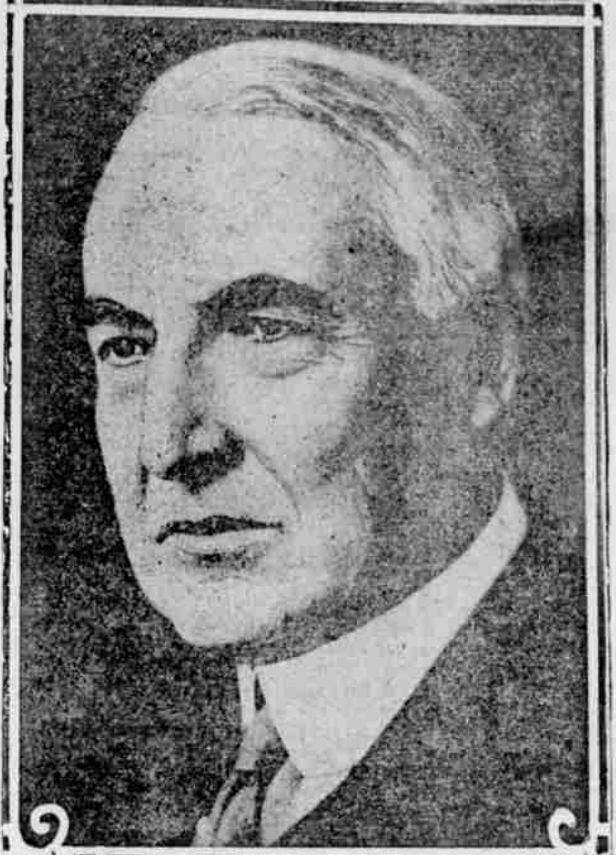
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## Harding Given Title of "Conference President" For Way of Running Job

### Working in Office Marked Meeting Many Minds and Attention Together.

GEORGE R. HOLMES, Special News Service Staff, Roseburg, Ore., March 4.—If Harding should step out of the limelight at the end of his first year in the White House he undoubtedly would go down in history as "The Conference President."

Conferences—international, agricultural, industrial and legislative—have been the outstanding features of the first year of President Harding. There have been more conferences in Washington since March 4 than there were in the entire year of 1921. The conferences were not actually in session, but in the background stood the figure of the president. Harding once described himself as a "derogatory disciple of the idea" in the settlement of international disputes—whether international, national, municipal or domestic.



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The conference idea, vigorously promulgated by the volcanic Dawes, changed that. They now get together once in a while to talk over their mutual problems. The outstanding feature of President Harding's first year, from an international standpoint, has been, of course, the armament conference. Seven treaties and twelve resolutions grew out of that epoch-making event.

Next in importance internationally is the conclusion of peace with Germany through the agency of a separate treaty. Opinions vary as to the outstanding achievement from the domestic standpoint, but probably the consensus of opinion would point to the establishment of the budget system. The first budget has been launched.

In matters of domestic legislation not a great deal has been accomplished. Permanent taxation and tariff measures are yet to be written—much less passed. The most important of the measures that have gone through the legislative hopper at the capitol are those designed to relieve the acute distress of the farmers. It is against the domestic record of the administration that the dem-

ocrats are going to center their heaviest fire during the coming congressional campaign. The democrats will charge that the republicans have not reduced taxation nor effected the economies they claim to have effected and that if any savings are shown they can be ascribed to the natural reaction from war days rather than to republican economies.

The campaign promises to be a repetition of that old familiar sight—the republicans "pointing with pride" and the democrats "viewing with alarm."

President Harding rounds out his first year with the original cabinet intact, although the resignation of Will H. Hays as postmaster-general becomes effective today. It is regarded as likely, however, that another year will see several cabinet changes.

In the matter of patronage much progress has been made. Republicans are now sitting in most of the appointive offices which a year ago were occupied by democrats. The entire diplomatic corps has been shaken up, and there are few holdovers either at home or abroad.

Washington was surprised and interested when they started. The White House had been virtually closed for three years—the Wilsons had few dinner guests and did little entertaining except for intimate personal friends. Now the capital has become used to seeing white-skirted members of the two houses stroll up to the White House for dinner and a chat. It has been one of the greatest steps in the process of "getting back to normalcy."

Department Heads Confer. Then there was the inter-departmental conference, in which all the departmental heads and bureau chiefs in Washington took part. It was inaugurated by President Harding and lashed into vitality by the picturesque profanity of "Holl'n Marlin" Dawes, director of the budget. It still meets at regular intervals to listen to the explosive advice of General Dawes on matters of economy and cooperation.

The bureau chiefs had seldom met each other before the initial conference. For years they had pursued their individual ways, each bent on getting all he could for his own bureau in the way of money personnel and supplies. If a bureau needed a thousand brooms the purchasing agent went out and bought them, regardless of the fact that some other department might have ten thousand surplus brooms.

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## TEACHER FOUND IN DESERTED HOUSE

(By Associated Press.) TACOMA, March 4.—Miss Elsie Sparre, aged 35 years, a school teacher at Elgin, was found early today tied with wire and rope and gagged in a deserted house two miles off the road from the school house. She said that a masked man held her up and forced her to walk to the house. She was found by a trapper who was one of the party that started from Elk Harbor to search when she failed to return to the boarding house last evening.

## FIUME CENTER OF MANY SQUABBLES

(By United Press.) FIUME, March 4.—This Adriatic storm center is in the possession of the revolutionary provisional government today, following the overthrow of President Zanella by the Fascist uprising yesterday, after a brief firearms action, eight soldiers being killed.

## THREE KILLED IN SPECTACULAR FIRE

(By United Press.) NORFOLK, Va., March 4.—Three were killed and five overcome by smoke in a spectacular fire in the Garden of Italy hotel this morning.

## ROSEBURG WINS FROM EUGENE

The Local High School Team Takes 29 to 16 Victory Over Willamette Leaders.

## GAME WAS VERY ROUGH

Visiting Forwards Had Hard Luck in Basket Shots During First Half and Roseburg Became Disorganized in Second Half of Contest.

Roseburg high school won for the second time from the Eugene high school, in a hard and rough game played on the local gymnasium floor, last night, the score being 29 to 16. Roseburg won from Eugene early in the season at Eugene and the second game gives the local boys the edge over the Willamette valley contestants as Eugene is considered one of the strongest teams in the Willamette valley. The game was very rough but at the same time clean and interesting. Eugene played in exceptionally hard luck during the first half and shot after shot struck the basket and rolled off. The score ended 17 to 11 at the end of the first half with Roseburg in the lead. The Roseburg defense worked well during the first half but was greatly improved during the second half.

In the first few minutes of the second half, Roseburg was badly disorganized and for a short time it seemed that the game was to be very close. Roseburg seemed to be rushing up and down the floor aimlessly and unable to accomplish very much in the way of scoring. Eugene on the other hand overcame the lull and had the basket well located although Roseburg was firing long shots. The team seemed unable to steady down and Coach King was forced to put in a couple of fresh men before the scoring started again. Roseburg then forged to the lead, however, and although Eugene had come within 4 points of the top, the local boys tucked the game away easily.

Except for the "blowup" in the second half the Roseburg team played a very good game, and in fact was much better than had been anticipated. There is no question but that the team went "great" upon its southern trip, but a rest during the past week has brought the organization back into form and with a few more practices they will be in fine condition for the contest for the Southern Oregon championship with Ashland. Eugene played a very good clean game, and is to be highly commended for the fine sportsmanship of the hard-fought fight of the season. Although badly beaten in the first half the team came back in fine shape the second half and showed a marked defensive improvement and at one time was only 6 points behind Roseburg. The forwards had hard luck in locating baskets and lost many good attempts. There was a fine attendance at the game, the Eugene team having a good delegation of rooters accompanying the team. During the game the high school orchestra rendered a number of selections.

## BRUTAL MURDERS WORK OF A GANG

(By United Press.) TARRYTOWN, March 4.—The mysterious murders of Mary Venz, found brutally murdered yesterday, and the killing of Paolo Letti on the Mount Calvary road near White Plains, have led the police to believe that a gang of Italian assassins have established headquarters near Rockefeller's Post-office Hills home. Ritualistic marks were found on the faces of both victims, leading to the belief that the Italian vendetta claimed their lives.

## LLOYD GEORGE IS STILL THE LEADER

(By United Press.) LONDON, March 4.—Lloyd George, the victor in the crisis yesterday, is still Britain's strong man. He summoned the conservative party leaders, including Austen Chamberlain, Arthur Balfour and Lord Birenhead, to his country estate for a week-end of important conferences.

## FOURTEEN KILLED AS TRAIN HITS BUS

(By United Press.) PLAINESVILLE, Ohio, March 4.—Fourteen were killed and six injured when a New York Central fast train struck a loaded jitney bus.

## HIGHWAY CLAIM TO BE SETTLED

County Court Writes Commission That Claim of \$10,000 Will Be Allowed.

## NO COUNTY RECORD

Engineer is Instructed to Prepare Estimate on Amount of Expenditures Made by County on Roseburg-Winchester Road.

As soon as the county engineer can estimate the amount of work done by the county on the Winchester-Roseburg section of the Pacific highway, the \$10,000 claim of the highway commission will be met, the county court informed. The commission in a letter forwarded to Chairman R. A. Booth this morning. The court, although failing to find any record of the transaction on the books maintained by the county, has decided to accept the records of the commission and the copy of the letter sent by the commission, and has agreed to make payment of the sum asked as soon as a check of the expenditures can be made. This agreement ends the controversy which has been in progress between the commission and the county court and will probably result in the commission proceeding immediately to allow contracts for completing road work in this section of the state.

The commission has informed the county that credit will be given for all of the permanent roadbed built by the county, which was utilized for the Pacific highway. The county will thus be reimbursed for the gravel and grading it has done in past years on certain sections and it is expected that this will amount to a considerable sum, which may be deducted from the \$10,000 payment. The court has instructed the engineer to proceed at once to make an estimate of the amount of credit which the county may rightfully claim and as soon as his figures have been compiled they will be sent to the commission to be compared with those which the state engineer may have or may desire to make to check the accuracy of the county's claim. As soon as this adjustment can be reached, the court agrees in its letter today to pay the balance.

The controversy originally arose over an agreement made in 1919 when County Judge Marsters agreed to apply \$10,000 of the county's funds in co-operation with state money on the highway between Winchester and Roseburg. No record of the transaction was made for the county books and so the present court had no knowledge of the agreement. Upon preparing to let the contract the commission informed the county that it desired the money to be paid, and knowing nothing of the affair the court refused to pay the amount. The commission immediately stopped all pending contracts and held up all road work until a settlement could be reached. Upon further investigation the court satisfied itself that the agreement had been properly entered into and is now preparing to abide by the terms agreed upon at that time.

## GIRL'S ASSAILANT IS BELIEVED KNOWN; SPIRIT OF REVENGE MAY BE MOTIVE

### Two More Suspects Held by Police—Were Friends of Elmer Weatherford Who Was Placed Under Arrest Yesterday—Victim Is Improving.

## SUSPECTS ARRESTED.

(By United Press.) PORTLAND, March 4.—Two men, Luther Shields, alias Howell, aged 20 years, A. W. O. L. from Vancouver Barracks, and D. D. Martin, aged 21 years, were arrested this morning in connection with the shooting of Miss Willamene Fuller, choir girl in a pro-cathedral, Thursday night. Both men are acquainted with Elmer Weatherford, who was arrested yesterday, and one may be his mysterious "Buddy."

(By Associated Press.) PORTLAND, March 4.—Two more suspects are held by the police today in connection with the shooting of Miss Willamene Fuller, 17 year old choir girl. Two youths, aged 20 and 21 years, were picked up and admitted knowing Elmer Weatherford, who is held because he made a remark indicating that he knew who did the shooting.

Assailant Believed Known. PORTLAND, March 4.—Partial substantiation of one of the police theories that revenge may have prompted the shooting of Miss Willamene Fuller, 17-year-old choir girl at St. Stephen's pro-cathedral, early Thursday night was given to police detectives yesterday by William Robertson, choir member, who believes he recognized the girl's assailant.

Of the 15 persons who were attending the church choir practice, Robertson alone believes he might be able to identify the young masked gunman who stole into the church and shot the girl down almost before choir members knew what had happened.

Youth Believed Recognized. Mr. Robertson told police detectives yesterday that he was certain he recognized the masked youth as a young man who attends the church functions frequently. He did not know the youth by name, but was certain he had seen him at the church often.

The Very Reverend R. T. T. Hicks, dean of St. Stephen's pro-cathedral, was called to the police detective bureau yesterday in an effort to throw some further light on the identity of the young man suspected by Mr. Robertson, but he was unable to recall the name of any member of the church congregation who answered the description.

Mr. Robertson said the youth was about 19 years old, of slight build and with curly red hair. His description as to clothing was the same as that given to police detectives Thursday night.

In spite of this supposed identification by Mr. Robertson, police detectives still cling to the theory that the shooting of the girl was accidental. They believe the youth entered the church for the purpose of robbery, thinking that he would encounter but a few women. He became frightened, they figure, when he faced several men who refused to elevate their hands at his command, and fired his gun as a result of nervous fright.

Ex-Soldier Story Disbelieved. But little credence is placed in the theory that Elmer Weatherford, unemployed ex-serviceman, has any knowledge of the mysterious shooting affair. Weatherford was arrested early in the morning at Sixth and Washington streets after he is said to have admitted to a cigar stand clerk that his "buddy" had staked a church robbery and that he wanted a morning newspaper in order to read an account of it.

Weatherford is held for investigation and a vagrancy charge may be filed later. He admitted telling the clerk that his "buddy" had "pulled a job" the night before, but denied he had made any mention of a church robbery. Police detectives are still checking up on an alibi he offered as to the whereabouts of himself and his partner Thursday night.

At Good Samaritan hospital last night attending physicians and nurses said that Miss Fuller is resting comfortably and it is believed she will recover, barring possible complications. The bullet was extracted yesterday morning. It had lodged under the right shoulder. Youth Fires and Runs. As he took a step toward Mr. Wildman, one of the closest to him, turned around in his chair and started to rise. Instantly, the masked youth's revolver barked, and the church room was in an uproar. As the young man fired he ran to the door and escaped. For a brief moment no one seemed to know what had happened. Someone asked Mr. Wildman if he had been struck by the bullet. It was then noted that Miss Fuller was growing pale. It was thought she was starting to faint. Mr. Wildman started to reassure her that everything was all right when she withdrew her hand from her breast and it was seen she had been wounded.

"It all happened so quickly that none of us really knew what took place," said Mrs. Carl Denton, wife of the choir leader, and herself a member of the choir. "For my part, I did not hear him tell us to hold up our hands. I remember he told us to keep quiet and then I heard the shot. It was all over in half a minute. The bullet narrowly missed Mr. Wildman, who was sitting beside Mr. Funston. Miss Fuller was sitting in the second row, behind Miss Bagley and myself."

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## BROKERS' PANIC IN WALL STREET

(By United Press.) NEW YORK, March 4.—Further brokerage houses were expected to collapse today as the continuation of the greatest brokers' panic in Wall street history. Fronted customers besieged the offices today, plunging Wall street into an uproar.

## RUSSIA WILLING TO PAY ALL DEBTS

(By United Press.) WASHINGTON, March 4.—Russia is ready to pay all debts she owes the outside world, but with the offsets for damages wrought by Denikin, Kolchak and other allied-supported generals, according to a statement by Foreign Minister Tchitcherin, reported to the senate agricultural committee today by Ebert Johnson, chairman of the American Near East relief commission.

## LABOR LEADERS ACQUITTED BY JURY

(By Associated Press.) CHICAGO, March 4.—Simon O'Donnell, formerly president of the Chicago Building Trades Council, and three other labor leaders charged with graft, extortion and conspiracy in connection with the alleged building trust here, were today acquitted by a jury.

## COUNTY COURT ADJOURNS

County court adjourned at 10:30 this morning having completed its work for the term. The court had a very busy session but was prevented from completing all matters because of the illness of Commissioner Weaver. Court will probably be convened again later in the month.

## NARCOTIC FIGHT STARTED BY STATES

(By Associated Press.) PORTLAND, March 4.—Ways and means of checking the traffic in narcotic drugs and the widespread habit of using "dope" of all kinds was the topic of the six state conference called by Governor Olcott of Oregon here today. Representatives of Washington, California, Montana, Idaho and Wyoming were present when Governor Olcott called the meeting to order. Harry Smith, chief federal narcotic agent for the Pacific coast, opened the conference by charging the government with the lack of appreciation of the seriousness of the drug evil in the small appropriations budgeted each for the anti-narcotic fight.

## HAYS' POLICIES NOT BE CHANGED

(By United Press.) WASHINGTON, March 4.—Reinforcing the post office department, with the continuation of the marine guards in addition to their own post office guards, with other innovations of the Hays administration, will be continued by Dr. Hubert Work, the latter announced today as he took the oath as new postmaster general. The policies will not be changed, he said.