

WEATHER  
Highest Yesterday ... 88  
Lowest Last Night ... 48  
Generally cloudy tonight  
and Thursday.

# ROSEBURG News-Review

THE man who is "too busy" to attend to his advertising is probably trying to do two men's work because the business isn't paying as it should.

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## CHARLES STARK, SUTHERLIN POSTMASTER, SUICIDE

### MORTGAGE OF POSTAGE FUNDS BELIEVED TO HAVE BEEN CAUSE OF HIS ACTION

### POSTOFFICE INSPECTOR ARRIVED IN SUTHERLIN YESTERDAY TO INVESTIGATE A SHORTAGE OF ABOUT \$2,000—STARK HAD SAID HE WOULD MAKE GOOD THAT AMOUNT

Charles A. Stark, Sutherlin postmaster and prominent citizen of that town, committed suicide early this morning, presumably by taking poison, and his body was found about half a mile east of that city at about 11 o'clock by Tom Ridgeway, one of the searching party.

A shortage of approximately \$2,000 in the post office funds and his inability to make good this amount, believed responsible for Mr. Stark's suicide, was the cause of his action, according to Mr. G. E. Vougen, federal office inspector, of Medford, arrived in Sutherlin yesterday and today to investigate the matter.

Mr. Stark was found in a rooming house at Sutherlin, Oregon, where he had been staying for some time. He was found with a bottle of poison and a letter addressed to the post office inspector, in which he stated that he would make good the shortage of about \$2,000.

Mr. Stark was married to a wife and three children, Chester, aged about 12 years, Virginia, 7 years, and Douglas, 10 years. The grief-stricken family are being cared for at the home of Mr. and Mrs. W. E. St. John in Sutherlin.

Several days ago Mr. Stark received a controller's statement from the government asking him to remit the shortage of about \$1,500 which he had to do upon the arrival of Vougen, post office inspector, at Sutherlin, who had already been informed of the shortage. Mr. Stark received the matter with him and said that he would make good that amount. According to Mr. Vougen, Stark appeared in the heat of the day and no sign of worry over the shortage was apparent.

Mr. Stark was informed by Vougen that he should meet him at the office this morning and assist him in the investigation of the post office records.

According to his family and intimate friends he was also normal in his actions about his home last night, company with his wife and D. W. Sutherlin, Sutherlin driver, when he returned home last night to end the shortage. During the show, Stark seemed himself and was not at all worried. He explained his absence to his wife, stating that he had to meet Mr. Albert H. St. John at the train. When he returned he said that he had talked with Mr. Horman about some oil in Sutherlin. He was jolly and conversed with several of his friends last night. All who talked with him declare that he was perfectly normal at that time.

At his usual hour this morning, Mr. Stark left the house and walked towards the post office. On his way to work, he met John Clasky, janitor of the Sutherlin post office. Mr. Clasky said that he apparently in good spirits then, and was at about 6 o'clock.

Mr. W. E. St. John left his home at that time and his wife states that Mr. Stark called her home on the telephone and asked for Mr. St. John, saying that he wished to see him on urgent business. Mrs. St. John informed him that her husband had left for his office and told her to try to locate him there. Mr. Stark, however, did not see Mr. St. John at the office.

Glenn Allen, Sutherlin resident, called with Mr. Stark at about 10 minutes to seven this morning. They were standing on a street near the post office. His name at that time was not recalled. Mr. Allen says:

He was later noticed walking up a paved road east of Sutherlin. He was not walking hurriedly and at his side was walking a dog. His dog was a small black and white dog. His body was found shortly after 11 o'clock at the foot of one of the hills above the orchard land east of Sutherlin.

The first indication that he had committed suicide was found at the house, when Chester, his oldest child, found a note on the dresser in the bedroom addressed to him. The note read the note and carried it to his mother, saying, "I wonder what the matter with Daddy?" Mrs. Stark read the note and immediately went back to the bedroom to search for more notes. She found one addressed to herself and one addressed to Mr. St. John. She ran from her room and summoned several men who were on the street. "By this word had been received from

### GREECE SALUTES ITALIAN WARSHIP

(By United Press.)  
ATHENS, Sept. 18.—A naval salute of 21 guns, constituting Greece's formal apology to Italy for the assassination of the Italian boundary commissioners near Janina, was given to the Italian flag by two Greek cruisers in Phaleron bay today. The Italian cruiser steamed past the Greek ships and received the salute. The British and French ships followed and they were also saluted. Simultaneously the Greek officers paid honor to the dead at a memorial service.

### CITY FINANCES ARE DISCUSSED

### Budget Committee and City Council Hold Meeting Last Evening

### ARE IN A QUANDRY

### Occupation Tax Offered as Relief for City's Financial Condition for Coming Year

The city council and the recently appointed budget committee met last evening at the council chambers for the purpose of delving into the financial affairs of the municipality and arranging a budget for next year. Being unable to conclude the work, the committee adjourned at a late hour and will meet again tomorrow evening to carry out their duties.

Mayor Rice addressed the members briefly and explained the necessity of curtailing expenditures to the lowest possible margin, but he also stated that if the city is to maintain its present degree of progress and continue to build, prosper and cope with the improvements that necessarily come to a live community, certain departments of the city government would have to be strengthened in a financial way over and above previous appropriations.

It was fully determined at last evening's meeting that the city council has no small man's job in handling the public affairs of Roseburg, and it also can be truthfully stated that each individual member of the council is just as careful and conscientious of his duty as a public official as he would be of his own private business affairs.

But how to run a city successfully and make needed improvements from time to time, building a greater and better Roseburg on a budget that is entirely inadequate is beyond human power. And it looks like this is going to be the condition that will confront our city fathers, unless some master mind of the financial arena invokes a method whereby a huge chunk of the filthy lucre can be brought out of the dark clouds now embellishing the horizon.

Here's the whole thing in a nutshell:

After the budget committee had taken up item by item on the budget and placed what they thought a very conservative estimate of the amount of money that should be allotted to each particular department, the grand total ran to approximately \$51,557.94. From this amount may be deducted sums of money that will come to the city from other sources than a direct tax, and which will probably run around \$12,000.

Not even with this amount deducted from the original estimate the income necessary for the city government to properly function exceeds the six per cent limitation allowed by law over last year's amount raised by direct taxation, therefore the budget committee will be called upon to do the impossible unless funds from other sources are derived. The city cannot levy more than ten mills. Its charter provides that this sum is the limit. And it cannot exceed last year's total amount of money raised by way of taxation more than six per cent of the total amount of tax money coming into the city's control.

**Occupation Tax Proposed**  
Councilman Shambrook and H. Wollenberg, the latter a member of the budget committee, were strong sponsors for an occupation tax, properly graded that the measure would fill all lines of business in Roseburg as the only relief for the present and future financial condition of the city. Several members present did not

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### DABNEY MURDER MAY BE A FAKE

### Portland Police Think Former Roseburg Jitneur Staged Disappearance

### NO TRACE OF BODY

### In Spite of Protracted Search Officers Have Been Unable to Find Any Trace of Body of Supposed Victim

PORTLAND, Sept. 19.—That R. B. Dabney staged a clever disappearance act, was the theory announced today by Deputy Sheriffs Christerson and Schirmer, after learning from Mrs. Dabney that her husband had disappeared once before, that he was deeply in debt, and that he recently took out a \$3,000 life insurance policy. She said that three years ago he abandoned an automobile near Albany and was missing for six months before he returned. No trace of the body was found yesterday, although a careful search was made of the bluff near which the blood stained truck was found.

Today's investigations revealed that Dabney was deeply in debt and that only a few weeks ago he took out a \$3,000 insurance policy in Roseburg, payable to his wife. The mail clerk at Salem maintains that Dabney called at the general delivery window on Monday for his mail.

These were the overnight developments that caused investigators to conclude that Dabney had planned to simulate murder and then flee from the country. They say he himself made the supposed bullet hole in the windshield of the machine, killed his dog and smeared blood on the automobile, scattered clothing about and then fled, intending, it is believed to escape responsibility of his debts and enable his wife to collect his insurance.

That Dabney is trying to stage a disappearance act, patterned in a measure after the famous Brunfield case, is the belief of many experts after a careful search in the vicinity of Elk Rock where the abandoned blood stained truck was found yesterday. Portland police officers spent a day yesterday in a careful search of the territory but failed to find any material evidence other than that found around the truck itself.

At the end of a 300 foot rope Deputy Sheriff Christerson dangled over the face of the cliff and made a minute search of the projections where a body would have stuck, had it been hurled from the top of the precipice. The search was fruitless and nothing could be found to indicate that a body had been dropped over the edge of the rock as was first supposed.

That the blood on the car was smeared on rather than splattered on the machine, was one of the facts determined by the officers, some of whom believed that Dabney killed his dog by a blow over the head and used its blood in an effort to lead the police to believe that a murder had been committed. An autopsy of the dog's body, proved that it's head had been crushed by a blow.

There still is some evidence, however, pointing to the murder theory, and according to messages from Portland some experts still retain the belief that Dabney was murdered and robbed.

Dabney was known to be heavily in debt. When he left Roseburg he had bills here amounting to around \$200 which were not paid, and the Douglas Creditor's Association was preparing to bring suit against him for a large sum. It is believed by some that he has planned a disappearance act to throw his creditors off his trail and has escaped with the profits of one of his numerous horse trades.

**Wife Makes Statement.**  
SALEM, Sept. 18.—R. B. Dabney, who is believed either to have committed suicide or to have been murdered near Oswego last Saturday night, lived with his wife and 14-year-old daughter for some time prior to three years ago, and started the Highland bus line in this city. The family later moved to Roseburg, where they resided until last week when Mrs. Dabney and her daughter returned to Salem to make their future home.

According to Mrs. Dabney, her husband did not accompany her to Salem, but remained in Roseburg where he disposed of a team of horses and some other personal property. Last Friday, Mrs. Dabney said, her

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### COMMANDER TAKES BLAME FOR WRECK

(By United Press.)  
SAN DIEGO, Sept. 15.—The San Diego Sun printed an interview with Captain Edward H. Watson, commander of the destroyer squadron wrecked on Point Arguello, quoting him as taking the responsibility for the wreck.

"The responsibility for the course of the destroyer squadron was mine," he was quoted as saying. He said he believed the location received from the land radio stations was incorrect. He ordered the change in course.

### FOREST FIRES UNDER CONTROL

### Few Fires Burning at Present Time, But Woods Are Very Dry

### EXTREME CARE URGED

### Hunters and Campers Are Warned to Be Careful to Avoid Starting Fires—Might Prove Destructive

The forest fire situation in Douglas county is very satisfactory at the present time, although the danger for an outbreak of serious fires is very great, according to both the Forest Service officials and officers of the Douglas County Fire Patrol. Strong northeast winds during the past few days, have driven all moisture out of the forests and they are extremely dry and ready to be ignited at a flash. Every precaution is being taken to prevent the fires from gaining a start and fire fighters all over the county are in immediate readiness to respond to any call.

Central Dispatcher O. C. Houser, who is located at the Glide station, and who is in touch with the situation all over the Umpqua forest, reports that there are four fires burning at the present time. These are small fires, ranging from 10 to 35 acres. The largest is in the Illabeo district where approximately 30 acres have been burned over. There is another fire of about 20 acres in extent on the South Umpqua slope. These fires have all been brought under control and are being patrolled to prevent a spread.

Altogether this season there have been about 100 fires on the Umpqua forest, but none of these have been very large and the loss will be light. In fact, the acreage burned over will amount to less than 175 acres, it is believed.

Approximately 90 per cent of the fires were started by lightning and about 10 per cent were man caused, few of these latter fires being of an incendiary nature.

The Douglas County fire patrol reports that it has about 5 fires burning at present. One big fire about 150 acres is burning on the Coast Range. Twelve men are fighting this fire and it is believed to be under control. There is a fire near Ten Mile, another at Canas Valley, one near Glendale, another near Glide. A slashing fire, escaped near Drain, but the man burning the slashings employed fifteen men to aid him in putting out the blaze so that the patrol was not concerned in this matter.

It is believed that the situation can be handled very efficiently and that there will be only a comparatively small loss from forest fires this year. It is reported from Scottsburg that there is a big fire burning near the Burchard ranch here and that a number of men are fighting the blaze to keep it away from the ranch. This district, however, is outside of the patrol's territory and the fire fighting crew is not being controlled from here.

Hunters in the woods are warned to be extremely careful and to take all precautions to avoid fire. The forests are very dry and the least bit of carelessness is apt to prove very destructive. The nights are becoming cooler and this is helping some, but it will probably be a couple of weeks yet before the situation is such that the danger will be lessened to any marked degree.

Miss Ethel Squier of Sutherlin, who has been visiting at Marshfield for a few days, returned today and left on the afternoon train for her home.

### GOVERNOR WAGES A BITTER FIGHT

### Oklahoma Executive Remains in Mansion Behind Cordons of Soldiers

### IMPEACHMENT STARTED

### Members of Legislature Have Issued a Call to Meet and Will Start Proceedings for Impeachment Soon

TULSA, Okla., Sept. 19.—(Associated Press.)—Five men, indicted by Governor Walton's Tulsa county military commission investigating mob violence and hooded band activities here since the middle of August, were freed in a civil court today when arraigned. They were the first of thirty men indicted by the military tribunal to be released.

OKLAHOMA CITY, Sept. 19.—(United Press.)—A call for a meeting of the legislature for Saturday to start impeachment proceedings against Governor "Jack" Walton was prepared by use of the military in the fight against members who oppose the executive's the Ku Klux Klan.

The governor's advisors were encouraged in their fight against the Klan when legal advisors said that the "sky is the limit" in expenditure under martial law. The legislature must honor the debts contracted by the enforcement of martial law, it was agreed. Governor Walton himself remained barricaded behind cordons of soldiers in the executive mansion, seeing but a few people.

TULSA, Okla., Sept. 19.—(By U. P.)—Under conditions defined by Sheriff Bob Sanford as one of "synthetic rebellion," Tulsa county went to bed tonight perplexed as to who rules the roost—the military or the civil authorities.

A district judge has ordered the state adjutant general to appear in a civil court tomorrow morning with three military prisoners. The summons, delivered to the civil sheriff, Sanford, has been commended by the military sheriff, Colonel E. L. Head, who, it is indicated, may or may not serve it upon his superior officer, General Markham. The situation is further complicated by a mystery surrounding the whereabouts of Adjutant General Markham since his departure for Oklahoma City Monday.

The first skirmish was scheduled for 9 o'clock today, in the court of District Judge Albert C. Hunt, where the summons is returnable.

Whether the right of habeas corpus exists in Oklahoma under martial law despite Governor J. C. Walton's order suspending the right is the question involved.

**Townfolk All Mixed Up.**  
The townfolk are all mixed up—but business is as usual; and aside from the half dozen guardsmen on duty on the mezzanine floor of the city's leading hotel and two score of their comrades quartered in an outlying armory, there is no evidence of the political furor which grips the state.

There are no guards about the city, no machine gun nests.

The 75 militiamen who constitute the force here behind the governor's proclamation are visible only at the armory and at military headquarters, and to the new arrival the city presents in every aspect a scene of normal tranquility.

The three military prisoners ordered to be brought before Judge Hunt are Ben and Grover Sikes and Earl Sack, all of Broken Arrow, who are under sentence of two years in the penitentiary for confessed implication in the flogging of Ben Waggoner, a Waggoner county farmer, several weeks ago.

### STREET LIGHTS ARRIVE

Contractor Now Waiting for Cable Before Starting Work of Installing New Light System

A carload of materials for the new street lighting system arrived last night and work of installing the system will be started soon. H. B. Hudson who has the contract for doing the work, states, The cable has not yet arrived but is due here at any time and as soon as the cable is received active work will be started. It will take about thirty days to complete the installation Mr. Hudson says.

Mrs. Moon of Sutherlin was a visitor in Roseburg for a short time this forenoon.

### COUNTY TO HAVE A FINE EXHIBIT

### State Fair Display Expected to Be One of the Best This Year

### CO-OPERATION IS GIVEN

### Farmers and Fruit Growers of County Give Great Help in Arranging for Exhibit—Will Show Poultry

Douglas county is going to make a strong fight this year for the first prize at the state fair and through the cooperation of the many growers of the county an exhibit has been arranged which will be far better than any the county has ever before shown at Salem. The carload of specimens will be loaded tomorrow and sent to the fair grounds and the exhibit will be placed before the opening of the fair on Monday morning.

C. O. Garrett and B. W. Cooney have been working hard during the past few weeks gathering together the various articles for the county display. Glendale community responded readily to the appeal and some fine agricultural products have been secured from there. Canas Valley is making a fine showing of wheat and threshed grain and the grain exhibit will be far superior to anything Douglas county has ever before placed before the patrons of the state fair.

The fruit exhibit is also good and the quality is far better than last year. Mr. Cooney says, and Douglas county will have a showing of fruit of which she can justly be proud.

The exhibit this year will be general in scope and will show the wide variety of products raised in Douglas county. A special effort will be made, however, to feature the commercial lines and give the public a true conception of the agricultural activities of the county.

The first poultry exhibit to be made by Douglas county in recent years, is being arranged. The poultry industry in this county is now bringing in a half million yearly, and it is rapidly assuming a place of great importance. This is particularly true regarding capons, as this is one of the very few sections of the state where capons are produced commercially.

Mr. Cooney has several capons weighing around 11 pounds which will be dressed and exhibited in the county booth. These are expected to attract much attention as they are of a good size and are beautiful specimens of this type of bird.

Douglas county will have a better opportunity this year than ever before as all counties are to be kept to the same amount of display space. Heretofore some counties have had large booths and others small ones, and last year, Jackson county, the winner, had a booth almost three times as large as that occupied by Douglas county. This year, however, the fair board has ruled that each county shall have an equal amount of floor and wall space, which will give each an equal chance in displaying their products.

Jackson county is believed to be the strongest competitor against Douglas county. Jackson county is putting forth every effort to arrange a wonderful exhibit and the county court has appropriated \$3,000 to carry on this work. Two men have been working for sixty days in collecting the best possible exhibits.

In Douglas county the court appropriated \$750 and Mr. Garrett and Mr. Cooney have been able to give only a small portion of their time to the work, but in spite of that fact, it is believed that the Douglas county showing will rank among the first and very probably will take first place, as it will be hard to beat the showing which is to be made this year.

### AMPUTATION NECESSARY

Dr. Shoemaker, who has charge of the case of C. M. Girard, who was badly burned by electricity a few days ago when he came in contact with a 6,600 volt current, announced this morning that Girard will probably recover from the accident, but that it will be necessary to amputate the right arm above the elbow. The electrician will probably be strong enough the latter part of the week for the operation to be performed. The circulation has been destroyed below the elbow, but it is believed that a portion of the arm from a few inches above the elbow can be saved and an effort will be made to do so.