

Editorials on the Day's News

By FRANK JENKINS
HERE is a sentence from a yesterday's dispatch from Washington: "The federal farm board sent word to American agriculture today to organize."

Organize for what? Sales, probably, for it is better sales methods that the federal farm board is designed to promote. In an effort to bring about better selling of farm products, the federal farm board has been given the widest powers ever placed in the hands of a governmental commission in this country in time of peace.

THIS writer has an idea that organizing for sales alone will not be sufficient to put American agriculture on its feet.

The California raisin growers organized for sales alone, and for several years they prospered. Then, spurred on by higher prices, raisin production ran away with itself and the price broke disastrously. Those who drove through California last winter saw vast fields of raisins standing unopened.

Organization for sales alone has its dangers.

THE wheat grower, for years, has been of all farmers the most seriously in need of relief. But of late we have been witnessing the spectacle of mounting wheat prices.

Why? Because of the farm relief bill? Not at all. It is because the supply of wheat, as gauged by the latest crop reports, promises to be down somewhere in the neighborhood of probable demand.

That is why wheat prices are climbing.

WHENEVER the farmer is sufficiently organized, mentally and otherwise, to gauge his production somewhat according to probable demand, as other industries have done for years, there will be reasonably dependable stabilization of farm prices.

But not much sooner, we are afraid.

THE Medford Mail-Tribune asks: "Does Medford need a city planning commission?" Then it answers its own question: "Having adopted such a commission, the people of Medford should do one of two things—give it proper authority and allow it to act, or do away with it entirely."

That is good advice.

CITY planning commissions that are without authority to do anything but plan are pitiful objects. They waste the time of useful citizens, and that is a crime—or if it isn't listed as a crime it ought to be.

You can waste money, and then go out and make MORE money. But time, when it is once gone, is gone forever.

"CITY planning commission" is a high-sounding term. It tinkles pleasantly in the ear. It gives the impression of up-to-date-ness. It causes thoughtless citizens to say: "Our city is up and coming. It has a city planning commission. We're looking out for the future."

But a city planning commission that is without authority is nothing but wind. It does a lot of blowing, but it gets nowhere.

"KIDNING themselves" is the besetting sin of American communities. They pass fancy ordinances, that sound virtuous or progressive when passed, and then, having entered to their pride or saved their consciences by passing a law, they forget all about it.

There isn't a city in America, or a village, probably, that hasn't a curfew ordinance, and there isn't a city or a village where the curfew ordinance is enforced. If it were enforced, people would object vigorously.

They don't want curfew ordinances to be ENFORCED. They want them to LOOK AT. They look nice on the statute books.

THERE are few cities, any more, that are without city planning commissions. But there are comparatively few cities whose planning commissions have either the funds or the authority to do anything worth while for posterity. As a result, they are futile.

So, if Medford is wise, she will either put teeth in her planning commission ordinance or do away with it. A fine city like Medford doesn't need to "kid" itself.

ROSEBURG NEWS-REVIEW

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VOL. XX NO. 158 OF THE EVENING NEWS

The Weather

Highest temperature yesterday... 68
Lowest temperature last night... 46
Forecast for interior southwest Oregon: Cloudy and unsettled tonight and Sunday; not much change in temperature.

SLAYER OF AGED WOMAN CLAIMS SHE WAS WITCH

Could Inflict Any Illness and It Was Her Life or Mine, "Kindly" Man Says in Jail.

Victim's Illusory Boast of Having Taken 100 Lives in 25 Years Leads to Fatal Beating.

(Associated Press Leased Wire)

KALAMAZOO, Mich., July 20.—Eugene Burgess, 53-year-old taxi-cab driver, who until Thursday night never was known to do anything more vicious than bait a fish hook, last night in the Kalamazoo county jail last night and told officers why he beat Mrs. E. L. Fairchild, 75-year-old inmate of an old ladies' home, to death.

"I have done the right thing," he said. "That woman could make you have any kind of disease." Burgess' wife sat beside him and corroborated his statements. "The woman is dead and I'm glad of it," she said as she was led to a cell.

According to their story, told to the county prosecutor, Burgess and his wife believed Mrs. Fairchild was a witch and could kill people merely by the power of her will. They said she bragged she had killed 100 people a year for the past 25 years, including husbands in her list of victims. So, they said, they invited the aged woman to supper Tuesday evening and killed her while she ate.

Burgess said he beat Mrs. Fairchild's head with a lead pipe and hammer, tied cement blocks to the body and dropped it into a well at the rear of their home.

Asked about spells which he said Mrs. Fairchild cast upon her intended victims, the confessed slayer said, "I stagger lots of times—can't see at times, have aches and pains in my head and arms and trouble breathing. If you men felt like me, you wouldn't be sorry. It was either Mrs. Fairchild's life or ours."

He said Mrs. Fairchild had "bewitched" his 17-year-old daughter, Eugene, and intended to cause the girl's death by witchcraft.

Burgess' daughter, who was away from home when Mrs. Fairchild was slain, and his son, Burnett Burgess, 27, were held, but were not charged.

(Continued on page 8)

BABE RUTH OUT OF GAME WITH BAD LEG

(Associated Press Leased Wire)

CLEVELAND, Ohio, July 20.—Babe Ruth, home-run king and the idol of baseball, was out of the game indefinitely today. A pulled muscle sustained in the game with Detroit Wednesday retired the bandleader in a game with the Cleveland Indians yesterday and Miller Huggins, manager of the Yankees, said today that no one knew when the great player would swing a bat again.

Huggins scoffed, however, at the thought that the Babe is gone from baseball.

"It would be foolish for me to say anything like that," Huggins asserted. "Babe's muscles do not respond to treatment as readily now as when he was a few years younger, but it is too early to predict the end of his playing career."

Going to New York? Avoid Night Clubs, Whalen Advises; Tragedy Lurks, Whiskey Price Advances

(Associated Press Leased Wire)
NEW YORK, July 20.—Visitors to New York and "decent people" have been warned by Police Commissioner Whalen to keep away from night clubs, which he says are controlled by gangsters. Those who fail to heed the warning, he said, are liable to get a lot of police attention.

The commissioner issued his warning in announcing the indictment of John Diamond, notorious gambler and racketeer, and Charles Entratta, ex-convict, for last Saturday's double slaying at the Hotel Totsy club, which Diamond was part owner.

"This indictment," said the commissioner, "brings to the fore the fact that gangsterism is in control of the night clubs. It would be well for decent people to keep away from such places, for they're going to get lots of police attention from now on."

The Hotel Totsy club is one of the less pretentious of the Broadway district resorts. Diamond and Entratta disappeared after the double shooting in which William Cassidy, alleged bootlegger, and Simon Walker, a former convict, were killed.

Rescue Comes To Girl Trio After Night Spent In Storm-Lashed Beach Trap, Clad Only In Bathing Suits

(Associated Press Leased Wire)

SEASIDE, Ore., July 20.—Three Portland girls who were thought to have been drowned last night when caught by the tide as they were walking along the beach off Tillamook Head, were rescued today after they had spent the night in the treacherous "death trap" in a severe rain and electric storm. The girls were Helen Sheres, 19; Daisy Farah, 19, and Betty Tanory, 20, all of Portland. Although they suffered acutely from the severe cold weather the girls were uninjured.

The three young women yesterday afternoon set out to walk along the beach from Seaside to Tillamook head. Toward evening they discovered the rising tide had cut across their path and had made it impossible for them to go ahead or to return. On one side was the incoming tide of the ocean—on the other, great craggy cliffs mounting from the shore line.

Here the "death trap" had claimed other victims. As an unusually high tide flowed inward the girls retreated toward the cliffs. Barefooted, they climbed from ledge to ledge. Great waves pounded after them.

The three finally found a ledge upon which they could support themselves. There, attired only in bathing suits, they spent the night as rain fell in torrents and lightning flashed around them.

The sea crept up to within six feet of them and all night long great billows of spray dashed over them.

This morning a group of searchers, led by R. A. Brown, chief of police, reached the three young women and aided them down from their perilous position.

"You must have been very frightened," a rescuer said.

"We didn't cry," one of the girls replied, "but we prayed all through the night."

S. P.-U. P. PROTEST AGAINST PROPOSED NYSSA LINE AIRED

(Associated Press Leased Wire)

BOISE, Idaho, July 20.—Information received that the Union Pacific and Southern Pacific railroads had filed protests with the interstate commerce commission against the proposed line from Nyssa, Ore., to Winnemucca, Nev., drew much speculation as to the outcome of the contest.

The information was received by O. O. Hagan, local rate attorney. Hagan said he had no connection with either the two major railroads or the Idaho and Pacific railroad proposing the new line, but a view of a map, he declared, would disclose the advantages of such a route over the present routes to the Pacific coast by way of Portland, Ogden, or over the Rogerson-Wells cut-off.

The line would furnish a direct route to San Francisco, he said, whereas nearly all southern Idaho traffic to that market at present goes by way of Ogden. Large shipments of livestock from Idaho would contribute to the support of the line, he said, while local traffic would contribute to the support of the line, he said, while local traffic would contribute considerably more.

Several residents of Nyssa visited the public utilities commission today to voice support of the line, claiming it would open a direct route to Idaho and western Oregon produce to the coast.

F. E. Emith, president of the Idaho commission, said that body had no information as to who was back of the Idaho and Pacific group and would take no stand in favor of it as against the proposed central Oregon route which recently received a favorable report from an interstate commerce commission examiner.

Officials of the state chamber of commerce said the matter had never been discussed by them.

Joel L. Priest, Idaho, representative of the Union Pacific system, said he had received no direct report of the intervention of his company and the Southern Pacific in opposition to the line, though he declared it was the "logical procedure to expect."

STORM-DRIVEN TOURISTS DROWNED IN RAILROAD PASS

(Associated Press Leased Wire)

SALIDA, Colo., July 20.—Trapped by flood water that swept through a railroad underpass in which they had taken refuge, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Fugate and their baby, Edna, of Pawhuska, Okla., were drowned near here last night.

Four other persons, who were members of a touring party with the Fugates, escaped. The tourists, motoring through Colorado, had taken refuge in the underpass from a rain and hail storm. A small creek nearby was flowing full to the banks, and a portion of the bank gave way, sending a four-foot wall of water into the underpass.

John R. Melvin, arrested by city officers on a charge of possession of liquor, was fined \$75 by City Recorder Geddes today. Not having money to pay the fine he has been confined in the city jail for thirty days.

(Continued on page 7)

POOL OF DATE PRUNES SOLD TO ROSENBERG

Between 100 to 200 Tons Included in Deal Negotiated at Conference.

Association Plans to Form New Pool of Italians and Petites for Sale July 25.

(Associated Press Leased Wire)

Sale of a date prune pool of from 150 to 200 tons to Rosenberg Bros. and Company was completed here today. Date prune men of the county, representing approximately 170 tons out of the estimated 250-ton crop in the county were present. The date prune growers are not organized, but agreed to cooperate in action taken.

Buyers representing Rosenberg Bros. and H. S. Gile and company were present, and agreed to submit written bids on a pool in excess of 100 tons. The bids were submitted and referred to the growers for consideration. The proposals were very close, Rosenberg Bros. bidding on a 5-point basis, while the Gile bid was on 10-point basis. After deliberating for several hours the growers considered the 5-point grade to be the better proposition and accepted the bid.

Growers immediately listed 115 tons, while several deferred action pending conference with parties. It is expected that enough additional prunes will be signed up today to bring the pool to more than 150 tons. The bid was as follows:

30-35	82c	60-65	61c
35-40	81c	65-70	52c
40-45	8c	70-75	53c
45-50	73c	75-80	43c
50-55	71c	1-cent drop on each	
55-60	67c	5 points smaller	

It is believed that the majority of the date prunes of the county will be sold in the pool. J. C. Leedy, county agent, estimates the total date prune yield at about 250 tons.

More Italians Sold
The offer of Rosenberg Bros. made following the exercising of his option on the prune association's first pool, resulted yesterday in the listing of 75,000 pounds additional at the advanced price.

The majority of the growers in the association, however, are still holding back a large part of their crop for later developments, believing that the market will not weaken and may become stronger.

Prunes outside the association, according to reports, have been mostly all contracted, with the exception of a few of the larger growers. (Continued on page 3)

PATROL INSPECTOR ON MEXICAN BORDER SLAIN IN BATTLE

(Associated Press Leased Wire)

EL PASO, Texas, July 20.—Ivan E. Scetten, 25, a patrol inspector in the border patrol, was shot and killed today when a party of six patrolmen was ambushed by a large group believed to be Mexican run runners, on San Elizarlo island at a point called Los Pontas, on the Rio Grande.

Scetten and his men were on the island watching for smugglers when they saw a lone horseman crossing the river. They opened fire and simultaneously a group on the other side of the river opened fire on the Americans. At the same time a group of Mexicans surrounded the islands by the Americans began firing. Scetten fell under the first fire with one bullet through his head and another through his hip. He was instantly killed. The Americans succeeded in driving off their assailants, shooting a horse from beneath one of the attackers and apparently wounding the rider who escaped to the Mexican side of the river.

DOUGLAS COUNTY SOCIETY AT SALEM HEADED BY COSHOW

(Associated Press Leased Wire)

SALEM, Ore., July 20.—Former residents of Douglas county, Oregon, who now live in or around Salem have formed a Douglas County Association here with Chief Justice O. P. Coshow of the state supreme court, as president, and James T. Goodman, deputy state insurance commissioner, as secretary and treasurer. At a picnic for those eligible for membership 55 persons were present. It is said at least twice that number live in the community.

Canada's Crop Of Wheat Hurt; Bread Goes Up

(Associated Press Leased Wire)

LONDON, July 20.—(By the Canadian Press)—Canada's short wheat crop is creating alarm in thousands of British homes. Prices of bread, which have already been increased in line with the increase in wheat prices, are going higher unless there is a halt in the climbing flour prices. Glasgow bakers are raising the price of a four-pound loaf from 19 cents to 21 cents on Monday. London bakers who increased the price of an ordinary loaf from 16 to 17 cents last Monday threaten to add another cent a week from now.

It is being suggested here, however, that other factors besides a poor wheat crop may be responsible. One view is that, decided by the fall in wheat prices earlier in the year, British importers and bakers were caught with a small stock and now have to buy heavily on a rising market. Another suggestion is that speculators have been attempting a corner in the Chicago wheat pit.

WINNIPEG, Man., July 20.—A crop report published by the Manitoba Free Press today says the condition of the wheat and coarse grain crop in western Canada shows a marked deterioration since June 29, due to lack of rainfall, high temperatures and hot drying winds.

Summer fallow wheat has stood the drought well while stubble and fall and spring plowed wheat crops have suffered materially and in many places are believed a failure, the report states.

Oats and barley are generally short and late. Traces of rain have been found in southern Manitoba.

M'NARY'S AID ON NORTH UMPQUA ROAD PROJECT PROMISED

Senator Believes Completion of Road Immediately Is Duty of the Federal Government.

Waited upon yesterday in his Salem office by a group of Douglas county citizens interested in the completion of the road up the North Umpqua river to Diamond lake and central Oregon, Chas. L. McNary, senior senator from Oregon, virtually pledged his support in getting federal aid for the project.

Senator McNary is chairman of the standing senate committee on agriculture and forestry and explained to the delegation the workings of the congressional machinery necessary to produce a favorable action on the North Umpqua proposal. Because of his long successful record at the capital, which has resulted in his having considerable influence in matters acted upon by his committee, it is believed that the senator's approval of an appropriation for a road through the forest will carry considerable weight.

"Because of the extremely large amount of land under government control in Douglas county," said the senator, "I am inclined to believe that the federal government should give Douglas county the aid you ask for in the completion of the twenty-two miles of road within the national forest boundary."

A letter to Senator McNary, setting forth all of the details of the North Umpqua road is being prepared by Guy Gordon. This letter will be in the senator's hands when he returns to Washington in two weeks and it is his expressed intention to take the matter up vigorously with the proper authorities there at once.

JACK CARTER, BOOZE RUNNER, STILL HELD IN COUNTY JAIL

(Associated Press Leased Wire)

Jack Carter, alleged booze runner, arrested Thursday night south of Canyonville with a cargo of 59 gallons of alcohol, is still in the county jail. He has been endeavoring to raise bail, which was fixed in the sum of \$2,000 covering the two charges against him, one for driving on the wrong side of the road and the other for transportation of liquor, but so far the bail has not yet been received. A bond is expected from Portland tonight, but will have to wait court approval, and as Judge Hopkins and Judge Hamilton are both away from town until the first of the week, Carter will probably remain imprisoned for a few more days. Officers are tracing the ownership of the car, preparatory to confiscation proceedings.

Mrs. J. O. Elfert returned to her home in Albany Monday after being the guest of her mother, Mrs. Leslie Hatfield of this city.

RUSSIA-CHINA WAR PROSPECT DECREASES AS THREE POWERS COMBINE IN FRIENDLY ADVICE

United States, England and France, Striving to Maintain Peace, Obtain Promise That Neither Disputant Will Resort to Arms, Save to Resist Invasion.

Reported Occupation of Two Chinese Cities in Manchuria Said False—Russian Directors of Railroad at Root of Controversy Interned—No Other Foreign Interests to Be Molested, Is Assurance.

(By The Associated Press)

The great powers today were working actively to avert war in Manchuria between China and Russia, the Kellogg pact being one of the chief mediums through which this was in progress.

Great Britain joined France and the United States in seeking to bring about relaxation of the tension "by friendly advice." Both China and Russia announced they were fully conscious of their obligations under the Kellogg pact and intended to observe them, but that an invasion would mean military resistance and war.

China and Russia disavowed any intention of invading the other, but it was clearly recognized that border incidents constituted the chief danger to peace.

French consular authorities at Shanghai said that Harbin reports told of Russian troops crossing the Manchurian border at the eastern end of the Chinese Eastern railway.

Previous dispatches that this was the case met with denial in Moscow and there was no authentic information that either China or Russia had invaded each other's territory.

Russian dispatches told of a rush of workers to join the Red army "to defend the union against China."

Nanking reports in London indicated that the Chinese minister in Finland would go to Moscow in order to discuss the situation with the soviet government.

American officials at Washington expected the Kellogg pact to exert a profound influence toward peaceful settlement of the controversy.

Official Chinese dispatches made public in New York denied that the seizure of the Chinese Eastern railway meant that similar action would be taken against other foreign interests in China.

France Takes Active Part

WASHINGTON, July 20.—French Ambassador Claudel delivered to the state department today a message from Foreign Minister Briand of France to Secretary Stimson concerning the Sino-Soviet difficulties in Manchuria.

The French embassy stated that so far its foreign office has not communicated to it a reply from the Moscow government to Secretary Stimson's action in calling to the attention of the soviet the fact that it has adhered to the general pact for reconciliation of war.

France is cooperating with the United States in the effort to avoid hostilities between China and Russia. It is expected that soviet communications will pass between Secretary Stimson and Minister Briand before the question is settled.

Ambassador Claudel, in the absence of Secretary Stimson and Under-Secretary Cotton, conferred with Assistant Secretary Nelson T. Johnson who has been in charge of the Sino-Soviet troubles so far as this government is concerned. Mr. Johnson will immediately transmit the Briand message to Secretary Stimson upon his return to Washington this afternoon from the Virginian mountain retreat of President Hoover.

The president and Mr. Stimson discussed the situation between China and Russia during the overnight visit of the secretary of state to the fishing reserve.

Envoys Return Halted
John Van A. MacMurray, American minister to China, informed the state department today that in view of the troubled situation between China and the soviet he had decided to cancel his trip to the United States.

Minister MacMurray was granted leave of absence and was prepared to depart for the United States when the Sino-Soviet situation became serious. The change in plans was authorized by Secretary Stimson.

War Move Denied

TOKYO, July 20.—A Japanese news agency dispatch from Manchuria, sent late in the afternoon today, indicated that yesterday's reported occupation of Manchuli by Russian troops was false.

The dispatch states that panic prevails among Russians and Chinese withdrawing from Manchuria but that Japanese civilians are remaining.

The Asahi's Harbin correspondent now denies the occupation of Pootchen and Manchuli.

The Harbin correspondent of the Reingo news agency states that three prominent Russians, Melnikov, Chukin and Lomayev, the last of whom was killed, were taken to the fishing reserve.

(Continued on page 3)

SHORT SKIRTS AND WIND MOVE DEAN INGE TO POETRY
(Associated Press Leased Wire)
LONDON, July 20.—The value of sunlight on the human frame has been proclaimed by Dean Inge of St. Paul's cathedral with the following bit of verse which he recited at the opening meeting of the sunlight league: "Half an inch shorter, half an inch shorter, Same skirts for mother and daughter: When the wind blows, Everything shows. Both what should, and what shouldn't oughter." He praised the woman's revolt from the extensive covering they indulged in forty or fifty years ago, saying that the movement of the sunlight league was currying on further the salutary effects of "mildly" a discard of heavy clothes.