

REPUBLICAN BOAT ON ROUGH SEAS

Leadership in Congress Appears Wobbly.

PARTY COUNSELS VARIED

Wing Favors Nomination of Progressive in 1924.

HIRAM JOHNSON STRONG

Fear Is Expressed That Harding Would Lose Through Split in Ranks of Voters.

BY ARTHUR SEARS HENNING.

(By Chicago Tribune Leased Wire.) WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 17.—With republican leadership in congress wobbling and the president unwilling to assume the role of dictator, the republican elephant is still staggering from the effects of the election trouncing and groping for a way out of the jungle.

Republicans foresee a lot of rough going between now and the 1924 election, particularly with a new congress intervening in which their control will be extremely tenuous, and they are prey to a diversity of counsel on the course to pursue.

A significant development of the last week has been an outcropping of cloak room expression of dissatisfaction by old line republicans with Mr. Harding as party leader. For a long time in 1924 if the president should be renominated have been heard from unexpected sources.

Progressive Nominee Wanted.

To win in 1924, say these new republican malcontents, it is going to be necessary to nominate a progressive who can avert a bolt by the radical wing of the party. If Mr. Harding should be renominated, it is asserted, the progressive faction will vote the democratic ticket or line up with a third party, accomplishing republican defeat in either event.

There will be a number of rivals of Mr. Harding, should he be announced for renomination, and Senator Johnson (republican, California), is virtually certain to be one of the foremost. Now, the surprising part of it is that numerous conservative republican leaders who were against Johnson in 1920 are for him now. Their theory is that Johnson would hold the progressive contingent in line for the ticket as they feel Mr. Harding could not hope to do.

Johnson is regarded as far less radical than when he came to the senate. He has parted company with the ultra-progressives and lined up with the conservatives on numerous occasions, notably when he supported the Fordney-McCumber bill without cavil, with the result that the standpatners have warmed to him, while the radicals have begun to exhibit a certain coolness. Still, calculate the regulars, the progressives would find it difficult to organize a disastrous bolt, were he the nominee.

Primaries to Be Hot.

It already is apparent that the 1924 presidential primaries will be the scene of a spectacular struggle. Johnson cut a wide swath in the 1920 primaries and there will be many more presidential primary states in 1924, if the progressives achieve their purpose. There is to be a conference of governors in Chicago next month to agree on plans for state legislation and establishing preference primary states in states now without such laws.

Mr. Harding made a conspicuously poor showing in the 1920 primaries and there is much speculation on his probable fate in the 1924 expressions of preference. He is opposed to the presidential primary system and for a return to the old plan of unfettered conventions. His friends are confident, however, that there will be a decided reaction in his favor by the time 1924 rolls around and that there will be no fear of his ability to carry the primary states as well as those in which the delegates will be selected by the party leaders.

Compromise Candidate Expected.

Republican politicians also look for the entrance into the contest of candidates who will offer themselves as a compromise to those who are not satisfied with Mr. Harding and yet hesitate to support an aspirant of the type of Johnson. One hears a good deal of talk in this vein favorable to Senator Pepper (republican, Pennsylvania). Mr. Pepper also has heard the gossip, but has discouraged it, asserting he is for the renomination of the president.

The republicans in the senate are far from a cohesive aggregation. Senator Lodge (republican, Massachusetts), is majority leader but scarcely more than a name. Senator Watson (republican, Indiana), younger and more aggressive, is forging to the front as the real leader. The Lodge following is jealous of the Watson ascendancy. Then there is a large group of young senators who are against both

TWO FIRES STARTED IN THAWING PIPES

ARRESTS ARE THREATENED BY FIRE MARSHAL.

Third Blaze Alarms Citizens of Chinatown, Who Fear Gilt Idol Is Menaced.

Fire starting from the use of torches applied to frozen water pipes damaged two Portland homes yesterday. Warrants will be served for arrests in all such cases, Captain Fred W. Roberts, deputy fire marshal, declared last night.

"Such procedure is hazardous and in violation of the law," he said. Eight damages were done to a double house at 495 East Yamhill street, occupied by Mrs. E. Whitman on one side and H. W. Blair on the other. Blair was said to have been at work in his own basement with a blow torch in an attempt to open the frozen pipes. Flames spread up through the floor into his neighbor's apartment. Floor and walls were badly scorched.

A paper torch said to have been employed by Mrs. E. Clemens in the rear of her house at 211 Meade street, in thawing out another frozen pipe, was responsible for a second alarm turned in by neighbors who saw the smoke. No damage was done.

A roof blaze on the Irvington school, East Fourteenth and Thompson streets, attracted neighborhood attention early in the afternoon. A spark from a nearby chimney was thought responsible. The blaze was extinguished by the firemen before damage resulted.

Into the Sunday calm of New Chinatown came a disturbing element in the form of a blaze starting from an overheated stove not four feet from a great gilt idol in the rooms of the Bow On society at 35 North Fourth street. Firemen who made their way to the third floor of the rickety structure were impeded in their work by a crowd of anxious orientals who feared the proximity of axes to the gilt figure. The blaze was extinguished despite the interference. Several hundred dollars damage was done to fixtures in the place.

INFANT MORTALITY LOW

500,000 Live in Square Mile but Death Rate Lowest in World.

NEW YORK, Dec. 17.—One square mile on the lower east side, where 500,000 persons live, shows one of the lowest infant mortality rates in the world, Dr. Royal S. Copeland, United States senator-elect, declared today, in an address to the congregation Beth Hamitzrah Hagafar. In this crowded area, Dr. Copeland said, among every 1000 children born 50 die in the first year of life. In contrast, he said, in the upper Fifth-avenue district 100 of every 1000 children die during their first year.

WARSHIP FLEET SIGHTED

Merchant Vessel Is Reported Under Convoy Off Brazil.

PERNAMBUCO, Brazil, Dec. 17.—The captain and passengers of the British steamer Almazora, which arrived here today, reported having seen last night on the high seas a fleet of 12 warships of the destroyer type steaming southward conveying a merchant vessel, presumably a collier. The nationality of the fleet was not ascertained.

As far as it is known no fleet at present is navigating these waters. Therefore, the reported presence of the ships is causing speculation.

ASTORIA CITIZENS RELAX

Community Sing Held; Al Kader Band of Portland Plays.

ASTORIA, Or., Dec. 17.—(Special.)—Except for scores of men who were engaged in erecting temporary structures in which business enterprises may be established, Astoria relaxed today from the terrific strain under which her citizens have been since the big conflagration. This afternoon a community sing was held at the high school auditorium, the music being furnished by the Al Kader Shrine band of Portland.

THEATER OWNERS UNITE

\$5,000,000 Corporation Formed for Co-operative Distribution.

NEW YORK, Dec. 17.—Formation of the Theater Owners' Distributing corporation for purposes of co-operation among independent owners throughout the country was announced today. It has an authorized capitalization of \$5,000,000. Directors include Sydney S. Cohen, New York; William A. True, Hartford, Conn.; Harry Davis, Pittsburgh; L. J. Dittman, Louisville, Ky.; and W. D. Burford, Aurora, Ill.

SHIP'S PASSENGERS SAFE

Liner Refloated After 120 Are Taken to Safety.

ST. JOHNS, N. F., Dec. 17.—One hundred and twenty passengers of the steamer Prospero, which ran aground on Small Island, near Green's pond, on the east coast of Newfoundland last night, were safely landed this morning. The vessel, which is owned by the Newfoundland government, was refloated later with Nos. 1 and 2 holds damaged.

HARDING PLEDGES HELP ON BONUS

President to Give Money Can Be Repaid.

VETERANS GET GOOD NEWS

Word Given Out by Colonel Forbes at Cincinnati.

EX-SOLDIERS HAVE PLAN

Sales Tax With Foodstuffs Exempted Indorsed by Delegates at Meeting.

CINCINNATI, O., Dec. 17.—A direct message from President Harding pledging his support to a bonus measure for ex-service men providing a feasible means for financing the burden can be found, was presented by Colonel C. R. Forbes, director of the veterans' bureau at Washington, before a joint conference of national and state executives of the Veterans of Foreign Wars here today.

In the conference were the members of the national council of administration and the department commanders of the veterans' organization. Immediately following Colonel Forbes' address and a discussion, which resulted in strong approval of a sales tax, the executives unanimously adopted a resolution indorsing a sales tax with foodstuffs exempted as a means of raising the necessary revenue to finance the bonus.

C. Hamilton Cook, Buffalo, N. Y., national commander of the Disabled American Veterans of the World War, who was attending the conference by invitation, said that his organization would take immediate action to support the resolution. The American Legion, which is the largest of the veterans' organizations, was not represented at the meeting.

Colonel Forbes called President Harding by long-distance telephone shortly before going into the conference, and in the course of his address referred to his conversation with the president.

"I called him up because it was suggested to me that the bonus might be touched upon," he said. "I wish you knew the pulse of Harding. I wish you knew his innermost thoughts. I wish you knew how he loves the ex-service men."

Most of the conference today was devoted to an executive session at which matters of policy were discussed. The address of Colonel Forbes, however, was open to the public. Colonel Forbes left for Washington tonight. The executive board of the organization will wind up the two days' conference with an executive session tomorrow.

MORE COLD SLATED, WITH RAIN OR SNOW

EASTERLY WINDS ALSO ARE FORECAST FOR TODAY.

Coating of Ice Makes Streets Treacherous for Motorists and Pedestrians.

WHAT COLD AND WIND HAVE DONE TO THE NORTHWEST.

Hood River has snow flurries. Astoria cold snap unbroken. Salem walks and pavements are coated with ice. Chehalis reports "Kalamia" river frozen over, forcing the power plant to close. No relief obtained. Logging camps shut down.

Olympia has light rain that freezes as it falls. Cold continues. Lebanon has heavy fog. Damage from freezing feared. Cottage Grove, streets covered with ice. Molalla has icy streets. Lowest temperature 4 above zero.

Hourly Temperatures for Portland Yesterday.

Midnight	20	10 A. M.	21
1 A. M.	19	11 A. M.	21
2 A. M.	19	Noon	22
3 A. M.	19	1 P. M.	24
4 A. M.	19	2 P. M.	24
5 A. M.	19	3 P. M.	23
6 A. M.	19	4 P. M.	23
7 A. M.	19	5 P. M.	23
8 A. M.	21	6 P. M.	23
9 A. M.	21	7 P. M.	23

The weather forecaster has predicted continued low temperatures and rain or snow, driven by easterly winds, for today. Gloomy contemplation of the prospect of a silver thaw was the lot of Portland folk yesterday who began to feel the frost when it continued at night. The streets were treacherous for motorists as well as motorists.

Low temperatures with rainy and cloudy weather were reported also from all parts of the northwest. At Walla Walla the lowest point reached was 2 degrees above zero and the highest 14 degrees. Spokane reported a minimum of 4 degrees and a maximum of 10. The minimum at Baker was 4 above and the maximum 18. Portland's lot, a minimum of 19 and maximum of 24, did not appear so bad when contrasted with those cities. The minimum temperature was registered at 4 o'clock yesterday morning, holding for three hours. The highest point was reached by the mercury at 1 o'clock. A steady temperature of 23 degrees above was registered from 2 to 7 o'clock.

"Oh, boy! Ain't that some! That's darn that wind, though!" That's the way a small boy on skates at Laurelhurst park summed up the situation as he and scores of companions circled about the lake on the best skating ice in years. Despite the fact that never was ice more tempting—the effect on an ardent skater produced by sight of the smooth surface being similar to that of the "Blah Blah Blues" on a jazz dancer—the crowd at the park, because of the biting wind, was much smaller than usual.

Eastmoreland lake was also struck. (Concluded on Page 3, Column 1.)

ANDY GUMP'S FAMILY TO APPEAR IN MOVIES

FAMOUS CHARACTER TO BE PUT ON SCREEN.

Sidney Smith, Creator of Comic Strip, Signs Contract to Write Story.

(By Chicago Tribune Leased Wire.) CHICAGO, Dec. 17.—The philosophy of Andy Gump, Chester, Minn., Uncle Blm and others who figure in the famous "Gump" newspaper strip is going to be featured in the movies.

Announcement was made today that Sidney Smith, creator of "The Gumps," had signed a contract to write the "Gumps" for the screen. The feature will be produced in regular movie style, real people playing the parts of the nationally known "Gump" characters. Pictures of two reels each will be released semi-monthly and the work of making the films will be started immediately under the supervision of one of the best comedy directors in the business today. The first release will be early in the new year.

While the announcement made no mention of the money involved, in the contract it can be reliably stated that the author of "The Gumps" will receive a salary that will compare with those received by prominent motion picture stars.

FOOD PRICES ADVANCE

Costs in Portland 35 Per Cent Above Those for 1913.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 17.—Both retail and wholesale food prices increased 2 per cent or more during November, according to figures made public today by the department of labor. Notwithstanding the increase, the department said there was a decrease of 5 per cent for the year ending November 15 in retail food prices, while wholesale food prices increased about 1 1/2 per cent during the year.

As compared with 1913 retail food prices in November were given as 46 per cent higher in Chicago and Pittsburgh, 44 per cent in Dallas and San Francisco, 42 per cent in Cincinnati, Cleveland, Los Angeles and Minneapolis, 39 per cent in Omaha and Seattle, and 35 per cent in Louisville and Portland, Or.

AUTOS HIT SLEDS, 6 HURT

Willamette Students in Sleighbell Parties Injured.

WILLAMETTE UNIVERSITY, Salem, Or., Dec. 17.—(Special.)—Six students were injured in two accidents which marred sleighbell parties last night, when automobiles crashed into the sleds on which they were riding. Zella Mulkey of Portland was thrown beneath the wheels of an automobile, but escaped with a broken finger on the left hand, a broken knee cap and bruises about the legs. Hazel Malmsten of Verona, Richard Briggs of Kennebec, Elworth Anslow of Port Orchard, Esther Moyer of Roseburg and Willard Carey of Walla Walla, sustained minor injuries. None of the injuries are believed to be serious. The sleds were trailed behind automobiles and carried no lights.

EINSTEIN THEORY FACES HARD TEST

Whether Light Subject to Gravity at Issue.

STARS ARE LOST IN GLARE

Remarkable Changes in Colors Are Recorded.

PLANET IS AT VARIANCE

Scientists Await From World Observatories Verdict of Astronomical Parties.

VICTORIA, B. C., Dec. 15.—(Special.)—Like that of Newton, who 300 years ago, explained to mystified mankind why it was that people on the underside of this round world, instead of falling off into space, went about upside down in comfort, fastened by their toes to the earth in perfect security, will the name of Albert Einstein go down to posterity, as that of a great revolutionary leader of scientific thought?

This is the question scientists are asking themselves today while awaiting from the world's observatories the verdict of the astronomical parties which voyaged around half the globe to Christmas Island and western Australia to view and record the solar eclipse of September 21. By their photographs will Einstein's bold pronouncement be proved that the sun attracts or bends toward it passing rays of light from nearby stars, that in other words light has weight and is subject to the law of gravity, be judged, according to Dr. R. K. Young, of the Victoria observatory staff, who, with Professor C. A. Chant of Toronto university, formed the Canadian section of the expedition that assembled at Walla, on western Australia's 90-mile beach, on September 21.

Two Einstein plates were secured by the Canadian astronomers. Ten were obtained by the Americans, headed by Dr. W. W. Campbell of Lick observatory. Other observations were made by scientists of Great Britain, British India, New Zealand and Australia, who watched with the Canadians and Americans a Walla; still others by British and Dutch observers, among the latter Einstein himself, at Christmas Island.

"These plates taken at this eclipse, when measured and reduced, will prove, disprove or modify the Einstein theory, I have no doubt," said Dr. Young.

"About 300 years ago Newton brought out his famous book," explained Dr. Young, "on mechanics and the nature of forces and the law of gravitation. This was an epoch-making discovery. It made reasonable the belief that the earth was spherical. Before then it seemed contradictory to common sense that

PICTORIAL ROAD MAP.

Motorists contemplating vacation trips into Oregon's scenic wonderlands or to adjacent states find something lacking in the formal, flat, unimaginative road map. The missing quality will be discovered in an unusual pictorial map drawn by Fred A. Routledge—a Portland artist widely known for his accurate scenic visualizations—for the New Year Edition of The Oregonian. This road sketch, while depicting all the main highways and the principal branches with fidelity, is given life and color by a treatment showing mountains in relief and a view of the state of Oregon which would be obtained from an airplane hovering high above the California line.

As far north as Seattle and as far east as the Bitter Root mountains of Montana, the drawing shows in perspective, giving a clear idea of the main traveled Oregon roads and their connections with adjoining states. A key map shows the portion of principal roads which are paved.

Details of road building are accurate, being based on latest information available from the state highway commission. It is a map which will be preserved by automobile owners for years to come, and occupies a double page in the scenic section of The Oregonian Annual.

\$5,000,000 IN WORK PLANNED FOR 1923

FRANKLIN T. GRIFFITH, HEAD OF CAR COMPANY, BACK.

About Half of Sum to Be Used on Oak Grove Plant and Rest on Street Lines.

Extension and betterments to the properties of the Portland Railway, Light & Power company during the coming year will mean the expenditure of \$5,000,000, according to Franklin T. Griffith, president of the corporation, who has just returned from a three-weeks' trip east. Half of this amount will go into the new power project on the Oak Grove branch of the Clackamas river, which it is expected to complete by July, 1924. The remainder of the expenditures will be distributed among numerous improvements which will keep the properties thoroughly modern.

President Griffith passed some time in Philadelphia, Washington and New York. In the last named city he attended the National Electric Light association executive committee meeting, being vice-president of that organization.

"A new development in the distribution of utility stocks has been taking place," said Mr. Griffith. "It is estimated that this year the various utility companies of the country will have distributed \$90,000,000 worth of stocks to their customers and it is forecast that next year these sales will reach \$250,000,000. The various utilities of the country are expected to expend nearly \$1,000,000,000 in construction during 1923, which means that more than one-fourth of the total amount will be supplied through sales of stocks.

"This is real public ownership of utilities, with the customers of the various companies becoming partners in the enterprises, this investment being made by patrons in the districts served by the concerns. Generally, it appeared from what I saw in the east, conditions are on the mend and the outlook is facing more favorable times. We are so well assured of this outlook that our company is going ahead vigorously with its own construction work planned for 1923."

STOCKMAN DROPS DEAD

Elmo Neil of Ashland Is Stricken While Tying Shoes.

ASHLAND, Or., Dec. 17.—(Special.)—Elmo Neil, about 36 years of age, a well-known rancher and stockman of this vicinity, dropped dead at his home near here while preparing to come to the city last night. He had been working in the cold all day and has just eaten and taken a bath. Death occurred while he was in the act of tying his shoes. His wife was alone with him more than two hours before assistance came.

Heart disease is ascribed as the cause of death. Mr. Neil is the third member of his family to meet death in this manner. He was a member of Ashland Elks' lodge No. 994.

\$4623 OFFERING TAKEN

East Side Baptist Church Gives Liberally to Near East Relief.

An offering totaling \$4623.74, the largest contribution made by any church in the northwest toward near east relief work, was taken yesterday morning at the East Side Baptist church following an address by Mrs. Jeanette W. Emerick of Boston, supported by an appeal by the pastor, Rev. W. B. Hinson. This fund is expected to be swelled to more than \$6000.

Mrs. Emerick told of her work in caring for 6000 orphans and 3000 aged people in Constantinople. She spoke at the First Methodist Episcopal church last night and left on a late train for Boston.

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JUVENILE CRIME WAVE APPALLING

Reform School Declared Jail Recruiting Office.

SEGREGATION IS URGED

Accidental Offenders Taught by Habitual Criminals.

583 CAPTURED IN YEAR

Police Prepare List of Persons Under 18 Who Were Arrested During 1922.

JUVENILE CRIME LIST FOR YEAR STARTLING.

Pearl Goode, 17-year-old girl, arrested September 23, 1921, and held responsible for 40 house burglaries. Albert Ehrler, 16, arrested and rearrested after escapes from the reform school. Credited with a dozen crimes. Helen Burgoyne, 19-year-old girl who followed occupation of highwaywoman. At present serving sentence in county jail. Herbert West, the "yokel," who committed three of the most daring robberies ever perpetrated in Portland. Arrested December 13. Rhody Beers, his accomplice, a reform school graduate, held on a like charge. Francis Vanderzanden, 17-year-old country youth, now in jail at Hillsboro for the cold-blooded murder of Jacob Dahinden, aged recluse of Washington county.

An aged man murdered in cold blood by an impressionable county youth—a city terrorized for a week by a 15-year-old desperado—robbery, burglary and other major offenses committed daily by headless boys—such are the high spots of a wave of juvenile crime now rampant in Oregon.

The police shrug their collective shoulders and say that the cause is none of their business, that they are paid simply to catch the offenders—officialdom discusses the effects of heredity and environment, tackles the situation from the scientific standpoint and talks of segregation of natural and accidental offenders, but the fact remains that more than half of the crime committed in Portland is committed by minors who have not reached their eighteenth birthday.

Oregon System Target.

"The trouble with the wayward boys who go to the reform school are—then graduate into habitual criminals that the people of Oregon are using a system of handling these boys that was obsolete 30 years ago," said Judge Kantler, of the juvenile court.

"The reform school is strictly institutional. Good boys, bad boys, boy burglars, boy highwaymen, boys of every degree of incorrigibility are housed together under one large roof. They study together, work together, play together. The boy who is sent there simply because he plays hooky from school and won't mind his parents soon absorbs the atmosphere of the institution. His ambitions become criminal.

"The cottage plan has been proposed, and it is the only sensible system of handling boys. Under this system, the home replaces the institution. Twenty or 30 boys of about the same grade of delinquency are housed in separate buildings under a house mother and a house father.

Groups Kept Separate.

"They work together, they play together. They are kept entirely separated from the boys of the other cottages. The thoroughly bad have no opportunity to corrupt the boys in whom there is no taint of habitual criminality.

"While we have noticed no extraordinary increase in juvenile crime in our work at the juvenile court, it there is, the people of Oregon are themselves to blame. In the first place, the present reform school system is ancient and obsolete. It should be replaced by the cottage plan. Then the state should have some intermediary institution for thoroughly bad boys—habitual criminals whom we are unable to reform. I believe as District Attorney Myers does, that this state needs some sort of half-way house between the penitentiary and the reform school."

Herbert West, the 15-year-old "yokel," was landed in jail only after he had perpetrated three of the most daring robberies ever staged in Portland. Francis Vanderzanden, 17-year-old country boy, attempted to attain fame as a "two-gun bad man," and made his start in this direction by shooting down an inoffensive old man who refused him food and money. Police records

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