

LIBERATION OF WAR PRISONERS LIKELY

28 I. W. W. May Get Freedom by Christmas.

PARDONS NOT EXPECTED

President, if He Acts on Recommendations, Will Merely Commute Men's Sentences.

BY ARTHUR SEARS HENNING. (By Chicago Tribune Licensed Wire.) WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 21.—Release by Christmas of nearly half of the so-called political prisoners still incarcerated for obstruction of war measures is a strong probability, it became known today.

The administration, it transpires, has under consideration the question of liberating the 28 I. W. W. associates of Bill Hayward who remain in prison under sentences of 3 to 20 years imposed by the court following their conviction in Chicago during the war.

This development followed disclosure that Senator Pepper, republican, Pennsylvania, one of the foremost legal authorities in the country, has urged the president to release the prisoners, expressing the opinion that the defendants have been unjustly confined for a period longer than the two years to which they were sentenced for one of the offenses charged in the indictment.

If President Harding decides to exercise clemency he will not pardon the prisoners but will offer each of them a commutation of sentence effective upon acceptance. According to the White House, the president had not received the recommendation of Attorney-General Daugherty up to tonight, but it is not unlikely that the latter will submit his view on the question of clemency to the president at the cabinet meeting tomorrow.

Sixty-two in Federal Prisons.

There are 62 political prisoners now in federal penitentiaries. In addition to the 28 I. W. W. members convicted in Chicago, there are 34 others who were convicted at Sacramento, Cal., four at Wichita, Kan., and six in scattering localities.

It is the intention of the department of justice to review all of these cases individually for the purpose of advising the president on the extension of clemency. Only the cases of the 28 Chicago defendants, however, have been taken up at this time for disposition before Christmas, if possible. The others will be considered later.

The I. W. W. members in the Chicago case were convicted on four counts in an indictment charging them with numerous offenses against war-time and other laws, which were classified mainly as disloyalty and conspiracy to obstruct conscription.

Two of the counts in the indictment virtually were thrown out by the court of appeals, which modified the sentence because of the errors of the two remaining counts upheld the third count covered conspiracy to violate the selective service act, the penalty for which offense was two years imprisonment. All the prisoners have served that sentence, which was to run concurrently with the sentence on other counts.

Fourth Count Upheld.

The fourth count, which was upheld, covered conspiracy to foment disloyalty in the army and navy, and on that count the defendants were given sentences of five to 20 years.

The attention of Senator Pepper was directed to the case several weeks ago. He went over the record of the case and came to the conclusion that the evidence pertaining to the charges on the fourth count was insufficient for conviction.

Senator Pepper prepared the memorandum which the president referred to the attorney-general for consideration in connection with the recommendation Mr. Daugherty was to make. The gist of the Pepper memorandum was that the two-year sentences on count three were justified, but the sentences on count four were wholly unjustified and conviction on that count was unwarranted.

In contrast with the Pepper view the court of appeals said in its opinion that there was abundant evidence for the conviction on count four and for the establishment of the responsibility of all the defendants for the draft obstruction literature.

White House Picketed.

For more than a year the joint amnesty committee has been conducting a drive for the liberation of the war prisoners and for several weeks has been picketing the White House with banners inscribed with its demands. Scores of church and labor organizations have joined in the appeal and the White House has been inundated with petitions for clemency.

TRAFFIC HEARING STAGED

Aberdeen Debates Plans About Bridge Draws on River.

ABERDEEN, Wash., Dec. 21.—(Special.)—Both community and industrial interests were represented at the hearing on river and highway traffic conditions conducted this morning at the city hall before Colonel Edward H. Shultz of Seattle, chief of the district corps of engineers. Views as to the needs and remedies were expressed by three groups, the city, mill and commercial interests and the marine interests.

The plan of the city included closing the bridge at certain specified hours, that of the chamber of commerce, the equipping of small craft with collapsible smokestacks and masts, while the marine and mill interests favored no change from the present plan, which gives river craft the right of way at all times.

Final decision was made to name a committee composed of the various interests to formulate a plan upon which Colonel Shultz could take final action.

Alumni Body Formed.

LA GRANDE, Or., Dec. 21.—(Special.)—The University of Oregon alumni in Union county organized recently and an election of officers named H. E. Watkins president and Mrs. William Miller secretary-treasurer. An executive committee composed of Ed Jasper, Homer Lefell and Dr. Ray F. Murphy was also elected.

Read The Oregonian classified ads.

CHIEF CHARACTERS AND RIVER CRAFT IN MYSTERY OF WILLAMETTE WHICH REVOLVES ABOUT REAL OR SUPPOSITIOUS MURDER OF UNIDENTIFIED GIRL.



MURDER TALE UNSHAKEN

WOMAN STICKS TO DETAILS OF ALLEGED CRIME.

Police Find Knothole Through Which Mrs. Leary Declares She Witnessed Deed.

(Continued From First Page.)

this came to pass the river will be dragged.

Fear Held for Life.

Efforts to winnow the reports of missing girls, that the identity of the alleged victim may be ascertained, were fruitless. A report from Leary was to the effect that a girl of approximately the same age disappeared from that suburb late in September. Mrs. Leary, however, said that this could not possibly be the girl in question, as she was "from somewhere up in Washington."

Her reasons for not divulging the crime at an earlier date, said Mrs. Leary, was that she was for several weeks held in restraint by the Weirs, father and son, and that she feared for her life, which they had threatened if she talked. Once, she said, she wrote a letter to the police, but dared not send it.

Whisky Loosens Tongues.

Most of the talk regarding the alleged murder, it was said, arose at waterfront "parties" when obliging hosts poured generous drinks of moonshine whisky and tongues were loosened. It was on such an occasion, according to the information of the police, that Mrs. Leary gossiped of the affair before those who carried the tale to headquarters.

The police, Mrs. Leary said, were among the Portland officers drawn to St. Helens to await the apprehension of Earl Weir, captain of the river boat Cowitz. Deputy District Attorney Mowry and inspectors Tackberry and Phillips were among the Portland officers drawn to St. Helens to await the apprehension of Earl Weir.

LA GRANDE WIND-SWEPT

Section of Damaged Theater Wall Collapses and Glass Broken.

LA GRANDE, Or., Dec. 21.—(Special.)—Heavy winds striking La Grande last night resulted in considerable damage being done in the business section. A section of the brick wall of the Star theater, which was weakened during the recent fire, collapsed, part of the brick breaking in the roof, damaging the interior to some extent.

Several plate-glass windows were broken, three that had been cracked recently, and one being smashed by a falling brick caused by the blowing of a tin chimney from the top of a three-story building.

COYOTE BOUNTY IS CUT

Douglas County Court Finds Retrenchment Necessary.

ROSEBURG, Or., Dec. 21.—(Special.)—The elimination of additional bounty on coyotes was ordered today by the Douglas county court when the clerk reported that of the fund appropriated under the 1922 budget only \$200 remained, which would not be sufficient to meet the state bounty during the remainder of the year.

Douglas county has been paying \$12 in addition to the state bounty for each coyote and the cost has ranged from \$600 to \$700 monthly.

TWO OFFICERS RETAINED

Union County Keeps Agricultural Agent and Nurse.

LA GRANDE, Or., Dec. 21.—(Special.)—The economy warfare which has been going on throughout the state was expected to result in the elimination of several county offices, among them being the county agricultural agent and the county nurse. At a meeting of the county court, attended by a large gathering of representative taxpayers, the question arose and after heated arguments and considerable debate the consensus of public opinion appeared to be in favor of retaining both offices, which was effected.

Budget Cut Protested.

EUGENE, Or., Dec. 21.—(Special.)—The Eugene chamber of commerce yesterday wired to Oregon's representatives in congress, insisting that the full \$55,000,000 recommended by army engineers for rivers and harbors be appropriated by congress.

This action was taken at the suggestion of the Marshfield chamber of commerce because of an attempt being made to cut the appropriation materially, and in that case the Coos Bay harbor would not receive the amount recommended by the engineers.

Legion Post to Be Active.

MEDFORD, Or., Dec. 21.—(Special.)—The Medford post of the American Legion anticipates a prosperous year under its new commander, Carl Y. Tenkward, ex-manager of the lodge at Crater lake and a prominent Medford young man, and the other officers who have just been elected at the annual meeting of the post. The

Deeper Channel Desired.

THE OREGONIAN NEWS BUREAU, Washington, D. C., Dec. 21.—Representative Hawley introduced a bill today making available from the funds for improvement of the Columbia river \$200 for a deeper channel at St. Helens, Or.

PINE CULTURE IS URGED

Small Planters Advised to Quit Growing of Sugarcane.

HONOLULU, T. H., Dec. 21.—(Special.)—Little straws show the way the wind is blowing and the latest of the little straws to point to the coming predominance of pineapples over sugar cane as the chief product of Hawaii are the recommendation of Albert Horner, territorial government sugar expert, to the homegrowers that they quit trying to make money out of sugarcane and plant their lands in pineapples.

Mr. Horner said that some of the homegrown lots on which sugar is being grown are so poor in soil that even under the most favorable conditions the harvest will be poor. The solution is to plant some other crop, pineapples being the best return, he added.

Dry Law Violators Fined.

ALBANY, Or., Dec. 21.—(Special.)—Linn county officials have been raging war on the wets who are bringing forth their wares for Christmas and New Years, and as a result Charles Payne of Thomas community, was fined \$100 in the justice court here today. Payne who is a cripple, said he had grape juice for vinegar and that it was not fermented. Fred Hughes, who was brought into court yesterday for the second time on a liquor charge and was fined \$200, paid the assessment and was released today.

HOOD RIVER, Or., Dec. 21.—(Special.)—While the temperature remained around the freezing point, the snow melted slowly today and the ice of the Columbia shows signs of rapid breaking up. It is anticipated, unless lower temperatures prevail, that ferry service between here and White Salmon, Wash., will be re-established by Sunday. Floating ice, however, will run in the Columbia for a week or more and it is not expected that the movement of apples from here to Portland will be resumed much before January 1.

War Veterans Elect Officers.

SALEM, Or., Dec. 21.—(Special.)—Allan G. Carson, local attorney, today was elected commander of the local post of the Veterans of Foreign Wars. Other officers are Christopher J. Kowitz, junior vice-commander; Harold B. Garver, chaplain; Dr. W. Carlton Smith, surgeon; George J. Willett, officer of the day, and Bryan Conroy, trustee.

Accused Man Bound Over.

LA GRANDE, Or., Dec. 21.—(Special.)—William Kessler of Baker, charged with manslaughter in the death of Arthur Cleaver, appeared before the justice court today and waived examination. He was bound over to await the action of the grand jury and his bonds set at \$5000.

Mills Close for Holidays.

EUGENE, Or., Dec. 21.—(Special.)—The Booth-Kelly Lumber company's mills and camps in this county will close Saturday night for a week to allow the employees to enjoy the Christmas holidays. Many of the smaller mills in the county have closed or will Saturday night.

Other officers are as follows:

Vice-commander—Warren Butler; adjutant, A. J. Crosse; treasurer, Cole Holmes; chaplain, E. C. Ferguson; historian, George A. Coddling; executive committee, E. R. Laid, E. E. Wilson, Caltous McCredie, Samuel Leonard and Ben Hilton.

DOCTOR'S PLEA TARGET

U. S. ATTORNEY FILES ANSWER TO WET SUIT.

Physician Contends That Congress May Not Limit Amount of Liquor for Patient.

NEW YORK, Dec. 21.—To permit physicians to use their discretion in prescribing liquors would be to defeat the purposes of the Volstead act, Assistant United States Attorney Clark declared in answers to actions brought by Dr. Samuel W. Lambert and Edward and James Burke, Limited, makers of Guinness Stout, designed to raise additional questions as to the constitutionality of certain provisions of the prohibition enforcement law.

Aberdeen Veterans Elect.

ABERDEEN, Wash., Dec. 21.—(Special.)—Charles H. Cyr has been elected commander of the James J. Sexton post, Veterans of Foreign Wars. Other officers elected were Robert Johnson, senior vice-commander, Victor Lundberg, junior vice-commander; A. A. Walloch, chaplain; Harold Mitchell, quartermaster; Dr. Milton Graham, sur-

Dr. Lambert's suit attacked the

provision of the law limiting the quantity of alcoholic liquor a physician may prescribe to a patient within a given time. He maintained that congress was going beyond its constitutional powers in directing a practicing physician in good standing how much or what kind of materials he should prescribe. Dr. Lambert said this part of the prohibition law put congress in the position of practicing medicine. Attorney Clark said Dr. Lambert's complaint if successful would lead to giving practitioners power to prescribe for the sale of unlimited supplies and make enforcement of the 18th amendment an impossibility.

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PEOPLES

Thrill after Thrill!

Driven helplessly before the raging gale, the schooner plowed headlong into the half-submerged derelict as, wild with fear, the crew fought savagely to escape from the doomed ship. It's a thrill you will long remember—and it's just one of the many in

The KENTUCKY DERBY

The Year's Melodramatic Triumph with an all-star cast, including Reginald Denny Famous Hero of "The Leather Pushers" series. Directed by KING BAGGOT



geon: Dr. J. B. Kinne, officer of the day; Fred Dolan and Dr. O. R. Austin, trustees. Plans are being made for a reception for M. A. Mullin, state commander, who is expected to arrive in Aberdeen January 2 to install the newly elected officers.

Legion Head Is Father. ASHLAND, Or., Dec. 21.—(Special.)—George Edwin Dunn, commander of Ashland Post No. 14, of the American Legion, was made happy on December 19 by the arrival of a soldier in his home and the post is rejoicing over the addition of another legionnaire. The recruit weighed 10 1/2 pounds.

Brownsville Alumni Organize. BROWNSVILLE, Or., Dec. 21.—(Special.)—Former students of the

Oregon Agricultural college met with students who are now attending that school from this city for the organization of a club at Brownsville, and officers were elected. Vitz Ramsdell is president, James Calloway secretary and Ray Beatty treasurer.

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- Saves the work of rinsing—the machine rinses
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Saves handling WET clothes
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Table with columns for destinations (SPOKANE, BEND, CAMAS, HELENA, MARTHILL, MADRAS, MINSOULA, PRINEVILLE, REDMOND, WASHINGTON, WHITE SALMON) and fares.

Spokane, Portland & Seattle Ry.

Table with columns for destinations (ASTORIA, CLATSkanie, GEARHART, GORLE, RAINIER, ST. HELENS, SEASIDE) and fares.

Oregon Electric Ry.

Table with columns for destinations (ALBANY, DONALD, EUGENE, FOREST GROVE, HARRISBURG, HILLSBORO, JUNCTION CITY, OREGON, ORVILLE, SALEM, WILSONVILLE, WOODBURN) and fares.

PILES

Be Cured to Stay Cured I GUARANTEE to permanently cure your Piles without cutting, burning, stitching, anaesthetic, confinement or unpleasant after-effects. My patients are reputable men and women in every walk of life to whom you may refer about this painless, non-surgical cure.

DR. CHAS. J. DEAN END AND MORRISON PORTLAND, OREGON MENTION THIS PAPER WHEN WRITING

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FOR THE RELIEF OF Coughs, Colds, Croup, WHOOPING COUGH, HOARSENESS BRONCHITIS -SOLD EVERYWHERE-