

A poem by Mary Carolyn Davies and illustrated by Howard Fisher will feature the front cover of the Sunday Journal Magazine next Sunday.

Portland and vicinity—Sunday fair and continued cold; easterly winds. Oregon and Washington—Sunday snow west portion, fair east portion; moderate northeasterly winds.

GERMANY READY TO 'SHOW' U.S.

Berlin Said to Be Anxious to Put Cards on Table With Other Nations, Hoping to Get Aid.

Germans Seek Loan From American Bankers, but Credit Must Be Established Beforehand.

Washington, Dec. 16.—(U. P.)—Germany, as part of the great international negotiations now in progress looking toward American intervention in Europe, is placing her cards on the table before the United States.

Other nations are expected to do likewise, and from these negotiations, conferences with the leaders of the senate and administration leaders, consultations with Ambassador George Harvey, and discussions with prominent Americans, President Harding and Secretary of State Hughes will evolve their plan for preventing an economic crash in Europe.

Germany, like all the other nations of Europe, wants the aid of the United States in any way it can be possibly offered.

In negotiations now under way here, Secretary of State Hughes has called upon German Ambassador Wiedefeldt for a statement as to just how Germany can be relied upon to pay a just indemnity, in the event America intervenes.

In reply, Germany, in addition to placing her plight in detail before this government, has inquired as to what extent she can expect the help of the United States if she makes a supreme and sincere effort to pay off the reparations obligations for the responsibility of the war.

Germany, like all the other nations of Europe, wants the aid of the United States in any way it can be possibly offered. She would be glad to get effectively the moral support of this country in another effort to settle the reparations question.

She also would heartily welcome an economic conference in Washington to bring about a solution of the problem, it was learned officially. She desires a loan from American bankers, but realizes her credit must be established through a political settlement of the reparations question before this is possible.

Woman Will Head Department of New York State

New York, Dec. 16.—Women were rejoicing here today over a statement said to have been made by Governor-elect Alfred E. Smith that he would appoint one of their number as head of a state department on assuming office at Albany, January 1.

Oregon Chemist Succeeds Waste Wood Is Carbonized

University of Oregon, Eugene, Dec. 16.—After several years' work on a problem of compelling interest and importance to the lumber industry and other enterprises in the Pacific Northwest and elsewhere, Professor C. F. Stafford, head of the University of Oregon chemistry department, has perfected a process for utilizing waste wood to obtain a superior grade of charcoal and wood distillation products used in a number of basic industries.

The announcement of Professor Stafford's success was made here today. The work is regarded as one of the most outstanding contributions to science yet made by a University of Oregon man.

Santa Claus Overloaded With Gifts

Heaviest Buying in History of City Reported; Shop Early, or You May Be Disappointed.

"Radio a dispatch to Santa Claus and tell him to bring along an extra sleigh this year." Portland merchants advised Saturday afternoon. Portland people have been buying so many presents during the last few days that merchants don't see how Santa possibly can pile them all into one vehicle.

Never before in the history of Portland has pre-Christmas buying been so heavy, not even in the palmy days, when wages were high, the merchants declared. Specialty men find the public very discriminating in their buying this season, carefully examining every article and making sure it is the very best.

After the snow storm and cold weather of Wednesday and Thursday, the clerks "caught it" Friday afternoon and all day Saturday. Following Saturday's rush, which several stores found to be the heaviest in their history, store managers began devising plans to take care of the unprecedented trade anticipated this week.

Every manager interviewed made an emphatic appeal to the people to (Concluded on Page Nineteen, Column Four)

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TIES DRIVER TAKES TAXI, ROBS STATION

Daring Holdup Is Perpetrated at East 11th and Broadway in Early Period of Evening.

After Crime, Bandit Tours East Side Area With Driver Securely Bound on Rear Floor.

After engaging a taxicab driver to take him to the east side district, robbing the driver's hands and feet and then taking the car and driving around to inspect the district, a bandit about 7:30 o'clock Saturday night pulled off a hold-up of the filling station at East 11th and Broadway.

Henry Lee was the first victim. Lee has his taxicab stand at Broadway and Stark, and the man appeared there about 1:30 o'clock Saturday afternoon and engaged him to take him to the east side. He said he wanted to look over the district generally.

He directed Lee to take him to East 7th and Gilliam streets, where there is a neighborhood grocery owned by John Shriner, Mr. and Mrs. Shriner were both in the store, and it is believed the presence of the woman caused the bandit to forego plans for a holdup there. He simply purchased some wrapping paper and then returned to the auto.

Toledo Accepts \$4000 Offer for Corvallis Game

Scott high school of Toledo, Ohio, claimants of the national scholastic gridiron championship, has accepted an offer to play the Corvallis high school eleven at Corvallis New Year's day. This will be the only game the Ohioans will play on their trip to the Pacific coast.

The following message was received by W. P. McMaisters, principal of the Corvallis high school, Saturday night: "Scott accepts your offer of \$4000 for only game on Pacific coast New Year's day. Officials must be acceptable to both schools and list submitted by Monday." The message was sent by Fred L. Seiberts, manager of the Scott team.

Washington high school of Portland, Medford high school, and Aberdeen, Wash., sought games with the eastern champions. Business men of Corvallis raised the \$4000 guaranteed in less than two hours, according to a long distance call from Corvallis Saturday night.

Former Governor of Wisconsin Is Dead

Madison, Wis., Dec. 16.—(U. P.)—James O. Davidson, 68, former governor of Wisconsin, died here today after an illness of several months.

WILL THE BIRD ROUSE ITSELF?



Illustration by Howard Fisher showing a large stone labeled 'HARDING ADMINISTRATION' being pushed down a slope by figures labeled 'POLINA RAY', 'SQUET', and 'SQUIN'.

Huge Debt Is Burden On Oregon

State and Its Subdivisions Owe 25 Per Cent of Their Assessed Valuation.

The debt of Oregon and the political subdivisions thereof, secured and unsecured, is approximately 25 per cent of the assessed valuation of the state, or between \$250,000,000 and \$300,000,000 according to the "partial" completed investigation of the committee authorized by the last legislature to "take a trial balance" of the state's finances.

This stupendous total of public obligations that will have to be retired or refunded within the next very distant future springs from the underlying bond issues of the general state government and runs the gamut of all sorts and classifications of municipal promises to pay.

And expert and painstaking examination into these various forms of indebtedness discloses the fact that they have been incurred promiscuously and without thoughtful regard for other and prior obligations, mounting principal, burden of interest and comparative time of redemption.

Figures compiled from only 114 of the political units of the state disclose that within that radius there exists a deficit in sound sinking fund requirements for the retirement of outstanding debts of approximately \$10,000,000. In other words, within these 114 units of the government there are outstanding as direct obligations against the property of the units an aggregate bonded debt that would demand, under sound financing procedure, under sound financing procedure.

Lloyd George Is To Delay Memoirs Till Next Summer

London, Dec. 16.—Publication of Lloyd George's memoirs has been postponed. The intention of the former British premier is to make his book more comprehensive and devote considerable space to the sociological and industrial aspect both at home and on the battle front.

Lloyd George expects to complete his work by the end of next summer. He said to reporters: "I did not know the president personally. I will not comment on the political effect likely to result."

FASCISTI ARE BLAMED FOR NARUTOWICZ ASSASSINATION By Karl H. von Wiegand Universal Service Staff Correspondent Berlin, Dec. 16.—The assassination in Warsaw today of Gabriel Narutowicz, newly installed president of the republic of Poland, is attributed to the immediate results of the intense agitation of the Polish fascist movement.

WARSAW IS PUT UNDER MARTIAL LAW

City Tense After Maniac Assassination of President Narutowicz, Who Had Ruled Only 5 Days.

Warsaw, Dec. 16.—(U. P.)—Troops enforcing martial law patrolled Warsaw tonight, following the assassination today of President Gabriel Narutowicz, ruler of Poland for five days. The city, at first stunned by the shooting down of the executive without warning by a maniac at an art exhibition, reacted with excitement and a wave of angry feeling swept throughout the nation.

Immediately after the assassination Former President Pilsudski assumed charge of the cabinet, which issued the martial law edict to checkmate a threatened faroucp of vengeance against the followers of the "Lefts" or radicals.

The cabinet fixed December 20 as the date for an election to name Narutowicz's successor. In the meantime Maciej Rataj, speaker of the house of deputies, will act. The body of Narutowicz was solemnly carried to Belvedere, the official home of the executive, and is lying in state there.

The catalafaque is surmounted by the Polish eagle. Great crowds murmured in protest at the killing of the man who ruled so shortly through such stormy scenes. Women and men stood with bowed heads as the entries shuff-shuffed back and forth, bayonets fixed, should the ruler's former antagonists in the crowd start a disturbance.

Welch Promoted To Be Northwest Guard Commander

Salem, Dec. 16.—Promotion of Major Hiram U. Welch, Portland, to the grade of lieutenant colonel in the Oregon National Guard, was announced in orders issued here this afternoon by Adjutant General White. The promotion of Welch, the adjutant general explains, is based upon an election held by the field officers and captains of the 18th Oregon infantry regiment.

Lieutenant Colonel Welch will assume command of the regiment, which is located in Oregon and Washington, the commanding officer of the regiment being allotted to Oregon by the war department.

Lieutenant Colonel Welch has served for 28 years in the Oregon guard, being for a number of years in command of Battery A, Oregon's oldest military organization. He served as an officer in the Spanish-American war and as a major of field artillery in the World war. Welch is assessor of Multnomah county.

Walla Walla Fire Takes Life of Mrs. Magdalene Walsh

Walla Walla, Wash., Dec. 16.—A woman about 50 years old, said to be Mrs. Magdalene Walsh, was burned to death here tonight when a fire broke out about 10 o'clock and partially destroyed the Walsh home on Alder street.

The origin of the blaze has not as yet been determined by the local fire department. The flames were well under way when the fire fighters arrived on the scene and it was some minutes before the firemen could extinguish the badly charred body of the woman from the burning structure. Firemen said she probably suffocated from the smoke before the fire reached her.

Famous Contralto Will Be Out Soon

Garden City, N. Y., Dec. 16.—(U. P.)—Mrs. Ernestine Schumann-Heink, famous singer who has been ill at her home here with pneumonia, will be out and able to sing shortly, her physicians announced tonight.

FRENCH DEMANDS HELD IMPOSSIBLE FOR PEACE

Lloyd George Reiterates Warning Against Militaristic Bloc in France

THE breakdown of the London conference, and especially the reason for that breakdown, proves that the warning I uttered in my last article was necessary and timely. M. Poincare demanded occupation of the only rich coal field left to Germany as the guarantee for the carrying out of impossible terms.

The mere fact that there are potent influences in France that still press the demand (for the left bank of the Rhine) and take advantage of every disappointment to urge it forward, calls for unremitting vigilance amongst all peoples who have the welfare of humanity at heart.

To preserve French friendships I have repeatedly given way to French demands and thus often have antagonized opinion in this country. But I cannot go to the extent of approving a policy which is endangering the peace of the world, even to please one section of a people for whose country I have always entertained most genuine admiration.

I am told these proposals (for detachment of Rhine left province from Germany) did not mean annexation. Then what else did they mean? You do not swallow the oyster. You only first give it an independent existence by detaching it from his hard surroundings. You then surround it on all sides and absorb it into your own system to equip you with added strength to prey on other oysters.

ASTORIA BILL IS TO AWAIT REPORT

Action Pends Until Perhaps Monday, When War Secretary Sends in Survey.

Washington, Dec. 16.—(WASHINGTON BUREAU OF THE JOURNAL)—Senator McNary's resolution providing relief for Astoria, passed by the senate early today, will rest on the speaker's table in the house until a report comes in from the secretary of war on conditions and needs in the stricken city.

Representative Hawley, author of another resolution on the house side, expresses hope that the report from the war department will afford a basis for more comprehensive assistance than would be authorized by the McNary resolution. He explained that he especially has in mind the matter of housing, which he believes may be secured under his resolution, but not under the one passed by the senate.

Coldest Weather Predicted Today

Minimum Temperature of 17 Is Forecast; Spell Likely to Remain Indefinitely.

The coldest weather of the present period was expected to descend upon Portland this morning, according to a forecast issued late Saturday night by the district weather office. A minimum temperature of 17 degrees was predicted.

By 7 o'clock Saturday night the mercury had dropped to 29 degrees, the same low level reached Saturday morning at 7 o'clock. Reports received Saturday afternoon indicated that the cold weather is due to remain in Western Oregon for an indefinite period. The only rise in temperature was reported along the coast, where snow was expected to fall today.

The snow is expected only along the sea line and is not expected to extend inland to Portland. The coldest weather struck Medford Saturday. This city had been about the only one to report temperatures above freezing in Oregon during the last two weeks. The temperature at this place was 30 degrees late Saturday afternoon.

Ice has grown thicker and harder on Laurelhurst lake, Guilds lake and the sloughs near Portland and many skaters were expected to visit these spots today. Heavier ice floes were reported in the Columbia river than at any time during the last week. At the Dalles and Umatilla, reports said, people were able to cross the river on the ice.

OPEN TO COUNTY LINE The Columbia river highway is open as far as the eastern line of Multnomah county, most of the way with double track space. If there is no more snow fall, double track width will be cleared out for the entire length. This was the report brought back to Portland Saturday night by H. E. Chapman, assistant county roadmaster, who first over the highway as far as Warrendale, about two miles west of Bonneville. He was accompanied by Fred W. Vogler and Fred Young. Fierce winds prevailed all the way, said Chapman.

Between Warrendale and Bonneville trucks without skidchairs encountered difficulty in making the grades, one turning almost in a circle. Seeing this situation, Chapman and his party did not attempt to go farther. THREE GANGS AT WORK The county has three gangs working on clearing the highway. About 30 men are on this work and will be kept at it, unless further storms develop, until a double-track space is cleared to the county line. In the vicinity of Bonneville the snow is about 10 inches deep. Chapman encounters the first deep snow at Mist falls, and from there to Multnomah falls it is about 10 inches deep. At the Onegona gorge, between the highway and from Portland to Multnomah falls two tracks are cleared out, with the exceptions of a few spaces where there are trees. One four-wheel drive tractor with (Concluded on Page Eighteen, Column Three)

Mystery and Thrills and Plenty of Both In a new fiction serial "The Rayner-Slade Amalgamation" By S. B. Fletcher A chapter a day in Oregon Journal Beginning Tuesday Garden City, N. Y., Dec. 16.—(U. P.)—Mrs. Ernestine Schumann-Heink, famous singer who has been ill at her home here with pneumonia, will be out and able to sing shortly, her physicians announced tonight.

FRONTIER AT RHINE IS MENACE

Lloyd George Charges That French Militaristic Bloc insists Upon Impossible Terms.

Occupation of Left Bank of Rhine by France Declared Dangerous to World Peace.

By Right Honorable David Lloyd George, O. M., M. P. Former British Premier (Copyright, 1922, by United Feature Syndicate.) (Copyright in Great Britain by the London Chronicle.) (Exclusive world rights held by United Feature Syndicate.) Reproduction in Whole or in Part Prohibited.

London, Dec. 16.—The breakdown of the London conference, and especially for the reason for that breakdown, proves that the warning I uttered in my last article was necessary and timely. M. Poincare demanded occupation of the only rich coal field left to Germany as the guarantee for the carrying out of impossible terms.

It is because I am profoundly convinced that the policy represented by this project will lead to trouble of the gravest kind for Europe and for the world that I felt moved to sound a note of warning. I know it would provoke much angry misrepresentation. I am accustomed to that. I deemed it to be my duty to face it.

The statement I made in my last article about the existence of a strong party in France which regarded the Rhine as a natural barrier of that country has provoked a storm of denial, repudiation and indignation. It is denounced as a wicked invention; some are amazed at the impudence of the claimant. Where is the party? France knows nothing of it. Is it not a monster which has emanated from the brain of the enemy of France?

REPUDIATION WELCOME Repudiations have their value, especially if they come from men of authority, and I shall bear in-veictive with the fortitude which all men who wish to be happy through politicians should be hardened to, provided I elicit denials which may render future international mischief difficult.

But a further perusal of evidence on which I based my statement has served to deepen my apprehensions. What was the statement? Let me quote the actual words I used: "There was a strong party in France which urged Clemenceau to demand that the Rhine should be treated as a natural frontier of their country, and that advantage should be taken of the overwhelming defeat of Germany to extend the boundaries of France to that fateful river. The most moderate and insidious form this demand took was a proposal that the German provinces on the left bank of the Rhine should remain in French occupation until the treaty had been fulfilled. That meant forever. Reparations alone, skillfully handled by the Quai d'Orsay, would preclude the possibility of ever witnessing fulfillment. The pact was designed to strengthen the hands of M. Clemenceau against the aggressive party which was then, and still is, anxious to commit France to the colossal error of annexing territory which has always been purely German."

THE RHINE PROBLEM What was the basis on which I made this assertion? It was thoroughly well known to all those who were engaged in the operations of the peace conference. The Rhine was the background of all maneuvers for weeks and months. Whether the subject matter was the League of Nations, the German fleet, or the status of Fiume, we knew that the real struggle would come over the Rhine. On the one (Concluded on Page Twelve, Column One)