

THE WEATHER
Fair, continued cold; moderate easterly winds.

SIXTY-NINTH YEAR

The Oregon Statesman

SALEM, OREGON, SATURDAY MORNING, DECEMBER 13, 1919.

The Statesman receives the leased wire report of the Associated Press, the greatest and most reliable press association in the world.

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HARVEST OF FARM CROPS SETS RECORD

Value Reaches Unprecedented Total of 14 Billion Dollars, Exceeding 1918 Yield by Billion and a Half

ACREAGE FAR EXCEEDS THAT OF FORMER YEARS

Corn Remains King With Value Reaching Near 4 Billion Prices Best Ever

WASHINGTON, Dec. 12.—Record prices and beautiful production sent the value of farm crops harvested this year to the unprecedented total of \$14,092,740,000, exceeding the value of last year's crops by almost \$1,500,000,000.

Final estimates of production were issued today by the department of agriculture and values were based on prices paid to producers December 1. The area of harvested crops this year was more than 2,600,000 acres larger than last year, amounting to a total of 259,124,473 acres.

Corn Still King.
Corn easily maintained its place as king of crops, with a value of \$3,924,234,000, while cotton, including cottonseed, was second with a total value of \$2,332,913,000. The hay crop was third with \$2,129,087,000.

Wheat in Fourth Place.
Wheat, combining the winter and spring crops, was fourth, with \$2,028,522,000. Oats, a billion dollar crop last year, reached a total of only \$895,863,000 because of decreased production.

Record crops of winter wheat, rye, sweet potatoes and hay were grown, while the production of all wheat, rye and tobacco was next to the largest ever harvested.

Prices paid producers were higher this year for every crop than they were last year, with the exception of beans, cranberries and oranges.

"FAIR PRICES" ARE GIVEN OUT

Women's Suits as Low as \$25, Men's at \$24.40 Listed by Committee

CHICAGO, Dec. 12.—The first "fair prices" on clothing was listed today by the Chicago clothing subcommittee of the Illinois fair price committee to show that dependable merchandise can be bought at reasonable prices. The prices were not fixed as maximum or minimum prices.

As long as present stocks last, women's suits can be purchased as low as \$25, dresses at \$15.25, shoes at \$4.95; men's suits at \$24.40, overcoats at \$24.40 each. These prices were made by the subcommittee consisting of five executives of some of Chicago's large stores and their statement said the figures were "fair prices for service rendered," but that "replacement orders" at present market prices will increase these figures.

EDUCATOR IS DEAD

LOS ANGELES, Cal., Dec. 12.—Jesse F. Millsap, nationally known educator, died at his home here tonight.

ONE-FOURTH LOPPED FROM BERRY YIELDS BY FRIGID WEATHER

The temperature below zero did not cut the prospective yield of loganberries next summer as short as was at first feared. It is thought that three-fourths of a normal crop may be looked for.

This good fortune cannot be credited to the industrious grower, who hurried his vines up on the trellis last fall. Credit must be given to those who tipped the vines for plants while leaving them on the ground.

The lady man has also done "good work" by neglecting to trellis his vines before the approach of winter.

One-Fourth Trellised.
Professor C. I. Lewis, formerly at the head of the horticultural department at Corvallis, was asked for an expression on the apparent disaster that has come to the vines on the loganberry acreage in the Willamette valley.

"Our observations at the experi-

WEATHER ALL OVER STATE BELOW ZERO

Low Records Shattered by Latest Turn of Cold Snap—McMinnville with 24 Below Coldest Place in Valley

OLD MAN FOUND FROZEN TO DEATH IN CABIN

Columbia River Frozen Over at Vancouver—Willamette Is Blocked

PORTLAND, Or., Dec. 12.—(Minimum temperature records were shattered in Oregon today, nearly every section of the state and the Pacific northwest reporting thermometer readings at near zero or below.

The Columbia river at Vancouver, Wash., was frozen across and huge chunks of ice jammed the Willamette river. Steamboat traffic was held up and two fires in the engine room of the motorship Vance tied up on the river east of Portland, gave the fire fighters a hard battle.

Old Man Found Frozen.
One fatality due to the cold weather was reported today, that of James Oakley, 75 years old, who was found frozen to death in his cabin at Ukiah, Or., 55 miles south of Pendleton. The temperature in the cabin was 32 below, according to the man who took the body to Pendleton.

Portland Traffic Improves.
Conditions in Portland were improved although the city experienced the coldest morning since 1885, four degrees above zero recorded. Street car traffic had become almost normal and curtailed deliveries were being made, with the exception of milk which was delivered only to stores. Downtown streets were being cleaned and most of the inconveniences seemed to have passed.

Elgin Sees 40 Below.
Elgin, Union county, with a temperature of 40 degrees below zero, was the coldest place reported in Oregon today.

Grants Pass, in Josephine county, with a temperature of 13 degrees above zero, was the warmest place reported within the storm area which had held the northwest in the grip of ice and snow this week.

Other temperatures in Oregon reported today, all below zero, were: Messner, 34; The Dalles, 26; Pendleton, 20; McMinnville, 24; Salem, 10; Hood River, 27; Marshfield has been out of communication with the outside world most of the time for three days, while Medford today, for the first time in 36 hours, was able to report the heaviest storm in its history.

Trains were moving, but some of them were as much as 30 hours late, particularly those coming from the east.

MINIMUM AT EUGENE 4 BELOW; RECORD SET

EUGENE, Or., Dec. 12.—The minimum temperature in Eugene today was 4 degrees above zero, the coldest recorded here for 20 years. Indications point to temperature several degrees lower than that before tomorrow morning.

IDAHO IS AT ZERO WITH LOWER PROMISED

BOISE, Ida., Dec. 12.—The official tonight report for Boise at 9 o'clock tonight was zero and prospects were that the mercury would fall to five below and probably lower before morning. All of Southern Idaho is suffering from a cold wave with clear skies and no wind. Some mountain districts report temperatures of 20 below.

Interchurch Convention Ends Three Day Sessions

PORTLAND, Or., Dec. 11.—The Oregon state convention of the inter-church movement came to a close here tonight, after sessions extending over three days. About 250 delegates attended, representing 15 denominations and 17 counties of Oregon. Plans were launched during the convention for a campaign to be conducted with the end in view of bringing the church closer to the people. Talks by various ministers brought out the fact that practically every denomination has adopted similar policies.

THEZ COMPANY BUYS ANOTHER LARGE TRACT

Eighty Acres Purchased from Huber Makes Big Area for Berries

PLANS PLEASURE RESORT

"Coney Island" on Willamette May Be Made Available for Public

The Thez Farms company has secured possession of another tract of land in South bottom, having purchased a farm of 80 acres from Jesse Huber.

This property lies beside the 160 acres recently bought from Charles I. Winkler, making a united body of 240 acres.

The management of the Thez Farms company has a crew of men at work removing the fences and plowing the ground as rapidly as weather conditions will permit. It is the intention to divide this land into tracts of 20 acres each. Ten acres on each tract will be set to loganberries, five acres to strawberries and the remaining five acres will remain vacant and may be used for garden purposes and dwellings.

The fruit plants will be thoroughly cultivated next summer under the supervision of the company. The tracts will then be sold to families who will locate on them.

It is the intention of the residents of South bottom to join with the Thez Farms company in securing a small acreage on the Willamette river and convert it into a pleasure resort. The land in view is now each with a dense growth of small trees. The tract can easily be transformed into an attractive small park.

A large pool suitable for bathing is formed behind the wing jetty at the river bar. The purpose is to make a playground for the large number of berry pickers that each year must be assembled to gather the fruit from over 500 acres of plants that several interested parties expect to set out next spring in South bottom. It is, however, intended that picnic parties and autoists shall also be made welcome to this "Coney Island" on the Willamette.

COAL CURBING TO LIFT SOON

Regional Directors to Restore Normal Service When Supplies Warrant

WASHINGTON, Dec. 12.—Regional directors of railroads were given authority tonight by Director General Hines to remove restrictions on the use of light, heat and power derived from coal, as soon as the fuel situation warrants.

The regional directors also were authorized to restore train service removed or curtailed to meet the coal shortage due to the miners strike as soon as the fuel supply in the various regions justifies.

VILLISTAS ARE ROUTED AGAIN

Rebels Under Pancho Himself Capture Town But Are Driven Out

EAGLE PASS, Tex., Dec. 12.—The Villistas who captured Marquez, Coahuila, Tuesday, and have fled to the town today and have fled to the mountains, according to Mexican Consul G. M. Seguin, tonight. Villistas were in command of the force, the consul announced following a dispatch from Yreka received by the San Francisco Examiner. A body of 100 men to be Maude Tabor's was found in a trunk at the Tabor home at sawton, Mich.

Tobacco to Be Taken East by Way of Portland, Report

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 12.—Mrs. Sarah Tabor and her son, Walter Tabor, held at Yreka in connection with Mrs. Tabor's daughter, Miss Maude Tabor, were to be taken east late tonight via Portland, Or., according to a dispatch from Yreka received by the San Francisco Examiner. A body of 100 men to be Maude Tabor's was found in a trunk at the Tabor home at sawton, Mich.

THREE HURT BY EXPLODING WATER COILS

Frozen Water Pipes Cause Havoc in Salem Homes When Cold Snap Sends Mercury Far Below Zero Point

GAS PLANT ENTIRELY OUT OF COMMISSION

Warning Is Issued to Consumers by Manager Hamilton of Company

Downtown thermometers registered three degrees below zero at 1:30 o'clock this morning, having shown a sharp drop after midnight. The temperature reached one below about 10 o'clock last night and remained at that stage until after midnight.

At least three disastrous explosions, caused by building fires in kitchen ranges equipped with coils or water-backs, and complete freezing up of the Salem gas plant were the outstanding misfortunes that came to Salem yesterday as a result of the coldest snap in 30 years, or perhaps in the city's history.

The temperature, from some time soon after midnight until the middle of the forenoon, ranged from 3 degrees below zero on State street, to 14 and 16 below in remote parts of the city and in the rural districts.

Because of the freezing up of the gas plant, the whole city has been without gas since about 2:50 o'clock yesterday afternoon. One of the hardest hit industries is The Statesman, which used gas to heat the linotype machines. Emergency equipment was improvised last night, but it was 10 o'clock before the machines were ready for operation, which accounts for The Statesman's appearance in abbreviated form this morning.

Three Women Injured.
Most serious of the accidents was that at the H. A. Richmond home, 1430 North Fourth street, where a coil in the kitchen range, in which the water had frozen, exploded, causing serious injuries to Mrs. Elizabeth Hoxie, who was unconscious at the Deaconess hospital for seven hours. Mrs. Hoxie suffered a broken left arm, a fractured finger, a wrenching of the right wrist and a badly lacerated face. She was preparing breakfast when the explosion occurred. Mrs. Hoxie regained consciousness late yesterday. The range was badly demolished and windows in one end of the house were broken.

Mrs. H. A. Cupper, 70 years old, living at 163 North Thirteenth street, was hurled to the floor and badly shaken but not seriously injured, when the Copper range blew up in similar fashion. The range was ruined, windows shattered and a door shattered and the kitchen badly wrecked by the impact of the explosion. A frying pan hanging near the range was so curiously twisted that the plumber took it for a memento.

Another explosion occurred at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Noot, near Liberty. A frying pan, hurled by the explosion, struck Mrs. Noot in the face, lacerating her so severely that she was hastened to a physician in Salem. A range valued at 110 was destroyed.

Canned Goods Destroyed.
There were scores of lesser accidents. Water pipes have bursted in all parts of the city, but because the thaw has not yet begun, the full extent of this damage cannot be ascertained. Heavy damage to the steam room at the water begins to stream from split pipes. Local plumbers were deluged with calls all day.

Hundreds of dollars' worth of canned fruits and vegetables has been ruined by freezing and the bursting of the vessels. The Stoltz Vinegar factory lost about \$500 worth of bottled vinegar and soda water.

Manager W. M. Hamilton of the gas company, after the supply was exhausted, issued a formal statement, showing conditions at the plant and warning all gas users to close the valves on their gas appliances. The statement follows:

"The gas supply in Salem was exhausted at 3:50 p. m. yesterday, due to the cold snap now being experienced.

"The extreme cold has caused many of the gas company's customers to use the gas for heating their houses and other unusual purposes. In addition to this, the gas plant has been unable to produce its normal quantity of gas because the extremely low temperature has frozen many of the water pipes about the plant, causing stoppages in the condensing and purifying machinery where large quantities of water are used in the process of making and purifying the gas. These stoppages prevent the gas from getting from the generators into the holders or

(Continued on page 4)

300 Employees Laid Off at Paper Mills by Cold Snap

OREGON ITY, Or., Dec. 12.—Three hundred employees of the Hawley Pulp and Paper mill were laid off today, the result of the catch basin of the mill, being full of ice. Two of the upper machines were closed down and two were operating.

Mill A of the Crown Willamette Paper company was closed down for a similar reason, and fears were expressed that a considerable aggravation of the present shortage of news print would result unless the weather moderates soon.

LENIENCY IS DEPLORED BY LA GRANDE MAN

Prosecutor Says Convicted Criminals Do Not Taste Punishment

NEUNER HAS CRITICISM

Snappy Address Before Prosecutors by Chief of Special Agents

The practice of placing convicted criminals in comfortable positions of trust at the state penitentiary before they have even tasted punishment, was excoriated at the convention of Oregon district attorneys yesterday by John S. Hodgins of La Grande, district attorney for Union county.

Mr. Hodgins cited the cases of three Chinese who were sent up from his county for murder. Each one was given a place as cook, or some other place of trust and comfort in the home of an employee of the state prison, he declared, before he had even been taken inside the walls.

Non-Support Law Farce.
Mr. Hodgins addressed the prosecutors on the subject of revision of the criminal code. He advocated capital punishment without great restriction on the courts in passing that sentence.

Mr. Hodgins branded the present non-support law a farce.

George Neuner of Roseburg, president of the State Association of District Attorneys, deplored laws which impose upon the prosecutors penalties for failure to enforce some laws while equally important laws appear to be forgotten in the manner in which the statutes are framed. He cited the liquor and the cigarette laws which impose penalties on the district attorneys for failure to enforce them.

"It all comes," said Mr. Neuner, "from brains that are able to see only one thing at a time. I believe in the enforcement of all the laws, and do not believe in excluding some important laws in favor of a few others that are no more important."

Special Agent Heard.
A snappy talk was made by F. W. Snyder, chief of Governor Olcott's special agents, who declared his forces are out to assist the district attorneys, not to find fault with them, and that their findings are always turned over to the prosecutors. Most complaints today, officers are to be elected today. The convention is being held in the consultation room of the supreme court library.

Election Is Today.
Nine of the state's 36 prosecutors were present yesterday. The session was continued until today. Officers are to be elected today. The convention is being held in the consultation room of the supreme court library.

The members were tendered a banquet at the Marion hotel last night.

TOWN HELPLESS BEFORE FLAMES

Fires Started to Thaw Pipes Threaten Buckley, Wash. With Destruction

TACOMA, Wash., Dec. 12.—The town of Buckley, Wash., was threatened with destruction by fire this afternoon, when six frame buildings were burned to the ground, in the heart of the town, the fire starting, it is believed, during an attempt to thaw out frozen water pipes.

The town's own water system was frozen crippling the fire department which resorted to dynamite to stem the flames which were reported under control at 6 o'clock tonight.

The building loss is estimated at \$25,000 with practically no insurance.

HUNT BROTHERS WILL DOUBLE CAPACITY OF CANNING PLANT HERE

Nine Lots Adjoining Present Location to Be Cleared of Buildings and Give Room for Industrial Structures, and New Machinery Will Be Added to Handle Bigger Business—Firm Plans That New Operating Space Shall Be Ready for Use Next Summer

Again Salem's industrial expansion is evidenced by the enlargement of one of its leading canneries.

The Hunt Brothers Packing Company has definitely decided to double the present capacity of its plant. Nine of the lots adjoining the cannery and facing Front street have been purchased by the company.

The building will be moved from these properties in the near future and construction started. It is expected that the additional canning space will be ready for occupation early next summer.

New machinery will be installed and every facility will be provided to handle next year's fruit pack at a minimum cost of time and labor.

By their enterprise in doubling the capacity of their present cannery the Hunt Brothers are showing faith in the permanency of the local fruit industry. This fact together with the recent purchase of the Oliver Beers farm of over 300 acres by W. G. Allen and Marion county are assured a permanent growth.

Mr. Allen is the local manager of the Hunt Brothers company and will plant his large acreage in Mission bottom to such fruits as are most demanded by the trade and which are most successfully grown in climate and soil such as that of the Willamette valley.

LIBERALS PLAN FOR NEW PARTY

Political Organization to be Complete by July 1 Is Announcement

ST. LOUIS, Mo., Dec. 12.—A new political party will be organized before July next, it was said at the national conference of Liberals tonight.

DEPARTMENT OF AVIATION URGED

Five Noted Aces Tell Subcommittee of Benefits to Be Derived

WASHINGTON, Dec. 12.—Five American aces, credited with having brought down more than 50 German airplanes, advocated today before a house subcommittee, the creation of an aeronautical department of the government to coordinate all aerial activities. The group included Captain "Eddie" Rickenbacker, Major Charles J. Biddle, Philadelphia; Captain F. E. Kindley, Gravelly, Ark.; Major J. A. Meisner, Birmingham, Ala.; and Captain J. A. Healey, Washington.

All asserted that the air forces in France would have been much more efficient if administered by a department of aeronautics.

MEMBERS OF OLD COMPANY M WHO WENT OVERSEAS HOLD REUNION TO COMMEMORATE SAILING TO FRANCE

Service in Late War Recalled by 50 Men in High Jinks at Armory—A. E. F. Songs Are Sung, and A. E. F. Jokes Are Sprung at Mess Table

Old Company M, Third Oregon infantry, which served in the late war, held its first annual reunion in the armory last night, commemorating the anniversary of the company's sailing from New York for France in 1917. About 50 men were present. It was decided to make the reunion an annual event.

The members of the company met and exchanged reminiscences of their service, sang A. E. F. songs and resurrected A. E. F. jokes. Mess was served in the company dining room in the basement of the armory.

Old Roster Used.
An old roster of the unit as it left Salem in March, 1917, was produced and the roll was called by J. Klonter, Elmer Olson, Sim Phillips, Donald T. Randall, Phillip H. Ringle, Frank W. Rosebraugh, Elmer L. Ross, William E. Sherwood, Percy Streffeller, Floyd L. White, Chester F. Womer, Dean Pollock and Richard O. Hansen.

Steamer Aids Other Craft But Is Forced to Save Self

HALIFAX, Dec. 12.—The United States shipping board steamer Davidson County, which had been taken in tow in a disabled condition by the steamer West Tugus is again adrift and helpless in a heavy sea. The west Tugus sprang a leak and is racing for the nearest port. The United States coast guard steamer Apache is rushing to the assistance of the Davidson County.

No Trace Found of Bandits Who Put Cashier in Vault

SPOKANE, Wash., Dec. 12.—No trace had been found tonight of the bandit who at noon today held up the Union Park bank, in a Spokane residence district, and made away with \$1000, after ordering the cashier, E. R. Anderson, and a bookkeeper, Miss Glenna Lee, into the vault. The bandit escaped in an automobile whose engine he left running while he held up the bank.

IRISH CLAIMS UP TO CONGRESS

House Committee Has Tempestuous Session on Merits of "Republic"

WASHINGTON, Dec. 12.—The claim of the Irish republic to recognition as an independent nation was brought to congress again today and was debated in militant fashion through a tempestuous all-day session of the house committee on foreign affairs.

All asserted that the air forces in France would have been much more efficient if administered by a department of aeronautics.

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