

CIRCULATION
Average for February 1923—5758
Daily and Sunday—5381
Average for six months ending January 31, 1923—5506
Daily and Sunday—5106

The Oregon Statesman

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

SEVENTY-FIRST YEAR

SALEM, OREGON, WEDNESDAY MORNING, MARCH 1, 1922

PRICE: FIVE CENTS

MURDERER MAY BE IN JAIL

SUPER-HERO IS RECIPIENT OF MANY MEDALS

Deeds of Frank J. Bart on Fighting Fronts Overseas Said to Equal Those of York and Woodfill.

UNABLE TO ESTIMATE NUMBER HE KILLED

After Many Months Hunting Work Soldier Gets Job With County Clerk

JERSEY CITY, N. J., Feb. 28.—The war record of a third super-hero, Frank J. Bart of West Hoboken, is being prepared for a place in the hall of fame today, following ceremony here last night at which the Italian government added another medal to his already generous collection. Bart's record is believed by officers of the Second corps area at Governor's Island to equal those of Sergeant Alvin York and Lieutenant Samuel Woodfill.

Bart enlisted in the Ninth regiment at the age of 42, giving his age as 38, after recruiting officers repeatedly told him he was "too old to fight." He doesn't know how many of the enemy he accounted for, or how many of his wounded comrades he rescued. But in his old barracks bag he has three Croix de Guerre, with silver star, with bronze star and with palm, awarded by the French government, the French Médaille Militaire, the Montegrin war cross, the Italian Croce di Guerra, and the American Congressional Medal of Honor.

He lifts his customary veil of modesty long enough to remark that he is glad to have a job after "15 months of pounding the pavement looking for one and never finding any."

Another Decoration Conferred
Bart was decorated at the Fourth regiment's armory here last night by Colonel V. A. di Bernese, Italian military attaché at Washington, D. C. The ceremony was attended by several congressmen, and state, county and city officials.

Bart went overseas in 1917 with the Second division, with the marines, his record revealing he served as a "buck private," refusing several promotions during the war, because as he said, he "didn't want to be tied down to a bunch of men."

He won his first decoration early in 1918, when, as a runner with the Ninth regiment, he went into a line of dugouts that had been abandoned under shell fire by his outfit and carried several of his wounded comrades through a heavy barrage to safety.

His second decoration he won in the Argonne, after he had searched all night for a "lost" detachment of marines, captured by the enemy, and escaped. He fought his way back to the marines and joined his regiment at its next advance.

Bart was decorated a third time by the French in the Champagne drive when he offered to go up and get acquainted "with German machine gun nests." Armed with an automatic rifle, he disposed of a dozen gunners who had halted the advance of his company.

His decoration by other of the allied nations, including his own country, followed.

For the last 15 months, Bart said he has been out of a job. He began work today as a "utility man" in the office of the county clerk here.

Prisoner Asks Officer to Put on Wrist Irons

"I guess you had better put those handcuffs on me," Bert Merkle of Woodburn observed yesterday to City Marshal Frank Covey, when Merkle was being brought from Woodburn to the Marion county jail.

Merkle, according to Woodburn officers, has been bound over to the Marion county grand jury on a charge of assault with intent to commit rape.

PERSHING'S NEPHEW HELPS ENFORCE PROHIBITION LAW



JAMES F. PERSHING, Jr., nephew of Gen. Pershing, has accepted an appointment as Assistant Prohibition Director because he "wants to do his bit as a citizen." Mr. Pershing is 31 years old, a stock and bond broker and served with distinction throughout the war. He enlisted as a private.

Tears Moisten Cheeks of Judge Landis as He Bids Good-Bye to Newspapermen at Federal Hall

CHICAGO, Feb. 28.—(By the Associated Press.)—With a tear in his eye, Kenesaw Mountain Landis today walked out of the federal building a private citizen after 17 years as United States judge for the northern district of Illinois.

Starting tomorrow, the famous jurist, who recently resigned, will devote his time to the position of baseball commissioner.

Judge Landis swung through the first part of his final day on the bench in characteristic fashion, disposing of nearly a dozen cases in a typical Landis manner which once caused a convicted bootlegger to refer to him as "that white-haired hellcat in federal court," and a pardoned youth to term him the "whitest guy that ever talked to a feller."

He fined one man one cent for tax dodging, because, he said, "you've tried to be square," and slapped a \$5000 fine on the man's partner because he "hadn't played fair."

In the afternoon the judge sat in his chambers watching his personal effects being carted away. Bank presidents, society lead-

MERCHANT MARINE PLAN IS PRESENTED BY MR. HARDING

WASHINGTON, Feb. 28.—President Harding, through a message which he read in congress in joint session, today presented the administration program for development through direct and indirect subsidies of the American merchant marine, and immediately after he had outlined his views, steps were taken to translate his recommendations into legislation.

Bills embodying the administration policy were introduced simultaneously before the president had left the capitol and arrangements were made for early consideration. Joint committee hearings by the senate commerce and the house merchant marine committees, to which the bills were referred, were proposed by Senator Jones, Republican, Washington, chairman of the former.

The bill will be taken up next Thursday by the senate committee and also soon by the house committee.

Government Operation Wrong
In addressing the joint session of congress at 12:30 o'clock, the president declared that the policy

BONUS TROUBLE TUSSLED WITH BY COMMITTEE

Ways and Means Republicans in House Grapple With Question in Acrimonious Three-Hour Debate.

NO CONCLUSION, IS FORDNEY'S ACCOUNT

Hanford McNider Spends Portion of Day With Harding and is Pleased

WASHINGTON, Feb. 28.—House ways and means committee Republicans spent three hours trying to reconcile their differences over the soldiers' bonus but without success. After they had adjourned until tomorrow, Chairman Fordney announced that he had been "authorized to say that the committee has arrived at no conclusion."

"There is nothing to be given to the newspapers today," he added.

Discussion Acrimonious
It was understood there was a general discussion of the whole question of finances, acrimonious at times, and that at the finish the situation was just where it was before the special sub-committee tentatively agreed upon a special tax program which subsequently was disapproved by President Harding.

Some committeemen were hopeful that there would be some kind of a conclusion tomorrow. It was said that the program includes postponement of the whole question for a month in the belief that the delay would serve to clear the atmosphere, but several members were understood to look upon such a program with disfavor.

Sales Tax Not Pressed
The discussion was reported to have revolved largely around the proposition to write into the bill some kind of a financing provision that would meet the president's view at least half way.

The sales tax suggested by the president and rejected by the special sub-committee last week by an overwhelming vote, was not pressed particularly, it was said, and the impression went out that some members had in mind a special tax program.

Sales tax proponents were understood to be hopeful that this program would be worked around to the sales tax, but leaders of the agricultural bloc will oppose that. They take the position that the bonus can be financed out of proceeds from the refunded British debt.

MacNider Sees Harding
As the Republican committeemen were assembling to resume consideration of the bonus, Hanford McNider, national commander of the American legion, and John Thomas Taylor, vice chairman of the legion's legislative committee, discussed the bonus situation with President Harding at the White House. They said afterwards that they were "perfectly satisfied" with the result of the conference and expressed confidence that there would be no delay in the enactment of the adjusted compensation legislation.

They added that the president "was heart and soul" with the legion and understood its position fully.

At the White House it was said that President Harding in his talk with the legion officials had simply referred to his recent letter to Chairman Fordney of the house ways and means committee outlining his position on the bonus as favoring a sales tax to raise the funds with which to finance it, or else postponement of such legislation.

President Remains Steadfast
The following statement was issued at the White House on the conference:

"The president made no commitment other than that in his letter to Chairman Fordney which expressed an attitude which remains unchanged. He proposed no further statement and has none to make."

Eight Men Ill, Prison Still Under Quarantine

Eight men at the state penitentiary are now in the hospital with influenza, but it is said they are all on the road to recovery. The prison is under quarantine and will remain so for several days.

FIGHT PROMOTER IS ACCUSED BY GIRLS



George L. (Tex) Rickard has been indicted in New York city on charges preferred by two young girls of abduction and criminal assault. The famous sports promoter is held on \$25,000 bail.

MENTAL HEALER PUT ON STAND

Also Woman With Gift of Sight is Witness in Obenchain Trial

LOS ANGELES, Feb. 28.—A mental healer and a woman with "the gift of sight" were witnesses today in the trial of Mrs. Madalynne Obenchain, charged with the murder of J. Belton Kennedy. They were called by the prosecution in support of its contention that Mrs. Obenchain conspired with Arthur C. Burch to have the latter kill Kennedy because he refused to marry her.

William Iserloh, the mental healer, said Mrs. Obenchain visited him on July 12 to consult on "spiritual matters" and asked him if he could "see me getting married tomorrow." Iserloh said he advised her to wait until August 10 for the marriage.

Mrs. R. B. Whitlow who said she was "born with the gift of sight," testified Mrs. Obenchain asked her about the middle of July if she would marry the man she loved. "I told her things looked favorable," Mrs. Whitlow testified. Later, the witness said, Mrs. Obenchain telephoned to her and asked if she could bring her "young man friend" to call.

"I said she could," Mrs. Whitlow said. "Then she told me she wanted me to talk favorably to him. About nine o'clock that night she came to my house with a young man who I afterwards learned was J. Belton Kennedy. They sat down in front of me and I advised them to marry and go away before August 10."

"Kennedy said to me: 'Haven't I always meant well towards her?' and I said, 'yes.'"

Mrs. Whitlow said she could not remember the date of this call. Deputy District Attorney Asa Keyes read from a diary, identified as having been kept by Mrs. Obenchain, an entry under the date of July 21, as follows: "Belton phoned in morning, came in evening, went to colored woman." Mrs. Whitlow has the appearance of being a mulatress.

Hubbard Garage Entered, Valuable Loot is Taken

HUBBARD, Ore., Feb. 28.—(Special to The Statesman)—The Hubbard garage was broken into late Monday night. A small amount of cash, blankets and auto accessories and a Chevrolet car were stolen. The garage is owned by L. T. Hodge, North Marion county distributor.

The safe, which was unlocked, was opened and the cash register was broken open with some instrument. The job was roughly done. The loss of blankets and auto accessories from the sales room was considerable. The car belonged to Charles Kinzer, local barber, and was only stored in the garage. No clues as to who the robbers might be has been found.

TAYLOR KILLING MYSTERY IS SOLVED IF STORY BY WOMAN IS CORRECT, OFFICERS AVER

FLU CASES ARE NOT ALARMING

So Declares Dr. C. E. Cashatt, City and County Health Officer

A survey of reports filed with the county and city health offices by physicians practicing in Marion county shows that there is little cause for alarm concerning the influenza situation in Salem and vicinity.

According to statistics filed with Dr. C. E. Cashatt, city and county health officer, there have been only 10 deaths in Marion county during February that can be traceable to influenza. During the month of January only five deaths could be attributed to this cause. Of these 15 fatalities, 13 of the individuals were 55 years of age or older.

"If there are more than 25 actual cases of influenza existing in this city today, someone has been tardy in making reports of this contagious disease," Dr. Cashatt said yesterday, in commenting on statements by physicians quoted as saying that there are between 400 and 500 cases of influenza in Salem at the present time.

"There is much difference between the common colds and coughs known to everyone and the noted form of influenza which confines the patient to bed and involves a fight for health similar to the attacks of a virulent form of pneumonia," said Dr. Cashatt.

Dr. Cashatt calls attention to the general rules to be exercised in avoiding contracting the disease, such as care to avoid close contact with persons who sneeze or cough.

The radical changes of weather recently experienced in this locality is given as one of the basic causes of the epidemic of colds in various forms of severity.

Warm clothing and a care to avoid exposures to sudden extremes of temperature are suggested as methods to be used in sidestepping attacks.

WORD RECEIVED FROM ISLANDERS

George Swegle Writes Enthusiastically of Reception by Natives

George Swegle, one of the 16 Salem folks who went to Palmito del Verde, writes his son, Charles Swegle, from Mazatlan, that when the Salem colonists arrived in that city the people came out to meet them in a most enthusiastic reception.

He writes that the trees all around Mazatlan are loaded down with coconuts and that they found many wealthy Americans living in the city. Also that the natives, and especially Mexicans, do all the manual labor.

Mrs. John Rupp, Landlady for Six Drug Peddlers Accuses Them of Slaying Film Director in Hollywood—Another Visit Will be Made to Mabel Normand as Result of Arrests Made Yesterday

LOS ANGELES, Feb. 28.—"The mystery of the murder of William Desmond Taylor, film director, is solved, if the story told by Mrs. John Rupp in connection with the arrest here today of six drug peddlers is correct," tonight declared Detective Sergeant Herman Cline, one of the police squad assigned to the case.

When Sergeant Cline, head of the police homicide squad, made that statement, Mrs. Rupp, who told the police she had "kept house" for the men, had been subjected to a rigid questioning by two detectives of the district attorney's office. Her statements were taken down in shorthand in the presence of officers who said they would check up every detail.

Another witness, new in the case and whose exact connection with it and whose name was not made public officially was taken before Thomas Lee Woolwine, district attorney, to whom he was said to have told a very important story. This witness is called "Frenchy George" by the detectives, who decline further information concerning him.

"Frenchy George's" story, however, was believed to relate to the arrests of the six men, who were accused of having sold drugs and liquor to motion picture actors and actresses and others in the Hollywood district of Los Angeles.

After "Frenchy George" had concluded his statement, a detective attached to the district attorney's office said officers would pay another visit to Mabel Normand, film actress, who is recovering from what her physician recently declared was a severe attack of influenza and nervous breakdown.

Stanford Professor to Give Lecture Tonight

Professor Edgar E. Robinson, of the American history department at Stanford university, will lecture at Waller hall tonight at 8 o'clock. His topic, "Inside Glimpses of the Disarmament Conference" will be of interest to students of current problems. This lecture will tell of the impressions, glimpses, and observations of an observer at the ring-side in Washington, D. C.

For two months Prof. Robinson was present at the arms conclave. He was an observer of the representatives of the different powers. Many of the conferences were attended and the notes and impressions from many of these speeches and arguments will be told. A very interesting, instructive, and worthwhile lecture of the conclave will be given.

FIRST PAYMENT OF BONUS MONEY TO BE MADE ON THURSDAY

Final setting of the stage for sending out thousands of soldier bonus checks was effected yesterday by the state bonus commission which announced that bonds for more than \$3,000,000 will be delivered today to a Portland bank which is to have the necessary cash ready for the state treasury. The flood of checks will then be released on Thursday carrying reimbursement to 3210 ex-service men within the state.

In an all day session the commission yesterday passed another 800 claims which will be sent at once to the secretary of state's office for audit and payment, claims having already been received from the applicants. Claims under the cash and loan law will be made hereafter as rapidly as the necessary legal requirements can be met. The commission has \$10,000,000 available from the \$30,000,000 voted by the people at the last election and it is estimated that this sum will carry out the work until next September by which time, at the present rate of applications, another sale of bonds will be required.

Record Time Made
That the bonus commission has made record time in getting the disbursements rolling is the opinion freely heard here. The halt in the commission's operations brought about by a supreme court test on the validity of the law was not ended until December 13. Thereafter it was necessary to advertise for bids in the eastern bond market, receive and open bids, award the sale, and then have the bonds printed, signed and delivered. The actual delivery of the first block of bonds will occur today at 10 o'clock in Portland.

A serious delay was threatened recently, it was learned yesterday, when the printing of the bonds was undertaken. The commission ran counter to a general strike of lithographers but this was quickly met when, on appeal from the commission and American Legion, the Central Labor council and Lithographers union at Portland