

SEVENTY-THIRD YEAR

SALEM, OREGON, SUNDAY MORNING, AUGUST 5, 1923

PRICE FIVE CENTS

PRUNE YIELD WILL BE SHORT LATE REPORT

Buyers Strike Is Declared To Be Apparent Throughout Entire Fruit-Merchandise World

ALL PRICES ARE LOW COMPARED WITH 1922

Unstable Condition Puts Ultimate Consumer In Uncomfortable Place

Reports from the Oregon prune district fail to indicate the prosperity that had been hoped for though never seemed absolutely assured for 1923. An unusually heavy drop is reported from many districts, where the crop will be considerably less than it was last year. A full crop is reported from a few districts, but in general the 1923 yield will be light.

What seems to amount to a real buyers' strike is on through the whole fruit merchandising field. Wholesalers, jobbers, brokers, retailers, and all seem to have conspired to bear the market down to perilously near the zero point. It looks like a clever stunt for the one year, and it works effectively enough for the present, all through the fruit world.

Pears Away Down

Just how effectively, may be shown by the figures paid the growers of the perishable western fruits. Pears, that in 1922 brought up to \$75 a ton, are now quoted at \$30 a ton, which in most cases is well below cost of production. Apricots, that sold up to \$100 last year, now sell down to \$12 a ton, and the canners cannot use them even at that ruinous price. Peaches, that were \$40 a ton in 1922 now sell for \$25. Logans were low last year—and this year they have practically no quotable market price. Prunes are in much the same disastrous condition.

Buyers Apparently Unwise

This year, an estimated 50 per cent of the loganberry crop was left in the field untouched. The buying trade from broker down to retailer, would not risk a penny on logans, with the result that it is today. But already the wisdom of the buying strike is shown in the gradual but apparently sure strengthening of prices on the fruit that was put up. Apricots must do the same, so must peaches and pears. The trade has forced the price down almost to zero, and all but killed the growers; though retail prices are still generally high, based on last year's canning costs. The failure to harvest the crops brings about a criminal shortage of next winter's fruit, a failure chargeable directly to the buyers in the trade who would risk nothing on the world's hunger, on the world's ability to buy, and so the artificial shortage is likely to send prices rocketing before the year is over.

Consumers Suffer

It may be that the growers of most fruits did receive an abnormal price last year, and that the canners and the trade generally paid too much. If they are trying to recoup themselves this year for their 1922 unwisdom in bidding crazily for fruit that probably never was worth the price they paid for it, they are winning their game for certainly the 1923 prices are down almost to the ultimate zero.

The ultimate consumers suffer all the time, for they always face the agony of cleaning up the last of the highest priced stock, whatever be the conditions at the canneries even in a no-price year.

Not a Theory
A recent letter sent out by the attention to some of the dangers

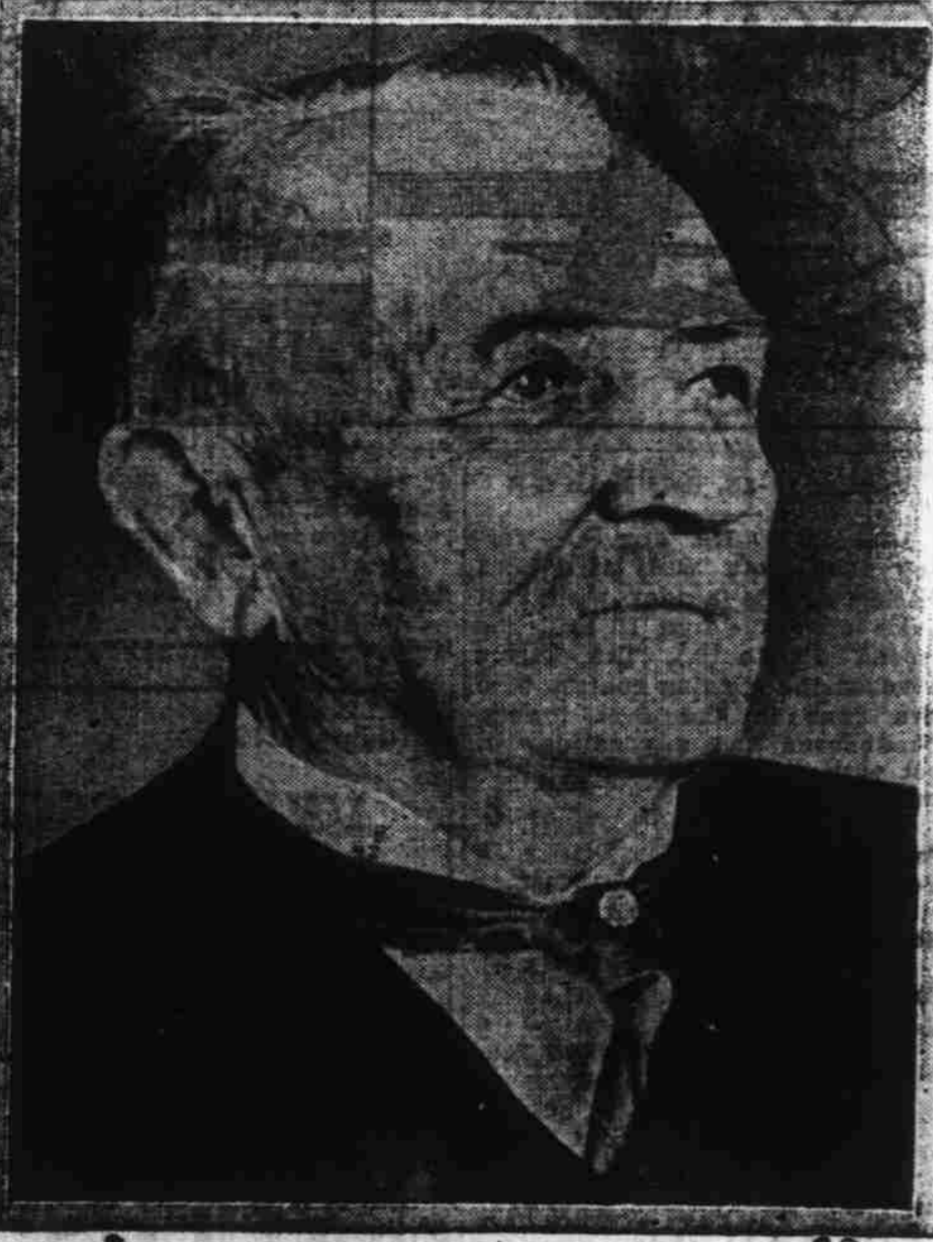
THE WEATHER

OREGON: Fair Sunday with slowly rising temperatures; moderate westerly winds.

LOCAL WEATHER

(Saturday)
Maximum temperature, 77.
Minimum temperature, 56.
Rainfall, none.
River, —, 8 feet.
Atmosphere, clear.
Wind, west.

HE IS 94 YEARS OLD AND STILL HOLDS PUBLIC JOB



JOHN R. VOORHEES

Photo shows New York City's commissioner of elections, who has been in municipal employ for 50 years. He has just celebrated his ninety-fourth birthday.

Are Those YMCA Boys Having a Good Time in Camp; Read What One Writes, and You'll Say So

One of the biggest and best times in the history of the Willamette valley, since the diggers of the valley finished their job of digging and their simian folks brought them a picnic dinner from the cocoanut and fig trees up in the Waldo hills, is now going on at the YMCA summer camp on Trask river, Tillamook county.

Bob Boardman is in general charge, with some able lieutenants to help him. The 57 boys into some semblance of propriety. They are having good eating, good swimming, good hiking, good singing. The following letter from Ivan White, official news dispenser for the Salem delegation, is part of his own and the other boys' estimate of how enjoyable a camp it is:

"Dear Folks of Salem: Did we have some time going over? I'll say so! We sang, told stories, and played. My throat is sore yet from getting cracked so much. The popular song about noon was 'When Do We Eat?' All the fat kids like Ed Cross, Horace Stewart and Jack Harbison, saw the big sign on the side of a restaurant, 'The Home of the Sweet Doughnut; That's All.' They talked about it until Din Waters threatened to put Ford muffers on their faces.

"We are camped on a beautiful spot at the end of the Trask river trail. There are sheer mountains on all sides of us. The Trask river is a dark emerald, fast flowing stream. The water is so clear that you can see the bottom everywhere. Even the kids in swimming look funny. And talking about swimming, this morning when we took our dip the water

Curry County Small Population Of Schools

Curry county is one of the small counties of the state in the number of teachers and pupils enrolled in its schools, according to the annual report of County School Superintendent Mrs. Cope, to J. A. Churchill, state superintendent.

The report shows that there are only 52 teachers in the county, of whom 15 are men and 37 are women. In the schools are enrolled a total of 536 pupils, 78 of them in the high schools. The attendance of these pupils was almost perfect during the last school year, reaching an average of 99 per cent.

In the county are 27 school districts and 39 school rooms. The largest school in the county is at Brookings, where five teachers are employed and 150 pupils enrolled.

Churchill Gets Report From Clatsop Schools

The total enrollment of the schools of Clatsop county for the school year ending in June 1923, was 4373, as shown by the annual report of O. H. Byland, county school superintendent, to the state department of education. There are 730 pupils enrolled in the high schools at Astoria, Knappton, Seaside, Warrenton and Westport, all standard high schools.

There are 31 one-room schools in the county and 49 districts. The average monthly salary paid men teachers is \$181 and women teachers \$127.

At the end of the school year 336 pupils were graduated from the eighth grade and 96 from the high schools.

JAPANESE ADMIRAL TO TOUR TOKIO, Aug. 4.—Vice-admiral Konji Ide starts shortly on a tour of the world. He will visit Europe, and return home by way of the United States.

WEDDING PACT PARENTS MADE IS HELD VOID

Japanese Laws Do Not Extend To California, Rules Judge; Bride Freed

AUBURN, Cal., Aug. 4.—A contract of marriage made by the parents in Japan while the parties to the contract were residents of the United States, although valid under the laws of Japan, is void in this country, according to a decision rendered in the superior court here today by Judge J. B. Landis, in an action brought by Tsunee Yoshikawa, an American citizen, against Takeyoshi Yoshikawa.

The plaintiff, who is 18 years old testified that she was born in California and had never been out of the state. When she was 16, she testified, her father met the father of her Japanese husband in Japan and the parents then entered into a contract of marriage for their children according to the laws of Japan.

When she was 18, she told the court, she believed she was the wife of the defendant and went to live with him. She remained but seven days, she testified, and brought suit to have the marriage annulled.

RAILROAD PEOPLE PICNIC AT ALBANY

About One Thousand On Grounds—Similar Events Elsewhere On Lines

Salem contributed several picnickers to the great annual Southern Pacific employees' outing, which was held Saturday at Albany. They came down from Portland and all the towns farther north than Salem, three full trains loaded to the guards. A number also came over from Dallas, and it is estimated that more than 1000 people were on the picnic grounds when the dinner bell rang. The Southern Pacific makes this a big annual event for all its employees who can be spared for the day, and men, women, children and spotted dogs are included in the list of guests and members. The Albany picnic was for the Portland division. Other similar gatherings were held in each division all over the system. Last year the event was staged in Salem, and the state fair grounds were almost filled with the railroaders and their families.

MEMORIAL WILL BE HELD TODAY

Judge McCamant, Main Speaker—Kay Will Be Chairman—Music by Band

Memorial services for the late President Warren G. Harding are to be held at Willson park this afternoon, taking the place of the regular summer Sunday union church services. In case of inclement weather, the services will be held in the First Methodist church close at hand.

Thomas B. Kay is to be chairman for the day and Miss Lena Belle Tartar will have charge of the group singing. The program opens an hour earlier than the usual park services, with a band concert opening at 3 o'clock. Director Steelhammer has not made out his list of selections for publication, though there will be a list of sacred and classical numbers especially fitting for such an occasion.

It is especially urged that those who feel that they must leave at the close of the band program, park their cars far enough away that there will be no disturbance. The general order of the memorial program is here given: 3 p. m.—Band concert. 4 p. m.—Group singing led by the band.

Invocation, Rev. Harry W. Johnson. Address, Governor Walter M. Pierce. Vocal solo—Miss Lena Belle Tartar. Address, Mayor J. B. Giesy. Vocal solo—R. D. Barton. Address, Judge Wallace McCamant. Song, America, led by the band.

PERSONNEL OF CABINET WILL BE UNCHANGED

Coolidge Urges Present Members to Refrain From Presenting Formal Resignations and Assist

SECOND DAY OCCUPIED BY MANY CONFERENCES

No Indication Given As To Calling Of Special Session Of Congress

WASHINGTON, Aug. 4.—(By The Associated Press.)—President Coolidge today put his shoulder under the burden of government and made ready to carry on along the pathway pointed out by President Harding.

His second day, as president was occupied with a long succession of official conferences, in which he gained an initial grasp of his duties and responsibilities and made final plans for the state funeral of his predecessor.

Policy Withheld

Affairs of state were taken up with several cabinet members under-secretaries and others. Among those who called at the executive offices in the Willard hotel were Secretary Hughes, Postmaster General New, Secretary Denby, the secretaries of the war, treasury and labor and Director Hines.

The condition of the various agencies was discussed in connection with the problems of the early future.

Announcements of policy were withheld by the president, nor would he indicate tonight whether he had in mind an extra session of congress.

"Everything stands as it is," he said, "until you are notified to the contrary."

Cabinet to Remain

This statement applied also to the cabinet personnel, and it was learned later that the president hoped the present cabinet members would not only remain to assist him but would refrain from presenting even their customary formal resignations. This hope he is said to have expressed personally to all the cabinet officers now in Washington.

In addition to his talks with department and bureau chiefs, Mr. Coolidge was engaged throughout the day in conferences with Colonel Clarence Sherrill, White House military aid regarding plans for the funeral of President Harding. In mourning for his predecessor, he wore a wide band of crepe on the sleeve of his gray suit.

TWO GERVAIS MEN CONFESS; ONE IN JAIL; OTHER GONE

Arthur D. Mason and Walter C. Sinclair Said to Have Signed Admission That They Burned Trucks to Collect Insurance—Stepson Disappears When He Is Allowed to See Family.

One man is in the county jail and another being sought by officers as a result of a signed confession to having set fire to two automobile trucks in order to obtain \$2850 insurance with which to meet payments on the vehicles.

Arthur D. Mason, who lives on a ranch near Gervais, was brought to the city yesterday and lodged in jail in connection with the crime, and his step-son, Walter C. Sinclair, will join him as soon as he has been apprehended.

Log Contract Entered Into
The two men, it is stated, were engaged in hauling logs under contract, and in order to handle the commodity properly, Sinclair purchased the two trucks under contract. When he was unable to meet the payments, he asked Mason to set fire to them, it is alleged, in order that they might collect the insurance.

According to a signed confession made by both men to H. H. Pomeroy, deputy state fire marshal, the crime was committed on the night of July 3. Mason agreed to start the conflagration, as was suggested by Sinclair, after the latter with his wife and two children had gone to Portland. The trucks were partially destroyed.

Sinclair Runs Away
After signing the confession, Sinclair was given permission to join his family who were registered at a Portland hotel, with the understanding that he was to report to the authorities Saturday morning. This he failed to do, and officers are searching for him.

The signed statements have been turned over to District Attorney John H. Carson.

APPOINTMENT OF OFFICIALS SPECULATIVE

Forster Will Retain His Position As Legislative Secretary Though Other Posts Are Changed

SECRETARIAL OFFICE MAY FALL TO CLARK

Coolidge's Former Secretary Believed Stated To Follow Christian

WASHINGTON, Aug. 4.—(By The Associated Press.)—With the passing of President Harding several changes are expected in the White House executive personnel, especially among those of whom appointments have always been considered as essentially personal on the part of the chief executive.

A spokesman for President Coolidge said today that George B. Christian, Jr., secretary to Mr. Harding, still was the "president's" secretary, and that Brigadier General Charles E. Sawyer still retained his title as presidential physician. Nevertheless, both are expected to generally pass soon out of official life, although both will be retained at their posts until their successors have become familiar with the duties of the White House.

Clark Most Mentioned

Insofar as the personnel is concerned, at least no immediate changes are expected. One who will remain is Rudolph Forster, the legislative secretary, who has held the post for a score of years and has been regarded as indispensable by president after president because of his familiarity with the important details of public business.

In discussion of a secretary to the new president in unofficial circles mention is most frequently made of Edward T. Clark, who was Mr. Coolidge's secretary as vice president. Mr. Clark has had many years of Washington experience, at one time being secretary to Senator Lodge of Massachusetts.

Boston Man Suggested

Other possible selections as secretary are Benjamin Felt of Boston and James B. Reynolds, formerly of Massachusetts but for many years a resident of Washington. Mr. Felt was at first a Boston newspaperman and then for several years was secretary of the Republican state committee of Massachusetts. Mr. Reynolds was assistant secretary of the navy under Roosevelt.

Mr. Coolidge's physician since he came to Washington as vice president has been Major James

(Continued on page 3)

HARDING HAD HUGE ESTATE FRIENDS SAY

Marion Star Brought Half Million—Total Fortune Estimated \$800,000

MARION, Ohio, Aug. 4.—Close friends of the late President Harding tonight estimated that his estate probably was worth between \$700,000 and \$800,000. Before he assumed the presidency Mr. Harding was regarded as wealthy, having amassed a fortune of some dimensions from the Marion Star, the newspaper which he owned since 1884 until it was sold recently.

The controlling interest, held by Mr. Harding, was said to have brought more than a half million dollars. At one time or other Mr. Harding had been a stockholder in practically every industrial enterprise in the city. At the time of his death he was a director in the Marion County bank, the leading financial institution of the city, of the Home Building and Loan and Savings company. Mr. Harding's last will, made just before he left Washington for Alaska, has not been probated.

WOMAN KILLED BY AUTOMOBILE

Mrs. Alice Lennon Struck As She Steps From Stage At Woodburn

Mrs. Alice Lennon, resident of Oregon City and about 60 years old, was almost instantly killed on the Pacific highway near Woodburn at 6 o'clock Saturday when she was struck by an automobile driven by S. B. Stackus, of Boyne City, Mich.

Mrs. Lennon, who was on the way to visit her brother, G. S. Gibbens of Woodburn, had just alighted from a southbound Portland-Salem stage a block north of the schoolhouse. As she stepped around the stage she was hit by the automobile, which was also going south.

Stackus was released on his own recognizance, though he did not proceed on his way. The remains of Mrs. Lennon were taken to a Woodburn undertaking establishment.

MOURNING DAY IS SET ASIDE

Oregon Citizens Asked To Observe Friday, Aug. 10, For Memorial

The following proclamation, setting aside Friday, August 10, the date of President Harding's funeral, as a day of mourning in Oregon, was issued yesterday by Governor Pierce:

"Oregon was especially blessed in being the last state visited by the late lamented president while he was in the full vigor of all his mental and physical powers. With a smile on his lips and a heart beating in unison with the great masses of our people he visited us on the third and fourth days of July last. In the few hours he spent in this state we all learned to love him for we felt the influence of a pure upright American statesmanship. He convinced us all that above everything else he wished to be of service to the American people. He seemed never to think of self, freely giving of his vigor and strength so that he was unable to resist the grim reaper. A few days ago he held the highest official position in the world. The final bell is tolling and he goes to his great reward, taking his place with American immortals who freely gave their lives that America might live. On Friday, the tenth day of August, 1923, his mortal remains will find their last resting place in Marion, Ohio, where he was dearly beloved by all.

"I, Walter M. Pierce, governor of the state of Oregon, do hereby proclaim Friday, August 10, 1923, a day of mourning throughout the state of Oregon for our respected and beloved president, the late Warren G. Harding, and, as governor, I hereby decree the said tenth day of August, 1923, to be a legal holiday.

"I ask the people of this state to gather in their houses of worship that proper memorial services may be held on said day of mourning and implore a continuance of the fostering care of a divine providence for our people."

OGDEN PLACES FLOWERS UPON HARDING BIER

Contributions For Decorations Are Limited To Ten Cents For All Citizens in Utah Capital

MARION SERVICES ARE TO BE QUITE SIMPLE

Request Made By Mrs. Harding; Train Ordered To Run Slow At Times

ON BOARD HARDING FUNERAL TRAIN, at Ogden, Utah, Aug. 4.—(By The Associated Press.)—The special train bearing the body of Warren G. Harding shortly after 10 o'clock (mountain time) tonight started over a portion of the route it traveled just 39 days ago, carrying Mr. Harding, then well, happy and hopeful, to the Pacific coast and Alaska. The same people of Ogden that on the morning of June 26 welcomed Mr. and Mrs. Harding with cheers, music and flowers, tonight stood in silent reverence. They sorrowed for the passing of the one; they sympathized with the other.

Reaches Cheyenne Today

There were no cheers and no music tonight, but there were flowers. The citizens of Ogden through contributions of not more than 10 cents each, bought flowers to be placed by the bier of the dead president.

The train paused here but a few minutes and then continued on its way, passing between here and Cheyenne, on the same route traveled June 25 and 26. It is due to reach Cheyenne at 1:15 p. m. tomorrow.

Mrs. Harding again retired early. During the day she had remained in her room less than 10 feet from where rested the coffin containing the body of her husband. Members of the party made frequent visits to talk with her in an endeavor to help her maintain her brave, calm manner.

No Military Funeral

The services at Marion, by request of Mrs. Harding, will be as simple as possible. There will be no military or fraternal participation and Mr. Harding will be buried in his home town as a citizen of that town. Another request made today by Mrs. Harding was that all members of the party that made the transcontinental trip, including the cabinet members, other officials and newspapermen make the trip to Marion Thursday, so when the train leaves Washington on the evening of August 8, it will carry so far as possible the same party that left Washington on June 20 for the Pacific coast and Alaska.

Train Slows Down

Railway officials in charge of the train kept continuously at the posts of duty, carrying out orders they had given at Mrs. Harding's request, the same sort that President Harding had suggested to them during the westward trip across the country. These orders were that the engineer run slowly whenever people might be seen ahead, waiting to pay their tributes.

The picture which passed before the eyes of those waiting was that of a slow-moving train, the last coach of which revealed a bier and its guards, the latter standing at "parade rest" with eyes cast down, focused on the coffin about which they stood. Floral pieces of great beauty, banked against the walls of the chamber, served as a background for the picture.

Crepe Is Now Adorning Portions of State House

Out of respect to the late President Warren G. Harding, Sam A. Koser, secretary of state and custodian of the state capitol building and grounds, has caused the entrances to the state house to be decorated with mourning. Crepe will appear at the north and south entrances of the first floor and east and west entrances of the second floor. Chief Justice McBride of the supreme court has ordered appropriate draping of the court chamber.