

# The Oregon Statesman

WEATHER FORECAST: Rains in the west and rains and snows in the east portion; normal temperature, southerly gales on the coast. Maximum yesterday, 47; minimum, 37; river, 5.7; rainfall, none, atmosphere, cloudy, wind, southeast.

Two people we haven't much use for are the extreme pacifist who wants to abolish the army and navy and the bumptious jingo who thinks we ought always to fight at the drop of the hat.

SEVENTY-SIXTH YEAR

SALEM, OREGON, TUESDAY MORNING, DECEMBER 28, 1926

PRICE FIVE CENTS

## GROWERS MEET WITH PACKERS IN PRUNE WORK

Many Large Interests Represented at Special Gathering Yesterday

### COMMITTEE APPOINTED

Final Plan to Be Presented to Different Interest for Approval, Critchfield Comes at Request of McNary

An impromptu meeting of the prune growers and packers was held at the Marion hotel Monday afternoon. The meeting was called at the request of a number of growers and packers that they might have an opportunity of discussing the prune situation with B. H. Critchfield, who was sent here by the United States department of agriculture upon request of Senator Charles L. McNary for the express purpose of investigating the condition of the industry.

The meeting was called to order by W. T. Jenks, who, after stating the object of the gathering, said that different interests had requested that W. S. Walton act as chairman, and Mr. Walton was accordingly chosen.

Mr. Critchfield stated that the heads of the department of agriculture at Washington, D. C., which he represented, were anxious and willing to give all the aid possible to the growers of the northwest and were now making a thorough investigation of the conditions, and, while he could not at this time outline any definite plans, he would welcome assistance and advice from the different marketing agencies that would tend to iron out the difficulties that now beset the prune industry or that might exist between the growers and packers.

## CHAPLIN DENIES MEXICAN RUMORS

REPORTS INDICATE NEGOTIATIONS MADE IN SONORA

Film Comedian Claimed to Be Waiting Action on Part of Mrs. Chaplin

NOGALES, Ariz., Dec. 27.—(AP)—Charles Spencer Chaplin, motion picture comedian, who a little more than two years ago—November 25, 1924, slipped across the border and was married to Lilita Louise Murray (Lita Grey), his leading lady, at Empalme, Sonora, Mexico, has written a lawyer in Hermosillo relative to obtaining a divorce under Mexican law, the Nogaes Herald today said. The newspaper said, is prominent in Hermosillo, the capital of the state of Sonora, Mexico, and will not allow his name to be used in connection with the case.

The Sonora laws provide that a divorce may be obtained for cause the same as in the United States and by mutual consent, but requires no residence within the state in either instance. When causes are named the defendant must be served with a personal summons and regular proceedings followed. When husband and wife agree to the action, a divorce in Sonora may be obtained in from two weeks to a month, but they must have been married for more than one year when the application is filed.

LOS ANGELES, Dec. 27.—(AP)—Lloyd Wright, attorney for Charles Spencer Chaplin, said here today the film comedian had no intention of seeking a divorce from his estranged wife, the former Lita Grey, in Mexican courts, as intimated in a report from Nogaes, Ariz.

"There's nothing to it," Wright said. "I never heard of Chaplin being in communication with a

## Regular Edition Of The Statesman On New Year's Day

The news section of The Oregon Statesman for January 1, 1927, will be delivered only to the regular subscribers. It will not be a part of the annual year-end edition, which is to be released on that day also.

The subscribers and patrons of The Statesman are requested to remember this announcement.

## NEUTRAL FIELD ADMIRAL'S AIM

NICARAGUA AGENT CHARGES SAILORS NOT NEEDED

Report Lacks Information on Developments at Puerto Cabezas

WASHINGTON, Dec. 27.—(AP)—Steps to maintain the Bluefields neutral zone established under American naval control last October by agreement of the Nicaraguan conservative and liberal military chiefs, were reported today by Rear Admiral Julian Latimer. Advice, however, was lacking as to developments at Puerto Cabezas, where marines and blue-jackets were landed last week to protect American lives and property.

Announcement by President Diaz at Managua that his government would regard the entire east coast of Nicaragua as neutral territory and withdraw its forces which suffered defeat recently in action with the liberals may possibly mean that these troops will take refuge within the Bluefields zone and surrender their arms to Admiral Latimer.

The Diaz announcement said the troops were to be withdrawn to Rama, up the river toward Managua. If the liberals should prevent this move, however, the only recourse would be to enter the Bluefields zone.

The announcement also may mean early withdrawal of the forces landed by Admiral Latimer at Rio Grande bar and Puerto Cabezas to protect American interests. This decision would rest with the admiral and be made on his information as to any danger still threatening. He notified the state department today that he had warned the commander of the defeated government forces that they would be permitted to enter the Bluefields zone only on surrender of their arms.

It was reiterated today that the Washington government did not regard landing at Puerto Cabezas as intervention in any way in the Nicaraguan civil strife, but only for the purpose of protecting Americans.

The department also made no

## 21 SAILORS POISONED

Tinned Corned Beef Hash Served Bluejackets for Breakfast

SAN DIEGO, Cal., Dec. 27.—(AP)—Twenty-one bluejackets, confined aboard the receiving ship Rigel at the destroyer base awaiting trial for court-martial offenses and three sentries, were taken to the naval hospital today suffering from ptomaine poisoning. None of the men is said to be dangerously ill.

Captain John Church, commandant of the destroyer base, said the afflicted men were served tinned corned beef hash for breakfast this morning. A few hours every one of the prisoners to whom the food was given became ill. This is the second time this year that a large group of naval personnel here has been made ill with ptomaine poisoning through eating improperly cooked or spoiled foods. Last summer an entire ward of the naval hospital was filled with such patients. There were no deaths.

## SHOTS FATAL TO THREE

Children Rush to Room and Find Mother and Two Men Dead

HOUSTON, Texas, Dec. 27.—(AP)—While four children were asleep in a nearby room, Mrs. Maria A. Rivas, 28, a widow, Jose Tapia, 30, a baker, and Anastasio Tejada, 50, were shot and killed here today.

The four children of Mrs. Rivas were awakened by the shots and found their mother and the two men dead. The children said Tejada had been ordered from the house two months ago, and about two weeks ago returned, threatening to kill the family.

## 3 KILLED WHEN OIL EXPLOSION WRECKS PLANT

Company Orders Guards to Exclude Newspapermen From Burned Area

### MEN FLEE FROM FLAMES

Three of Injured Who Worked in Gas and Construction Department Expected to Die From Burns

VENTURA, Cal., Dec. 27.—(AP)—Three lives were the toll exacted by a fire near here today which, started by an explosion in the absorption plant of the General Petroleum company, trapped employees of the unit in a flaming circle 400 feet in diameter. Three other men were so seriously burned they are not expected to live, several others, while seriously injured will recover, and a number of employees were given emergency treatment for minor burns.

The loss in gasoline and equipment was estimated at \$75,000, but although company engineers have begun an investigation the cause of the fire has not yet been determined.

The dead are: Mack Lendon of Los Angeles, Sam Ingram and William Lejune. The injured expected to die are: T. J. Garrett, F. J. Berry and P. B. Dimock.

Those who probably will recover include: T. L. Kimes, George McGussie, Burt Gavin, A. T. Boles, Jim McGlinchey, Wayne Gibboney and four men named Kinney, Henderson, Muffelman and Cristenelli, whose first names were unavailable.

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## WHISKEY CARGO SEIZED

Vessel Able to Leave Port After Intoxicants Removed

VICTORIA, B. C., Dec. 27.—(AP)—Seizure of a cargo of more than 20,000 cases of liquor consigned to Mexico aboard the auxiliary schooner Chris Moeller, which has been detained here a month, was ordered today by the acting minister of customs and excise at Ottawa. The vessel will be allowed to clear from the port after the seizure.

Counsel for the vessel said action would be taken to oppose the seizure, which was ordered on charges of false entry.

## HOLIDAY DRINKS TAKE 16 LIVES

GOVERNMENT DENIES DENATURING CAUSED DEATHS

Chemists Hopeful of Making Industrial Alcohol Less Poisonous

NEW YORK, Dec. 27.—(AP)—Charges that some of the sixteen alcoholic poisoning deaths over the Christmas holidays were caused by poisons put in alcohol by the government today brought a defense of government denaturing from Chester P. Mills, federal prohibition administrator.

Chief Medical Examiner Norris, commenting on the 16th deaths, said: "The government knows it is not stopping drinking by putting poison in alcohol. It knows what bootleggers are doing with it, and yet it continues its poisoning processes. Knowing this to be true, the government must be charged with the deaths that poisoned liquor causes."

Assistant Medical Examiner Gonzales said that autopsies on seven of the dead revealed the cause of death to have been excessive drinking and not poisoning. The denaturing, Mills said, was done in order that users of alcohol for non-beverage purposes might avoid payment of the high tax on grain alcohol and there was no intent on the part of the government to risk the lives of citizens. The denaturing, he said, also helps the domestic dealers meet foreign competitors on a nearly equal basis.

The total of deaths from alcoholic poisoning was raised to sixteen today with three deaths in Bellevue hospital and two elsewhere. Eight additional alcoholic

(Continued on page 3.)

## FALL'S ILLNESS SERIOUS

Outlook for Recovery Good Unless Complications Set In

EL PASO, Texas, Dec. 27.—(AP)—Former Secretary of the Interior Albert B. Fall, who is seriously ill with pneumonia at his home here, is "resting easy," his condition showing little change, said a bulletin issued at 5 o'clock by Dr. H. T. Safford.

The following bulletin regarding Mr. Fall's condition was issued by Dr. Safford: "As a result of my examination of Mr. Fall, I find that he has pneumonia of the lower lobe of the right lung. His temperature is not high, his pulse is good, and the outlook for his recovery is good. If no complications or further extension of the pneumonia occurs. At his age, 65, pneumonia sometimes mild in its onset, develops into a severe case within a short time."

## MORE FREEDOM SOUGHT BY SIX

TWO MEN RECAPTURED BY SHELTON AFTER FIRING

Hole Dug in Wall on Christmas Afternoon, Four Make Good Their Escape

Six inmates of the county jail dug their way to freedom late Saturday afternoon while Sheriff Bower and his deputies were enjoying their Christmas dinners. The escape was made through an opening in the north wall of the courthouse. Two of the prisoners were recaptured by R. Shelton and returned to jail.

Using an old nail and piece of iron piping from an old radiator, the prisoners removed the mortar and bricks and, selecting a time when the streets were deserted in the vicinity of the jail, crawled through the opening and were crossing the yard when discovered by Mr. Shelton, a deputy in the assessor's office, who was working on the records. Mr. Shelton called upon them to stop which only accelerated their speed. Seizing a gun he gave chase and at Court and Chemeketa streets, he came near enough to fire. Hearing the shot two of the men stopped and surrendered to Mr. Shelton who returned them to the quarters from which they had so unceremoniously departed. The other four kept on their way and escaped. Up to a late hour last night none of the four had been recaptured.

The prisoners were: Mart Broom, held on a liquor charge, Ray Livingston, for statutory crime, Gordon Gillis, in jail for attempting to aid prisoners in escaping, Harry Wolf, held for burglary, Seward Teglund and Kenneth Loter. Loter and Teglund were recaptured. Mart Broom is an old offender and considered a hard case. Gordon Gillis is a satellite of Broom and was arrested a few weeks ago while making an ingenious attempt to smuggle hanksaws into the jail by placing them inside a can of condensed milk.

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## NECK AND NECK



## STREAMS TURN INTO TORRENTS THROUGH SOUTH

Six Deaths and Property Damage Running to Thousands Storm's Toll

### MINES FORCED TO CLOSE

Eastern Kentucky Experiences Second High Water Within Week as Heavy Rains Flood Rivers

MEMPHIS, Tenn., Dec. 27.—(AP)—Six deaths and property damage into the thousands of thousands was estimated tonight from flood waters that spread over the lowlands in Kentucky, Tennessee, Arkansas, Mississippi and Alabama. The flood began to recede in most of the inundated area, but the crest of the flood was not in sight at other points.

Forecasts of further rains in the flooded area, however, caused apprehension and additional safeguards to protect life and property were taken.

The heaviest property damage and most widespread flood was thought eastern Kentucky and Tennessee in the valley of the Cumberland river and through portions of Tennessee, where small streams became raging torrents and spread out over the lowlands.

More than 2000 people in Nashville were being routed from their homes when the Cumberland inundated 50 blocks of the city. The weather bureau there forecast a stage of 52 to 53 feet before the flood reaches its crest. The Cumberland will probably continue to rise until Wednesday or Thursday and is higher tonight than at any time since 1882.

Tennessee bore the brunt of the flood, many small streams spreading out over lowlands covering damage of \$50,000 to roads in the state, according to the state

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## METRIC PLAN FAVORED

Doctor Claims American Children Squander School Time

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 27.—(AP)—Children in the kindergarten should be taught measurements the same as they change a dime, Dr. S. J. MacFarren of Washington, told the metric association tonight in urging the adoption of the metric system in the kindergarten classes.

"The French child," said Dr. MacFarren, "learns measurement in this manner in half the time and with only half the effort, and much more thoroughly than the American pupil twice his age." They develop naturally into logicians and mathematicians, Dr. MacFarren declared.

"Why should the bright street urchin," he continued, "who makes change for your morning paper with the accuracy of a bank cashier, have to spend years in school before commencing to learn the merchandise side of calculation? Because our weights and measures, unlike our simple currency which is the envy of the world, are still undecimalized."

## LINER AGROUND IN MUD

Three Tugs Work All Day in Futile Attempt to Move Ship

SAN JUAN, Porto Rico, Dec. 27.—(AP)—Although three tugs worked all day in an endeavor to pull off the Cunard liner Franconia, the ship was still fast aground late today, with little prospect of being released unless more powerful vessels came to her assistance. A strong sea astern was driving the vessel farther on the mud bank.

The Franconia grounded near the entrance to San Juan harbor Sunday.

## BURNS KILL MEXICAN

Effort to Start Fire With Gasoline Fatal to Laborer

EUGENE, Ore., Dec. 27.—(AP)—Martino Vasquez, Mexican laborer employed by the Southern Pacific company on the new Cascade line seventy miles east of Eugene, was burned to death last night when he attempted to light a fire in a cabin with gasoline. The can of gasoline exploded.

## The Winter Relief Fund

Just because Christmas has passed does not mean that some people will need no more help during the winter months. The good citizens rallied in a splendid manner to the Christmas Cheer work and now a campaign for the relief of needy families during the remainder of the winter months is being launched by the Salvation Army and The Oregon Statesman. Food and clothing should be left with the Army and the money with the relief editor of The Statesman. Every article and every cent will be used, free of charge, to bring the necessities to some needy people.

Send in your contributions now and help this most worthy work.  
A Friend .....\$5.00

## WINTER RELIEF WORK STARTED

SALVATION ARMY AND THE STATESMAN TO COOPERATE

Clothing, Food and Money to Be Used to Supply Necessities to Needy

Christmas has passed, but not so the relief work for the needy people of the community. The Oregon Statesman and the Salvation Army are cooperating in carrying on this winter relief work. They will continue it until the spring work begins. This means that the people of the community should continue to give to this fund.

Some may ask, "How long shall I give?" The best answer the relief editor has found for that is contained in the following verse:

"Go break to the needy sweet charity's bread;  
For giving is living," the angel said.  
"And must I be giving again and again?"  
My peevish and pitiless answer ran:  
"No, no," said the angel, piercing me through,  
"Just give till the Master stops giving to you!"

All contributions of clothing and food should be left with the Salvation Army and the money with the winter relief editor of The Statesman. Every article and every cent will be used for the needy people. Not a cent is to be charged for handling all of the supplies. Everything goes absolutely free to those in need.

Anyone knowing needy cases should report them to the relief editor at once. Careful investigation will be made and then the needed supplies furnished free of charge. Send in the names of needy cases now.

It is the hope of The Statesman and the Salvation Army to see to it that not a person in the community suffers for the lack of necessities this winter. Help do your part by contributing food, clothing or money.

Do it now.

## DESTROYER SAVES LIFE

Dash Made From San Diego to Southern Port and Return

SAN DIEGO, Cal., Dec. 27.—(AP)—How the United States destroyer Farragut steamed out of the harbor at full speed yesterday for Esenada in a thrilling race to save the life of Leighton Hope, American vice consul at the Lower California port was revealed today when the warship returned to the harbor.

Hope had a stroke of paralysis Christmas day. His condition became so grave it was decided to move him to San Diego. Roads were impassable due to recent storms. There were no merchant vessels sailing for San Diego.

As a last resort an appeal was sent to the local naval authorities. The Farragut was ordered to leave port as soon as steam could be got up. The destroyer clipped off 30 knots an hour during the voyage to Esenada and exceeded that speed by two knots on the return trip.

Captain Raymond Spear, commandant of the Balboa park naval hospital said today that Hope was resting easily.

## SKATES TO HIS DEATH

Samuel Ladner, 13, Crushed Under Loaded Coal Truck

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 27.—(AP)—Samuel Ladner, 13, received a pair of roller skates for Christmas. Today he rolled into a street in West Philadelphia and was crushed to death under a loaded coal truck.

## PLANNING BODY SHOW DISFAVOR OF CURB PUMPS

Capitol Motors Last Firm to Be Granted Permit, Group Recommends

### PARKING PROBLEM CAUSE

Determined Effort to Eliminate All Pumps Expected to Take Place Soon, Is Sentiment of Commission

No more curb pumps will be permitted to be erected in Salem, in case the city council decides to follow a recommendation made by the zoning commission at a meeting last night. The commission went on record as being in favor of granting the Capitol Motors' petition for a curb pump, but will not favor erecting any more.

The Capitol Motors petition was in before the commission began discussing the new policy, so it was thought only fair to allow it to go through. All petitions for such permits coming in the future will meet a cold reception, however.

This action is being taken in an effort to solve the city's parking problem, which is rapidly growing more acute, and which is not solved by the city's one and two hour parking restrictions for the downtown district.

Most curb pumps take up curb space that would park three or four cars, it was brought out at the meeting, and the large number of such pumps in the business district take up parking space that would hold a large number of cars.

A determined effort to prohibit all curb pumps in the business district will be taken at some future time, it was indicated at the meeting.

Representatives of several garages owning curb pumps were present at the meeting, and pointed out that the pumps were a "necessary evil" in the storage garage business.

Considerable difficulty is encountered in putting the pumps inside the building. It was pointed out, because of limited space and city ordinances regulating such interior pumps.

Several other cities, especially Portland and San Francisco, have

(Continued on page 2.)

## STRANGLER KILLS MISSOURI WOMAN

HUSBAND LOCATES WIFE'S BODY ON SECOND FLOOR

Coroner Indicates Bruises and Finger Prints Found in Throat

KANSAS CITY, Mo., Dec. 27.—(AP)—Mrs. Bonnie Pace, 26 was found slain in her home here today, with evidence indicating strangulation. Her husband, Raymond Pace, 28, who collapsed after the body was discovered, is in the general hospital under a police restraining order. Victor, six year old son of the couple, who is an invalid, also is in the hospital.

Mrs. Pace's body was found in a front room on the second floor of the home, by her husband when he returned from work this afternoon. His screams attracted neighbors, who summoned police and an ambulance. The body was still warm, neighbors said, when they reached it.

Pace said that when he entered the house Victor, who was in bed downstairs called to him and said:

"I think mamma fell down stairs."

The husband said he investigated and found his wife's body in the upstairs room.

Dr. C. S. Nelson, deputy coroner, who examined the body, said he found finger marks on the woman's throat, and that her face had been scratched and her body bruised. There was no evidence of robbery.

Mr. and Mrs. Pace separated early last month, police were told, and Pace, who is a bricklayer was away until a few days before Christmas.

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