

WEATHER FORECAST: Unsettled, rain in west and local rain and snow in east...

The Oregon Statesman

Say this in behalf of Ma Ferguson: She has not threatened to write a book... A Virginia prize Plymouth Rock hen laid 329 eggs in a year...

COOLIDGE ASKS FOR UNIVERSAL PEACE SUPPORT

Rely on Reason and Not on Force President Declares in Address

PEOPLE CONTROL FATE

Nations Should Trust One Another Instead of Relying on Force

TRENTON, N. J., Dec. 29.—(AP)—President Coolidge tonight affirmed his faith in America as being "strong enough and brave enough" to resist "another domination of the world by the military spirit."

Speaking at the Sesqui-Centennial celebration of Washington's crossing of the Delaware, the president painted a word picture of the hardships and privations endured by the continental army on that cold snowy night and said, if necessary, the America of today must undergo similar sacrifices.

"Washington and the patriots of his day wanted peace," he said. "We want peace. They found it necessary to make great sacrifices in order to secure it. We cannot escape the corresponding sacrifices."

"The world has been striving to advance in this direction, to discard the old theory of relying entirely on force and to adopt the method of relying more on reason. We are in danger of slipping back into the old formula. The habit of tradition of ages call us in this direction."

"We cannot establish the new principle unless we are willing to make some sacrifices, unless we are willing to put some courage into our convictions."

While "moral disarmament" is necessary to obtain definite and permanent peace in the world, the president asserted that the at-

EUROPE FORGETS AMERICA'S HELP

United States Pictured as Glutted with Gold

Fate of Mankind Claimed Dependent Upon British and U. S. Attitude

NEW YORK, Dec. 29.—(AP)—Europe has forgotten all that America did during the World War and sees the United States glutted with gold and bent on holding every country to ransom, Prime Minister Bruce of Australia told members of the Pilgrims Club tonight.

The prime minister, who arrived from England yesterday, spent a busy first day in New York. He was guest of honor at a luncheon given by Sir Hugh Denison, high commissioner of Australia, meeting, among other financiers and leaders of industry, Thomas W. Lamont, Otto H. Kahn, George F. Baker, Jr., George W. Wickersham, Dwight Morrow, Pierre S. Dupont, Elbert H. Gary, Marshal Field, Gerard Swope and Henry W. Taft.

From the luncheon, Prime Minister Bruce was whisked to a reception given in honor of himself and Mrs. Bruce by the English Speaking Union, where he made his first speech of the day.

In both addresses, the prime minister stressed the importance of the attitudes of Great Britain and America in international affairs, saying that on the policies of these countries rests the fate of mankind.

"Knowing America as I do," he told the Pilgrims, "the misunderstanding in Europe with regard to the nation is to me a matter of deep regret. That misunderstanding is in part due to Europe's failure to appreciate America's history, her traditional policy and her democratic aspirations and ideals. Europe still regards herself as the whole world. She forgets that American money and materials kept the war going until victory was assured.

"Europe forgets too, the decisive effect of America's intervention. She thinks only that Amer-

BORAH APPROVES OF U. S. EFFORT

CENTRAL AMERICAN SITUATION HELD DELICATE

Forces Should Be Withdrawn as Soon as Americans Reasonably Safe

WASHINGTON, Dec. 29.—(AP)—Warning that the United States should guard against being tricked into intervention in Nicaragua was couched today by Chairman Borah, of the senate foreign relations committee, with a statement expressing his apparent conviction that American efforts in that country now were being confined to the protection of American life and property.

His views, made public after a conference with Secretary Kellogg, in which he went over reports from Rear Admiral Julian Axtner, in command of American forces in Nicaragua, ran counter to those of Senator Wheeler, democrat, Montana, who announced he would introduce a resolution in the senate calling for the withdrawal from Nicaragua of warships unless they were brought away voluntarily.

A third senator to enter the lists, Senator Ransdell, democrat, Louisiana, asserted democratic support would give the administration policy "in standing behind the Diaz government in Nicaragua."

Along with his own statement in which he expressed the hope that American forces would be taken from the Central American republic as soon as Americans were ascertained to be safe, Senator Borah gave out a telegram from Alvaro Obregon, former president of Mexico. Obregon approved the Borah stand on Latin American subjects and spoke of "violence inflicted against the sovereignty and dignity of the Latin-American countries with the sole purpose of protecting, as has

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MEEKER HAS BIRTHDAY

Reminiscences of Early Days Exchanged by Old Timers

NEW YORK, Dec. 29.—(AP)—Reminiscences of three quarters of a century ago were exchanged today when Ezra Meeker, 96 year old president of the Oregon Trail Memorial association, met John R. Voorheis, 97, grand sachem of Tammany Hall and commissioner of the board of elections.

The occasion was a birthday party given Meeker by friends and members of the Oregon Memorial Trail association. Voorheis declined invitation to stay for the luncheon because he said he had not eaten lunch in 25 years. The two men exchanged stories, Voorheis telling Meeker he could recall stories of 80 years ago "without stinking to the facts because there is nobody left to gainsay me."

Meeker, who has a flowing beard and long white hair, chided the "grand old man" of Tammany on his close cropped locks.

NAVAL SECRETS GUARDED

Secretary Wilbur Refuses Request for Copy of Report

WASHINGTON, Dec. 29.—(By AP).—Secretary Wilbur today flatly turned down a request by members of the house naval committee for a copy, to be kept in confidence, of the report on possible dangers in the Pacific ocean area made several years ago by Admiral Gleaves, while in command of the Asiatic fleet.

Representative McClintic of Oklahoma, a democratic member, said Chairman Butler, at his suggestion, made the request on the day of acquittal of Albert B. Fall, former interior secretary, and Edward L. Doheny, the millionaire oil man, on a charge of conspiracy in the leasing of naval oil lands, with which was linked the construction of storage tanks in Pearl Harbor, Hawaii.

NAVY GIG RAMS BOAT

Passengers Transferred to Battleship as Craft Sinks

SAN PEDRO, Cal., Dec. 29.—(AP)—An unidentified "hit and run" navy gig rammed the water taxi Whiz Bang in the harbor early today and necessitated the hurried transfer of a dozen passengers to the battleship Colorado, W. J. Truscott, pilot of the taxi, reported to harbor officials. He said the boat which rammed his craft near the stern was an officers' gig but that he did not have time to identify it as the taxi was sinking and the battleship was 100 yards distant. The Whiz Bang was towed in by another passenger carrier of the same company after she was awash.

YEAR PERMITS FOR BUILDINGS SHOW INCREASE

544 Requests Allowed in 1926, Only 497 in 1925 and 441 in 1924

\$2,904,104 TOTAL VALUE

December Report Shows 29 Permits With Total Valuation of \$101,100; 21 Are Listed as Homes

A total of 544 building permits with a value of \$2,904,104 were issued in 1926 up to last night at the city recorder's office, according to unofficial data compiled from city records.

This is an increase of \$1,109,159 over the permits issued in 1925, when 497 permits were issued with a total value of \$1,794,935. In 1924, 441 permits were issued, with a total value of \$1,731,210.

The huge increase in 1926, compared with that of previous years, gives an indication of Salem's rapid growth, which has been much greater than in several previous years. Continued growth and prosperity are predicted.

Building permits for December of this year up to last night totaled 29, with a value of \$101,100. In December, 1925, there were only 16 permits with a total value of \$48,900, less than half the value

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STEAMER CALLS FOR AID

British Freighter Reported as Losing Rudder at Sea

NEW YORK, Dec. 29.—(AP)—Receipt of an SOS call from the British steamer Clearton, which left Baltimore Dec. 26 for Queenstown, Ireland, was reported by the Independent Wireless company at 10:30 o'clock tonight.

The steamer reported her position as 590 miles east of New York, in latitude 38.05 minutes north and longitude 61.30 minutes west.

The Clearton is a freight steamer of 3299 tons.

BOSTON, Dec. 29.—SOS calls from the British steamer Clearton picked up at 10:35 tonight by the communication office of Charles-town navy yard said the British freighter had lost her rudder.

BEEKEEPERS ASK CHANGES IN LAW

COUNTY BEE INSPECTORS TO PASS EXAMINATION

Would Appoint Expert at OAC to Supervise and Educate in Work

Better supervision of bee inspection along with an educational campaign to finally eliminate most of the causes making inspection necessary will be requested of the oncoming legislature by the legislative committee of the state beekeepers' association.

J. T. Whittier, chairman, and H. M. Mead, both of Salem, are the committeemen who will undertake to put the findings of the meeting into legal form. The present law provides for a license fee designed to give the county court funds to pay an inspector.

The present law should be amended, it was pointed out, so that all county inspectors now appointed by the county court should first pass a civil service examination to be framed by expert entomologists at the Oregon Agricultural college.

The present law also says that the county assessor shall require a list or statement of the number of colonies. The assessor in Marion county has not done this, it developed when beekeepers questioned County Judge J. T. Hunt on this point. The request did not reach the assessor in time last year, it was said. The law, however, has been on the statute books since 1923.

It is on the assessor's list that inspectors depend to finally locate

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FALL HAS GOOD NIGHT

Condition of Former Secretary Continues Satisfactory

EL PASO, Texas, Dec. 29.—(AP)—Former Secretary of the Interior A. B. Fall, ill with pneumonia at his home here, was reported as slightly improved late today by his doctor, H. T. Safford.

Mr. Fall spent a restful night last night and his condition continues to be satisfactory, the doctor announced, through Fall's secretary, H. G. Clunn today.

BRITISH STEAMER AFIRE

Vessel Anchors in Newport News Channel to Battle Flames

NORFOLK, Va., Dec. 29.—(AP)—The British steamer Cranley at anchor in Newport News channel, reported tonight by wireless that a fire was raging in one of her holds. The Norfolk fire-boat went to her assistance. The steamer is loaded with coal and is bound for the United Kingdom.

HUNDREDS FLEE SURGING WATERS

CUMBERLAND RIVER SWEEPS OVER WIDE TERRITORY

Relief Agencies Swamped With Applications For Food and Clothing

NASHVILLE, Tenn., Dec. 29.—(AP)—The Cumberland river, sweeping through Nashville in the most devastating flood in the city's history, spread over a wider territory today, forcing additional hundreds to join the several thousand homeless who had fled from the surging waters.

The river, rising one-tenth of a foot an hour, had reached 55 feet late today, within three-tenths of a foot of the record stage of 55.3 feet in 1882. A stage of between 55.5 and 56 feet has been forecast by the weather bureau here, and is expected to be reached Friday or Saturday.

Three hundred families were moved from their homes today, J. W. Smith, chief of police, said. The police department estimated that 250 city blocks were affected by the backwaters. Between 4000 and 5000 persons have been driven from their homes, principally in north and east Nashville.

Because of hurried precautions taken, Chief Smith said he did not believe there would be any loss of life.

Simultaneously with the removal of the flood sufferers from their water soaked homes, relief agencies began functioning. The county charities commission, swamped with applications for food and clothing, today appealed for \$10,000 additional relief funds.

Train service on the Tennessee Central railroad out of here was virtually at a standstill. The

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STRANGE FRUITS ARRIVE

Giant Strawberry Among Collection Brought From Orient

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 29.—(AP)—A giant strawberry, said to have marvelous beauty giving powers, was among a collection of strange and exotic fruits, valued at \$150,000, which arrived here today on the Dollar liner President Taft, in charge of Dr. Walter J. Swigle of the United States department of agriculture.

The strawberry is said by Dr. Swigle to have properties which will reduce weight and clear the complexion. It grows on a tree, is hardy, defies frost and probably could be grown in many parts of the United States. The native habitat is on the China coast, south of the Yangtze river. It is a flowering tree and produces half a dozen crops a year.

BOARD SELECTS HOSPITAL SITE AT THE DALLES

Act Authorizing Establishment Passed by People in November Election

14 TOWNS SEEK HOME

All Proposed Plans Visited by Board of Control, Selection Made Yesterday and Deed Coming Soon

The state board of control yesterday selected The Dalles as the location for the new state tuberculosis hospital which was authorized under an act approved by the voters of Oregon at the last general election. The site accepted by the board contains approximately 50 acres and adjoins Sororia Park.

The action of the board of control in selecting The Dalles as the location for the proposed new tuberculosis hospital was based on a report prepared by Dr. C. C. Bellinger, superintendent of the state tuberculosis hospital near Salem, and J. Marshall, institutional secretary of the National Tuberculosis association with headquarters in New York.

Although 14 towns and cities in Eastern and Central Oregon had filed applications for the new hospital, the board today narrowed its considerations to a site located near Bend and the site submitted by The Dalles. All other sites offered for the hospital were said to have been eliminated be-

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BODY FOUND IN BREWERY

Neighbors Make Discovery When Man Missing Three Days

ASTORIA, Dec. 29.—(AP)—Lying stretched out on a few sacks on the damp earthen floor of an almost airtight "beer vault," the body of Charles K. Mekula, 49, of Hammond, a small community near here, was discovered today by neighbors who have been searching for him for the past three days.

Death is believed to have occurred from suffocation or from gases arising from the oil burner which was part of the equipment of the vault. Coroner E. B. Hughes was called and announced that death had occurred several days ago. Neighbors stated that they had not seen Mekula since Christmas eve.

The "beer vault" was a small box-shaped pit, about 12 feet square, and its only opening was a small tight-fitting trap door level with the surface of the ground and concealed by tree branches.

TWO SMUGGLERS TAKEN

Officers Seize Set and Unset Jewels Valued at \$100,000

NEW YORK, Dec. 29.—(AP)—Seizing set and unset jewels valued at \$100,000, customs agents and detectives arrested Gerardo Marrique today in an elaborate apartment in West 77th street, and after questioning him, arrested Pedro Madero in an equally luxurious apartment in West 65th street, on charges of smuggling.

Both prisoners were said by police to be sons of wealthy citizens of Ecuador. They arrived here four days ago as students. Both have been here about two years and have made three trips during that time between Ecuador and this country.

Police asserted the men realize between 100 and 200 per cent profit on sales of smuggled jewelry. All of the seized stones were found in Marrique's suite in a dresser drawer.

COAST GALES PREDICTED

Storm Warnings Up From Cape Mendocino to Cape Flattery

SEATTLE, Wash., Dec. 29.—(AP)—A storm centering tonight off the California coast, southwest of San Francisco, will strike in the vicinity of Cape Mendocino, northern California, tomorrow or Thursday night with gale force, the United States weather bureau predicted here tonight. Southeast storm warnings were posted from Cape Mendocino to Cape Flattery, Wash.

PRUNE GROWERS PLAN MARKETING

SALTEM MEN ON COMMITTEE STUDYING PROJECT

California Two Unit Organization Believed Best Method to Follow

PORTLAND, Dec. 29.—(AP)—Organization of the prune industry of the northwest on a basis similar to that of the California (growers and packers) may be accomplished as the result of the studies of a committee, the membership of which was announced today. The committee was created at a recent conference of representatives of cooperative prune growers of the northwest, prune packers and business men at Salem.

The membership of the committee will be M. J. Newhouse, manager of the North Pacific Prune Exchange; W. T. Jenks, Gile and company, Salem; Louis Lachmund, Drager Fruit company, Salem; William Underwood, manager of the Clark County, Wash., Prune Growers association; and R. H. Kipp, manager of the marketing department of the Portland Chamber of Commerce.

The California plan provides for the organization of two units, one among the growers and one among the packers in which cooperative packing plants have membership. The organization is controlled by an electorate of nine, composed of four members from the growers and five from the industry at large.

Another plan has been suggested by northwest growers, providing for the development of county units. The committee will study the feasibility of both systems and carry on a general campaign of education regarding the benefits of a general cooperative organization among the growers and packers. B. H. Critchfield, representative of the marketing bureau of the United States department of agriculture, who has been studying the prune marketing situation in the northwest, is now in Washington conferring with his chiefs to determine what aid the federal government can give to the movement.

ITALIAN TREATY SIGNED

Disputes Arising With Germany to Be Settled Peaceably

ROME, Dec. 29.—(AP)—Premier Mussolini and Baron von Neurath, the German ambassador to Italy, today signed at the foreign office a treaty of amity and arbitration whereby Italy and Germany agree to settle peacefully disputes which may arise between the two nations in the next decade.

The treaty, which was drawn up in the course of conversations at Geneva contains 16 articles, binding the two nations to submit to conciliatory procedure any controversies which cannot be solved through ordinary diplomatic channels. Dr. Gustav Stresemann, the foreign minister, and Dr. Gaus represented Germany, and Signor Scialoja and Signor Grandi, under-secretary for foreign affairs, were spokesmen for Italy when the treaty was negotiated.

POLICE SEEK STRANGLER

Adrian Harris Suspected of Numerous Murders of Women

KANSAS CITY, Dec. 29.—(By AP).—Police still were searching for clues tonight in the mysterious death by strangulation here of two women and a baby in the last three days.

A "pickup" order was issued tonight for Adrian Harris, the man suspected of numerous strangling murders in Seattle, Portland and Council Bluffs, Iowa.

The Winter Relief Fund

Clothing and food continue to be left at the Salvation Army headquarters and money with the relief editor of The Statesman. All of the articles and every cent of money will be used to bring relief to needy and worthy people. Help someone today by making a contribution.

If you know of needy people send in their names and the case will be thoroughly investigated. All worthy people will be supplied with food and clothing absolutely free of charge. Don't give up the charity work just because Christmas has passed. E. J. Nunn \$5.00

AIMEE CHARGES TO BE DROPPED CLAIMS KEYES

Testimony of Mrs. Wiseman Collapses on Eve of New Grand Jury Probe

CASE IN MUDDLED STATE

Hope for Conviction Declared Almost Impossible Against Defendants Involved in McPherson Episode

LOS ANGELES, Dec. 29.—(AP)—Dismissal of conspiracy charges against Aimee Semple McPherson, her former radio engineer, Kenneth G. Ormiston, her mother, Mrs. Minnie Kennedy, and Mrs. Lorraine Wiseman Sleifer is imminent. District Attorney Asa Keyes announced tonight on the eve of a new grand jury investigation into the evangelist's mysterious disappearance.

Keyes declared the charges of conspiring to obstruct justice and suborn perjury probably would be dropped due to "the collapse of the testimony of the principal," Mrs. Wiseman. This witness, who has confessed perpetrating a Carmel "Miss X" hoax in the case, the district attorney tonight characterized as a "turn-coat" and "perjurer," saying she had told a "different story every day."

"The McPherson case is now in such a muddled state that a conviction is almost impossible and the charges probably will be withdrawn," Keyes said. He was unable to say when such a move would be taken. Roland Rich Woolley, formerly the personal attorney of Mrs. McPherson, and Mrs. Wiseman will be taken before the county grand jury tomorrow, the prosecutor said.

The object of tomorrow's grand jury investigation which resulted from new statements by Mrs. Wiseman that Woolley played a part in engaging her to manufacture false evidence in the McPherson case, was not announced

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OCHOCO PROJECT DEEMED FEASIBLE

COMMITTEE SUGGESTS EIGHT PLANS FOR BETTERMENT

Cooperation Needed on Part of All Parties Interested in Water Rights

If the Ochoco irrigation project is to be saved something must be done at once according to the recommendation of the special committee appointed to investigate the district by the state securities commission. This committee, composed of W. L. Powers, W. M. McLaughlin and M. H. Lapham, made their report yesterday.

It was brought out in the report that the outstanding bonded indebtedness of the Ochoco project aggregated \$1,292,500 and certificates of indebtedness \$416,502. Outstanding construction warrants and miscellaneous obligations bring the total indebtedness to \$2,088,077.71. The appraised value of lands for which water is available was placed at \$1,251,715. "Prior to 1925," the reports reads, "defaults in the payment of district assessments had occurred, and from 1925 to date such payments are almost completely delinquent. No material payment on the principal has been made by the settlers and the interest has been paid almost entirely through the issuance of state certificates. An analysis of land values through the country shows that values have shrunk at least one-third during the past few years. Lands in default should be acquired through tax sale and sold for the benefit of the district."

"The best obtainable data indicates an average annual storage of 35,000 acre feet plus 2000 feet of return seepage, or a total available water supply of 37,000 acre feet. Because of water shortage, an economic duty is necessary and this is taken at two acre feet storage water delivered on the land. Conveyance losses were estimated at 30 per cent. The dam needs ripping up on the upstream face and protection against the action of the elements on the down stream face. The outlet tunnel is cracked and shattered in many places, and should be closely ob-

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