

WEATHER FORECAST: Rain in west portion, unsettled in east portion with probable light rain or snow; normal temperature; fresh and strong southerly winds on coast. Maximum yesterday, 42; minimum, 16; river, 5.3 rising; rain, .43; atmosphere, cloudy; wind, east.

# The Oregon Statesman

The silliest question in the world, and one that has caused the greatest number of heartaches is "Do you think I am made of money?"—The Pathfinder.  
If you load your argument with cynicism and sarcasm you must expect some backfire.

SEVENTY-SIXTH YEAR

SALEM, OREGON, FRIDAY MORNING, DECEMBER 31, 1926

PRICE FIVE CENTS

## BILL PROPOSES COURT CHANGE IN SOME CASES

Attorney General Putting Measures in Legal Forms for Proponents

## RECODIFY GAME LAWS

Plan to Equalize Right of Challenges Against Jurors, Stream Pollution May Be Solved in Another Measure

Criss for the legislative bill will include a bill designed to correct criminal trial procedure. This and other bills are being put into their correct legal form for their proponents by I. H. Van Winkle, state attorney general.

The state game commission proposes to recodify the game laws of Oregon. Their proposals have been put into legal form and sent to the state attorney general's office for perusal. Stream pollution may be solved by another bill urged by the state board of health, and the game commission.

The proposed attack on the workmen's compensation law entails further work for the attorney general. Those who seek to introduce a bill on this matter are said to want a legally established set of rates and regulations for the industrial accident commission such that the private companies can compete with the state for the business and reap a profit.

Not the least important but perhaps the least understood, since it is a matter pertinent to all but comprehensive in its present form only to the legal profession, is a proposal to change court procedure in criminal cases. Governor Hatfield, a barrister, is said to be an advocate of this measure.

## FLOODED REGIONS APPEAL FOR AID

GOVERNOR OFFERS LOAN OF NATIONAL GUARD

Marooned Families Transferred From Canoes to Sight-seers Autos

NASHVILLE, Tenn., Dec. 30.—(AP)—The Cumberland river, in record flood stage at Nashville, continued a very slow rise today in its expansive trail through Nashville, as the slow current glistened against a clear sky.

The official reading today was 55.7 feet, a rise of only one tenth of a foot in seven hours. The weather bureau's latest prediction was a crest for Nashville of above 56 feet by Saturday or Sunday. Revised official estimates of 4,000 persons homeless in Nashville lowlands, 200 city blocks inundated and 1500 persons out of work were not added to materially today.

The Cumberland was a mile wide from Fifth avenue west of the river into East Nashville and its back waters extended for three miles over the North Nashville and Edgfield sections, submerging hundreds of homes and inundating plants and business blocks.

Sand bags used to dyke the waters from Woodland street at First street, East Nashville, so far have saved the only approach to the eastern section of the city, over Woodland street bridge. The water, however, tonight was approaching the streetcar rails on Woodland at that point.

Eight thousand dollars has been raised in relief funds for the needy, and appeals continued for \$7,000 additional.

Practically every city agency able to furnish assistance is called upon by the police and city employees from other departments in line and relief work.

Sightseers in the automobiles "waters' edge frequently be "flood victims" when unfortunates transferred from canoes to motor cars and ordered owners to "carry them home."

Governor Austin Peay offered for relief service state highway department trucks, the national guard and resources of the state health department.

Both negro and white churches have tendered their buildings for flood refugees. The hungry are being fed where necessary from soup and coffee shops, now functioning regularly.

## PROGRAM GIVEN FOR INAUGURAL

CHANCE TO BECOME KIMBALL PRESIDENT JANUARY 1

Bishop Shepard to be in Charge of Impressive Ceremonies at Methodist Church

Inauguration of John Martin Chase as president of Kimball School of Theology will be held January 18, with Bishop William C. Shepard presiding.

The academic procession will leave Kimball chapel at 1:30 p. m. and proceed to the First Methodist church where the inaugural ceremonies will be held. The inaugural program follows:

Address, "The Relation of Christian Education to the Development of the Pacific Northwest," by Dr. Carl Gregg Doney, president of Willamette university.

Address, "What the Northwest may expect of Kimball College," by Edward E. Todd, president of the College of Puget Sound, Tacoma.

Address, "The Ministerial Situation in the Northwest," by Dr. Edward Laird Mills, editor of the Pacific Christian Advocate, Portland.

Address, "The Scope and Motive of Theological Schools," by John Martin Chase, president of Kimball school.

Instrumental and vocal numbers.

An informal luncheon for the speakers, official delegates, district superintendents of the area, and board of trustees will be held following the inaugural ceremonies.

The homecoming program will be held in the evening in the auditorium of the First Methodist.

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## U. S. AIRPLANE ARRIVE

Aviators Given Great Reception by Vera Cruz Populace

VERA CRUZ, Dec. 30.—(AP)—Led by Major Herbert A. Dargue, commander of the United States army pan-American flight squadron, the four planes which were held up for a week at Tampico, reached Vera Cruz this afternoon.

They were the New York, St. Louis, San Antonio and Detroit. The San Francisco, in command of Captain Ira C. Baker, flew to Vera Cruz last week, after futile attempts had been made to start the other planes.

The American aviators swept down to the bay and found a safe mooring place; then the fliers came to shore while bands played the national anthems and the authorities and populace gave them a great reception.

## POLICE HUNT FOR BODIES

Quadruple Murder Thought Committed Ten Years Ago

WHITTIER, Cal., Dec. 30.—(AP)—Search for the bodies of four persons whom authorities suspect may have been slain by George Hassell, now held in Texas for the confessed slaying of his wife and eight step children near Farwell, Texas, was being made here today by the police.

The quadruple murder is believed to have been committed ten years ago and the bodies of a woman, thought to have been the first wife of Hassell, and her three children were buried beneath a house on the outskirts of Whittier. Police are pursuing old city records in an attempt to ascertain the Hassell address at that time.

## EXTRADITION REFUSED

Deaust Wanted in Michigan, Employed as Portland Decorator

Governor Pierce refused to issue papers for the extradition of Joseph E. Deaust, who was wanted in Jackson, Mich., for a liquor violation. At an extradition hearing held in the executive department it was brought out that bondsmen for Deaust had paid to the state of Michigan \$3000, and that an effort was made by the officers to confiscate his automobile.

Deaust has a wife and baby and lives in Portland where he is employed as a decorator.

## ROYALTY GO AS TOURISTS

King and Queen of Belgium and Prince Arrive in France

ST. RAPHAEL, Var, France, Dec. 30.—(AP)—Traveling with the simplicity of ordinary Riviera tourists, King Albert and Queen Elizabeth of Belgium, with their son, Prince Charles, stepped from the noon train here today, to spend a fortnight or more holiday.

King Albert himself fetched a carriage in which he and the queen drove to a hotel.

## MEXICO WILL BECOME LARGE OWNER OF OIL

Foreign Firms Who Have Not Applied for Concessions Affected

## STATUS HELD UNCERTAIN

American Interests Refuse to Comply With Law, Believing "Confirmation of Rights" a Misnomer

MEXICO CITY, Dec. 30.—(By AP).—The Mexican government theoretically will become one of the biggest owners of oil lands in the world on January 1 unless there is a last-minute alteration in the situation brought about by promulgation of the new petroleum and land laws and the failure of the oil companies thus far to accept the laws.

Under the terms of the new regulations all oil lands under foreign title, the holders of which have not applied for confirmatory concessions before January 1, will revert automatically to the Mexican government. President Calles has refused to grant an extension of time for making these regulations effective.

Neither government officials nor representatives of the oil companies here have accurate statistics regarding all the property involved, but unofficial estimates are that many thousands of acres with a potential value of perhaps billions of dollars are affected.

Fundamentally the deadlock between the Mexican government and the most important foreign oil companies continues apparently.

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## BOOZE SMUGGLERS HELD

Grand Jury to Investigate Charges Filed Against Men

PORTLAND, Dec. 30.—(AP)—Roy S. Mitchell and Harold Woodward, members of the crew of the West Hixton, were bound over to await action of the federal grand jury today on charges of smuggling. Each is held under bail of \$1500.

The two men were arrested on the night of Dec. 20 by prohibition agents of the customs service as they were drawing away from the West Hixton in a small boat. According to the arresting agents 439 cans of vodka and a quart of whiskey was seized.

## \$900,000 DEFICIT EXPECTED IN 1927

YEAR'S EXPENSES \$7,447,561, COMMISSION ESTIMATES

Tobacco Tax Might Have Wiped Out Deficit Say State Tax Body

The total amount of money that will be required to conduct all state functions during 1927, as estimated by the state tax commission at the time of making next year's tax levy here yesterday, is \$7,447,561.80. This amount does not include any appropriations that may be authorized by the 1927 legislature outside of the estimates of the tax commission.

Although the apparent demands of the state for 1927 within the six per cent limitation amendment aggregated \$3,093,575.42, the commission was limited to levying a state tax of \$2,160,737.62, which would leave an estimated deficit on December 31, 1927, of approximately \$932,833.77. The tax levied by the commission for the year 1927 is six per cent in excess of that levied a year ago.

Revenues from the millage taxes which are outside of the six per cent limitation amendment were estimated for the year 1927 at \$5,286,824.18. These include \$761,697.33 for Oregon Agricultural college, \$571,205.49 for the University of Oregon, \$66,640.64 for the Oregon state normal school, \$2,221,354.79 for elements.

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## FISHERMEN TO CONVENE

State Council Will Act as Clearing House for Problems

PORTLAND, Dec. 30.—(AP)—A state council of fishermen will be perfected at a meeting to be held here on January 9.

The organization is to be a clearing house for all problems of the fishing trade and will include representative from organizations involving a total membership of 3,000 fishermen plying their business on their Columbia river and streams flowing into the Pacific ocean on the Oregon coast.

Jack Curtis, Astoria, was elected president of the new council at the first organization meeting held here on Dec. 5.

## NESTUCCA BAY CLOSED

Fishing to be Prohibited From February 1 to July 5

PORTLAND, Dec. 30.—(AP)—All waters of Nestucca bay and tributaries will be closed to net and commercial fishing between Feb. 1 and July 5 each year until further orders, A. W. Franklin, master fish warden for the Oregon fish commission, announced today in issuing the closing order.

## EX-BALL PLAYER STARS IN OPERA

INJURED WIFE GIVEN BULLETINS BY TELEPHONE

Debut Worse Than Going to Bat With Bases Full, Says MacPherson

NEW YORK, Dec. 30.—(AP)—A voice that once shouted "Are you blind?" when sandlot umpires called a strike, boomed through the Metropolitan opera house today.

The voice was that of Joseph MacPherson, who four years ago was playing semi-pro baseball on vacant lots in Nashville, Tenn. MacPherson, 26 years old and with only three years of vocal training as preparation for the test, made his debut, singing the King in Verdi's "Aida" at a benefit matinee.

Tullio Serafin, Metropolitan conductor under whose agile baton the performance was given, said of MacPherson's voice:

"It is pleasing and rich. There is much promise. He sings with security, even under the strain of a debut."

Members of the cast called the debut a success.

Back stage, in a two-by-four dressing room, MacPherson sat, completely relaxed, after the second act, the last in which the king appears.

"By golly," he said, "that was worse than coming up to bat with the bases loaded and two out and the score tied in the ninth."

Gaetano Delucca, Nashville vocal instructor who snatched MacPherson from a minstrel show organized, to earn money for his team to buy hats and bats, trained him and put him in the "major league" in three years, dashed into the dressing room to find his pupil in a predicament. MacPherson, king's whiskers, regal robes, sandals and crown still on, was being unharnessed, but he didn't know how to get the paint off his face.

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## ALASKAN PEAK ERUPTS

Fear Felt for Safety of Residents at Base of Volcano

DUTCH HARBOR, Alaska, Dec. 30.—(AP).—Fire and vapor today burst from Mt. Makushin, southwest of Dutch Harbor, and a heavy smoke tonight continued to pour from the peaks. Fears were felt for the safety of residents of Makushin, a village near the mountain.

A slight earthquake was felt here about the time the eruption was first seen. Mt. Makushin, an active volcano 5691 feet high, is on the northwest shore of Unalaska island, the largest of the eastern Aleutians. As early as 1792 it was seen in eruption.

## COUNCIL CAUCUS SHOWS DISCORD OVER ATTORNEY

Informal Caucus Last Night With One Alderman Absent From Meeting

## DISCUSS TRAFFIC RULES

No Objection to Election of Other City Officers Raised, Regular Session to Be Held on Monday Evening

Strong opposition to the retention of Fred Williams as city attorney developed at a secret caucus of the city council last night, it was learned following the meeting. In a vote taken with Alderman E. R. Grabenhorst absent, an equal number of councilmen voted for the retention of Williams, and for the election of Chris Kowitz, who was city attorney preceding Williams, it is reported.

The vote taken last night was not official, but is believed to give a good indication of how the council will line up at the Monday night meeting.

Considerable dissatisfaction with Williams' methods while city attorney has been in evidence all year, caused chiefly by alleged failure to prosecute drunken drivers severely, and by his disbelief in the city's prospect of success in its fight against the stage lines over license fees.

No objection to re-election of any other city officers was raised at the caucus, it was further learned last night.

An informal discussion of the combined traffic ordinance, recently drawn up, was held. The bill will come up soon in the city council. Several details of the bill were ironed out.

## RUSSIAN PREDICTS WAR

All Great Conflicts Declared to Have Followed Sun Spots

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 30.—(AP)—Another great war within two years, caused by the culmination of a period of sun-spot activity, is among the possibilities, according to Professor Tshilovsky, of the University of Moscow.

His paper, sent from Russia, was read today before the meteorological section of the American Association for the Advancement of Science by Prof. V. P. Smith, lecturer on meteorology at Columbia university.

The Russian declared that all great wars had followed periods of intense sun-spot activity.

## FINDS ONLY THREE EGGS

Confesses Breaking Into West Salem Residence Yesterday

Hunger and a guilty conscience last night lodged Harold Nielsen in the city jail. He walked into police headquarters at a late hour saying that he had been compelled by hunger to break into a house in West Salem in search of food.

All he could find were three eggs. He then came over to police headquarters, admitted the theft, and was locked up for the night.

Deputy Sheriff Imiah of Polk county went to investigate the theft, and at a late hour last night had not reported.

## WOMAN KILLED BY TREE

Daughter Probably Will Succumb From Serious Injuries

SANTA BARBARA, Cal., Dec. 30.—(AP)—A tree falling across the state highway 40 miles north of Santa Barbara at 6 o'clock tonight instantly killed Mrs. Sallie Malloy of Ballard, and probably fatally injured her daughter. The tree, between Nojoqui grade and Buellton, was one of the largest on the highway and fell without warning.

## BABIES BURN TO DEATH

One Succumbs in Flames; Other Dies Enroute to Hospital

SANTA BARBARA, Cal., Dec. 30.—(AP)—Adrian Gutierrez, age two, and Israel Mirales, aged 18 months, cousins, burned to death in their home here tonight. The Mirales child was dead when flames of unknown origin were discovered and the other baby succumbed while being rushed to a hospital.

## PRUNE GROWERS MEET WEDNESDAY

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE SENDING OUT INVITATIONS

Nine Counties Hold Similar Meetings, Great Interest Manifested

Possible methods of organizing prune growers and packers will be discussed at a meeting open to all prune growers and any others interested in prunes, to be held on Wednesday afternoon, January 5, at 1:30 o'clock at the Salem Chamber of Commerce.

R. H. Kipp, manager of the marketing department of the Portland Chamber of Commerce, will discuss possible forms of organizing, as will C. J. Hurd, marketing specialist of the OAC faculty.

Similar meetings have already been held in nine counties, in all of which the growers have responded with much interest. A big sentiment is growing among prune men to have the growers and packers cooperate to help stabilize the market.

No one will be asked to join any organization at the meeting Wednesday, but will merely be asked to discuss plans for obtaining better cooperation.

The main object of the meeting is to stabilize and improve the prune market.

The Salem Chamber of Commerce is sending out invitations to most of the prune growers of the county, asking them to attend the meeting.

## DOOR WEIGHS 21 TONS

Elevator Services Begins, Tenants Moving to New Rooms

Tenants began moving into the new First National Bank buildings yesterday. Elevator service has begun and by Monday, the first business day of the New Year, most of the offices will be ready for occupants.

A door weighing 21 tons is being hung in the bank quarters. Officials believe it to be the heaviest door in the state. It will be the burglar-proof portal of one of two bank vaults.

Modern holdup alarms and vault alarms will be part of the protective system. So huge is the 21-ton door that it is necessary to have a movable floor before the vault so that the door can be opened and shut.

## BREMMER SEEK POSITION

Resigns as Deputy Sheriff; Barber Receives Appointment

Walter Bremmer, deputy sheriff of Marion county, has resigned his position and has entered the contest for the office of district game warden. Mr. Bremmer previously served as district game warden but retired from this service soon after the election of Governor Pierce four years ago.

Walter Barber has been appointed by Sheriff Bower to succeed Mr. Bremmer as deputy sheriff.

## CHIEF JUSTICE 12 YEARS

Burnett to Assume Duties for Two Year Period

George H. Burnett, for the second time since he became a member of the state supreme court, will become chief justice of that body next Monday. He will succeed Thomas A. McBride, and will serve as chief justice for a term of two years.

The records show that Justice McBride has served as chief justice of the court a total of 12 years.

## STORM WARNINGS FLY

Strong Southerly Winds Predicted Along Oregon Coast

SEATTLE, Dec. 30.—(AP)—Continuance of advisory southeast storm warnings on the Pacific coast from Marshfield, Ore., to Tatoosh, Wash., and on the Strait of Juan de Fuca west of Port Angeles, Wash., was ordered tonight by the United States weather bureau. Strong southerly winds tomorrow were predicted.

## SEATTLE FEELS QUAKE

Templar Shakes Dishes and Rattles Jars of Windows

SEATTLE, Dec. 30.—(AP)—Although an earthquake which shook Washington at 10 o'clock this morning was felt by householders here, it was not recorded at the University of Washington as the roll of paper on the school's seismograph was being changed. It was explained tonight. The tremor shook dishes and rattled window panes.

## POISON LIQUOR TOLL OF DEATH PLACED AT 115

Only Larger Pacific Coast Population Centers Included in Count

## NEW FORMULA PLANNED

Government Would Make Industrial Alcohol Had Tasting Without Resorting to Harmful Ingredients

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 30.—(AP)—The insidious, paralyzing and strangling specter of death that hides in the bottle and flask of the prohibition era, has claimed 115 victims in the larger Pacific coast centers this year to date, with the possibility that the holiday season will add many more to the number.

The nature of the different poisons varied widely, from that found in the supposed "good stuff" peddled by bootleggers, to the concoctions that have been rendered legitimate alcoholic products meant for anything but beverage purposes. San Francisco and Seattle appeared to be "neck and neck" in the gruesome toll, twenty-eight have been killed in this city and approximately the same number in the northern city.

Los Angeles reported that 14 have died in that city from illicit liquor drinking, while the toll for Sacramento was ten. Two of the Sacramento deaths, however, had other contributing causes. Eight drank death out of the bottle and the flask in Tacoma, and six each in Portland and Spokane. The toll for San Diego shows five killed while Fresno recorded one liquor death.

Alameda and Contra Costa counties reported a toll of seven dead.

The figures were gathered for the most part by coroners and health authorities. They do not

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## NEW PRUN-PORT PLANT PROPOSED

INVESTMENT AMOUNTS TO \$15,000 FOR EQUIPMENT

Plant to Make Syrup and Marmalade, Pulverize Pits For Fertilizer

Yo! Ho! Ho! and 300 gallons a day of Prun-Port. There is a vitamin kick in every sip of this new drink, declared J. C. Beers, representing the Major Fruit Products company of Portland, who propose to establish another plant in Salem.

Production is scheduled to start on January 15. More than 30 prune growers in Marion and Polk counties and a number of Salem business men are backing the enterprise. The investment amounts to \$15,000 for plant equipment. A location has not yet been selected.

The new drink, Prun-Port, will be introduced to the bottlers of Oregon when they have their annual convention at Salem February 15.

The proposed plant will make Prun-Port syrup and prune marmalade. The syrup will be dispensed in standard syrup containers to the bottling trade for carbonating as a five-cent drink and to jobbers for distribution to the fountain trade. A display advertising campaign is proposed to help introduce the new drink.

If the packers have learned to use everything in a pig but his squeal, the makers of Prun-Port may go some one better. They will try to eventually use absolutely everything in prunes including the flavor.

After extracting the syrup nearly as much pulp remains as before. This pulp makes an excellent marmalade.

Analysis of Prun-Port by a chemist of known reputation will be made. The manufacturers know that Prun-Port makes a delicious and a healthful drink, but they intend to convince the public.

The prune pit is high in potassium content and it is proposed eventually to pulverize the pits so that the resulting product may be sold to florists to use as fertilizer.

From the kernel an excellent imitation oil of almonds can be produced. Mr. Beers declared. He said no attempt has yet been made to estimate the profit to be made from these by-products.

