

The Oregon Statesman

SEVENTY-SEVENTH YEAR

SALEM, OREGON, FRIDAY MORNING, APRIL 15, 1927

PRICE FIVE CENTS

WEATHER FORECAST: Rain; moderate temperature; south to west gales on the coast. Maximum temperature yesterday 61; minimum, 40; river, 2.7; atmosphere, cloudy; wind, south.

Moscow now charges that the United States States with making war on China. We know it was only a question of time until Uncle Sam would be blamed for everything that happened over there.

\$212,572,063 DEBT OF STATE AND DIVISIONS

Statement Shows Bonded Indebtedness of State \$202,398,359.51

\$271 DEBT PER CAPITA

Under Heading "Sinking Fund and Contra Assets" Found \$25,187,046.50 Veterans' State Aid

The per capita indebtedness of each resident of the state of Oregon is approximately \$271. That fact was established according to a report issued by the state treasury department yesterday, which showed that the total bonded and warrant indebtedness of the state and the civil subdivisions reached \$212,572,063.99.

The state obligations were of April 1, 1927, while the obligations of the civil subdivisions were computed as of October 1, 1926. Of the total indebtedness set out in the report, \$202,398,359.51 represent bonds issued by the state and its political subdivisions. The remaining \$10,173,704.48 includes all warrants outstanding.

The sinking fund and contra assets aggregate \$25,187,046.50, leaving the net debt at \$177,186,052.98. Bonded Debt \$64,913,610

The statement showed that the total bonded indebtedness of the state is \$64,913,610. This includes state highway bonds in the amount of \$35,366,750; veterans state aid bonds of \$27,000,000; district interest bonds in the aggregate of \$2,096,860, and farm credit bonds of \$450,000. The state has no outstanding warrants.

Under the head "sinking fund and contra assets" there was credited against the veterans state aid bonds \$25,187,046.50, and \$14,199.51 against the state highway bonds. The district interest bonds and farm credit bonds are fully covered by sinking fund and assets. The net bonded indebtedness of the state was fixed at \$33,865,563.99.

NANKING AFFAIR PROBE PROPOSED

EUGENE CHEN, IN REPLY, TO FIX RESPONSIBILITY

Nationalists Withdrawing From Cities on Taigtse, Says Admiral Williams

HANKOW, April 14.—(AP)—Eugene Chen, replying tonight to the recent five-power note demanding reparations and apologies for the Nanking incident, proposed formation of an international commission to investigate the affair.

Chen's reply to the American and British notes declared those nations "bombarded defenseless Nanking."

The French and British he asserted they had "bombarded defenseless Canton" (foreign settlement at Canton). Otherwise the reply was identical in all respects to the powers involved.

The Cantonese foreign minister stressed that such incidents would occur as long as unequal treaties exist, and proposed a commission to revise them. He would not admit that nationalist (Cantonese) troops were responsible for the Nanking incident.

FLOODS MENACE BANKS OF RIVER

HIGHEST MARK IN RECENT YEARS RECORDED

Condition Serious From Cairo South; Number of Breaks Reported

MEMPHIS, Tenn., April 14.—(AP)—From Cairo to the sea, the most menacing flood in recent years was sweeping down the Mississippi river and its tributaries tonight urged on by continuous rainfalls throughout the basin.

High stages in the lower Ohio valley from Evansville, Ind., to Cairo, Ill., upward movement in the Mississippi from Cairo to St. Louis, increased volume of water from smaller streams above Cairo and the unloading of heavy surplus of the Arkansas and White rivers from Helena and Vicksburg, forbode a stage which may reach or surpass the records in 1922 and 1923.

Government levees along the Father of Waters continued to hold tonight, but engineers kept vigilance watch. The guardians reported the great dykes in fine condition but they placed men and machines at strategic points to reinforce any weakness which might develop under the immeasurable weight of waters.

Reports of three breaches in the defenses at as many points in the greater valley were received here today.

The levee of the Arkansas river at Haroldton, in Crawford county, Arkansas, cracked early today and 400 yards of the earthen wall were swept aside as the floods rushed over thousands of acres of bottom land.

Fifty feet of the north St. Francis levee fell away near Tulot on the St. Francis river. The waters spread over the already inundated sunken lands of 25,000 acres and bore down upon the town of Truman, which but recently saw recession of a similar overflow.

Tasting victory after two weeks vain beating at the levee, the Mississippi at Columbus, Ky., overwhelmed the private dyke there and swept into that low lying fishing village through a breach made by workers to ease the force of the water.

Major D. J. Conolly, chief engineer, ordered the placing of a quarter boat opposite Hickman, Ky., with workmen and 50,000 sacks as a precautionary measure.

Between 500 and 1,000 persons have been forced to flee from their homes in Fort Smith and Van Buren, Ark., because of the Arkansas river flood in northeast Arkansas, the Fort Smith weather bureau reported today.

Fort Smith's water supply was menaced when the river threatened to invade the power plant there.

MODIFIED DECREE ASKED

Southern Pacific Land Grant Case Up Again in Portland

PORTLAND, April 14.—(AP)—George Neuner, United States district attorney, today petitioned the federal court for a modification of a decree of the late Judge Wolverton against the Southern Pacific company in the Oregon-California land grant suit, which returned title to the land to the government.

By the decree the railroad was entitled to credit for the amounts of the two suits, totalling \$153,140.35. These suits were those of Andrew B. Hammond and Chas. J. Winton against the Southern Pacific, and the Booth-Kelly Lumber company against the railroad.

The Southern Pacific company now contends that it is also entitled to credit for interest and costs, amounting to between \$25,000 and \$40,000.

ROCK SPRINGS TO BE REBUILT SURVIVORS SAY

Excitement Following Tornado's Coming Ends, Leaving Only Sorrow

LOSS MILLION AND HALF

Gratitude for Assistance and Promises of Further Aid, Expressed by Mayor of Stricken Town

ROCK SPRINGS, Texas, April 14.—(AP)—Virtually all of its dead buried without benefit of clergy in graves dynamited out of solid rock by United States soldiers, its injured either in hospitals in San Antonio or in temporary quarters here, and the curious who crowded through the morgues and about the ruins departed, what is left of the citizenry turned today to the task of rebuilding Rock Springs, torn from its mountain seat by a tornado Tuesday night.

The number of dead here is 47, with eight known to be dead in San Antonio and other cities making a total of 55.

With the excitement over, the keenest sorrow merged into the cruel necessities of the present time to show a brave countenance through its mask of death.

Standing amid the ruins of his grocery and feed store, Mayor J. N. Lockley asked the Associated Press to convey the thanks of the citizens to the whole outside world for their offers of help and their promises of aid.

"No one will know who has not seen it how complete has been our destruction," he said.

TWO SLAIN IN CAPITOL

Lobbyist at Sacramento Kills Legislature Journal Clerk

SACRAMENTO, Cal., April 14.—(AP)—A murder and suicide shocked the state legislature today when Marybelle Wallace, journal clerk of the senate, from Hollywood, was shot and killed by Harry Hill, Los Angeles lobbyist. The shooting occurred on the fourth floor of the state capitol.

After shooting the woman, Hill turned the pistol on himself and committed suicide. The woman was unconscious as doctors from the assembly rushed to the upper corridor of the capitol.

The shooting was the outcome of personal relations between the two, attaches having reported that he made threats some time ago to shoot the Hollywood woman.

WALLUSKI WISP CAMPS LOCATED

OFFICERS SEEKING EXPLANATION OF STRANGE RECLUSE

Disappears For Months, Then Comes Back To Raid Farmers' Hen Coops

ASTORIA, April 14.—(AP)—"Bush whacking" expeditions into the heavily timbered Walluski district, three or four miles southeast of Astoria by Sheriff Harley J. Slusher and deputies have resulted in the discovery of six crudely-constructed camps, apparently lairs of the mysterious "Walluski wisp," an emaciated, slinking recluse, who has appeared in that district at intervals in the last few years.

The "wisp," a crouching figure, gaunt, lean, unshaven, and clad in overalls and an old army overcoat, has haunted the wild, canyon filled district for four years, but so great is his skill in woodcraft that intervals of six or eight months have passed in which he has remained hidden, only to appear again in raids upon hen coops, gardens, and fruit farms of the district.

Two years ago two residents of the district told officers that they had caught the "wisp" near the Olney road, south of here, and that he had refused to talk, although making no effort to escape.

One of the men went to summon officers, but the "wisp" took advantage of his absence to dart into the brush and disappear while his captor was not looking.

Among theories advanced as to the man's identity, officers say that they think the most likely one is that he is a victim of shell shock in the war. They point to the fact that he always wears a tattered army coat as evidence supporting this contention.

TEMPLAR MEETING ENDS

Two Salem Men Elected Officers of Grand Commandery

BEND, Ore., April 14.—(AP)—The grand commandery, Knights Templar of Oregon, closed its 41st annual convocation here today, bringing to a close Bend's week of Masonic conventions. Andrew P. Davis of Marshfield was elected grand commander of the Knights Templar.

Other officers were: Deputy grand commander, Fred A. Inman, Portland; grand generalissimo, George W. Dunn, Ashland; grand captain-general, Wilson E. Brock, Pendleton; grand senior warden, Norman L. Groat, Portland; grand junior warden, Edw. L. Weider, Salem; grand treasurer, John B. Cleland, Portland; grand recorder, D. Regus Chaney, Portland; grand prelate, John K. Kollock, Portland; grand standard bearer, Herbert L. Toney, McMinnville; grand sword bearer, Lloyd L. Scott, Portland; grand warden, J. C. Rhodes, Bend; grand captain of the guard, Carl W. Everett, Marshfield; inspector-general, Milton L. Meyers, Salem; reviewer, George T. Cochran, La Grande.

COUNTY JUDGES TO FIGHT STATE

THREATENED SUIT MAY BE TAKEN TO HIGHER COURT

Attorneys Carson and Cordon to Defend Action of Various Counties

Six county judges met in Salem yesterday and decided to fight any legal attempt on the part of state officials to obtain a share in the Oregon and California land grant refund for the state itself. These judges represent the association of 11 counties, which are affected by the tax refund act. Victor Moses, county judge of Benton county, presided at the meeting.

It was indicated at the session of the executive committee yesterday that if necessary the threatened suit would be carried to the United States supreme court.

Following a discussion of the proposed litigation it was decided by the county judges to employ John Carson, district attorney of Marion county, to assist in the defense. He will be associated with Guy Cordon, district attorney of Douglas county and counsel for the Oregon and California Land Grant association. District Attorney Cordon was a member of the committee that was sent to Washington to lobby for the passage of the land grant tax refund law and attended virtually all of the hearings held on the bill at the national capitol.

It was explained by District Attorney Cordon at today's meeting that none of the facts involved in the threatened suit were at issue in the they were admitted by both the state and the defense. He said the outcome of the action would hinge on the court's construction of the law under which the tax refund was granted.

The expense of conducting the defense will be borne by the 18 counties affected by the tax refund act despite that the action to be brought by the state will be filed against Marion county. It was explained that such an arrangement was fair in that the re-

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FAVOR CITY OWNERSHIP

North Salem Club Among First to Start Active Drive

Business men of North Salem, organized in a club known as the Salem Men's club, have started a move to aid the boom for municipal ownership of the water works.

Committees have been appointed to confer with the special city council committee now working on the matter, and if favorable action is taken petitions will be circulated by the club in the north part of the city for placing the question before the voters in June.

Members of the club are practically solid in their support of municipal ownership and were the first to take an active step in this latest campaign. John Williamson and George Wenderoth, present and past presidents, are in charge of the drive.

VETERAN MINER LEADS TRAPPED MEN TO SAFETY

Recalls Old Communicating Shaft, Finds It and Rescues Nineteen

FLOOD CAUSES DANGER

Cameron Brings Men Out While Crews Work Frantically to Sink New Shaft; Serious Disaster Averted

HENRYETTA, Okla., April 14.—(AP)—After being trapped for eight hours by flood waters 96 feet below ground, nineteen men were led to safety late today by John Cameron, a veteran miner.

While two holes were being dug into the ground to reach the men, Cameron, vaguely recalled there was a connection between the abandoned shaft of the Duncan McKay mine and the Old Wise mine in which the men were imprisoned. The old shaft was a mile away but Cameron went down into the dark passageways and wandered around with a flashlight to guide him. Hearing the voices of the 19 men, he called to them to stand by. Finally he made his way to them.

With the habits of a veteran miner he had no trouble in retracing his steps through the abandoned corridors, rescuing the men and averting what threatened to be another mine disaster for Oklahoma.

There was general rejoicing about the mine when Cameron appeared with the miners. Sink Rescue Shafts Already frantic efforts had been started to reach the men, who had made known through a two-inch cable hole that they were still alive.

Two holes were being sunk, one shaft in which men were working in 15 minute shifts to rush along the work, the other a 20-inch drill hole.

The nineteen men were working this morning in the Old Wise mine near here when Coal creek, swollen out of its banks by recent rains, pouring into the shaft of an abandoned mine nearby. The water quickly found its way through the subterranean chambers, which honeycombed this district, and into the mine where the men were working.

SIXTEEN DEAD IN QUAKE

Total of Injuries Expected to Reach 100; Homes Collapse

MENDOZA, Argentine, April 14.—(AP)—At least 16 persons were killed and more than 50 injured in an earth tremor which shook this city at 2:30 o'clock this morning and lasted 20 seconds.

Reports trickling in from the interior of the province of Mendoza indicated that the toll of death and injured was likely to reach 100.

San Nicolas church, which was prepared for holy Thursday services, was wrecked and only the early hour of the quake prevented what might have become a great disaster since the church would have been thronged to the door later in the day.

In one section of the city alone 14 houses collapsed. The populace still was panic-stricken tonight, most of the people refusing to return to their homes in fear of a recurrence of the shock.

KIWANIANS VISIT DALLAS

Dr. Starbuck To Head New Club; 35 Charter Members

A number of Salem Kiwanians went to Dallas last night to help organize a Kiwanis club in that city. Those who went were Dr. Henry Morris, Karl Becke, J. M. Doughton, C. E. Albin, C. P. McCullough, N. D. Elliott, F. A. Erickson, Hal Ware, and Hal D. Patton. The new Dallas club has 35 members. Dr. Asa B. Starbuck was elected president.

MONEY BAGS AND CHECKS LOCATED

HOOVER BELIEVES ROBBERS WELL ON WAY TO SOUTH

Checks and Money Orders Discarded Also; Along Road; Haste Indicated

DALLAS, April 14.—(Special.)—That the robbers, who last Sunday night bound and blindfolded F. H. Rohkar, watchman in the Olds-Wortman and King department store, and made away with nearly \$20,000, were well on their way to California was the opinion expressed last night by Sheriff Tom B. Hooker, of Polk county, after surveying the scene near Suver where money sacks and pay envelopes were found a few feet off the West Side Pacific highway by A. R. Galsbie, a woodcutter.

Carelessness in depositing the incriminating evidence indicates great haste, the Sheriff believes, and the fact that the articles were found near the later-state highway suggests that the robbers merely stopped the car a few moments to cache the unwanted loot and then proceeded on their way south.

Sheriffs and police chiefs on the road south have been sent special instructions to be on the alert for the criminals.

The pouches and envelopes found contained a large number of checks and money orders totaling several thousand dollars which were made out to the Portland store. The papers were crumpled tightly into the sacks indicating that the loot was hastily sorted on the way from Portland. The robbers taking what they desired and forcing the rest into the bars.

No effort was made, apparently, to take the checks for fear of easy detection if passing any of them was attempted.

PORTLAND, April 14.—(AP)—No clue other than that the robbers had gone south, was obtained today by investigators of the robbery of the Olds, Wortman and King store here Sunday night. The discovery of empty money bags and a sheaf of checks near Monmouth today led detectives to believe the bandits had driven south immediately after the robbery and that they had parked on the highway south of Monmouth to count over and divide their loot in the hills nearby.

More than \$19,000 was obtained by the robbers when they blasted the vaults of the store.

ACCUSED BREAKS DOWN

Mrs. McGee Weeps While Testimony on Poison Continued

HILLSBORO, Or., April 14.—(AP)—While the prosecution led Dr. R. T. Boals through a maze of technical questions relating to medicine, physiology and biology and pertaining to a great extent to various types of convulsions, Mrs. Eva N. McGee, charged with the murder of her husband, Dr. W. G. McGee, sat quietly beside her attorneys and made no attempt to control the tears coursing down her cheeks.

Mrs. McGee is being tried the second time for the alleged crime. The jury disagreed at the first trial. The state contends Dr. McGee died as the result of poison introduced in his food as he was convalescing from injuries received in an automobile wreck.

The state's star witness, Dr. Beals, physician to Dr. McGee in his fatal illness, today continued his testimony concerning the reaction of the human system to the poison the state says killed Dr. McGee.

CHAPLIN MUST ANSWER

Comedian Will Lose by Default Unless Pleading in Soon

LOS ANGELES, Cal., April 14.—(AP)—Superior Judge Hahn reported today that Charlie Chaplin must answer the divorce complaint of his wife, Lita Grey Chaplin, by next Monday or lose it by default. The divorce controversy involves custody of their two children and settlement of community property estimated at \$10,000,000.

Judge Hahn's ruling was embodied in his denial of a motion by attorney for Chaplin. The motion sought to squash the summons made by publication of notice, the time limit of which arrives next Monday.

MOROCCO DEATHS MANY

Storm in Mediterranean Most Violent in Decade, Reported

BOYS TO SING AT OLD GLORY PRESENTATION

Governor Patterson to Give Dedicatory Address at Armory Tonight

CAMP SECURES COLORS

Local Camp Never Had Banner; Ambition To Be Realized; Splendid Entertainment Planned By Vets

Doctor Epley's boys, the Salem Boys' Chorus, are all set for the best showing of their lives at the Old Glory Night program at the Armory tonight. They've always sung like larks; this year they are super-larks, and one of the most noteworthy musical organizations of the state. One of the oldest, too, in point of continuous organization. They ought to be good—and they are. Tonight they are singing for the flag, and if they don't do it beautifully there's nothing in signs. They appear in three special numbers, opening and closing the program for the evening.

Patterson To Speak Governor Patterson is to deliver the address for the dedication of the new Spanish-American camp colors. He has seen Oregon under the territorial flag as well as under the present Old Glory. He almost saw the state under the Union Jack with Governor McLoughlin as unofficial ruler over a million square miles of territory. He knows flags by heart; and he is primed for a worthy presentation.

The stunts promise to be real hits. They range all the way from five-year-olds, to whole extravaganzas. Five or six numbers are already entered, with more in prospect. Prizes are offered for the best, with consolation prizes because there can only be one first.

Camp Needs Colors The program is staged for the purpose of paying for and dedicating Hal Hibbard Camp colors. Hal Hibbard was a Salem boy, who gave his life in the Spanish-American war. The camp has never been in politics or much in the public eye; it has given all its money to aid worthy comrades before the day of adequate pensions, and has never owned a set of colors. There is a national law against maintaining a tattered flag that doesn't look the part of

WORLD'S RECORD FOR FLYING SET

ACOSTA AND CHAMBERLAIN KEEP GOING 51 HOURS

Stop Only When Gasoline Tank, Which Held 385 Gallons, Is Dry

NEW YORK, April 14.—(AP)—Two American aviators who would not "give up the stick" until it was dead and the gas tank dry, today rode down every world record for continuous flying when they passed, as part way mile posts, first the thirty six hour American record, then the forty five hour French duration record, and finally, their own scheduled fifty hour stunt in the air.

The record breaking fliers were civilian aviators Bert Acosta, who abandoned automobile racing for even more daring feats, and Clarence Duncan Chamberlain. They used a light, trim, silver and lemon colored monoplane, built by Giuseppe M. Bellanca.

The record, spun out perilously as the gas ran lower and lower in the tank half a mile above Roosevelt field, brings back to America the "duration" title, at 51 hours, 11 minutes and 20 seconds.

The fliers, pursuing in the last hours a shortening course back and forth above the turf mat of Roosevelt and Mitchell fields, coasting down the wind, after two or three breathlessly watched banks and dips, at 12:42 this afternoon, and taxied smoothly along the same crowd-bordered runway from which they took off Tuesday morning.

Breakfasts of soup, water, coffee and chocolate bars, and lunches and dinners of the same limited diet came and went with no relief for the fliers in any external thing, back and forth for twelve, twenty-four, forty-eight hours they coasted, over the rolling familiarity of Long Island, with no strange objective of landscape to look forward.

