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# The Oregon Statesman

"No Favor Sways Us; No Fear Shall Awe" From the First Statesman, March 24, 1851.

Salem, Oregon, Sunday Morning, April 7, 1929

### WEATHER

Unsettled today; Probable rains; Possible snow. Max. temperature Saturday 58; Min. 30; Trace of rain; Saturday 3; Part cloudy.

SEVENTY-NINTH YEAR, NO. 10

PRICE FIVE CENTS

## GAS PRICE YET 25 CENTS HERE DEALERS AVER

### Stampede Averted as Result of Strenuous Efforts by Organization

### Six Cent Margin Defended by Clifford Townsend, Head of Salem Group

Gasoline prices in Salem remained at 25c a gallon late Saturday afternoon despite the flank attack of several dealers who cut the retail mark to 23c and harassed the association of retailers which has consistently urged local stations not to reduce prices to a dog-eat-dog basis.

Resentful at so-called attacks made on the gasoline dealers by Salem newspapers, Clifford Townsend, president of the retailers' group, said Saturday that no dealers were making more profit than an amount sufficient to maintain their businesses as a going concern.

Wholesalers Blamed For High Gas Rates Townsend declared that as long as wholesale prices remained up dealers would be forced to keep the price here at 25c but he said he would welcome a drop in wholesale prices which would enable dealers to give the public a low price.

In the last month there have been 150 failures in the retail gasoline business in Portland, Townsend said. "That is the situation we are trying to prevent here. A gasoline war means that everyone loses. Portland's renewed fight will simply cause more casualties in the retail game. It is a certainty that you cannot pump gasoline for less money than it costs and still come out ahead."

Efforts Made To Keep Dealers In Line Townsend declared that he had been spending the past few days time keeping local dealers in line to prevent a reopening of hostilities here in a manner that would bring disaster to many stations.

Some dealers here are making a profit of six cents a gallon on retail sales while a favored few with contracts for volume sales are making seven cents. While this margin is higher than the profit at one time existing in the gasoline business, Townsend said volume that a larger margin was imperative.

Townsend said all dealers would welcome a return of 18 cent gasoline as a selling price inasmuch as volume would be materially increased and every dealer would profit. Under existing circumstances the volume sold by the station in Salem has been materially reduced.

## WILKINS' VOYAGE POSTPONED YEAR

### NEW YORK, April 6.—(AP)—Captain Sir Hubert Wilkins, polar explorer, has decided to postpone from this summer to next his proposed submarine trip across the Arctic sea, an announcement by a representative today said.

George Palmer Putnam, Sir Hubert's publisher who has been making some of the arrangements for the voyage, said that from Los Angeles asking him to make the announcement.

Mr. Putnam said the explorer's decision was prompted solely by the time element. He said that the submarine defender would have to be ready to depart June 1. If the voyage were to take place this year and that Sir Hubert decided that a longer period was needed for reconnoitering and testing the vessel, providing a final decision was made to use Simon Lake's craft.

## LAD ESCAPES SCHOOL

### Ralph Tremaine, 18, escaped the state training school for boys at Woodburn Saturday night, local police were notified. He had escaped previously and had been recaptured.

## Salem Prepares to Fete 1500 Christian Endeavor Members Here This Month

More than 1500 persons are expected to attend the thirty-ninth annual Oregon Christian Endeavor convention in Salem April 18 to 21. The theme of the convention is expressed by the phrase "Victorious with Christ" and the foundation verse is I Cor. 15:57.

## Mexican Battle Is Found Easy-Going Affair with Soldiers Hurling Kisses

### Strident Note of Army Bugle Competes With Whine of Bullets; Yellow Pup Yelps With Glee as Noise is Heard

By JOHN THOMAS BURNS Associated Press Staff Photographer  
ON THE FIRING LINE, Naco, Sonora, Mexico, April 6.—(AP)—Dawn broke with a rattle of musketry and the long awaited battle of Naco was on. Four of us, American news camera men, had ringside seats on the federal firing line. We stood within fifty yards of the end of the federal trenches between two parted box cars, closer than any other American observers.

Bullets whizzed about in an unrelenting stream. There was a vein of comedy in this tragedy of battle. Federal Mexican soldiers were yelling and whistling like wild men. Three Mexican women, one young, two others elderly, kept running from a house to the trenches near us carrying food.

Rebel attack on Naco hurled back. Insurrectionists rest easily after failing to oust federal forces.

By RALPH O. BROWN Associated Press Staff Writer  
NACO, Sonora, April 6.—(AP)—Beaten off with as yet undetermined losses in their first concerted attempt to wrest Naco from federal domination, 1,500 rebel troops tonight were resting among the mesquite and cactus.

On a purely sporting basis they were engaged in more or less wholesale sniping with the federal in Naco trenches.

The camp fires of Generals Topete, Yucapicio and Cantu glowed in a sullen semi-circle around Naco tonight.

Federal losses during today's scorching three-hour battle were checked officially tonight as two wounded and none killed. Entrenched behind earthen breastworks, the federalists were obliged to expose themselves little in repulsing the rebel charges.

Rebel dead and wounded, in numbers unknown, lay outside the trenches, crossed continually by a humming enfilade of snipers' bullets.

Today's heavy fighting ending (Turn to Page 2, Column 5.)

## REBELS WOUND FOUR YANKEES NORTH OF LINE AGAINST LONG

### Insurgents Attack Naco and are Pushed Back After Some Casualties

### American Cavalryman Shot in Chest After Troops Find Grenades

GALVESTON, Texas, April 6.—(AP)—Twelve planes from the third attack group took off at 1:30 p. m. today for Fort Huachuca, near Naco, Ariz., under orders from the corps area commander. They expected to reach El Paso by sundown, but planned to stop overnight at Marfa if delayed.

Each carried a pilot and one man and was loaded to capacity with ammunition for the five machine guns taken as equipment. Captain H. N. Helsen is in command.

Rebels Obtain Temporary Foothold In Old Cemetery Rebel attacks on Naco, straddling the Arizona-Sonora border, yesterday resulted in the wounding of four persons north of the international line. The insurgents gained a temporary foothold in a cemetery on the edge of the Mexican town but at a reputed cost of many casualties.

Those American soldiers wounded included a United States cavalryman.

Teachers attend meet at Stayton. Third and last county institute of school year is held Saturday.

Prosecutor of Roy Smith now sought.

Chiang takes over three more cities.

Orchardists are relieved when weather clears.

## As DeKing Boy Told Story



A remarkable photo, top, of 12-year-old Gerald DeKing, as he told a coroner's jury at Geneva, Ill., how Deputy Sheriff Roy Smith shot and killed his mother, following a dry raid on the DeKing home at Aurora, Ill. Below, a scene in the courtroom showing Gerald at extreme right, sitting beside his father, Joseph DeKing, who was knocked unconscious by Smith just before Mrs. DeKing was killed. Smith has been held to the grand jury on a charge of manslaughter.

## NORRIS VERY WORRIED

### Solon Asks That Mrs. Gann Be Allowed to Eat ISSUE DECLARED VITAL

WASHINGTON, April 6.—(AP)—Secretary of State Stimson was asked in a letter today by Senator Norris, Republican, Nebraska, either to announce a decision on where Mrs. Edward Everett Gann, sister and hostess of Vice President Curtis, shall sit at official dinners or refer the problem to the world court.

Senator Norris is recognized in the senate as a master of wit and humor and his joocular letter today to the state secretary injected a light touch in the perplexing situation confronting capital society over whether Mrs. Gann is to be accorded the recognition demanded by her brother.

Stimson is still puzzling on issue. Mr. Stimson remains closeted with his problem. Mr. Curtis has declared he does not regard the ruling powers of former Secretary Kellogg that Mrs. Gann ranks below the wives of foreign diplomats at official dinners as final. His protest is before the secretary of state. Washington is waiting anxiously for the decision and there are reports of betting on what the answer will be.

University gets \$1000 cash gift from Fraternity.

Burst of Speed in Legion Drive is Expected to Put Local Post Over Top Soon.

Penetrating Wind Sweeps This City.

## STORM'S TOLL MOUNTS TO 20; DAMAGE GREAT

### Wisconsin Hardest Hit With 14 Killed; List of Dead Mounting Steadily

### Red Cross Representatives Begin Investigation to Fix Relief Need

MONROE, Wis., April 6.—(AP) Between five and ten persons were reported to have been killed late today by a tornado which swept over northern part of Lafayette county in southeastern Wisconsin.

MINNEAPOLIS, April 6.—(AP) Fanciful spring storms that blew up from nowhere and skipped through Minnesota and Wisconsin late yesterday, tonight had built up a total of 20 fatalities and more than 100 injuries besides destroying property valued at millions of dollars.

Besides Minnesota and Wisconsin, Iowa also felt the winds' force and listed one dead, a farmer at Little Rock. In addition several persons were reported injured in the northern part of the state, just across the Minnesota line.

But Wisconsin was the chief sufferer. 14 persons losing their lives and scores of others suffering injuries ranging from scratches and bruises to fractured bones and internal hurts. Five of the total number of dead were reported in Minnesota, two near Minneapolis and one each near Forest Lake, Lindstrom and Taylor's Falls.

Portland School Band Wins Meet.

Cook trial begins at Dallas Monday.

University gets \$1000 cash gift from Fraternity.

Know a World War Veteran?

Help CAPITAL POST NO. 9, American Legion, by writing his name and address here: \_\_\_\_\_ and mailing this coupon to R. H. Bassett, Post Adjutant, at 508 Bank of Commerce Bldg., Salem, Oregon.