

LOSS HEAVY IN ARCHERD BLAZE

Health Unit Raise in Budget Approved by Council

\$8750 CUT IN STREET REPAIR FUND IS MADE

Two-Mill Levy for Firemen Trembles Under Attack To cut it Down
Mayor Liversley Casts Vote To Break Ties; Daney Battles for Fund

That much-debated budget child, the Marion county health unit, was given its candy and dropped into the city budget basket in a hurry last night when the council approved the increase of the 1931 appropriation from \$6000 to \$8000 by an 11-10-3 vote.

A big fire was on in the city. Alderman Purvine cautiously raised the health unit matter at the close of the budget consideration. Quickly Alderman Kuhn seconded Purvine's motion to raise the city's share \$2000.

Without discussion, the council romped through its approving vote while curious aldermen peered through the city hall's windows to see the Archerd blaze.

The council was not so charitable or so hasty in its treatment of other ailing members of its budget family.

Ruthless Councilmen Nearly Scalp Fireman Levy

The fireman's levy, a special two-mill levy authorized years ago by vote of the people, trembled in the wind as the wrath of the Alderman Kowits clique at too high fire costs in Salem was manifest.

When the roll was called the fireman levy played in the budget through the kindness of Mayor T. A. Liversley, who came to the rescue of the item after the ruthless councilmen had hung it on the precipice of a 7-to-7 tie vote.

It remained, likewise, for Mayor Liversley to keep the budget item for relief work in the budget.

Ruthless councilmen, bent on budget reduction, sharpened their (Turn to page 2, col. 7)

Mrs. Rice Makes Fight to Break Her Dad's Will

THE DALLES, Ore., Dec. 18. (AP)—Mrs. Lily Soufert Rice of Portland, filed a petition in probate court here today asking the will of her father, the late F. A. Soufert, fish packer, be declared null and void.

Mrs. Rice alleged her father was mentally incompetent when he made his last will and testament and that her brother, Arthur, William J., and Edward Soufert, used coercion in obtaining execution of the will.

Under the will Mrs. Rice was to receive \$50,000 in bonds and the executor was to distribute the remainder of the \$1,250,000 estate.

Big Merger of Truck Lines is Being Talked

SEATTLE, Dec. 18. (AP)—Merger of several Pacific Coast Motor Truck manufacturing companies is being negotiated, local officials of the Fagot Motor Truck company said, and probably will be completed within two weeks. Firms reported involved are the Kenworth Motor Truck company, of Seattle; the Moreland Motor Truck company of Burbank, Calif.; the Kleiber Truck company and the Fagot Motor Truck company of Oakland.

Day in Washington (By the Associated Press)

Senate and house conferences agree on \$45,000,000 drought relief bill.

House rejected the senate \$50,000,000 drought relief bill and approved \$50,000,000.

Senate agreed to give President Hoover power to use proposed \$110,000,000 public works appropriation interchangeably.

Bill to give farm board additional \$150,000,000 was passed by house and approved by senate appropriations committee.

Secretaries Stinson and Dock opposed the Reed bill to stop immigration for two years.

Sammel R. McKelvie, farm board member, summoned to testify before Neve committee on Nebraska senatorial campaign.

Italy's Ills Due to Crash of U.S. Stocks Is View of Mussolini

Biting Irony in Il Duce's Speech to His Senate; Depression in America Held Knockout Blow to European Countries

ROME, Dec. 18. (AP)—The American stock market crash and "money" crisis of the fall of 1929 are principally to blame for Italy's financial ills, Premier Mussolini told the senate this afternoon.

In a speech marked by biting irony, frankness and characteristic vigor, the duce declared Italy was "neering port, was perhaps in view of port when the American crisis broke out unexpectedly and exploded like a bomb". His placing the blame on the American situation was part of the duce's defense for his drastic cut of 12 per cent in the salaries of all state employees.

"For us poor provincials of old Europe," he said, "the explosion was a great surprise. We remained shaken and confounded like the world at announcement of the death of Napoleon. We had been given to understand the United States was a country of prosperity, indefinite and absolute—without eclipse, without decadence; all were rich."

Duce Waxes Ironical Alleged U. S. Extravagance

"Everybody played the market," he said, "and everybody having bought at 20 sold at 100 and with it bought an automobile, radio or telephone or made a trip to Europe, paying on the installment plan and perhaps bought a country house in the neighborhood."

"That was marvelous. Then we had a series of black, blackest days. Shares lost 20, 30, 50 per cent of their value. That crisis isn't yet cleaned up."

"It is with profound sadness that I realize this and you will understand how it is."

"The fact is, from that day we were thrown back into a high sea; from then on even for us navigation has been extremely difficult."

Italy's Financial Troubles Held Constant by U. S.

The financial situation in the United States so affected Italy, Mussolini asserted, that a surplus of 55,000,000 lire had turned into a deficit of approximately \$90,000,000 lire.

"Such a deficit is not grave, like a lost battle, like the cessation of territory or a national catastrophe," he said. "It is a thing extremely serious, however, which imposes on the government the duty of converging all its attention upon recovery, and imposes on citizens, including the senators, the duty not to put forward continually demands for new expenses for which we must find revenue—which signifies taxes."

"We witness so much distress and hear constantly such stories of struggle and privation" Williams said, "that we become to a degree inured to tales of woe but tears came to our eyes as we saw the conditions in this little home where the widow woman and her eight children were (Turn to page 2, col. 4)

PITIFUL NEED IS FOUND BY ARMY

Widow Woman and 8 Children Struggle for Life in This Very City

One of the most worthy and needy families ever to come to the attention of the local Salvation Army workers was reported to Ensign Williams yesterday. A Salem fireman who observed a child crying in the street stopped to inquire and the child innocently admitted that it was hungry and that the family had been on short rations for two days.

Ensign Williams and Charles Tibbet of the Salvation Army responded to the call and in the driving rain last evening took a generous supply of provisions in their car as they went out to investigate—being prepared to meet the need immediately should the case prove a worthy one.

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Bad Weather is Retarding Hop Of 14 Airplanes

CARTAGENA, Spain, Dec. 18. (AP)—Unfavorable weather tonight continued to hold Italy's trans-Atlantic air squadron apart, six of the fourteen planes, which left Orbetello, Italy, yesterday remaining at Iviza, one of the Balearic Islands.

The six planes were expected to join the other eight, which come down at Cartagena tomorrow, and it was believed the whole squadron would resume the flight to Brazil probably Saturday.

Negro, 30, Confesses He Beat Teacher to Death

MARYVILLE, Mo., Dec. 18. (AP)—County Attorney Paul R. Jones announced tonight that Raymond Gunn, 30 year old negro, had confessed he beat to death Velma Colter, 19, teacher at the Garrett rural school, Tuesday night.

Miss Colter, for whom funeral services were held today, was found dead Tuesday night by T. H. Thompson, at whose home she lived. Thompson went to school, at which the girl was the only teacher, when she did not return home at the usual time. Clothing had been stripped from her body.

Investigators found that after dismissing school the girl had swept the floors and prepared the furnace for the night. She evidently was attacked as she went for coal. A coal scuttle was found beside her body.

According to the confession denounced by the prosecutor, Gunn killed Miss Colter, who was teaching her first year, after a terrific struggle. Jones said the girl fought him and bit his thumb, then Gunn rushed at her with a club, the prosecutor declared, and beat her about the head. Marks of the girl's teeth were said still to be visible on the prisoner's hand.

6 DROWNED IN LAUNCH UPSET IN CALIFORNIA

Disabled Pleasure Boat, on Way to sea, Takes 5 Women to Death

Fishing Party Tries to Help But Frantic Woman Capsizes Boat

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 18. (AP)—Five women and a man were believed to have drowned early tonight when their pleasure launch capsized at the entrance of Tomales bay, Marin county.

The boat overturned while Grant Gray, 21, and his brother Orburn, 25, Dillon Beach, were trying to get the launch underway. The launch was also overturned as one of the women tried to climb aboard.

The Grays reported they were fishing when occupants of a 14-foot launch began shouting for help. The launch's motor had gone dead and it was being carried rapidly towards the Pacific ocean on a strong tide.

The Grays made three attempts to throw the launch into the bay before it was grasped by one of the women. In her excitement she jumped overboard and was pulled to the launch's rescue crat, capsized it.

A moment later a huge wave overturned the disabled launch. The Grays reported the last they (Turn to page 2, col. 2)

Parole Rather Than Sentence Held Effective

PORTLAND, Ore., Dec. 18. (AP)—The annual state meeting of district attorneys opened here today.

Hood River county district attorney, in the principal talk of the day said he believed in many cases parole of first offenders would do more good than a sentence to the reformatory or to jail. He said he had the plan and found it successful.

C. C. Probstel, district attorney of Umatilla county, said the "average district attorney and the average sheriff is more competent to sentence a man than the average judge." He criticized the present parole system, declaring that a man who has friends too often gets a parole or pardon while the friendless man must serve his sentence.

Mrs. Doyle Sure Arthur's Spirit Is Near Earth

CROWBOROUGH, Sussex, England, Dec. 18. (AP)—Her profound conviction the spirit of Sir Arthur Conan Doyle is deliberately lingering near earth in order to help those still living was expressed by Lady Doyle today.

This conviction, she said, was based on messages she herself had received from her dead husband.

Saying she had heard that in an article reporting conversations through Mrs. Eileen Garrett, a medium, the term "earthbound" was used in connection with Sir Arthur, Lady Doyle declared Sir Arthur was "certainly not earthbound."

Goose Hangs Low In Germany Now

BERLIN, Dec. 18. (AP)—Installation buying has made possible a goose on nearly every German table this Christmas, despite hard times. Many dealers have accepted payments equal to about 25 cents a week since early October. A Christmas goose means the same thing in Germany as turkey means in America.

Forked Stick is Road to Heroism

ST. RAPHAEL, France, Dec. 18. (AP)—In 54 B. C., Caesar's engineers gave up hope of finding water here. Now Father Lambert of Nice has shown the way with a forked stick and is the hero of the countryside. Wells were dug and water found in three places in carrying out his instructions.

90 Per Cent of Normal Mailings Farrar's Report

Salem people are purchasing only about 90 per cent of the Christmas gifts to send away that were bought in the past two years, according to mailing of parcels now being handled at the local postoffice.

"It isn't good news, but it is a fact that the Christmas mailing is about eight or 10 per cent below last year," Postmaster John H. Farrar said yesterday. That is his observation on the mail that was handled up to Thursday afternoon.

Mr. Farrar looks for the greatest rush of Christmas mail at the office today, Saturday and Monday. There have been pretty good crowds at the postoffice every day this week, the business has not been up to that of a year ago.

VOLCANO ERUPTS IN JAVA; 15 ARE DEAD

Lava Stream, 200 Feet Wide, 70 High, Engulfs Citizens of Village

BATAVIA, Java, Dec. 18. (AP)—Fifteen persons died today in the sudden and violent eruption of a volcano at Merapi, Central Java, which had been active for two weeks.

Many surrounding villages were evacuated as a heavy stream of lava slowly filled the neighboring valleys.

The eruption was accompanied by loud rumblings which are increasing but it was believed the rain of ash had subsided.

The victims were engulfed by a lava stream 200 yards wide and 70 feet high which surprised them as they were working near a village five miles from the crater.

The fiery wall, covered by a huge black cloud which advanced so rapidly they were unable to escape after they saw it. Volcano Horrible Sight Covered by Hugh Cloud

Tonight the volcano was a terrifying sight. It was covered by a huge black cloud which was studded from time to time by vivid flashes of lightning.

Merapi, a Javan volcano, in the Kedu district, was in violent eruption once before, Sept. 14-17, 1810.

Eruptions are nothing new to Java, for the island contains within a small area as many as 49 great volcanic mountains, some of them dormant and extinct. The most famous is Parapiandora, which erupted with a great suddenness and violence in 1772.

Anne Goes up to High Court for Redress on Play

WASHINGTON, Dec. 18. (AP)—Abbie Irish Rose is going to have a hearing before the supreme court but its run probably won't last as long as it did on Broadway.

Anne Nichols, author of the play, is preparing to ask the court to reverse its court decision that Universal Pictures corporation, Carl Laemmle and a few others did not infringe her copyright.

She charged their "Cohens and Kellys" was a complete "steal, piracy and infringement" of her play and sought damages and accounting, but the lower court found the picture as based on two other plays and ordered her to pay \$10,000 counsel fees.

Portland Banks To Give Bonuses

PORTLAND, Ore., Dec. 18. (AP)—Officials of five Portland banks announced today they would distribute cash bonuses to all their employees this week and next. The United States National and the Bank of California said their bonuses would equal half a month's pay for each employee. The others did not announce the amount they would give.

Bill Calls for New Road Work

WASHINGTON, Dec. 18. (AP)—Federal aid on highways in Indian reservations would be authorized by a bill introduced today by Representative Sinclair, republican, North Dakota. The measure would empower the secretary of agriculture to cooperate with the secretary of the interior on the construction of roads, setting with funds allotted for road building.

STUDENTS ALL HELP TO BRING GIFTS TO POOR

Schools Observing Season in Cheery but Unostentatious Spirit

Grades Have Programs; Leslie Junior High has Fine Decorations

By GENEVIEVE MORGAN

With Christmas vacations starting in the local schools at the close of classes Tuesday afternoon, practically every building is making final preparations for some kind of holiday program. The vacation will extend until Monday morning, January 5.

In all the schools, "white Christmas" is being observed by the students, who have concentrated their attention on gathering food, clothing, vegetables, fruit and toys for the needy and unfortunate children of the city.

In only a few of the schools will general assemblies be held. At the senior high school, a home (Turn to page 2, col. 1)

QUIET REIGNS IN SPANISH CAPITOL

MADRID, Dec. 18. (AP)—The strong hand of the Spanish government tonight was gradually restoring order throughout the country, torn by civil strife after Monday's abortive revolt.

In Madrid itself, it had succeeded completely and the city was going about its affairs as if there had been no such incident as the brief rising at Cuatro Vientos airfield when rebel leaders proclaimed the end of the monarchy and the establishment of a republic.

This was also largely true in the big provincial centers where those general strikes which were proclaimed yesterday and Tuesday had either ended or were petering out.

There was no report of fighting anywhere in Spain during the day.

With the return to normal life the country began counting casualties of the disturbances of the last three days and found that 28 persons had died and 49 had been wounded, authorities emphasized that all the deaths and wounding took place in industrial disputes and none in military operations.

Poincare Out of Danger; Deputies Are Very Happy

PARIS, Dec. 18. (AP)—Parisian headlines which yesterday informed the city that Raymond Poincare was so seriously ill that he might die tonight announced that the wartime president was out of danger.

Even the chamber of deputies resolution expressed satisfaction at the former president's recovery.

The patients' doctor, however, said that the period of convalescence might be long and that it was doubtful that M. Poincare ever would be able to resume the activities which have filled his life thus far.

Federal Reserve Banks Report Abundant Cash

WASHINGTON, Dec. 18. (AP)—Member banks of the Federal Reserve system entered the Christmas season of increased demand for currency with a smaller volume of indebtedness to the reserve banks than at any time since 1917.

The federal reserve board made this announcement today in its monthly review and said the system was in an exceptionally strong position to meet the demand.

It reported a decrease in demand for reserve bank credit had reflected a slack demand for currency due in part to "the decrease in payroll disbursements by factories and to the continued decline in commodity prices."

The board reported that changes in monetary gold have not been large during the period from July to November either this year or on the average, for the preceding seven years.

"When the two sources of reserve-bank funds are combined it appears that this year the increase during the autumn was \$45,000,000 as compared with \$22,000,000 on the 7-year average," the report said. "This diminution in the growth is accounted for in part by the decrease in the seasonal demand for currency, which was only half as large this year as on the average for the preceding years and in smaller part by a decrease of about \$40,000,000 in the growth of member bank reserve balances."

One Queen Who Rests Easier

Quieter days as the week closes in Spain, brings relief to Queen Victoria, wife of Alfonso, and first cousin of King George of England.

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MINER, KILLER OF PARTNER, IS GIVEN 1-10 YEARS

OROVILLE, Cal., Dec. 18. (AP)—Joe Stanley pleaded guilty to a charge of manslaughter here today and was sentenced to serve from one to ten years in San Quentin prison. He pleaded guilty to shooting and killing Bob Ika, his partner during a quarrel last Friday in their mountain cabin in the wild Bald Creek canyon section.

Stanley and Ika were both residents of Medford, Ore.

The shooting climaxed a quarrel over whose turn it was to do the cooking, officers said. Stanley thought it was Ika's turn but the partner refused and the disagreement flared into a fatal fight.

The fire was the Archerd implement company consisted of farm implements and supplies, a large stock of machinery repairs, and on the second floor and in the mill portion large quantities of grain, clover seed and feed.

Mr. Archerd estimated his stock at from \$50,000 to \$60,000. It is a total loss save for the few pieces which volunteers removed from the building. Archerd said he was quite well covered by insurance.

OREGON BRIEFS

(By the Associated Press)

ASTORIA—The first Coleman big river smelt of the season here brought to local markets today from Clatskanie.

ALBANY—Sheriff Newton said today Roy Moreland, Harold Morlan, Bob Maxwell and Bob Martin had confessed to robberies in Lina and Benton counties.

BAKER—Announcement was made Wednesday George W. Miller had resigned as chairman of the Baker county republican central committee and as committeeman from precinct No. 2. A meeting will be held next week to name a successor.

EUGENE—James K. Folk, 59, Lane county resident, was burned to death early Wednesday when his house caught fire. Neighbors who hurried to the place were unable to enter the blazing structure.

BAKER—An item for \$1500 for a county nurse was included in the Baker county budget here Thursday. The total amount to be raised for the budget by taxation is \$378,481.97, or \$2289.35 less than last year.

ASTORIA—The county court announced today Clatsop county's warrant indebtedness now is \$78,358, the lowest since April, 1915. The indebtedness a year ago was \$151,709.

FIRE BUG STARTER IS VIEW

\$80,000 Loss Results In Downtown Fire Last Night

Derby Building, Corner State and Front Streets, Goes

FIRE again struck Salem a hard blow last night causing a loss estimated at from \$80,000 to \$100,000. The stock and equipment of the Charles R. Archerd implement company was destroyed with the exception of a few implements. The building, located at State and Front streets, was completely gutted.

The freely expressed belief was that the fire was of incendiary origin, as the night of December 5 another fire was discovered at about the same place and extinguished without much loss.

The series of fires has served to alarm people, and the Archerd fire was taken by the crowd of several hundred who viewed it as final proof that some fire-bug or pyromaniac is at work in the locality setting fires.

The fire was discovered at 8:10 p. m. in the mill portion of the structure. The interior was ablaze by the time the fire department got streams of water on the front, and had broken through the rear before hose was strung from that side.

Fire Wall Probably Saves Nearby Building

Both pumps, from the central station were used, the north station crew and equipment coming in for relief at central station. The blaze broke through the roof and then advanced steadily along the upper structure of the brick. The building of the Capital City transfer adjacent was threatened for a time, but a strong fire wall prevented the blaze from breaking through and while the roof did catch fire, this was extinguished by the firemen.

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