

WATER SUPPLY CRISIS FEARED AT CANNERIES

Fruit Packers Worrying at Prospect; Low Stages on River Noted

Hope for Completion This Year of Filtration Plant in City

Faced with another canning season approaching and no assurance of an adequate supply of pure and wholesome water, Salem cannerymen are becoming disturbed over the outlook. They got through last summer all right, but this year with the river at extremely low stage for the season, and with rain and snowfall far below normal, the cannerymen fear over what may happen with only temporary filter beds on the island used to purify the water of the dreaded "algae" or vegetable matter which caused the supply to go bad in the fall of 1923.

The Hunt cannery tried to put down a well of its own and develop its own supply but failed to get a good flow of water. W. G. Allen, division manager, has gone to San Francisco and will confer with company heads on the problem of their water supply for the coming season.

One canneryman yesterday said that his company was greatly concerned over the situation. They had considered sinking their own well but decided not to do so, fearing that the water troubles would be ironed out and a filter plant installed which would insure them plenty of wholesome water. The court decision, with its prospect of further delay is alarming, he said, to the cannery people.

Other cannerymen interviewed said they were considering the matter of independent supplies or of some "way out" of their present dilemma. They point out the danger to the city if the canning industry would be forced to shut down in the middle of winter because of the city water "going bad."

There were no other developments in the water situation yesterday. Mayor Gregory said he was studying the situation and debating whether to recommend an appeal or submit to the voters of a new charter amendment which might call for enough bonds to enable the city to go to the mountains for water.

"If we bring mountain water to town," she said, "then we can either buy the present company's distributing system or install one of our own."

President Elliott of the water company left the city yesterday after renewing his offer to the city to submit to arbitration the price to be paid for the water plant.

ARGUMENTS HEARD ON STATE POLICE

Pointed pro and con argument on the pending state constabulary bill was exchanged last night at a public hearing held before the committee on revision of laws.

L. A. Liljeqvist, appearing in behalf of the bill, praised it as one which would make for greater economy, efficiency and effective control in the handling of crime. Liljeqvist said that the bill harmonized with the wishes of the governor.

Secretary of State Hoss said he was forced to disagree with the stand of the administration because his study of a constabulary in other states had shown no reduction in crime through the work of the centralized police force. Hoss also termed the traffic force as integral to the licensing work of the secretary of state and said without the present traffic force his office would be hampered in its work.

Ben Osborne, executive secretary of the Oregon Federation of Labor, opposed the centralized police force as a "revision to militarism."

Representatives of the game and prohibition law enforcement departments, also appeared in opposition to the bill.

Abraham Lincoln as 'Jolly Host'



Abraham Lincoln was rail splitter, river boatman, farm hand, grocery clerk and lawyer before he rose to the presidency, but few persons know that he was once a tavern-keeper. Records in the courthouse at Springfield, Ill., show that he and William F. Berry acquired a license to conduct a tavern in 1833. Lodging cost 12 1/2 cents a night for humans and 25 cents for horses; meals were 25 cents. Lincoln soon sold his interest to Berry, and when Berry died bankrupt, Lincoln paid the debts of the establishment.

TAXATION RELIEF MEASURES PASSED

House Gives Mott Bills big Majority; Would aid Delinquents

Standing with Representative James Mott by a vote of 52 to 8, the house yesterday concurred with the Marion county representative in three measures he sponsored to lighten the burden of delinquent taxpayers.

Under the bill now to go before the senate, interest on delinquent tax certificates is cut from 12 to eight per cent or two-thirds of one per cent a month, as the bill states. The present penalty of two per cent applied when the due date is passed, is eliminated.

Mott urged passage of the bill as a means of relieving property holders, all of whom desired to pay taxes if money was available. Mott said, Representative Winslow of Tillamook lead the opposition to the bill.

Some demand is expected in the senate to raise the rate from eight to ten per cent.

PORT OF PORTLAND BILL PASSES HOUSE

The much-debated Port of Portland commissioners bill, H. B. 73 introduced by Representative Angell, went through the house Wednesday in short order with the amendment made by the senate being retained.

The bill provides that four port commissioners shall be named this year by the governor and each biennium thereafter the commissioners shall be elected by the port commission in Portland. Harry L. Corbett, Hallman Luderer, Rufus C. Holman and Kenneth Dawson are stipulated in the bill as the men the governor shall name.

The bill now goes to the governor for his signature. The house vote, with only one member opposing passage of the amended bill, is considered only a partial victory for the governor who lost in his fight to take the entire appointment power into his hands. The appointments which he gained this year have already been endorsed by the Multnomah delegation which thus has exercised the supervision over the port commissioners heretofore enjoyed.

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Three Bid Same On Road Job so Coin is Tossed

PORTLAND, Ore., Feb. 11. (AP) — Three contractors here today tossed coins to determine who should receive a road contract.

Identical low bids of \$227,655 were submitted to Multnomah county for the grading of the Gilliam road on Sauvie island by the Cresson Fuel company, James W. McCarthy and H. N. Aldrich.

The three agreed to "flip" coins, the odd coin winning the contract. Aldrich's coin won.

Following the run on the Aurora bank, officials of the Hubbard institution prepared to meet a possible run on the Hubbard bank but it failed to develop. People there were evidently not alarmed and business continued as usual.

During this week mail withdrawals increased at an alarming rate and more than \$20,000 was said to have been withdrawn within the last few days. Officials made every effort to meet the demand, but the heavy withdrawals that came in Tuesday's mail forced them to ask the state banking department to take charge.

S. M. Laws, who is in charge of the liquidation of the Aurora bank, will be in charge of the affairs of both institutions. Tinkham Gilbert, assistant state superintendent of banks, is temporarily in charge at Hubbard and said Wednesday that the bank's finances were in good condition.

August Will, president, and J. J. Hershberger, director, were outstanding in their efforts to keep the bank open, with the hope of overcoming the run, according to A. A. Schramm, state superintendent of banks.

F. G. Haveman is vice president of the bank and Ruth Calvert is cashier. August Will, J. J. Hershberger and Ruth Calvert are directors.

Oregon is Only State Lowering Failures Quota

PORTLAND, Ore., Feb. 11. (AP) — A recent bulletin issued by R. G. Dun and company says Oregon was the only Pacific coast state which lowered its business failures in 1930 than for any year since and including 1924.

Only three states in the union, West Virginia, Minnesota and Iowa, showed fewer failures in 1930 than Oregon.

There were 26,955 failures in the United States last year, an increase of 3446 over the preceding year, the bulletin said.

HUBBARD BANK SHUT ON HEELS MAIL RUN

Door Closed Only After Officers Make Strenuous Effort to Keep Going

Panic on the part of out-of-town depositors of the Hubbard state bank forced the bank to close Wednesday.

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Medford Man is Smuggler, Claim

BELLINGHAM, Wash., Feb. 11. (AP) — Edward Datto Bennett, 56, Medford, Ore., was held for the federal grand jury here today after his arraignment on a charge of smuggling 25 cut copper quarts and 34 agates into the United States from Canada. Bennett was arrested near Lynden. His small coupe was seized.

Woman Cured Of Hiccoughing

SEATTLE, Feb. 11. (AP) — Five days of continuous hiccoughing was ended by Mrs. Alene Weatherby here tonight. Physicians said they cured her by their own methods, ignoring the hundreds of "freak" suggestions proffered by well-wishers.

Albany Man Aids By Giving Blood

CENTRALIA, Wash., Feb. 11. (AP) — Ralph Banton flew here today from his Albany, Ore., home to submit to a blood transfusion for his sister, Mrs. W. G. Burris who is dangerously ill. A second transfusion may be necessary tomorrow, physicians said.

POSTAL CHIEF BROWN DEFIES LEASE PROBER

Refuses to Furnish Data on Value of Properties in Report to Hoover

"Incompatible With Public Interest" is Response Of P. M. General

WASHINGTON, Feb. 11. (AP) — Postmaster General Brown flatly refused today to furnish the senate committee investigating postoffice leases with data collected last summer for a report to President Hoover.

His appearance before the committee was marked by frequent and sharp clashes with Chairman Blaine as the Wisconsin senator attacked Brown's contention it would be "incompatible with public interest" to provide the information.

Blaine characterized the postmaster general as "arrogant and impudent." The witness accused the committee chairman of "lecturing" him and said he would answer the questions in his own way.

Blaine, a prominent member of last year's lobby committee, was the only member of the postal committee present today.

Data Basis of Recommendation
The information Blaine requested of the postmaster general was collected by postal inspectors and formed the basis of Brown's recommendation to President Hoover that the government own its postal quarters instead of renting them, as far as possible.

Blaine said the committee had obtained an appropriation of \$10,000 for collecting data on the buildings leased by the government and said it would save the committee time and money if Brown would turn over the information the department has amassed.

Brown said: "We want to be helpful in any way we can." (Turn to page 2, col. 2)

HOSPITAL CHARGE BILLS APPROVED

Ways and Means Committee Favors Plan to Make Those Able pay

The joint ways and means committee last night reported out favorably three bills authorizing the state to collect what was termed a reasonable charge for the maintenance of state charges in the two state hospitals, state tuberculosis hospitals, feeble minded home, state training school for boys and state industrial school for girls.

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The five cent loaf of bread is here. Following breaks in some of the stores to five cents after some prices in Portland went to four cents, the bakeries of Salem arranged to meet the price and announced yesterday that starting today the independent grocers of Salem who are supplied by the local bakeries will retail bread at five cents the loaf.

There were rumors afoot that some of the chain groceries which were at war among themselves might cut the price Saturday to three cents or two cents, in a "bread war" like recent gas wars, but these rumors were not confirmed.

Smashup Fails To Stop Bride; Wedded Anyway

OAKLAND, Calif., Feb. 11. (AP) — Accidents may come and go but a marriage goes on and goes on. Jessie Sherwood, Berkeley, Cal., told physicians who treated her for lacerations and bruises tonight after she was struck down by an automobile.

"I can't stay in the hospital overnight," Miss Sherwood said. "I have an important date." "I'm to be married tonight," she explained.

She was married to Fred Derick after the hospital conveyed her to his home in an ambulance.

Lincoln as Heroic Leader of Nation Vividly Recalled

Knew Lincoln; Relates Story

Col. Mercer at 16, saw President Ponder War Reverses



COL. W. G. D. MERCER

The night was July 21, 1863. The scant ranks of the Blue and Gray will recall it as the Sunday night following the first disastrous battle of the Civil war.

Through the corridors of a certain reception room in the national capitol sounded the incessant trodding of hundreds, thousands of feet. The feet of men and women, congressmen, senators, judges, gray-haired men and women who had heard their parents and grandparents tell of the burning of the national capitol in 1814.

Repeatedly from the lips of high and low came the grim, determined questions: "Abraham Lincoln, what is the meaning of this? Abraham Lincoln, what are you going to do?" And questions similar.

While those close to him panted the air strode helplessly about, or sought impatiently for ways and means, a long, rangy figure lay stretched out, but wide awake, the entire night on a large lounge in about the center and to one side of the room. He was Abraham Lincoln, a president whose people were at the point of hysteria.

Mercer There as Staff Orderly
In that room was a lad of 16 tender years, a lad who as orderly to his uncle a member of Lincoln's staff, was privileged to witness scenes about which there are few left to tell. The youth was he who now is chaplain of the Oregon senate and is greeted as Colonel Mercer by W. G. D. Mercer, who last night recounted for a Statesman reporter the scene sketched above.

"That whole night long there was no sleep for Lincoln, nor did he partake of any refreshment. Thursday being a holiday the hearing was set for Friday morning.

The four were arrested in the raid on a 500 gallon still which was found near Mt. Angel Tuesday afternoon.

Roy was arrested late Tuesday night when he drove into the farm with 15 sacks of sugar and was met by the law's reception committee, who held guard during the night. The still was dismantled yesterday morning and brought into town, along with 20 more gallons of alcohol that was found. Roy says he is from Portland.

It developed yesterday that the still was but newly set up and that only one batch of the (Turn to page 2, col. 3)

WILL REPORT OUT BONE DRY REPEAL

A report that Senate Bill 160 introduced by Senator Upton and providing for a modification of Oregon's bone-dry law, do not pass, is expected in the senate tomorrow from the senate health committee. Senator Bennett is chairman of the committee. An official canvass of the members reveals that none of them favor the Upton proposal.

Senator Bennett said that no matter what the vote of the senate, he wanted the report made to the senate to give Senator Upton a chance to fight on the floor for his measure. So-called "wet" leaders are known to be anxious for a test vote so they can determine what the senators are their friends or enemies for the 1932 campaign.

On the alcoholic traffic committee in the senate are Senators Bennett, Mann, Eddy, Burke, Dunn of Jackson.

Y. W. C. A. Here Sponsors Heavy Activity Program

Some idea of the work the Salem Y. W. C. A. is doing in the city and in the county may be garnered from figures given in the annual report, just compiled by Mrs. Elizabeth Gallaher, general secretary, for the national office in New York city.

FREE TEXTBOOK BILL IS PASSED BY HOUSE VOTE

Only 14 Representatives on "Nay" Side; Mrs. Lee is Measure's Sponsor

Opposition is Based on tax Increase Involved but Has Little Weight

After two hours in which debate was as free as the free textbooks under discussion, the house yesterday voted 46 to 14 to pass the measure sponsored by Mrs. Dorothy McCollough Lee making the furnishing of textbooks compulsory throughout the state.

The bill provides that \$1.50 annually per pupil be provided for the district until such a time as free textbooks replace those now purchased by students. The bill applies only to elementary school students and does not apply to students of any private institutions.

Three classes of schools are created in the bill, schools in districts known as class one being permitted to purchase their books direct from the publishers while schools in districts two and three are to purchase their books through the state board of education.

Marion County Vote is Divided
The vote on the bill was: Ayes: Allen, Anderson, Andrews, Angell, Bronaugh, Bryson, Chindgren, Chincock, Day, DeLap, Deuel, Eckley, Gill, Gordon, Heilberg, Hill, Howard, Janssen, Johnson, Keasey, Knapp, Lawrence, Lee, Lewis, MacPherson, Manning, McAllister, McCormack, McCourt, McGraw, Mott, Norton, Peters, Schupp, Scott of Umatilla, Scott of Morrow, Smith of Hood River, Snell, Stockdale, Swift, Taylor, Temple, Wells, Winslow, Yates, Lonergan.

Nays: Fisher, Glass, Gouley, Hamilton, McPhillips, Nash, Nichols, Oxley, Proctor, Smith of Marion, Stewart, Thornburgh, Tompkins, Weatherford.

Mrs. Lee, opening and closing the argument, declared the measure one of economy, citing both the lower unit cost of books purchased wholesale and the fact they stay much longer in use than individually purchased books. In refuting arguments advanced by the opposition, Mrs. Lee said that when times are hard economies are all the more necessary.

Representative Hamilton led the opposition, saying he was not opposed to the bill in principle but felt the present time an unwise one to adopt such an added expense on taxpayers. He pointed to recent organized tax protests. (Turn to page 2, col. 1)

MORE DISEASE IS NOTED IN COUNTY

January, with 199 cases, saw more communicable diseases reported in Marion county than in some months previously, according to figures read at the meeting of the executive committee of the Marion county department of health held last night.

Births for the first month of 1931 were 75, or eight more than the 67 deaths reported. Of the births, 25 mothers lived in Salem. Forty of the January babies were girls and 20 were born in hospitals.

Thirty-nine of the 67 deaths were male. One infant under a month old died, and five infants under a year old died. Nineteen deaths were due to heart disease, five each to auto accidents and kidney disease, six to cancer and the others to scattering causes.

Ninety-nine cases of the communicable diseases were measles, 53 mumps, nine venereal disease, eight pneumonia, seven chickenpox, six scarlet fever, four each whooping cough and influenza, two diphtheria and one tuberculosis. There were also four cases of bronchial pneumonia.

Marshfield Man Harbors Doubts About City Life

SEATTLE, Feb. 11. (AP) — Joseph Lussier, Marshfield, Ore., has his doubts about the joys of life in a big city after being the victim of a bunco game, robbery and forgery in a six day visit here.

Shortly after he arrived here a genial man invited Lussier to share his room. A confederate got \$20 out of Lussier on a promise to teach him the roofing trade. He lost his jewelry and \$5 in a holdup and when he sent home for a new suit of clothes his room mate beat him to the express office and forged his name to the receipt.

Lussier told police he was going home before anything more happened.