Cloudy today, becoming unsettled Saturday with rains by night; Max. Temp. Thursday 47, Min. 82, rain 1.40 inches, river 1 foot.

No. 216

EIGHTY-FIRST YEAR

Salem, Oregon, Friday Morning, December 4, 1931

Watchers at Minor Fire are **Buried by Hurtling Mass** As gas Explosion Tosses Roof From House

College Student Killed and Fire Chief may die: two Others in Serious Shape; Warning too Late

BERKELEY, Cal., Dec. 3-(AP) -One person was killed, 15 three of whom may die, were seriously injured, and more than 40 others were hurt in a gas explosion that tore the roof from a burning residence in the Hillside district here late today.

The terrific blast, which came as firemen battling flames in the home had them nearly under control, hurled burning timbers into a tightly packed crowd watching

Sherman Pepper, 16, son of Professor Stephen Pepper of the University of California, was killed. Fire Ch . George Haggerty, veteran Berkeley department head was so badly injured he was not expected to live.

Among the injured were University of California students, firemen, and Berkeley residents.

The fire broke out shortly aft-Berkeley residents gathered to pore. watch the blaze, fighting of which was directed by Chief Haggerty. Chief Smells Gas,

Orders Men Away As the flames appeared under Norris, of Nebraska, the insurgcontrol, Haggerty, who was in- ent side the house with several of his against Moses, insisted their acmen, detected the odor of gas. He tion was evoked by threats they immediately ordered the men would be deprived of committee

with John S. O'Brien, another member. petty officer, dashed into the building. At that moment, escaping gas from a large heater in the likely tonight that such a move basement of the residence ex- would be made against them. Un-

was torn away, and large pieces of flaming timber hurled two blocks away. The huge mass of burning debris crashed into the packed crowd of onlookers, partially burying many of them. were broken, and the side of the Nary, of Oregon, the popular asjoining the Saunders home, was veteran Wesley Jones, of Wash-

The screams of the injured, lying in the mass of flaming debris, added to the confusion as ambulances from all emergency hospitals in the city were ordered to the scene. University students and residents of the district joined with the hospital aides in dragging the injured from the de-

Hospitals Filled; Fire Flares Again

The Cowell Memorial hospital, the Alta Bates sanitarium and the iously injured to be taken care of start at 7 o'clock. quickly.

explosion and a new danger was Ross Knotts will go to Monmouth. added when firemen were unable Pauline Moore, Lida Hanna, Elito shut off gas escaping from the zabeth Smith, Don Clark and torn furnace connections. Smok- Carroll Shank will debate here. (Turn to page 2, col. 5)

## "Sons of Wild Jackasses" Will Oppose Him as Senate Leader



GEORGE H. MOSES

Despite Threats They Won't get Jobs

WASHINGTON, Dec. 3-(AP) absent at the time. A huge crowd election of George Moses, of New c' the university students and Hampshire, as president-pro tem-

> Senator Moses referred to the independents as the "sons of the wild jackass" two years ago. Senators Borah, of Idaho, and

leaders, in announcing chairmanships if they failed to At the same time, Saunders, support the New Hampshire

Borah and Norris defied retaliatory action but it seemed unploded with a terrific blast. Saun- til the dispute is fought out on ders, Haggerty, and others were the senate floor next week, there blown through the front door and is no telling what may happen. However, democratic aversion to The entire roof of the building taking over control of the senate without a majority is expected to preclude an upset in the senate republican organization.

The independents have no intention of attempting to replace Moses with a democrat. They are Windows in surrounding houses preparing to support Senator Mc home of William Sergeant, ad- sistant republican leader, or the

### Nevada Divorce Laws Topic For Debate Tonight

Wage cutting and divorce laws of Nevada wil be the topics for a dual debate between Willamette university and Monmouth Normal to be held tonight.

The negative teams will travel Berkeley General hospital were for both schools with the wompacked with injured within a en's squads arguing the topic of short time. Many who received divorce laws. All the debates minor hurts refused hospital will be non-decision contests. treatment to allow those more ser- The men will be first and will

Virginia Durkee. Freeman, Garfield Barnett and Each coach will act as critic.

## State Seeks to Collect Civil War Debt of U.S.

the attorney general's office and United States senate. The interits delegation in congress, will exert every effort to recover from | cluding July 1, 1889. the federal government aproximately \$358,000, which was al- kle also will represent A. H. Avleged to be due the state for erill, state insurnce commissioner, money advanced in paying the in a suit brought by the North Oregon troops and providing ne- West National Insurance comcessary equipment during the civ- pany, to compel Averill to issue

left for Washington last night, payment of a \$500 fee. where he will submit copies of the claims to the proper officials. law requiring the additional li-The claims were compiled by Hal E. Hoss, secretary of state, under | VanWinkle, representing the state authority vested in his depart- insurance commissioner, then apment by the 1931 legislature. It pealed to the United States suwas said that similar claims al- preme court. ready have been paid to the states of Nevada and New York. expedite the issuance of a patent California now has a claim pend- covering 24,000 acres of land in ing in Washington.

the state of Oregon was determ- tol. This land was taken over by star of the screen, was reported automobile recklessly and breakand by the board of war exam- the state under what is known "resting comfortably" tonight de- ing glass on a public thorough- trophy offered by the Bandon While general values have de- ers' pockets must continue to be iners of the federal war depart- as the Swamp act,

The state of Oregon, through | ment, under a resolution of the est was calculated up to and in-

While in Washington Van Wina license to an additional agent in | Horn. Attorney General Van Winkle the City of Portland, without the

> The federal court held that the cense fee was unconstitutional.

Van Winkle also will attempt to W. T. Rigdon and Son. Warner valley. Lake county, The amount alleged to be due while he is at the national capi-

# BARTRAM RETURNS:

Independents Oppose Moses Enthusiastic of Outlook of Flax There; may buy Seed From State

December.

He is enthusiastic as to the future of this industry there.

Some improvements are much needed however, in the estimation of Bartram. The variety of seed is poor, crop rotation is not understood, and proper care of the soil is not understood. There is also a handicap in the kind of machinery now in use for hand-(Turn to page 2, col. 5)

Immediately swinging into action on the new refinancing campaign for Cascade area, Boy Scouts,, Executive O. P. West yesterday called the 30 volunteer solicitors to meet at the chamber of commerce at 8 o'clock tonight. At this time, C. W. Paulus, area chairman of finance, will address

As 268 persons who in the past contributed each year to the local Scout movement have not this year been solicited, the executive believes a \$3000 goal can be reached. Receipt books and cards bearing the names of prospective contributors will be distributed to the solicitors tonight.

This sudden spurt in Cascade area began at the monthly council meeting last Wednesday night. After a series of heated discussions concerning the raising and use of area funds, 30 men stepped forward and pledged themselves to obtain \$100 each.

The \$3600 fund will clear the present \$1200 deficit and finance area activiti : until the end of the fiscal year next June.

# PIONEER IS FOUND DEAD IN HIS HOME

Jacob Schnebell, 73, yesterday found the aged man dead in his little ranch home near the new penitentiary annex. Schnebeli is believed to have died Wednesday as a newspaper issued on that day was discovered beside his fully-clothed, reclining body.

Schnebeli came to Oregon from Germany about 40 years ago on a ship that sailed around Cape For many years he lived in the Michigan City district in Polk county and often worked on Wallace farm. He had lived on his five-acre ranch for the past five years.

Surviving are two nieces: Mrs. August Jaeger of Wilsonville and Mrs. David R. Yantis. Funeral arrangements are in charge of

ANN HARDING HURT spite a dislocated shoulder.

Possibly More so Than the Willamette Because of Smaller Volume

Little Advantage in Costly Pipe Line Seen: Health **Board Makes Report** 

By C. A. SPRAGUE One of the proposed sources of be voted on at the election Decem- quor. ber 15 is the Little North Fork of the Santiam river. The advocates of the \$2,500,000 bond issue urge truck along the Pacific highway building a pipeline to tap this north of Salem. stream a short distance above Mehama, with an auxiliary intake in the main fork of the Santiam a little above the point where the Little North Fork enters it. They call this "mountain water." In reality the term "mountain water" is a misnomer. The theory of mountain water is to tap some stream above civilization which drains a protected watershed. Portland has such a watershed in the Bull Run reserve, and even Portland now chlorinates its

So far as Salem is concerned there is no practical source for mountain water from a protected watershed, Marion lake might be used, but it is remote, the water WORKS FOR RUSSIA used, but it is remote, the water is warm, and in midsummer has much vegetable growth. In fact its water is said to be about the poorest of any in the Santiam watershed.

Water Looks Good But is Contaminated

The water of the Little North Fork appears to be very good water. It is clear and cold. The home as usual, and en route to county court will be asked to ob-Col. W. B. Bartram, chief con- stream flow varies radically. In school left a book for his mother tain the right-of-way for inaugu-The long-smouldering senate sulting engineer for the flax in- the summertime it diminishes to at Johnson's book store here. ration of construction on a fourrepublican row burst into lively dustry o Soviet Russia is in Sa- a small stream, in winter or in the That was the last that was seen mile unit. The highway engineerer five o'clock in the home of flames today with declarations lem for a brief time, previous to floor season it flows in large volpharmacist's mate Norman L. from western independent leaders his return to Russia and to his ume. This water is subject to much Saunders, U. S. N. Saunders was that they would oppose the re- work there the latter part of contamination. There are the mines up at Elkhorn, which are The past several months Col. worked intermittently. There are had taken all his clothes with Bartram has spent in a detailed small farms along the stream. survey of Russia for the purpose Just-above the proposed intake of ascertaining the suitability of are Camp Santaly, Taylor's Grove tified Verd Schrunk, city marshal that country for growth of flax. and the Boy Scout camp. Numerous summer homes cluster about the bridge at Taylor's.

This small stream, which diminishes to 27 1/2 second feet in September, is contaminated at these points. The water, instead of flowing then in the natural water course and having the benefit of aeration over the riffles and oxidation of foreign matter in the sunlight, would be diverted into a steel pipeline and whatever impurities it has, conveyed direct to the reservoir and into the distributing system. It would have to be chlorinated to be safe.

available to compare with the Willamette, it is conceivable that the count might be higher for the Little North Fork than for the Willamette above Salem, because the stream flow of the Little North Fork was only 27 1/2 second feet last September 6, while the Willamette just below Albany had a measurement of 3400 second feet and is much larger at Salem. The factor of dilution is much greater with the Willamette than with the Santiam State Health Board

Reports Its Findings In order to get the most accurate information possible regarding the propose! source of supply, (Turn to page 2, col. 1)

# VALLEY AND SILETZ

WASHINGTON, Dec. 8-(AP) The Interstate Commerce commission today refused to allow either the Southern Pacific or the Oregon Electric railway to purchase the prosperous Valley and Siletz railroad.

The commission denied the Southern Pacific petition for permission to purchase the railroad because it found nothing in the record to show the present owners of the Valley and Siletz were willing to sell to that company. The Oregon Electric was denied a permit to buy because the price of \$2,000,000 offered was held unjustified and because all points the Oregon Electric now serves are fully served by the Southern

The Oregon Electric's petition for permission to build two miles of track to connect with the Valley and Siletz, which operates 40 miles of line in Oregon between Valsetz and Independence, where it connects with the Southern Pacific, also was denied.

### Glass Breaker Loses License

L. M. Riffin of this city yester-- (AP) - Ann Harding, blonde day night on charges of driving his

# Mogan Seizes Truckload of A!leged Wine HERE APPRI

Upholding the reputation which the Oregon state police are making for themselves, Patrolman Farley Mogan yesterday afternoon walked single-handed into headquarters with four men in his custody.

The quartet, apparently believing the officer meant business, straggled into the police station shead of him, plunked down a gallon jug of what was said to be wine, and waited for Patrolman Mogan. "Three more of these are Conference on Material to coming," they told the desk officer, as the patrolman entered. carrying three jugs.

The men were: R. C. Lewis, W. S. Powers, R. C. Dorr and George Poplock, all of Seattle. They were lodged in the city jail supply for Salem water which will on charges of possession of li-

> Patrolman Mogan captured the four men as they were driving a

Donald McCaleb Fails to Show up Monday at School, Word

MONMOUTH, Dec. 3-A quiet earch has been going on since Monday for Donald McCalem, 14, junior high student at the training department of the state normal school here.

Young McCaleb walked daily four miles to school from the home of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. L. E. McCaleb who live west

His mother, learning he was not at school, discovered that he him, and also a brown army blanket and a flashlight. She nohere, and later Sheriff Hooker of Dallas was notified.

So far, no trace of the lad has been found. He ran away once last year, toing to the home of relatives in Salem. This time, these relatives

did not see him. The boy is said to have talked to his schoolmates about running away, and to have asserted that days with his daughters and their his father was unfriendly toward

him. His mother is greatly worried. His teacher, Florence Beardsey, says she is not surprised that he left, as she thought he might While the bacterial count is not have been contemplating it.

# SLIPPERY HIGHWAYS **IMPERILING TRAVE**

Slippery roads in the western and southern part of Oregon and dangerous, sleet conditions on north and central highways were reported yesterday at the Salem branch office of the Oregon State Motor association.

Worst sleet-covered roads were on the upper Columbia river highway and in the Blue mountains. Six inches of snow was reported at Bonneville and eight at Hood River. The lower Columbia river highway was said to be safe for driving.

North and south of Portland to the state lines were slippery but negotiable, according to the reports. As there was no snow on the Siskiyou portion of the Pacifie highway, traffic was moving as

The Wapinitia cut-off was reported without snow but very slippery. No snow was reported on the Redwood and Oregon Coast high-

# Teacher's Auto

Just as Floyd L. Siegmund, mechanical drawing instructor at the high school, prepared to drive away from school yesterday afternoon, a cloud of smoke burst from the hood of his car. The fire at the source of the smoke proved a tiny one and firemen called by the instructor soon put it out with a hand extinguisher. The blaze, caused by a short cir-

cuit, did but slight damage to the

# Silverton Bird

BANDON, Ore., Dec. 8-(AP) day was sentenced by Mark Poul- hen, owned by Fred Warnock, claimed their inability to attend, officials until Tuesday. sen, municipal judge, to suspen- Silverton, was declared grand The other two committeemen are sion of his driver's license for six champion bird at the Bandon egg George Averett and S. A. Hughes. and Aldermen Averett and JACKSONVILLE, Fla., Dec. 3 months. He was arrested Wednes- and poultry show which closed here tonight.

Lions club.

Three Lane 30-Foot Width Assured: Counties to Buy Right-of-way

Be Used Will be Held Early Next Week

PORTLAND, Ore., Dec. 3highway between Oregon City and ruh, 1191 Ruge street, West Saper highway was approved by the officers on a charge of neither today. The decision was reached ing effective brakes on his autoafter a day spent in hearings, ne- mobile. gotiations and investigation of highway types.

will cost approximately \$2,000,-000 will include widening of all bridges and culverts to four-lane width and the acquiring of a 100foot right-of-way over the entire

It will include addition of a ten foot lane to the new section between Oregon City and New Era and the realignment and reconstruction of the pavement over the remaining distance.

Construction will proceed as funds become available, the commission decided, and the highway will be built on the most modern designs in order to provide for future traffic needs. Counties Must Buy

Needed Right-of-Way The commission will ask the counties affected to acquire the additional right-of-way needed. of town. Monday morning he left north of Salem and the Marion pare plans and specifications for (Turn to page 2, col. 3)

Governor Julius L. Meier will e at his desk in the capitol for the bulk of today on his last visit to Salem before he goes south to San Francisco to spend the holichildren. The governor is expected to leave Portland for the south Sunday night.

While here today Governor Meier is expected to participate in the hearing which involves David Lee Byers, Sutherlin school principal, whose certificate to teach in Oregon has been revoked by charles A. Howard, state superinendent of public instruction. Governor Meier is ex-officio chairman of the state board of education.

Byers was accused by Mrs. Edth Ackert, Douglas county school superintendent of being friendly" with some of his women teachers. Following the revokation of his certificate, Byers exerted his legal right of appeal to the state board of education.

During Governor Meier's ab sence from the state, Willard Marks, president of the state senate in the 1931 session, will be governor as provided for by the state constitution. It will be Marks second experience as master of the executive offices, Governor Meier having gone south for a short time last summer.

### Woman Laughs Self to Death

LOS ANGELES, Dec. 3-(AP)

-The antics of a comedian in a motion picture caused Mrs. Mary D. Armsted, 53, to laugh herself to death tonight. From chuckles Mrs. Armstead went into gales of laughter, then into hysterics and

# Validity of Stock Of Empire Officer Group Not Decided

### Unruh Arrested Upon Charge of Lacking Brakes

After colliding with a car driven by Chet Lindley, 619 Court street, at Center and North Capi-(AP)—Widening of the Pacific tol streets yesterday, David Un-Salem to a 30-foot three-lane, su- lem, was arrested by city traffic state highway commission here carrying a driver's license nor hav-

Lindley reported to police that Unruh failed to stop at the The project, which ultimately through street. Unruh claimed he could not stop on account of the wet condition of the pavement.

Water Turned on, Pipe in Stove Burns; Blaze Spreads Rapidly

KEIZER, Dec. 3 - Mrs. Charles Weathers was seriously burned about the face, arms and The first section lies immediately chest, her small son burned slighty and parts of the family home destroyed yesterday morning when a peculiar accident occurred at the home here. Water had been turned off at

the house on account of freezing weather, and as Mr. Weathers turned the water on from the tower immediate steam was created in the hot water tank and a pipe in the stove exploded, with Mrs. Weathers and the threeyear-old child in the kitchen. The explosion hurled lids from

the stove, setting fire to Mrs. Weathers' clothing. A can of tar on the back of the stove caught fire. Mrs. Weathers grabbed it and threw it to the floor. The blazing tar set fire to the floor, draperies, woodwork and doors also catching fire. were broken in the kitchen.

Mrs. Weathers ran out of the house to call help, her son Earl responding and throwing clothes about her and rolling her on the floor to smother the flames which lapped at her garments. Earl rushed into the kitchen

and found the three-year-old brother huddled in one corner. with his hair singed. Earl controlled the blaze with a fire extinguisher, only after it had reached the roof. The Weathers had planned an

event for Sunday in celebration of the birthday of Mr. Weathers' mother, but this will be cancelled. Mrs. Weathers is in the Willamette sanitorium in Salem, where every hope is held for recovery. An arm is the most seriously burned.

### Kills His Sister Thinking She is Mother-in-Law

8-(AP)-Homer Hurt, Garvin county attorney, announced tonight that J. O. Logan, 64, had confessed he killed his sister, Mrs. Indiana Anderson, with an axe, after mistaking her for his mother-in-law.

PAULS VALLEY, Okla., Dec.

BODY DISCOVERED PORTLAND, Ore., Dec. 8 (AP)-Three men chasing a turkey in the hills back of Linnton, Portland suburb, late today discovered the body of an unidentifinally fell from her theater seat, fied man who apparently had been dead some time.

# Catches on Fire City Lighting Contract Delayed; Dads Too Busy

now is paying light bills to the high rates for the large quanti-Portland General Electric com- ties of electricity used for its pany at rates given in a contract street lighting system. made several years ago and now a new and more favorable con- of the light committee put off

Frank L. Wilkinson has attempt- contract terms yet may be ared to arrange a meeting of his Grand Champion committee with power company officials for this purpose but each time the session has been called, ed yesterday that his committee some one of the other two al- probably could not be got togeth--A single-comb White Leghorn dermen on the committee have er along with the power company. The old power contract was Hughes convene with the Port-

Although the city of Salem | two years, the city still pays the

As a result of the committeeexpired, the members of the men's procrastination, no new council light committee seem un- contract has been negotiated for able to spare enough time to presentation at next Monday's city business for negotiation of council meeting. If the members their dilly-dallying and get to-For three weeks, Chairman gether today or tomorrow, the ranged in time for the council session.

But Chairman Wilkinson stat-

made when prices were high and land General Electric officials Warnock will receive a silver the rates were in accordance. before Monday night, the taxpaycreased greatly within the past depleted by high power rates.

Will be Allowed Vote At Monday Meet. Ruling Later

### Illegal Credit Charge Is Brought out in Portland Court

PORTLAND, Ore., Dec. 3 -(AP)-Circuit Judge W. A. Ekwall tdoay, in effect, denied R. W. Clancy's petition for a temporary injuntcion to restrain directors of the Empire Holding corporation from voting their stock at the annual stockholders' meeting next

Monday. Clancy, secretary of corporation, brought the sult against Oliver Coshow, president; I. H. Fetty, vice president and general manager, Jay H. Stockman, director and counsel, and Wilson R. Adams and Martin Adams, direc-

Judge Ekwall said he felt the petition for a temporary injunetion should be denied with the understanding that the stockholders' meeting be held as scheduled and that either side then could go ahead to test the legality of the stock voted. He said he would give the case precedence and assign it for trial at short notice when and if it becomes at

Attorneys and directors agreed to accept the judge's recommendation and announced the meeting would be held here at \$ o'clock next Monday afternoon. Would Put Control

Ority Hands "If I grant this injunction, I presume I would place control of the corporation in the hands of minority stockholders." Judge Ekwall said. "On the other hand, if I don't grant it, these defendants will be permited to use their discretion in voting their stock. I believe that the interested parties should either postpone the meeting until after the legality of stock held by the defendants in this case is established, or should go ahead with the meeting with the understanding that the matter of legality

will be threshed out in court as soon afterward as possible." Frank M. Phelps, attorney for Clancy, alleged in argument before Judge Ekwall that the defendants had each subscribed for \$20,000 worth of stock and that none of them had paid more than \$2000 in cash or securities towards their purchases.

Illegal Credit For

Stock is Alleged

A rule of the corporation said that each director must have at least one-fourth of his stock paid up and the defendants then had voted each other \$3000 as commissions for elling stock to themselves and had credited each other with salaries to bring their paidup stock holdings to one-fourth of their subscriptions, all in violation of state laws, Phelps declared. By this plan, he continued, the defendants had gained control of the company and expected to continue in control at the coming meeting.

Roscoe C. Nelson, representing the defendants, alleged Clancy had pursued similar tactics and had known of the affairs of the corporation since last April without making them public.

The Marion county grand jury investigation of the affairs of the Empire Holding corporation will be resumed promptly next Tuesday morning, following the stockholders' meeting in Portland December 7, District Attorney John H. Carson announced yesterday. Information which will be developed at the Portland meeting may be laid before the local jurors. Carson did not indicate how near to completion was the investigation now in progress. A report from the grand jury is assured this month since its term is out December 31.

HICCOUGHING HALTED

MT. VERNON, O., Dec. 3 -AP) -Carl Horlacher, 39-yearold news dealer, was relieved tonight of an attack of hicconghing which had persisted for fifteen

