

**Free Brake Test**  
In line with "Safety month", free brake tests are offered to all Salem motorists, starting Monday. Cooperation will pay.

**The Weather**  
Increasing cloudiness with rising temperature followed by snow and rain by tonight and on Sunday; Max. Friday 35, Min. 17.

EIGHTY-FIFTH YEAR

## Snow Forecast, With Relief From Cold Wave

### Initiative Blocks Diversion of Old Age Pension Funds Here

#### Means Either Federal Help Or Old Setup

Regular Session Act is in Effect and U. S. Approval Likely

Million Dollar Fund is Retained for Aged; 12,000 Signers

A new strich was taken in the tangled fabric of old age pension legislation yesterday when petitions were filed with the secretary of state, bearing sufficient signatures to refer to the people the bill enacted by the special session of the legislature which diverted to relief the appropriations previously voted for pensions, and was left helpless itself when the people voted down the sales tax for pension purposes.

The petitions were circulated and filed by the Oregon Old Age Pension League with headquarters in Portland; and bore about 12,000 signatures, while the law required only 10,232. H. W. Hayes is president and C. E. Olcott vice-president of the league. H. F. Davidson was in charge of circulating the petitions.

**Regular Session Act Now in Force**  
The holding up of the special session bill (SB 43) leaves unimpaired the act of the regular session which requires only approval by the federal social security board and appropriations by the federal government to pay pensions up to \$30 per month to aged of \$65 or over. It is expected that immediate steps will be launched by the governor to secure Washington's approval of the regular session enactment. The federal appropriation bill has passed the house and is now in the senate.

If this law of the regular session does not become effective, then the 1933 act which is now in force, providing for county pensions, will continue, so the old people will receive as much as they are now getting, at least. If, as is anticipated, the 1935 law is approved by Washington, then the aged will have about double the money they are getting at present. This would prevail till the law is changed, either by approval of the special session bill at the November election, which would cut off the pensions or by the legislature when it convenes in 1937.

**Million Provided for Match Money**  
Under the act of the regular session \$1,000,000 was appropriated by the state for old age pensions, to be matched by county funds, and the sum of the two to be matched by federal money. It fixes the age limit at 70. (Turn to Page 2, Col. 4)

#### Lewiston Suffers Most Costly Fire

LEWISTON, Ida., Feb. 8.—(AP)—Lewiston suffered its heaviest fire loss in the city's history, with the possible exception of the blaze 15 years ago that wiped out several normal school buildings, when the Mason-Ehrman warehouse was totally destroyed last night at an estimated loss of \$300,000 and the structure owned by the Weisgerber estate valued at \$85,000 was ruined.

Flames were still raging shortly after midnight but were then in control. Firemen expressed hope they would be able to save the three-story north wing of the half-block structure separated from the main building by a fire wall. The main part of the building, which was gutted from basement to roof. Firemen, numbed by temperatures which had fallen to seven degrees below zero, were working in relays in manning the ice-caked leads of hose.

#### Flu Epidemic in North California

SAN FRANCISCO, Feb. 7.—(AP)—All schools in Napa and Redwood City and many in other communities were closed today as officials sought to check an influenza epidemic in northern California. Despite hundreds of cases of the illness, which Dr. Walter M. Dick, state director of health said was mild in character, but one death had been reported.

#### Angel City to Expel All Who Can Not Work

LOS ANGELES, Feb. 7.—(AP)—Joining the campaign against penniless transients, the Los Angeles county relief administration notified police tonight it would identify, and if possible, return to their homes in other states, all persons unable to take employment here. An immediate round-up was started, an executive said. This part of the drive to relieve California from what police described as "uninvited and unwelcome guests" was designed to apply to men, women, and juveniles who are not working by reason of age or infirmity.

#### Polk County Man Low, Highway Job

Pringle Creek to Taylor Creek Bid by Hauck Is \$95,831

PORTLAND, Ore., Feb. 7.—(AP)—The state highway commission added projects totaling \$471,332 today to the list awarded for work at the commission's two-day session here.

About the same amount was awarded in yesterday's meeting. Largest project approved today included improvements to the Rex Hill section of the West Side Pacific highway. The Oregon Contracting company and Theodore Arenz of Portland contracted to do the job for \$175,221. Next largest was the projected improvement to the Merrill-California line section of the Merrill-Hatfield county road and the Malin-California section of the Dalles-California highway in Klamath county, including construction of a pile trestle bridge and timber culvert. The job went to the Merrill, Dunn & Baker company of Klamath Falls for \$107,334.

**Bid Referred to Engineers**  
The proposed improvements to the Pringle creek-Taylor creek (Turn to Page 2, Col. 8)

#### Support For Flax Program Is Asked

A delegation from Mt. Angel presented to a small group in Salem business men last night an appeal for support in financing a flax retting and scutching plant at Mt. Angel. It would be established under the federal grant being made by the government, and would be run as a cooperative.

After considerable discussion the Salem group decided to recommend to the chamber of commerce to appoint a committee of investigation, and if they approved the plan to solicit for the sale of preferred stock in the enterprise.

Among those who spoke for Mt. Angel were Father Alcuin, Fred Schwegel, Joe Keber, Martin Rostvoled, L. L. Law of the state flax industry explained the setup for the plant. If the project is approved, solicitation will be carried on next week.

#### Molalla Firm Sued

OREGON CITY, Ore., Feb. 7.—(AP)—C. W. Fallert, Viola lumber mill operator, filed suit against the Molalla Lumber company today asking \$5,875 for damages alleged to have resulted from a slashing fire. The defendant was claimed to have been careless.

#### Officer Kuykendall Ousted And Job May Not be Filled

Charged with being under the influence of liquor while on duty, Charles A. Kuykendall, 742 North High street, yesterday found himself the second city policeman to face discharge at the hands of Chief Frank A. Minto in less than a week. Kuykendall's alleged offense against civil service rules was asked by the chief to have occurred Thursday night and early yesterday morning. Kuykendall's discharge, if upheld by the civil service commission in case he demands a hearing, may mean a reduction in the police force. Chief Minto said he did not plan to refill Kuykendall's position as prowler car driver in the eastern section of the city, at once. With State street as the dividing line, the present north

#### Jurors Ponder Life or Death For Van Vlack

No Verdict Reached as Jury Room Lights are Doused, Midnight

Out Since 5:10; Closing Argument of Defense Cites "Conflict"

TWIN FALLS, Idaho, Feb. 8.—(Saturday)—(AP)—The jury trying the case of Douglas Van Vlack of Tacoma turned out the lights in the jury room shortly after midnight and retired. The 12 farmers and artisans had deliberated since 5:10 p. m. when the fate of the 31-year-old Tacoma man who is charged with the murder of his former wife, Mildred Hook, was turned over to them.

District Judge Adam B. Barclay had waited during the evening at the courthouse. Closing arguments of state and defense, which were begun yesterday, occupied the entire time of the court today.

While E. V. Larson, the defendant's Twin Falls attorney, held him up as the helpless victim of circumstances, Assistant Attorney General J. W. Taylor condemned him as the cold blooded slayer of the young woman. Mental Strain of Separation Cited

Van Vlack's life, Larson declared, was "one of conflicts," which resulted in his insanity. He was the victim of "a terrible conflict" when he was separated from Mildred, the attorney declared. He reminded the jurors of their oaths to consider only evidence of the death of Mildred and disregard that concerning the killing of Klamath county, including construction of a pile trestle bridge and timber culvert. The job went to the Merrill, Dunn & Baker company of Klamath Falls for \$107,334.

**Reasonable Doubt On Sanity Enough**  
Judge Barclay instructed the jurors on the five possible verdicts they might render.

"If you find the defendant guilty of the crime charged, that of first degree murder, then you are instructed to render your verdict (Turn to Page 2, Col. 6)

#### Argo Bandit Held In South Is Word

The man who bound the desk clerk and looted the office of the Argo hotel last month is now held by Los Angeles police on six robbery counts, Chief of Police Frank A. Minto of Salem was notified yesterday by Joseph P. Taylor, chief of detectives on the Los Angeles police department.

A photograph of this man, Eugene Zolzer, who has confessed to the Salem crime, was readily identified yesterday by Herbert Husock, the Argo hotel clerk who was left tied up in a basement room of the hotel when \$22.50 was stolen from the hotel office.

Zolzer, Taylor wrote, is an ex-convict from Sing Sing prison, New York. The charges against him at Los Angeles are of such a nature that he will undoubtedly receive a long prison sentence here. Detective Taylor wrote, as a result, Salem officers do not contemplate seeking to have him returned here for trial.

#### Officer Kuykendall Ousted And Job May Not be Filled

and south prowler drivers will cover territory for which Kuykendall formerly was responsible. Inefficient Over Period of Months  
Chief Minto formally charged Kuykendall as follows: "Over a period of months you have been inefficient and incompetent in a number of ways, the most serious of which has been the negligent discharge of firearms contrary to subdivision (a) of section 92-20 of the charter of the city of Salem (civil service). "During the night of February 6 and 7, while on duty as a police officer and prowler car operator, you drank intoxicating liquor to such an extent as to be noticeable that you were under (Turn to Page 2, Col. 3)

#### Selection of Mississippi Campus Queen Proves Crooner's Eyes Good



When Bing Crosby, screen star, had to choose a campus queen at University of Mississippi from among the reigning beauties his job was no easy one, but the physical perfection of Miss Gene Bullock of Columbia, Miss., simplified the task and won her the coveted title of the most beautiful co-ed.

#### Social Workers Of Valley Meet

Over 100 Here; Sessions to Close Today With Tour and Dinner

More than 100 social workers from all sections of western Oregon are convened here today for the annual session of the Western Oregon Division of Social Workers. The conference will adjourn tonight.

Addressing the social workers at their banquet last night at the Marion hotel, Dr. Samuel Jameson, professor of sociology at the University of Oregon, said that social workers of the future must hold a long-range view in place of an immediate view and must analyze the social organization in addition to the immediate needs of the client.

**Actual Conditions Must Be Studied**  
"Social workers of the future must take into consideration (Turn to Page 2, Col. 1)

#### Policeman Killed In Rescue Effort

CRISFIELD, Md., Feb. 7.—(AP)—A Maryland state policeman lost his life and three other persons were exhausted tonight in a bold attempt to take food to ice-bound residents of Smith and Tangle Islands.

The dead man was Sgt. William V. Hunter, member of a group of 15 who set out in a blinding snow storm with 2000 pounds of provisions for the islanders. His body was found on the ice of frozen Chesapeake bay where he had fallen exhausted by cold and exertion.

Nearly three other members of the group were picked up unconscious on the ice. One of them was Maj. E. B. Garey, superintendent of the state police, who had led the party on its daring relief mission. The others were Richard McCready of Crisfield and Officer C. A. Disney.

#### Pine Lumber Sales Are Far Ahead of Average

PORTLAND, Ore., Feb. 7.—(AP)—The Western Pine association reported today reports from 114 mills showed the 52,039,000 feet of new business for the week ending February 1 was 60 per cent above the three-year weekly average for January and 11 per cent below the previous week. The year's orders thus far were listed at 12 per cent above the corresponding period in 1935.

#### Winter Sport Devotees Hail Wave of Cold

Idanha Excursion Train "Snowball Special" to Leave at 7

Several Hundred Will Go From Here Sunday to Aid Dedication

The steady drop, drop of the thermometer yesterday afternoon and night brought warmth to the hearts of ski fans in this area, for the freezing weather promises real sport at Idanha Sunday, when the winter playground will be dedicated. An excursion train bearing several hundred Salem persons will leave here for Idanha Sunday morning, returning late that afternoon.

Final details for the dedication and day of snow sports were complete yesterday. At noon yesterday 10 inches of snow covered the playground area, with cold weather prevailing and more snow falling steadily. Roy Newport of Detroit advised the chamber of commerce here.

**Special Will Leave Early Sunday Morn**  
The "snowball special" will leave the depot here Sunday morning at 7 o'clock, with every man, woman and child interested invited to be aboard. Roundtrip tickets sell at a dollar, with half that fare for children.

A number of novelty races on skills will be held during the day, with local merchants putting up prizes for the winners. These will include a potato race on skis, women's and men's races. At the official dedication and raising of the flag at the hut at Idanha, 12 local Boy Scouts and their scoutmaster will assist with the ceremonies.

P. A. Thompson of Eugene, Willamette forest supervisor, expects to attend with a group of forest officials, according to word to the chamber of commerce which has helped plan the excursion. Service clubs cooperating in making the event successful are the Lions, Ski club, Che-meketas, Lions, 20-30 and Active clubs, all of Salem.

#### Borah Chances in Oregon Are Eyed

PORTLAND, Ore., Feb. 7.—(AP)—Arthur W. Prael, chairman of the Oregon state republican central committee, said tonight: "It is early yet to make any predictions as to the success or failure of Senator Borah's campaign until it is known what other prominent republican candidates enter the contest for Oregon delegates."

Lowell Paget, president of the Oregon republican club, said Senator Borah has many friends in this state and no doubt would receive much support.

Ralph Williams of Portland, vice chairman of the republican national committee who returned today from conferences with party leaders in Washington and Cleveland, said: "I never have taken any hand in the primary fight for president or any other nomination and shall not now. I saw Borah in Washington December 17 and told him at that time he had many friends in Oregon and in the Pacific northwest. I have not seen him or communicated with him since."

#### Building Permit Row Not Settled

The city-school impasse over payment of approximately \$1100 for a building permit for the senior high school building project continued in effect yesterday while city officials sat by and watched a school representatives dicker with their contractor, Hoffman Construction company, Portland.

Walter C. Winslow, attorney for the school directors, last night said he would "insist if the fee is paid that the contractor pay it" but he still maintained that the city had no legal right to charge for the permit. An expected telephone call from the contractor last night regarding the fee question failed to come in, Winslow said. Minor excavation and form setting were permitted to be carried on yesterday but pouring of concrete was forbidden. E. C. Bushnell, city building inspector, said.

#### Low Mark of Year Expected; Mercury Drops to 20 Early

Several Degrees Colder by Morning Probable; Warmer With Clouds and Even Rain, Promised

Few Flakes Appear So Far in Valley; Portland Temperature Rising; Eastern Oregon Gets Zero

SNOW, driven by a cold north wind which was expected to plunge the mercury to its low point for the season early today, was due to settle over the Salem area this weekend.

Sliding down the thermometer tube at a rate of nearly two degrees an hour, the mercury registered 20 degrees at 10 o'clock last night and was expected to show an additional drop of four to five degrees before morning. The cold north wind swept down over Washington from Canada giving Portland and the Willamette valley a decided chill late yesterday.

The drop in the readings started at 1 p. m. when the mercury stood at 35 degrees and continued sharply until the night reading at 10 p. m.

#### Board Insists on Hydrant Rentals

Water Officials Irked at Budget Board Stand; Will Bill Council

Members of the city council will be faced each month with the \$458 hydrant rental bill of the Salem city water commission and nearby communities appeared before the board today to include appropriations for old accounts and the new year in the 1937 budget, according to a decision of the commission last night. Irked by the attitude of the council that the city now owned the water plant and therefore was not liable for the hydrant rental, members of the commission last night refused to approve the action of the aldermen and decided to bill the account monthly. "Rentals for these hydrants should come out of an equitable distribution of tax levy and not from the small water used," Commissioner William Gahlsdorf declared. "We are going to see that the city council pays this bill. It (Turn to Page 2, Col. 6)

#### Dayton-to-Amity Road Job Sought

PORTLAND, Ore., Feb. 7.—(AP)—Delegations from Yamhill county and nearby communities appeared before the Oregon state highway commission today to urge construction of the proposed Amity-Dayton cutoff on the west side Pacific highway.

The program would eliminate McMinnville and Lafayette from the through road. Sponsors claim a distance of four miles would be cut off by the 13 1/2 mile project and that the program is justified in view of figures showing 1,100 cars use the existing route daily. The Dayton-Amity highway at present is a county road, part concrete and part gravel macadam.

The cold capital was shifted to Jardine, Mont., which reported an unofficial minimum of 54 below. All that state was numbed by under zero temperatures, with 44 below at Coghlin and minus 33 at Butter, official low extremes. It was also 44 below at Bemisji, Minn.

#### One Is Killed in Shooting Affray

PASO ROBLES, Cal., Feb. 7.—(AP)—One man was shot to death, another possibly fatally wounded and a third shot in the hand in a mountain cabin affray five miles west of here, Sheriff H. E. Haskins of San Luis Obispo county reported tonight.

Ralph Hagerman, a county employe, was lodged in county jail pending investigation of the shooting.

The dead man is Jess Sledge, about 40, Paso Robles mechanic. Fretas Gerst, about 40, a tavern keeper, at whose home the shooting occurred, suffered a bullet wound in the abdomen, and Earl Pickering, about 45, a hand wound. Sheriff Haskins said he had not yet learned the cause of the tragedy. Hagerman, the sheriff said, denied the shootings.

#### Warmer Weather Today Is Promised

Hope for warmer temperatures revived with the late forecast for Saturday and Sunday in this vicinity. "Increasing cloudiness. Rising temperature, followed by snow and rain in the west portion" the forecast reported. The hourly temperature reading as reported by the weather bureau follows:

1 p. m.	35	6 p. m.	29
2 p. m.	33	8 p. m.	28
3 p. m.	30	9 p. m.	28
4 p. m.	27	9 p. m.	21
5 p. m.	25	10 p. m.	20

PORTLAND, Feb. 7.—(AP)—Winter whipped into western Oregon with a vengeance today, sent the mercury skidding to new lows for the season and continued its unrelenting threat of snow.

Only a few flakes raked the western part of the state. In eastern and southern portions, however, new snow blanketed large areas. In these portions, too, today's cold wave was nothing new although perhaps of (Turn to Page 2, Col. 1)

#### 54 Minus Degrees Noted in Montana

CHICAGO, Feb. 7.—(AP)—Winter's storm guns swung into a double flank assault today preliminary to another general advance of sub-zero cold predicted for the week-end.

Snow swept middle Atlantic states, bringing Washington its heaviest storm in years.

A severe snow storm raged in the northern mountain states completely isolating sections of Utah.

The driving Rocky Mountain disturbance sped to the neighboring plain states and the mercury dropped hastily in western Nebraska.

The cold capital was shifted to Jardine, Mont., which reported an unofficial minimum of 54 below. All that state was numbed by under zero temperatures, with 44 below at Coghlin and minus 33 at Butter, official low extremes. It was also 44 below at Bemisji, Minn.

One Is Killed in Shooting Affray  
PASO ROBLES, Cal., Feb. 7.—(AP)—One man was shot to death, another possibly fatally wounded and a third shot in the hand in a mountain cabin affray five miles west of here, Sheriff H. E. Haskins of San Luis Obispo county reported tonight.