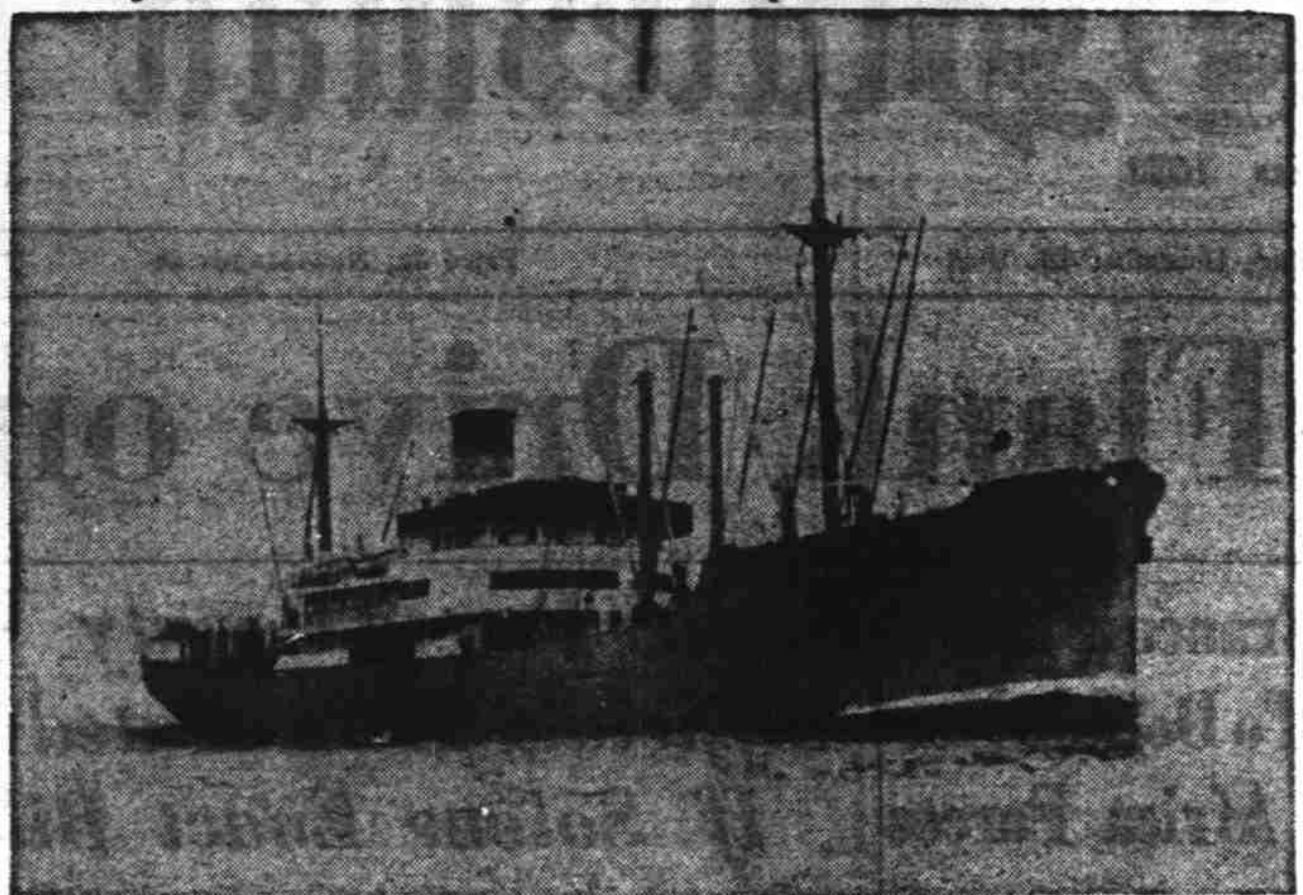


Consolidating Districts Aim

Teachers See Wastes in Present System; Nine Points in Program

(Continued from page 1)
College of Education, and Southern Oregon Normal at Ashland, Southern Oregon College of Education.
Higher Minimum Salary Is Sought
A higher salary minimum for teachers also was urged by the council which pointed out the present minimum is \$715 a month for eight months or \$600 a year. Proponents stated that Washington's minimum was \$1200 and California's \$1350 a year.
Miss Birdine Merrill, Portland, urged a reasonable tenure law for teachers. She said it was necessary if "schools are to continue to help maintain free and democratic government."
She said no new tenure law would be sought at the legislature this year because the association wished to give a "clear track" to the retirement law. She said legislation to safeguard efficient teachers was necessary.
Miss Merrill is the association's new president.

Johnson Line Adds New Ship for Coast Trade



Bright and shiny as a new coaster, the MS Peru of the Johnson line, recently came to the west coast as a Christmas present. With accommodations for 18 passengers, the Peru also has 118,000 cubic feet of reefer space. She maintains a sea speed of 15.03 knots and has 12,000 tons displacement.—LIN photo.

Blackmail Charge Now Faces Three

NEW YORK, Dec. 28 (AP)—The government—"throwing the book" as it is called in the vernacular—today arraigned three accused blackmailers of the late F. Donald Coster-Musica under a federal act, passed in the flurry of legislation following the Lindbergh kidnaping, which provides maximum penalties of 10 years imprisonment.
Walter H. Cragg, a disbarred lawyer, and Joseph Brandino each were held in bail of \$7,500 and Brandino's sister, Mary, in bail of \$5,000, on complaints charging extortion through threats made in interstate commerce—across state lines.
Specifically, they are accused of holding over the head of Coster-Musica—the indicted president of McKesson and Robbins, Inc.—the committed suicide December 16 after leaving a note blaming "Wall Street plunder" and blackmailers for an \$18,000,000 overstatement of assets in his company—the threat of exposing his criminal past as Philip Musica.

France Plans to Double Defenses

(Continued from page 1)
facists had no intention of invading French Somaliland.)
A high navy official said the second vessel directed to Djibouti was a destroyer from the eastern Mediterranean fleet which would reach that port before the Djibouti because of her greater speed. Her identity was not disclosed.
Two passenger ships were held at Marseilles to carry 1,000 Senegalese sharpshooters to Somaliland to bolster a garrison of 1,500 troops already there. Djibouti, between the Red sea and the Indian ocean, is the terminus to the railroad to Italian Ethiopia.
The reinforcements satisfied French press demands for strengthening colonial defenses. French and British officials, meanwhile, undertook to put a damper on a scare stirred up by reports of Italian troop concentrations around Somaliland.

Treasurer Office Audit Is Delayed

The task of balancing the records in the Marion county treasurer's office may delay the state auditing division's supplementary report on the treasurer's affairs until next week, S. W. Sturr, chief of the division, said yesterday. The state auditors last month reported a \$23,035 discrepancy to exist between cash and fund balances in the office. Its supplementary report is intended to supply an explanation of the situation.
Because Circuit Judge L. H. McMath is away this week, calling of the grand jury back into session also probably will be further postponed, District Attorney Lyle J. Page said yesterday. In addition to its investigation of the treasurer's office the jury has several other matters it is expected to dispose of soon after reconvening.

Laggard Workers Facing Discipline

MOSCOW, Dec. 28 (AP)—A decree issued tonight, signed by Joseph Stalin and Vyacheslav Molotov, chairman of the council of people's commissars, drastically tightened discipline imposed on soviet workers in offices and factories.
Aimed especially at "floaters" and habitual absentees "and all who do not want to work," the new law requires factory managers and other executives to deal ruthlessly with "disorganizers of production," and threatens the executives with removal or even arrest if they fail to exercise a firm hand.

Income Tax Claims of Telegraph Firm Settled

WASHINGTON, Dec. 28 (AP)—The government agreed today to accept \$1,537,000 in settlement of \$9 million tax claims totaling \$2,700,000 against the Western Union Telegraph company and 11 subsidiaries. Some of the cases had been contested since 1920.

Health Standards Seen Endangered

More Funds Necessary to Maintain Protection Says State Board

PORTLAND, Dec. 28 (AP)—More funds are necessary to maintain standards of modern health protection, the state board of health said today.
Although there has been no serious outbreak of communicable diseases, the board reported "there is an increasing demand for health services that exceeds the supply and indicates the necessity to provide the department with equipment and personnel."
Epidemic Feared
"The present budgets are far from sufficient," a weekly report stated. "A single epidemic or other disaster would be far more costly than the entire amount now spent for public health work in Oregon."
It recommended the advisability of funds to match the services and appropriations granted by the federal government.

Francis Perfect Burial Is Today

ALBANY—Francis Marion Perfect, 78, died at the home of his brother, E. M. Perfect, Tuesday as the result of a heart attack. Funeral services will be held Thursday afternoon from the Fisher Funeral Home in charge of Rev. J. O. McDonald. Burial will be in Riverside cemetery.
Born in White county, Indiana, March 1, 1860, Mr. Perfect spent the first five years of his life in his native state. He then moved to Iowa where he lived for 35 years, when he went to California and later to Washington, and in 1906 came to Albany where he has since made his home. Mr. Perfect never married. He followed farming as an occupation.
Surviving are the brother at whose home he lived, and a sister, Mrs. Ida Rhoades of Nickleville, N. Y., and several nieces and nephews.

Hope for Trapped Miners Is Waning

KIRKLAND LAKE, Ont., Dec. 28.—(Canadian Press)—Hope faded tonight for two miners trapped more than 16 hours in the Lake Shore gold mine, biggest gold producer in Canada.
Rescue crews which had been working steadily 2,400 feet underground toward John Holubec, 33, and Vito Vlaisavcevic, 40, encountered difficulty with loose rock in the drift that collapsed last night as the result of an explosion.
It was feared the two miners would be dead when the 100 rescue workers finally reached them through 40 feet of rock. No sound had been heard from the trapped men.
Temperatures of 20 degrees below zero hampered relief workers.

Woodrow Wilson Birthday Marked

WASHINGTON, Dec. 28 (AP)—Friends of the late President Wilson remembered the 82nd anniversary of his birth today by placing flowers on his tomb in Washington cathedral.
A wreath of bay leaves bearing President Roosevelt's card was placed by a White House military aide. Cathedral attendants said the war president's widow decorated the tomb with Christmas greens and poinsettias last Saturday.

Record Order of Nut Meat Shipped

LEBANON, Dec. 28 (AP)—Shipment of the largest single order of nut meat in the history of the industry hereabouts is being prepared by the Lebanon Nut Growers and North Pacific Nut Growers' association, packing plants. The shipment, to go to New York, is for more than 12,000 cases of tinned, first-grade walnut meats.

Senator Dean Walker Is Prospective Bridegroom

DALLAS, Dec. 28 (AP)—State Senator Dean Walker of Independence and Maud M. Morse of Corvallis obtained a marriage license here today.

Oddities in the News

(By the Associated Press)
NEWARK, N.J., Dec. 28.—Newark police are looking for a "kiss bandit."
Miss Ethel Feinsilver reported she was walking near her home in the Weequahic section of the city when a youth flung his arms about her, seized her by the nose with one hand, tilted her head back, kissed her and exclaimed:
"A man! Oh, boy!"
A few minutes later, Miss Helen Bernhard reported she was approached by a youth who seized her and pinched both her cheeks.
REDDING, Calif., Dec. 28.—Kenneth Cooper, whose home sweet home is an auto trailer, summoned police here today when he couldn't find \$900 which he had hidden in his perambulating bungalow.
The officers, prospecting among the built-in gadgets, found \$780 cached behind a cereal box.
Cooper said the money had no connection with the missing \$900; it merely was a sum he had hidden on a previous occasion.
The searchers returned to the hunt and found the \$900 in the pocket of one of Cooper's coats.
CEDAR RAPIDS, Ia., Dec. 28.—In a manner somewhat appropriate to his office, Harry Linn, newly appointed state assistant secretary of agriculture, received a greeting laid by a genuine Iowa hen.
At a testimonial dinner last night his hosts asked him to break open an egg. Inside was a message on thin paper signed by all the men present.
Prof. P. E. Phillips, Jr., of Iowa State college explained to the amazed official that three such messages had been inserted in the egg sacs of three hens. Three were used to insure having at least one egg in time for the dinner.
One biddy did her part.

Howard Hughes Is Held Top Aviator; Corrigan Ignored

WASHINGTON, Dec. 28 (AP)—The National Aeronautics Association selected Howard Hughes, wealthy sportsman pilot, tonight as the United States' outstanding aviator in 1938.
It also nominated Hughes to the Federation Aeronautique Internationale as a candidate for the award of the FAI gold medal, awarded annually to the world's outstanding aviator. The federation is an international organization of 38 national aero clubs.
The NAA nomination of Hughes was based on his feat of circling the globe last July in 91 hours, 14 minutes and 19 seconds. He covered 14,872 miles on the flight and maintained an average speed in flight of 206.3 miles per hour.
Carrying rations of oatmeal and raisins to last them two days the couple set out from nearby Dewdney just after dawn Monday despite the urging of a farmhand not to attempt the trip in the face of a heavy snowfall.

Author and Wife Reported Missing

MISSION, B.C., Dec. 28 (CP)—Searchers fought over snowdrifted trails east of this Fraser valley city tonight, for trace of a farmer-author and his wife unreported since Monday.
British Columbia Police Constable Russell Taylor and three neighbors of Jack Tanner breast the two and three foot drifts along Suicide creek, the route Tanner and his wife were believed to have taken on a hike seeking material for a book he is writing.
Carrying rations of oatmeal and raisins to last them two days the couple set out from nearby Dewdney just after dawn Monday despite the urging of a farmhand not to attempt the trip in the face of a heavy snowfall.

Value of Utility Sought by PUDs

PORTLAND, Ore., Dec. 28 (AP)—J. D. Ross, Bonneville administrator, today was asked by five Washington public utility districts to set a fair value on Pacific Power & Light company facilities within their areas.
The PUD commissioners of Clark, Klickitat, Franklin, Skamania and Benton counties met Tuesday at Prosser, Wash., and decided on this action as a preliminary step toward acquisition of the generation and distribution facilities.
SHANGHAI, Dec. 29.—(Thursday)—Four Japanese columnar assigned to mop up southwestern Shansi province were reported today to be routing an army under General Yen Hai-Shan, considered by Chinese as governor of the province.
The mop-up forces were driving westward from the Shansi railroad and the Fen river with Yen's reorganized army between them and the Yellow river where it forms the boundary between Shansi and the Shensi provinces.

Portland Company Gets Job at OSC

Will Erect Agricultural Engineering Building on \$52,756 bid

PORTLAND, Dec. 28 (AP)—Douglas-Hammond Construction company of Portland was awarded contracts today for the construction of an agriculture engineering building and a new west entrance to the old science building at Oregon State college.
The projects will be undertaken with the aid of PWA funds. The net low bid on the building was \$52,756 compared with the \$53,000 estimated cost. The basic bid submitted by Douglas-Hammond was \$52,326 but alternates had to be eliminated to meet the available funds.
Funds Are Low
Because of insufficient funds one of the wings will be eliminated.
The basic and net bids of two other firms were rejected because they were more than the amount on hand.
Douglas-Hammond's basic bid for the science building entrance was \$11,252 but the contract was awarded the alternate offer of \$5929.

Hitler Described Master Hypnotist

CLEVELAND, Dec. 28 (AP)—A cold, calculating scientific experiment shows that the words of Adolf Hitler reduce his listeners to a submissive state bordering on hypnotism. Professor M. D. Steer of Purdue university told the Conventions of American Speech Teachers today.
Describing the German Fuehrer as one of the men who has done most in recent times to cause "choral thinking," Dr. Steer, director of the Purdue speech clinic, disclosed results of a partial analysis of recorded Hitler speeches.
The frequency of the Nazi leader's voice in a typical sentence, he explained, is 228 vibrations per second as compared with the 220 vibrations cited by one authority as the "usual frequency" for anger.
"If the voters could see on the screen the antics of some of the men they send to represent them at the legislature, an dit they could hear some of the things they say in the senate and the house, there would be a house-cleaning," he said today.
Klemgard, a right-wing democrat, said he would take motion picture equipment with him to Olympia and would attempt to make a "pictorial history of the legislative session," at recorded on sound film.

De Valera to Be Roosevelt Guest

WASHINGTON, Dec. 28 (AP)—Eamon De Valera, prime minister of Ireland, now officially called Eire, has accepted President Roosevelt's invitation to be an overnight guest at the White House next May 7.
De Valera will go on to New York May 10 to open the Irish exhibit at the World's fair. Later he will visit several cities, probably including Chicago and San Francisco, during a four-week stay in the United States.
Legation attaches said they knew of no political significance in the visit. De Valera was last here in 1929, three years before he became prime minister. He was re-elected this year for a five-year term.

Author and Wife Reported Missing

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British Columbia Police Constable Russell Taylor and three neighbors of Jack Tanner breast the two and three foot drifts along Suicide creek, the route Tanner and his wife were believed to have taken on a hike seeking material for a book he is writing.
Carrying rations of oatmeal and raisins to last them two days the couple set out from nearby Dewdney just after dawn Monday despite the urging of a farmhand not to attempt the trip in the face of a heavy snowfall.

Centenarian Does Dance, Birthday

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 28 (AP)—Frederick Anthony Lovell, who cut his own wood and carries his own fire from his mine in the hills back of here, celebrated his 100th birthday today by doing a dance for three of his daughters.
A geologist and mining engineer, Lovell was born in Providence, R. I., Dec. 28, 1838. He came to California in 1876.
He said he had been smoking since he was 19 years old and "I've never known I had a stomach."

Traffic Death Count 31,500

That Number Is Estimate for Year of 1938 if Trend Continues

CHICAGO, Dec. 28 (AP)—The National Safety Council tonight predicted traffic deaths in the United States this year would total 31,500 if the favorable trend of the first 11 months continued until Jan. 1.
That would be a reduction of 8,000 from the all-time high of 39,500 recorded in 1937.
Should December fatalities equal those of last December, statisticians figured, the 1938 total would approximate 32,000.
Is Record Decline
That would be the lowest for any year since 1933 and the greatest decline for any one year in the nation's history.
The November total was 3,110, a drop of 17 per cent from the same month last year. It was the 13th consecutive month of unbroken traffic improvement.
During the first 11 months of 1938 motor vehicle accidents cost 23,370 lives compared with 35,770 during the same period in 1937.
Safety Programs Aid
D. D. Fennell, president of the council, attributed the downturn to "a general tightening of the entire safety program throughout the country," he added.
"We have had better enforcement of traffic laws, better traffic engineering, safer automobiles and highways, more and better drivers' license laws and better administration of those laws, more school safety work and a better understanding by the public of the tragedy and economic costs of accidents."
Rhode Island Leads
"We have proved this year that accidents can be reduced. It is up to all of us to keep up the good work in the coming year."
The council reported gasoline consumption figures showed the improvement had been accomplished without a reduction in highway travel.
At least 49 states curtailed fatalities during the first 10 or 11 months. Rhode Island led with a drop of 37 per cent. Michigan was second with 34.

Mooney to Work For Labor Peace

Unifying Three Groups Is Held Necessary; Turns Down Movie Offers

SAN QUENTIN, Calif., Dec. 28 (AP)—Thomas J. Mooney today began getting ready for the long-sought freedom he expects to materialize shortly by way of a pardon from California's incoming liberal democratic governor, Culbert L. Olson.
Almost jovially the convicted bomber of the 1916 Preparedness day parade made known his plans to devote himself to the unification of "the three great sections" of organized labor.
He termed peace in organized labor was necessary to "stave off the fascist threat" in this country. He talked of a lecture tour but said the plans were indefinite.
Mooney asserted he had rejected all offers of film producers and publishers for the story he might tell of more than 20 years in San Quentin during which he fought an unprecedented battle for freedom and vindication.
"I am not interested at all in the commercial aspect of the matter," he said.
Is in Good Health
The 56-year-old prisoner appeared in good health but said he was making efforts to get himself in shape mentally to face the world again. He seemed to bear no ill effects from the stomach ulcer condition which put him in the prison hospital more than a year ago.
In Sacramento, Olson laughed off reports that Olson ready has written the Mooney pardon. He said he had done nothing on the matter as yet but that he would try to give the case a hearing between January 2, the date of his inauguration, and January 15.

Training Aviation Mechanics Is Aim

WASHINGTON, Dec. 28 (AP)—President Roosevelt, it was reported tonight, has approved a far-reaching program to train large numbers of youths as aviation mechanics.
Yesterday the president disclosed plans to school 20,000 enrolled under the national youth administration, a federal agency which aids needy students. The program also is expected to embrace many students already enrolled in private aviation ground schools.
Many of the future mechanics, informed sources said, will be chosen from the 150,000 boys enrolled under the national youth administration, a federal agency which aids needy students. The program also is expected to embrace many students already enrolled in private aviation ground schools.

Will Make Films Of State Session Says Left-Winger

SPOKANE, Wash., Dec. 28 (AP)—Gordon Klemgard, who is a country wheat farmer, photographer, radio engineer and state senator, is going to photograph the legislature—with sound.
"If the voters could see on the screen the antics of some of the men they send to represent them at the legislature, an dit they could hear some of the things they say in the senate and the house, there would be a house-cleaning," he said today.
Klemgard, a right-wing democrat, said he would take motion picture equipment with him to Olympia and would attempt to make a "pictorial history of the legislative session," at recorded on sound film.

Sams Valley Boy Is Crash Victim

ASHLAND, Ore., Dec. 28 (AP)—Roy Hutchinson, 14, Sams Valley high school student, was killed late today when a car he was returning to Ashland in overturning. He was crushed when the vehicle rolled against a stump.
The driver, Donald Grant, escaped injury.
Baker Has Snow Fall, But Temperature Warm
BAKER, Dec. 28 (AP)—A two-inch snow blanket covered Baker today. The temperature, however, was comparatively warm and bright sun appeared after the early morning storm.

Undergoes Operation

SPOKANE, Dec. 28 (AP)—Mrs. Clarence D. Martin, wife of Washington's governor, was reported "doing nicely" at a Spokane hospital today after an operation for a cataract had been performed on her left eye.

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London Wants to Know About Cold Spell, Minnesota

MINNEAPOLIS, Dec. 28 (AP)—When Police Chief Frank Forestal of Minneapolis picked up his telephone this afternoon and was told to "hold the line for London," he thought someone was having a bit of fun with him.
A moment later a reporter for the London Daily Sketch was on the line, asking if it was true that Minnesota was having its worst cold wave in history, that people were freezing to death on streets and highways and if so, what the police were doing about it.
Forestal assured the reporter the sun was shining, the temperature was rising, and that no one was freezing to death. The mercury stood at 21 degrees above zero this afternoon after a minimum last night of nine below.

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Brutality Charge Court Airing Due

PORTLAND, Dec. 28 (AP)—The Portland city council decided today that charges of brutality by policemen to a prisoner should be heard in court.
Two detectives, E. P. Ripley and George Turner, and Patrolman Earl Meacham were charged by the Oregon Prison association with brutality. Mayor Joseph Carson investigated and recommended the city take no action. The council filed his recommendation.
All three officers denied the charge and Meacham later was exonerated.

Light Earthquake Noted at Helena

HELENA, Mont., Dec. 28 (AP)—A three-second earthquake was felt here at 3:53 p.m. (MST) today.
The federal weather bureau reported it was felt throughout the city and as far as the six-mile away.
No damage was reported.

Food Poisoning Blamed In Death at Medford

MEDFORD, Dec. 28 (AP)—Coroner Frank A. Peri reported today that food poisoning was the cause of death of a woman who died here last night.
The woman, Mrs. Margaret Grant, 52, had died of food poisoning. He said a brother, Lawrence Grant, 72, became seriously ill after eating home canned beans.
"The country has been so awakened by our first investigations that not more than 40 votes will be cast against us when it comes to show-down," he said.
Because of insufficient funds, he asserted, the committee has been unable to do more than "scratch the surface."

Harcombe Is Sentenced To Prison for Forgery

EUGENE, Dec. 28 (AP)—William W. Harcombe was sentenced to 2 1/2 years in the state penitentiary by Circuit Judge G. F. Skipworth today. He was charged with forgery.
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DR. CHAN LAM
CHINESE MEDICINE CO.
392 1/2 Court St. Corner Liberty. Office open Tuesday & Saturday only. 10 A. M. to 4 P. M., 6 to 7 P. M. Consultation, blood pressure & urine tests are free of charge.

Nippon Fliers Are Improved

Once Worst, Practice Has Made Them Near Best; Deadly Marksmen

By LLOYD LEHRBAS
SHANGHAI—Correspondence of The Associated Press—Japanese aviators have developed from among the world's worst to among the best bombers through daily practice during 18 months of the Chinese-Japanese war, neutral observers say.
There is general agreement among the military experts who have watched Japanese aerial progress up the Yangtze valley that the Japanese have changed from third-rate neophytes—as shown by their record in the early fighting around Shanghai—to destructive marksmen from the air.
The observers, however, reserve judgment on just how good Japanese pursuit pilots are when it comes to actual combat in the air.
Technical Gains Made
Military observers say that in addition to improving their marksmanship and technique through continual practice on "live targets," Japanese have:
1. Developed a greatly-improved bomb sight;
2. Improved plane construction to provide greater maneuverability and increased the speed of their engines;
3. Improved the manufacture of their aerial bombs, reducing the number of duds from an estimated 30 per cent in Shanghai operations to less than one per cent in recent bombings along the Canton-Hankow railroad.
Both were hurried. Miss Lawrence suffered an injured back and scars from the burns.
Featured in her early days as "Baby Flo, the Child Wonder," Miss Lawrence was the original "Biograph Girl" and the original "Imp Girl" in the silent screen era.

Former Film Star Suicide by Poison

Florence Lawrence, Once Real Heroine, Takes Own Life at 52
BEVERLY HILLS, Calif., Dec. 28 (AP)—Florence Lawrence, star of silent films, committed suicide today by swallowing poison in her home here police reported.
Miss Lawrence was found by neighbors and taken to Beverly Hills emergency hospital where physicians tried vainly to save her life.
For the last three years the actress had been working at a stock company on the M-G-M lot. In earlier day films she was starred with such notables as Mary Pickford, Maurice Costello and Clara Kimball Young.
Miss Lawrence was 52. She gave every promise of rising to great stardom in her early pictures with Universal and Vitaphone, but suffered a tragedy in 1918 which blighted her career.
She was plucked in a scene with Matt Moore in which the two were to be rescued from a burning building. In the filming of the scene the two were trapped. Miss Lawrence could have jumped to immediate safety, but chose instead to go back into the flames to the aid of Moore. Both were burned. Miss Lawrence suffered an injured back and scars from the burns.

Pair Accused of Larceny Located

SILVERTON—The couple known here as Mr. and Mrs. H. Reed, sought on a charge of larceny by bailie since they disappeared several months ago allegedly with household furnishings bought "on time" from the H. L. Stiff furniture store, have been arrested in Washington county and will face another charge in Vancouver, Wash., before being brought here, R. B. Duncan, store manager, said Wednesday.
The articles belonging to the local store were found in good condition and will be returned, Duncan stated. The couple, known as Harry and Helen Cooper in Vancouver, he reported, but were using the name Sutton in the community on the road between Beaverton and Hillsboro where they have lived most recently.

Firemen Patrols Seek Pyromaniac

PORTLAND, Dec. 28 (AP)—Fire Marshal Fred Roberts said today firemen had been stationed on patrol in vicinities where recent fires had occurred, in an effort to end the epidemic of blazes. Roberts said he was convinced many of the fires were caused by a pyromaniac.
Two fires Tuesday night, one at the Portland Box & Lumber company and the other at the Great Northern Casket company, causing \$15,000 damages, were blamed by Roberts on a firebug.

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Happy New Year!
MONDAY, TOO!
The attractive Long Distance rates effective to most points every night and Sunday, will be available on MONDAY, JANUARY 2, 1939, as well.
New Year's greetings and other messages can be telephoned at night rates any time between 7 P. M. Saturday, December 31, and 4:30 A. M. Tuesday, January 3.
*Night rates are regularly effective from 7 P. M. to 6:30 A. M. on all day Sundays.
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