

DAILY EDITION

The net press run of yesterday's Daily 3,285

COUNTY OFFICIAL PAPER



DAILY EDITION

The East Oregonian is Eastern Oregon's greatest newspaper and as a selling force gives to the advertiser over twice the guaranteed average paid circulation in Pendleton and Umatilla county of any other newspaper.

COUNTY OFFICIAL PAPER

VOL. 34

DAILY EAST OREGONIAN, PENDLETON, OREGON, SATURDAY EVENING, DECEMBER 9, 1932.

NO. 10,312

# ASTORIA FIRE MAY BE WORK OF FIREBUGS; SUPPLIES ARE SENT

## ELIMINATION OF COMMISSION IS TAX SUGGESTION

Umatilla Taxpayers in Meeting Today Not in Favor of Cutting of Officials Pay.

## INVESTIGATING GROUP APPROVES PIERCE PLAN

Special Committee Wants New Revenues Applied to Reduce Present High Property Tax.

Abolition of workmen's commissions was advocated today by Judge James A. Fee at the Umatilla Taxpayers' League meeting at the court house. Judge Fee presided and opened the meeting.

Dr. F. W. Vincent, chairman of the county tax investigation committee, said he was not in favor of lowering the salaries of necessary county officials. He expressed himself, however, as in favor of doing away with commissions and in favor of "beheading the heads of commissions."

Your committee on the subject of state taxation desires to report as follows: We find that the tax situation in Oregon, particularly desiring to report as follows: We find that the tax situation in Oregon, particularly with reference to taxes upon real property has reached an intolerable stage that threatens land confiscation unless reform is provided.

We find that the tax situation in Oregon, particularly with reference to taxes upon real property has reached an intolerable stage that threatens land confiscation unless reform is provided. For example one of the government joint stock land banks has retired from two or three of the counties of Eastern Oregon because the tax rate in these counties has now reached a point approximating the average earning power of the land, according to their appraisement.

We find that three things are necessary to correct the tax situation in Oregon. 1.—A plan for reaching wealth now exempt or escaping taxation so as to provide for an equalization of the tax burden.

2.—A hard and fast limitation to insure that when new sources of revenue are provided the new revenue be used only for the purpose of reducing the present tax on real property.

3.—More economical state administration through abolition or consolidation of any commissions or department not vitally necessary to the state's welfare.

To accomplish the above ends we look with much favor upon many of the suggestions made by Hon. Walter M. Pierce, governor-elect of Oregon. We would call attention to the following recommendations attributed to Mr. Pierce.

Tax for state on all timber as it is removed from forest reserves, several billion feet of which is now contracted to parties from distant states and on which no tax will be paid unless the Pierce plan is adopted. Would be a direct and increasing source of revenue to the state. Would enable the direct tax on property to be lowered.

State tax on net incomes. Estimated new revenue by which direct taxes on

## WEATHER

Reported by Major Lee Moorhouse, weather observer. Maximum 42. Minimum 26. Barometer 29.55.

## TODAY'S FORECAST

Tonight and Sunday rain or snow.

## TRIES TO TELL STORY, BUT FINDS HIMSELF A MEMBER OF THE R. R. R.

This introduces James Hill, latest addition to the ancient order of the Royal Red Raspberry. Jim has a story which he sometimes tells to close friends, and the other night at a dance, one of the hostesses announced just as refreshments were being served that Mr. Hill would favor the company with this story.

Jim arose, cleared his throat, threw out his chest and began. He had uttered only a few words before he was interrupted by resounding cheers and the clapping of hands. He waited until the applause subsided and started in again. No same performance was repeated several times, and Jim became suspicious.

Fred Bennion got up at this stage of the entertainment and suggested that possibly some of those present had heard the story, and that it might be a good idea for those who had heard it to leave the room while the uninitiated remain to listen.

## COMMISSION PROTESTS RATE DISCRIMINATION BY OREGON RAILWAYS

Present High Rates on Certain Routes Give California Cities Big Advantage.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 9.—(U. P.)—Railroad rates on classified freight from Portland, Medford and other logging centers in Oregon to certain territory in Southern Oregon and Northern California were held today by the interstate commerce commission to be unreasonably high and to constitute a discrimination against the Oregon cities and in favor of San Francisco, Oakland, Sacramento, Stockton and Marysville, Cal.

## CHINOOK SWEEPS OVER SNOW, BARES GROUND

The weather man has as much trouble as a politician in suiting everyone with his decisions, and his action in sending a warm Chinook wind to sweep over Eastern Oregon is a cause of both happiness and sadness to different sets of people.

The wheat growers were highly pleased with the blanket of snow, and if their orders had been filled, the weather man would have kept on that blanket of snow and might even have added to it from time to time.

On the other hand, sheep and cattle men were glad to feel the gentle caress of the Chinook. "Less feed to buy," is their happy comment. And of course the hay growers are not welcoming the advance of colder weather. It may blunt the demand for their product.

## WAR TO EXTERMINATE FREE STATE PROGRAM

DUBLIN, Dec. 9.—(U. P.)—It is understood that more executions of revolutionaries will occur and war to extermination is feared. The insurgents are apparently planning to pick off members of the Free State organization whenever possible. President Cosgrave will continue by executing prisoners for such murder.

BANISH IRISH SENATOR. DUBLIN, Dec. 9.—(U. P.)—Martin Fitzgerald, Free State senator and pro-leader of the Freeman's Journal today was ordered by the "prohibition army" to leave Ireland immediately under pain of death.

## CONDEMNED FOR TREASON.



This is the first picture to reach this country showing the sentencing to death of the high Greek officials who were held responsible for the military debacle by the military committee of the new government. Demetris Goumaris, former premier, is shown here with his hand at his forehead listening to the testimony which sent him before a firing squad.

## ROMANTIC OPERA "MARTHA" IS MOST ABLY PRESENTED BEFORE LOCAL AUDIENCE AT RIVOLI

The comic romantic opera, "Martha," was most ably presented last night by the American Light Opera Co., all the roles being well sustained and the singers claiming applause. The leads were taken by Miss Theo Pennington as Martha; Miss Paula Ayres, as Nancy, her maid; Ed Andrews, as Sir Teistrang; Carl Rimbsehu, as Plunkett; Harry Bradford as Lord and George P. Olson as the sheriff.

The opera is filled with melody, and the dances, frolics, choruses and quartet numbers were charming. Miss Pennington sang "The Last Rose of Summer" with her usual understanding, her soprano voice being especially well suited to the number. Mr. Pfall also did some good solo work. While Mr. Rimbsehu, with his baritone, was much enjoyed also.

The company will close its engagement here with "The Chimes of Normandy" this evening.

## MRS. RUSSELL TESTIFIES

OXFORD, Miss., Dec. 9.—Mrs. Russell, wife of Governor Lee M. Russell testified in her husband's behalf today in the \$100,000 seduction suit brought by Mrs. Frances Kirkland, the governor's former secretary. Mrs. Russell said she took Mrs. Kirkland into her home to help her lead a straight life. She also substantiated other parts of her husband's testimony.

## GETTING READY FOR THE COMING-OUT PARTY



## TIGER SUGGESTS PACT REPLACING LEAGUE NATIONS

Frenchman Proposes Immediate Conference in Washington to Work Out Treaty Terms.

## VERSAILLES PACT CAN NOT PREVENT WAR, WORD

Clemenceau Not Dismayed by Failure to Get Encouragement From the President.

## PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 9.—(U. P.)

Clemenceau today proposed immediate opening of negotiations in Washington toward an agreement between the United States and other nations of the world to take the place of the League of Nations and return America to the comings of Europe. The proposal came after he declared in his speech here that he did not believe the League of Nations means a preventative of war.

Toward the end of his speech the Tiger said of the League of Nations: "I don't believe it can ever bring about the end of war. At the same time I believe that any effort to that end is good."

Tiger Not Dismayed. Clemenceau, arriving this morning, seemed undismayed by his failure to secure a favorable response from the government at Washington to his appeal. The Tiger, however, seemed greatly encouraged by Harding's statement in his message to congress that he hoped treaties similar to the four-power Pacific pact could be established in other parts of the world. Clemenceau spoke here today at the Academy of Music.

## PREMIER CLOSELY GUARDED

LONDON, Dec. 9.—(U. P.)—Rumors of disgraced Scotland Yard detectives are guarding Premier Poincare and Mussolini today, while he is attending the allied premiers' conference. The French secret service also attend Poincare, while Mussolini has his own Fascist guard.

## WAR DEPARTMENT WOULD BE AUTHORIZED TO MAKE SURVEY TO PRECEDE RECLAMATION WORK.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 9.—(U. P.)—The war department, under a bill introduced today by Senator McNary of Oregon, would survey the Columbia river from Vancouver to Priest Rapids, Idaho, and the Snake river from its mouth to Astoria, Wash., to determine the practicability of canalization of the two rivers for barge traffic and the irrigation and reclamation of the lands along the rivers in the event of the canalization and the development of hydro-electric power.

## PANIS, Dec. 9.—(U. P.)

The Marcellus bicycle firm offers a purse of 200,000 francs for the Carpenter-Siki fight to decide the championship. The boxers may split the purse to suit themselves.

## REPORT OF BENNION IS GIVEN HIGH PRAISE BY ASSISTANT STATE CHIEF

High praise for the annual report of Fred Bennion, county agent, has been given by W. L. Kaddery, assistant county agent and leader of the state, according to information which has been given by Paul V. Maris, director of extension of O. A. C. The comment Kaddery had to make concerning the report to Maris was as follows: "I commend to your attention Bennion's report. It is the most complete, most interesting, best organized report so far received. Likewise, I believe no agent can show such a scope of successful project work as he reported upon. Very few agents have the capacity for thoughtfully organized work seemingly possessed by Mr. Bennion. A better county agent report has never come to my attention."

## CONGRESS STARTS WORK ON PROJECTS OUTLINED IN HARDING'S MESSAGE

Will Amend Constitution to Prohibit Tax Exempt Securities; Draft Credit Terms.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 9.—(U. P.)—Congress today commenced to carry out the program outlined in President Harding's message. The house ways and means committee asked the rules committee next week to allow a resolution amending the constitution to prohibit tax exempt securities.

The agriculture and banking currency committees of both houses are endeavoring to frame a bill creating a farm credit department. The house and senate interstate commerce committee are considering the transportation law but no action is expected this session. The house judiciary committee probably will present a resolution amending the constitution to give congress power to prevent child labor.

The recommendations for the president's conference of governors on prohibition will be translated into legislation for enforcement.

## TO DECIDE CHAMPIONSHIP.

NEW YORK, Dec. 9.—(U. P.)—Inquiries were started today regarding the health of Suzanne Lenglen with a view of arranging a match next spring in Southern France with Molla B. Mallory to decide the disputed championship of the world.

## WALLS OF ASTORIA BUDGET BUILDING UP

The Astoria Evening Budget, owned by Pendletonians of former Pendletonians did not suffer a total loss in the big fire at Astoria yesterday. It is possible the Budget's loss may be mostly covered by insurance though information on this point is not yet available. The Budget occupied a concrete building it being constructed last summer.

The following message from M. R. Chessman, editor of the Budget, has been received here: Budget suffered along with the rest of the business district. Building was burned but walls still stand and architect tells us they are absolutely all right. Basement likewise. Saved all books, files and nearly all of office fixtures. Also linotype magazines and Ledlow cases. Published on mimeograph today, four issues and are trying to arrange with Toverl or Seaside signal so that we can start operations.

The Oregon Journal yesterday extended a generous offer to the Budget to make use of the Journal plant in Portland until the Budget plant can be rehabilitated. Unable to reach Astoria by phone the offer was extended to the Pendleton owners.

E. H. Ahrich, one of the Budget owners and president of the Budget Publishing Co., left on No. 17 today for Astoria.

## WAGE SCALE SUSTAINED.

CHICAGO, Dec. 9.—(U. P.)—The railroad labor board late Friday decided to continue the present scale of wages to union railroad telegraphers. An increase was asked by the employees while the carriers wanted a reduction. The board continued the hearing indefinitely, seeing "no urgent reason for immediate action."

The wages of 11,000 railroad telegraphers on eleven western roads has been cut \$1,500,000 annually in order to correct the existing inequalities between pay stations and telegraph employees.

## SOLDIERS WITH ORDERS TO KILL STANDING GUARD

Lumberjack Reported to Have Told Woman He Had Set Town on Fire; Investigate.

## ASTORIA CITIZENS LAY PLANS FOR CITY RELIEF

Offers of Aid pour in; Portland Civic Bodies Contribute Supplies; S. P. Carries Free.

## ASTORIA, Dec. 9.—(U. P.)

And the smoldering ruins of the city's business district relief activities and preliminary work toward reconstruction began at dawn today. Thousands of fires scattered about the devastated area burned brightly during the night and in the flickering light could be seen the firemen still at work. Sailors with fixed bayonets stood guarding the vaults of the ruined banks, and numerous soldiers and volunteer relief workers distinguished by Red bands about their arms and improvised insignias for those permitted within the fire lines.

The spectre of the fire had arisen from the ashes and there were many rumors which the authorities attempted to run down. Representatives of the fire marshal's office, H. H. Pomeroy and L. B. Davis, are working with Fire Chief Foster and Chief of Police Carlson to learn the cause of the fire which started early yesterday morning and raged for ten hours, wiping out about thirty blocks and causing a loss estimated today from twelve to twenty million.

"If the fire was incendiary it was a pure case of arson," said J. DeWitt Gilbert, city editor of the Astoria Budget. "I do not believe there is any ground for attributing the fire to radicals. The industrial situation at Astoria has not been disturbed. There were some agitators here but there has been no strike."

The basis for the incendiary rumors rests on the reports that the fire appears to have been burning in two separate places on both sides of the Bee Hive department area within a few minutes after the first blaze was discovered.

## CITIZENS ORGANIZE

ASTORIA, Ore., Dec. 9.—(U. P.)—Stunned, but hopeful, citizens today are caring for the homeless victims of yesterday's fire and laying plans for the reconstruction of the devastated city. There is no immediate shortage of food supplies, but ten days' rations for the 2,500 homeless will be

(Continued on page 5.)

## DECEMBER GRAIN SHOWS SHARP PRICE ADVANCE

Wheat prices show a sharp advance today, December grain closing at \$1.22 3/8, May at \$1.29 1/4 and July at \$1.09 5/8. The closings yesterday were \$1.19 5/8, \$1.17 1/4 and \$1.08 1/4. Following are the quotations received by Overbeck & Co., local brokers:

Wheat.				
	Open	High	Low	Close
Dec.	\$1.19 5/8	\$1.22 3/8	\$1.19 5/8	\$1.22 3/8
May	1.17	1.20 1/4	1.17	1.20 1/4
July	1.08 1/4	1.09 5/8	1.08 1/4	1.09 5/8

## MOTHER KEEPS SON PRISONER 4 YEARS

CHICAGO, Dec. 9.—(U. P.)—James Kenney today lies in the hospital a physical and mental wreck after four years of imprisonment during which time he was strapped by his hands and feet to the four posts of his bed by a crazed mother, who had a fear that her son would be taken from her. Police were forced to batter down the door and knock the mother unconscious before the son could be released.

## POLA NEGRI MARRIED

BERLIN, Dec. 9.—(U. P.)—Pola Negri who is reported married to Charlie Chaplin, is still the wife of a Polish count, who, according to a Berlin newspaper,