

CIRCULATION  
Average for 1920, 5258;  
Population of Salem, 1900, 4258;  
1910, 14,094; 1920, 17,879.  
Marion County, 1920, 47,177; Polk  
County, 1920, 14,181.  
Member of Audit Bureau of Circulation,  
Associated Press Full  
Leased Wire.

# Capital Journal

THE WEATHER  
OREGON: Probably rain west;  
unsettled, probably snow east portion;  
moderate easterly winds.  
LOCAL: Rainfall .05; northerly  
winds; cloudy; max. 39, min. 21;  
river 2 feet and stationary.

FORTY-THIRD YEAR—NO. 308

SALEM, OREGON, MONDAY, DECEMBER 26, 1921

PRICE TWO CENTS

ON TRAINS AND NEWS  
STANDS FIVE CENTS

## RITNER REFUSES TO SIGN GASOLINE BILL

### ARDON SOUGHT BY DEBS

Specialist Leader Calls Upon President and Attorney General—Not Satisfied

Washington, Dec. 26.—Eugene Debs, in the first statement since his release from Atlanta penitentiary at noon yesterday, announced today that he had dedicated his newly acquired freedom "to the freedom of political prisoners and the cause of all prisoners."

The statement was made after Debs had conferred with President Harding and Attorney General Daugherty. His future activities, Debs said, would depend largely "on how long I will be confined."

Debs must redjust himself during his confinement. Debs said everything in his world had become chaotic and undergone changes which would make it necessary for him to readjust himself to the conditions of the present before he could foresee actual results of his future activities.

Debs arrived in Washington at 9 o'clock yesterday and went first to a hotel, where he breakfasted and then conferred with Attorney General Daugherty and later President Harding, spending about one half hour with each.

Mr. Daugherty, in a statement made after his conference with Debs, declared the socialist leader's visit was upon his own volition, that he had asked for no admission and that none had been given. No statement was made at the time after Debs called.

Returning to his hotel from the White House Debs received the newspapermen in his room and read the version of his release from Atlanta penitentiary, where he served nearly three years of a ten year sentence.

Tells of Release  
When I was advised by the warden of my release by communication," he said, "it was coupled with the request of Attorney General Daugherty that I come to Washington to meet him and President Harding. The warden showed me with a railroad ticket to the capital city for that purpose."

Mr. Debs explained that it was necessary upon the release of a prisoner for the authorities to make arrangements for his transportation to his home or the place from which he was sentenced as he preferred, but he was given no choice by the warden at Atlanta.

Under ordinary circumstances he would have gone home as arrangements had been made for him to return to his home and a demonstration of welcome was planned for him at Terre Haute.

### Arrested As Bomb Plotter



Wolfe Lindenfeld, former New Yorker, who is under arrest in Warsaw, Poland, as a suspect in the Wall street bomb disaster, Lindenfeld was traced to Poland by two Secret Service agents who gained his confidence by posing as Communists. He is said to have confessed to knowledge of the plot.

### EGYPTIANS RIOT FOR FREEDOM

National Disturbances Against British Rule Reported at Suez, Cairo and Port Said

Cairo, Egypt, Dec. 25.—(By Associated Press)—Rioting broke out at Suez this (Sunday) afternoon. Several demonstrators were killed and a number wounded.

Dispatches to the Associated Press have reported disturbances in various parts of Egypt, notably in Cairo and Port Said, after the forcible removal from Cairo to Suez of Said Zagloul Pasha, a nationalist leader, and five of his followers by the British military authorities last Friday.

Twelve persons were said to have been killed in the Cairo rioting up to Saturday night.

Alexandria, Egypt, Dec. 25.—(By Associated Press)—Considerable excitement prevailed throughout the day (Sunday) due to nationalist agitation. Police patrolled the city in armored automobiles, frustrating attempts to stage demonstrations.

A general strike is reported to be planned. The British cruiser Coles has arrived here.

### Is Any Baby Like Its Father?

London, Dec. 26.—The difficulty which Solomon experienced when he was asked to decide "Whose is the child?" confronted three judges in the King's bench divisional court.

It presented itself in this form: Can you tell the father by his infant's looks? And is the resemblance evidence?

There was much amusing discussion crystallized in two parallel views.

### RAIN NOT TO DELAY BIG GAME

Centre College and Arizona Elevens to Play Today Despite Flood Conditions

San Diego, Cal., Dec. 26.—Eight days of rain which was still falling, a field resembling a quagmire, and a comparatively small sale of seats were not considered reasons sufficient to cause the postponement of the Centre-Arizona football game scheduled to be played here this afternoon.

The committee in charge of the contest announced that it would be played regardless of weather conditions.

E. B. Gould, president of the San Diego chamber of commerce, called a meeting this morning of his associates who are promoting the Centre college-University of Arizona game to decide whether, under the circumstances, the contest should be staged this afternoon as scheduled.

The game is insured for \$25,000 against rain and the money will be paid if one tenth of an inch of rain or more falls between 8:30 o'clock this morning and 2:30 this afternoon.

Coach J. F. McKale of the Arizona team and Coach Charley Moran of the Centre Colonels were both willing to play in any sort of weather.

### City Is Isolated

San Diego, Cal., Dec. 26.—San Diego is today almost completely isolated from the outside world as the result of nine days of rains. No trains were being operated over either the Santa Fe or the San Diego and Arizona, due to washouts. Automobile traffic is also practically at an end because of bridges and highways having been washed out.

Serious flood conditions prevail in several parts of San Diego county and warnings of danger to life and property have been issued to residents in the San Diego and San Luis Rey river valleys. Reports from the mountain districts are to the effect that heavy rains are falling today and all streams are overflowing their banks.

The peak of the flood waters is expected to reach the lower end of the rivers late this afternoon, or early tonight and possibility of great damage to property is feared. In San Diego the rain continued uninterrupted today. Street car traffic in the city is being maintained but suburb service is seriously crippled and in some instances has been entirely cancelled.

### GERMANY PLANNING TO RUIN ITALY

Campaign of Peaceful Destruction Launched Against Commercial Life of Kingdom

Washington, Dec. 26.—A sweeping campaign of "peaceful destruction" has been launched by Germany against the commercial life of Italy. It was learned from a secret document of the German foreign office.

The document, revealing Germany's plans for commercial aggression in Italy, was laid before the armament conference, it is said, and materially influenced the decision not to reduce the standing armies of Italy and France.

Revealed by the Italian government, the document is a report forwarded by Herr Stroheker, commercial councillor at the German embassy in Rome to the German minister for foreign affairs at Berlin.

The German plan, according to the report, was:

1. To flood Italy with "made in Germany" goods at "below cost" prices, thus ruining competitors in Italy.
2. To purchase Italian industries through Italian sources.
3. To further discontent among political feudists in order to create political situations favoring Germany.

"The figures of German commerce in Italy show that after the armistice our traders were not inactive in reconquering the Italian market compared with France, England and the United States," began the report. "In order to create a favorable political situation for ourselves, taking advantage of the malcontents, a political situation which might in due course be favorable to us when Germany should be faced by fresh complications, it is necessary to strengthen this discontent in order to consolidate our situation through economic action."

### Youth On Sled Struck by Car Badly Bruised

The second serious accident to result from coasting within the week past occurred on the Lincoln street hill last night when Robert Dow, 14 years of age, was struck by an automobile said to have been driven by Ralph Collins, colored chauffeur, of this city.

Young Dow, according to the police report, suffered severe body bruises and several of his teeth were knocked out.

The accident occurred about 8 o'clock last night. As Robert was coasting down the hill, his sled and the automobile came together. Young Dow is a nephew of B. E. Sisson, of the Miller Mercantile company.

Elmer Falk, 14, was struck by an automobile while riding a sled down a South Commercial street hill last Monday afternoon. Although he suffered concussion of the brain and was unconscious for four days, he was reported today to be much improved, and will probably be taken home from the Willamette sanitarium tomorrow.

### Laundries in Alaska

Nome, Alaska, Dec. 26.—Announcement has been made that the salvage division of the United States quartermaster corps will install mobile laundries at all principal posts in the territory. These laundries will be similar to those used by the American army in France for delousing purposes.

### FREED FROM IRISH PRISONS



Following the signing of the peace treaty between Ireland and England there were many stirring scenes in Dublin. While the Dail Eireann cabinet was meeting at the Mansion House political prisoners were being released from camps and jails and were given cordial receptions by relatives, friends and thousands of sympathizers who flocked to the lockups on receipt of the news.

### Highway Commissioner's Son Ends Life By Shooting

Eugene, Ore., Dec. 26.—Floyd Booth, aged thirty five, son of R. A. Booth, chairman of the state highway commission, was found shot to death in the basement of his home here early today. Authorities said he had shot himself and that it was a case of suicide, though no reason for the act was given out. Booth was married and had four children. The family had a Christmas party the night before. No one heard the shot that ended Booth's life.

The fatal wound was in the neck.

### Man Seeks Wife Here; Xmas Is Spent Jailed; Loved Ones Not Found

The Salem police blotter will tell you that Anthon Anderson spent Christmas night in the city jail, coldly, tersely, as is the wont of police journals, it will explain that "Anthon is accused of stealing some fruit. The theft was admitted, so Anthon went behind the bars.

A police blotter is a journal of few words. Its stories are told simply and without literary elegance. On it is recorded a little of all that comes within the blue-coat's ken, but frequently it does not tell all that it knows.

### Reverses are Met

The mere fact that Anthon Anderson, Norwegian of Grant, Mont., spent Christmas night in the Salem jail is of no interest, perhaps, for recently Anthon has spent other nights in jail. Without funds, without work, suited for nothing but farm or common labor, he has suffered reverses and must sleep where a bed is offered. In Salem, until last night, Anthon had gone almost unnoticed.

Up in Grant, Mont., it is different. There Anthon says he has 540 acres of irrigated land. There his friends would not mind if he helped himself to some fruit which might tend to dull an appetite which was becoming increasingly sharp. There, he says, he has the confidence of neighbors who sympathize with the story which he tells in broken English.

### Other Yuletides Recalled

For eight years Anthon Anderson spent Christmas with his wife and seven step children. For eight years there were the usual festivities—the stockings, the Christmas trees, the gay decorations. In the hope that the ninth Christmas might, too, be spent with these

### SPEAKER MAY ALSO DECLINE

Bean Expected to Follow Ritner's Lead and Fair Backers Prepare for Court Action

Portland, Or., Dec. 26.—Promoters of the world's exposition proposed for Portland in 1925 were today considering the next steps to be taken in regard to submitting to the people of the state the proposed exposition tax constitutional amendment provided for in a resolution adopted by the state legislature in special session last week, concerning which a question of the legality of its adoption has arisen because it was approved by only fifteen members of the state senate one less than the usual constitutional majority.

The vote on adoption in the senate was fifteen to fourteen, but on account of the fact that one senator had died, leaving only 29 members active, President Ritner, who represents a district in eastern Oregon where sentiment against a state tax for the exposition is strong, ruled it had failed to pass, holding 15 votes necessary for a majority. He was overruled by a vote of fifteen to fourteen and today announced he has decided not to sign the resolution and an accompanying bill levying a tax of a cent a gallon on gasoline to raise \$3000,000 toward the fair expenses. Whether mandamus proceedings against Ritner to force him to sign the measures or against Secretary of State Koser in connection with the placing of them on the ballot, had not been decided today, but some court test of the question was expected to be made.

### Bean May Not Sign

Louis E. Bean, speaker of the house of representatives, said before leaving Salem Saturday night that he would probably refuse to sign the fair tax bills.

The measure was declared passed over President Ritner's ruling that it had not received a constitutional majority, as the 15 votes it received were not a majority of the senate as recognized by the

(Continued on Page Seven.)

### Germany To Welcome New Ambassador

New York, Dec. 26.—Germany is eagerly awaiting the new American ambassador to Berlin, who will be given a cordial welcome and greeted as the official representative of a friendly country, according to James W. Gerard, who was withdrawn from Berlin as ambassador there when the United States entered the war.

Gerard said one of the major problems facing the new ambassador at Berlin will be settlement of the American claims for damages in connection with the sinking of the Lusitania. He saw no difficulty for the new minister in this matter, however.

Ellis Loring Dresel, a Boston lawyer, is now in charge of American affairs at Berlin, with the title of charge d'affaires.

"Germany," said Mr. Gerard in an interview, "wants our friendship. This country stands next only to Great Britain in German regard today. All the German 'hate' of the war period is now deflated against France, and Great Britain and this country are looked upon as friends.

"Germany," he said, "is eager to go more than half way with America."

Mr. Gerard refused to comment on Premier Briand's statement before the conference on the limitation of armaments that Germany continued a military menace, and also on the proposed Harding "association" as it would affect Germany.

to his home Sunday night. Geo. Wolfe, a rancher, drove his automobile off the grade and landed in the icy waters of the Wailowa river. Wolfe escaped with a few bruises.