

Capital Journal

CIRCULATION
Average for February 5671.
Population of Salem, 1900, 4258;
1910, 14,094; 1920, 17,579.
Marion County, 1920, 47,177; Polk
County, 1920, 14,181.
Member of Audit Bureau of Circulation. Associated Press Full
Leased Wire.

THE WEATHER
OREGON: Tonight and Sunday
occasional rain. Fresh winds, most-
ly southwesterly.
LOCAL: Rainfall .55; southerly
winds; cloudy; max. 45, min. 34;
river 2.6 feet and rising.

FORTY-FOURTH YEAR—NO. 54 SALEM, OREGON, SATURDAY, MARCH 4, 1922 PRICE TWO CENTS ON TRAINS AND NEWS STANDS FIVE CENTS

MAN SAYS HE KILLED DIRECTOR

Letter Received by Los Angeles Police Chief Alleges Writer Shot Taylor

Los Angeles, Cal., March 4.—Captain David Adams of the Los Angeles police department announced today that he had received a letter from a man whose name he refused to disclose, stating that the writer had killed William Desmond Taylor, motion picture director, whose recent death had baffled investigators. The letter, Captain Adams said, was written by an educated man, was sent from a city in Connecticut, the name of which he declined to disclose, and made circumstantial statements that filled in with developments of police.

Captain Adams said he would not say definitely that the letter was a genuine confession but he would say that the department put much credence in it, and was making a thorough and quick investigation.

Teacher Bound And Gagged And Left In Shack

Tacoma, Wash., March 4.—Miss Elaine Sparre, 19, school teacher at Elgin, who disappeared last night, was found early this morning tied with wire and rope and gagged in a deserted house two miles off the main road and about two miles from the school house. Hysterically she told how a masked man held her up and robbed her and then forced her to walk to the house.

Miss Sparre was found by C. L. Blacklee, a trapper, who was one of the party that started out from Gig Harbor to search for the missing girl when she failed to return last evening to her boarding house about a mile from the school house.

Commission To Settle Nitrate Project Urged

Washington, March 4.—(By Associated Press.)—Creation of a national commission, empowered by congress to straighten out the government tangles as to existing contracts with respect to the projects at Muscle Shoals, Ala., and to enter into negotiations for sale or lease of the properties, was advocated today in a statement issued by Chairman Kahn of the house military committee, which has before it the three offers received by the government to date for the plant.

The commission would consist of the secretaries of war, agriculture and treasury and its first object would be to insure production of nitrates for war purposes as well as the production of fertilizers for the nation's agricultural needs.

Mrs. Wurtzbarger Dressed In Here; To Be Seamstress

Mrs. Alma Wurtzbarger, confessed slayer of her husband, Andrew, Chemawa laborer, arrived at the state penitentiary from Portland at 10 o'clock this morning and was "dressed in" shortly before noon.

Mrs. Wurtzbarger, who was sentenced in federal court to serve a term of ten years after she had pleaded guilty to manslaughter, admitted that she killed her husband with a hammer as he slept in their common bed on the Chemawa campus several months ago.

STATE IS IN MARKET FOR FLAX

Improved Conditions Cited As Reason For Renewed Buying by Prison Plant

Denying statements that state officials are extending their efforts to discredit the flax industry of Oregon, and signifying willingness to make contracts with growers who have not become members of the Willamette Flax & Hemp Growers association, because of the increasing demand for the fibre, E. J. Hansett, superintendent of the penitentiary flax plant issued a statement this morning, saying that the officials now had an offer for four car loads of flax from linen mills in Belfast, Ireland.

"Some people are under the impression that our state officials are doing their best to make a failure of the flax industry of the state," said Mr. Hansett. "This is to be regretted as I know positively that Warden Compton is enthusiastic in promoting the industry and is doing all that he possibly can to aid the new company which has started here.

"It is a fact that he had a good market for all flax seed produced in the state flax industry by grinding it into stock food, and was making a handsome profit by handling it in that manner. But in order to help the new company he stopped grinding the seed into stock food and furnished seed to the company for planting purposes under the market price."

Mr. Hansett stated that at the time when the flax industry was about to be given up by the state, the market had been demoralized, but that now, due to conditions in Russia and Belgium the market was picking up.

Woman Lives 40 Years After Doctors Said She Would Die

Zion, Ill., March 4.—Mrs. Della King, 104 years old, formerly of Los Angeles, died today from influenza. More than forty years ago she was said to have contracted an incurable disease and was told that she could live only a few months.

Transport Workers Seize Gas Plant; Hoist Red Colors

Tipperary, Ireland, March 4.—(By Associated Press.)—The local branch of the Irish Transport Workers' union seized the gas works here today and hoisted the red flag.

ITALIANS IN CONTROL OF FIUME

Provisional Government Overthrown and Zanelli Forced to Sign Abdication

Fiume, March 4.—(By Associated Press.)—The committee of national defense proclaimed the final overthrow of the provisional government under President Zanelli and the constituent assembly today. The government capitulated after fierce fighting. The committee, upon assuming power, asked the Italian government to send a representative to administer the government of the city until quiet is restored.

Zanelli's Attitude Queer. Rome, March 4.—(By Associated Press.)—The council of ministers today discussed at length the crisis in Fiume which has complicated the already difficult situation confronting the new cabinet.

The attitude of President Zanelli, who has been forced to hand over the government to the national committee of defense, does not appear quite clear here. Shortly after he assumed power in October last he came to Rome and obtained a loan of 200,000,000 lire. He then expressed a great belief in the Italian aspirations in Fiume, but upon his return to that place, almost immediately incurred the enmity of the Italian element.

Since early yesterday forces of fascisti, legionnaires and republicans have been in possession of the city. They captured the posts and telegraphs and before their advance the police organized by Zanelli retired to the government palace.

Palace Is Shelled. Zanelli's forces placed machine guns on the roof of the palace which for some time checked the progress of their assaults. Deputy Giunta, leader of the fascisti then captured an armored motor boat belonging to the Italian navy in the neighboring bay of Abbazia and with its guns opened fire against the palace. Thirty 75-millimetre shells were thrown into the building causing considerable damage.

Italian torpedo boats in Fiume harbor captured the motorboat, but the latter was again seized by the fascisti who resumed their bombardment of the palace. The defenders then hoisted a white flag.

The report that Zanelli fled from the city is denied. According to latest reports he was still inside the palace. Zanelli has signed a statement agreeing to retire forever from public life in Fiume and renouncing any aspiration of a political character.

Polish Cabinet Resigns In Body

Warsaw, March 4.—Failure of the representatives of Vilna and Poland to agree on the terms establishing Vilna as a part of the republic resulted in the resignation of the Polish cabinet under Premier Poniakowski yesterday.

The Vilna delegates refused to sign the pact because it did not provide for immediate union, but only a later adjustment of the question. The cabinet held out for the Polish terms and in its stead is reported to have had the secret support of the entente allies.

A three-day celebration which has been planned in connection with the signing has been cancelled and the delegates are reported to be returning to Vilna.

Silverton Pastor Resigns to Accept Philadelphia Call

Silverton, Or., March 4.—At a business meeting of the members of St. John's Lutheran church of Silverton Thursday afternoon the resignation of Rev. J. C. Roseland was accepted. Two new candidates were chosen for the pastorate. Rev. H. J. Thorpe of Portland is first candidate with Rev. O. H. Olsen of Tacoma, second. A call has been sent to Rev. Mr. Thorpe of Portland. Rev. Mr. Roseland, the present pastor, has been called by a congregation at Philadelphia, Pa., and has accepted. His resignation will take place June 1.

Girl Under Knife of Surgeons 59 Times Recovers

Dallas, Texas, March 4.—Dorothy Cannon, six years old, who has undergone 14 serious operations and 45 skin grafting applications, will be discharged from a hospital here within another month—a well child—doctors declared today.

Dorothy was found lying on a live wire in a puddle of water last June, her clothing having been burned away and her body black.

Hops Bring 16-18 Cents In Contract

Contracts calling for the delivery of 30,000 pounds of hops this year and 50,000 pounds from 1923 to 1925, signed by A. M. Jerman and Harold Ray, Portland representative of Hugo V. Loewi, New York hop broker, at a price of 16 and 18 cents were filed with the county recorder's office this morning.

The 1922 contract calls for the delivery of 30,000 pounds of fuggles on which an advance is to be made by the broker September 1 of \$1200, and for picking purposes an advance of six cents a pound while the balance of eight cents a pound due at the contract price is to be paid on delivery.

Two contracts for each succeeding year call for the same amount of fuggles on like terms and the delivery of 20,000 pounds of cluster hops with an advance of \$1800 by September, an advance of six cents for picking purposes and the balance of the contract price of 16 cents to be paid on delivery.

While this is considerably lower than the top price paid for hops last year, experts agree that at present the contracted quotations are fair covering a long period of time.

State Hospital Is Quarantined

In an effort to forestall an epidemic of influenza at the state hospital the institution was placed under quarantine against all visitors today, according to announcement by Superintendent R. E. Lee Steiner. Only a few minor cases of lagrippe and colds have been experienced at the hospital this winter, according to Superintendent Steiner, who explains that epidemics in the institution generally follow several weeks after an epidemic in Salem and surrounding territory. This, Steiner declares, is due to the visits of people to the hospital who are not entirely recovered from the illness, thus spreading the germs among the patients which he is attempting to prevent at this time through a quarantine which is to be rigidly maintained so long as there is any danger.

Big Curb Market Bond Firm Fails

New York, March 4.—Failure of E. H. Clark & company, one of the largest brokerage firms with membership in the New York curb market, was announced today. The house has offices in Chicago and several other mid-west cities, and dealt largely in oil and copper shares.

The announcement was followed by the filing in federal court of an involuntary petition in bankruptcy against the firm. Liabilities were estimated at \$400,000 and assets at \$250,000. Judge Learned Hand named David Miller receiver, with bond of \$20,000. Claims of three petitioning creditors totalled only \$582.

Chicago, March 4.—The local office of E. H. Clark & company, brokerage firm which failed today, was unable to give any estimate of the assets or liabilities of any of its middle western offices. All books have been forwarded to New York, it was said.

A. W. Gardner, who was operated upon for knee trouble at the Salem hospital last Wednesday is doing as well as could be expected. Mr. Gardner is an overseas man and a member of Capital post No. 9 American Legion.

HARDING ONE YEAR IN OFFICE

President Says Accomplishments of Administration Speak for Themselves

Washington, March 4.—Warren G. Harding at noon today completed his first year as president of the United States and when asked for an expression regarding the accomplishments of his administration to date, authorizing this statement:

"The record of the administration speaks for itself; it would be a poor administration that required the executive to speak for it."

Mr. Harding spent his first anniversary in the White House working on a number of routine matters and had the usual number of appointments. He stopped work shortly after noon to receive and shake hands with a delegation from the National Merchant Marine association, and in that connection White House attaches figured out that he had shaken hands with more than 150,000 persons in the last year.

Heir's Scrap Over Aged Man's Land

The gullibility of an aged man, and the rivalry of his children for the greater share of his estate are apparently the basic causes of a suit brought by Christian Danielson, Mary Palmer, Lena Peters and Hans Christians against their father, Jens Christian and his third son, Emil Christian, farmers, living in the north end of the county near Monitor.

The plaintiffs have filed a complaint recently asking that a deed, made by their father, which gives him a life estate in the 55-acre farm, and then possession of the property after his death, be declared valid.

In the answer filed by the 88-year-old father and his son, Emil, the defendants allege that Christian and his brother and sisters took advantage of their father's infirmity and ignorance of the English language and on August 22, 1921, took their father to Woodburn under the pretext of aiding him make his will, but instead made him sign the deed in their favor, which they immediately had recorded, with the purpose of later taking possession of the property themselves.

Schools Not To Be Closed, 'Flu' Cases Are Fewer

Unless the influenza epidemic in Salem becomes more serious than it is at present, the public schools will not be closed, George W. Hug, superintendent of schools, said this afternoon.

"Present indications are that the crest has been reached and that there will be fewer cases in the immediate future," Mr. Hug said. "Unless there is a change for the worse, the schools will remain open as there would be nothing gained by closing them now."

Man Arrested Here Sent to School For Feeble Minded Folk

Ed Carson, who was arrested here yesterday on a vagrancy charge by Acting Chief of Police Walter Birtchet, was this morning committed to the state school for feeble minded by County Judge W. M. Bushey following an examination by Dr. W. M. Byrd, county physician.

Carson was taken in custody by Chief Birtchet when he essayed to enter a woman's lavatory. He was reported to have annoyed a number of little girls.

Carson, when arraigned before Police Judge Earl Race yesterday, pleaded guilty to a charge of vagrancy, but was temporarily released pending an investigation of his case.

Woman Solomon To Decide Which Wife Is Mother of Baby



The disputed baby.

Washington, March 4.—Miss Kathryn Sellers, Judge of the District of Columbia Juvenile Court, today shared honors with King Solomon, the "wisest of the wise," when she essayed to decide the parentage of a seven-month-old baby ardently claimed by two women.

The women are as strangely different as the stories they have unfolded, each averring that she is the real mother. One is an Italian, Mrs. Marie Antonio Mattio, who recently arrived in this country; and the other is Mrs. Etta Peck, of Toledo, Maryland.

The Italian woman claims she put the child in the custody of Mrs. Peck, being unable to care for it at the time of birth. Mrs. Peck admits receiving the child, but declares she gave it to another woman, who took it to Georgia. In the meantime Mrs. Peck says, a child had been born to her.

"It is My Baby!" But the doughty little woman who recently left the sunny shores of Italy for the "promised land" only to step into her present difficulty, refutes Mrs. Peck's story.

"She has not sent my baby away," says Mrs. Mattio. "It is my baby she says was born to her."

On the other hand, Mrs. Peck emphatically denies Mrs. Mattio's statement and declares she will fight to the utmost for the custody of the child. And that's that.

The story begins in the early summer. Mrs. Mattio comes to America and then to Washington. A few days later a baby is born, but Mrs. Mattio is unable to care for it. So, on advice of friends,

Salem police announced this afternoon that a complaint, charging reckless driving, will issue against Dale Alter, of this city, following an accident this morning in which an automobile, said to have been driven by Alter, skidded about 100 feet on south High street, and rammed its way through a hedge onto the front of Paul Johnson, Salem merchant.

The front wheel of the automobile was broken, officers said, and the Johnson hedge was badly smashed down. The car was said to have been moving north on High street when the accident occurred.

Two Suspects In Portland Shooting Case Are Arrested

Portland, Ore., March 4.—Two more suspects were taken into custody today by the police investigating the shooting Thursday night of Miss Williamene Fuller, choir girl at St. Stephens cathedral. Luther Shields, 20, and B. D. Martin, 21, who were picked up by detectives for questioning, admitted knowing Elmer W. Weatherford, who is being held because he is alleged to have made a remark indicating he knew who did the shooting.

Miss Fuller was reported returning well at a hospital and her early recovery was expected unless complications develop.

Fletcher to Seek Election to Lower House Once More

D. E. Fletcher of Independence wants to come back to his old seat in the lower house of the state legislature. In his formal declaration as a candidate for the republican nomination for representative from Polk county, filed with Secretary of State Koser today, Fletcher declares his readiness to "render honest and conservative service for my district and state."

In his slogan he declares: "No interest to serve but the people's interest."

Mr. and Mrs. George Waters returned last night from a month's trip to California. They went as far south as San Diego.

14 DIE IN AUTO BUS ACCIDENT

Jitney Trying To Beat Train Over Crossing Smashed When Fast Express Hits It

Cleveland, Ohio, March 4.—The death of George E. McGee today brought the toll from the collision between a New York Central passenger train and an automobile bus at Painesville late last night up to fourteen. Five persons are seriously injured, three expected to die.

A coroner's inquest will be held at Painesville this afternoon. City officials at Painesville and officials of the New York Central railroad started an investigation this morning.

Three of the dead were found on the locomotive pilot when the train, in charge of Engineer F. S. Fernandez of Buffalo and Conductor C. Ernst was brought from its 60-mile an hour pace to a halt about three blocks from the scene of the collision.

Gas Tank Explodes. Most of those killed had left a dance hall in Painesville less than half an hour before the crash, while several others had attended a lodge meeting.

An explosion of the gasoline tank of the machine set fire to the debris and several bodies were badly burned. The bus, which was operated between Painesville and Fairport, was making its last trip for the night. A. W. Barnes, crossing watchman, declared he flagged the driver. A declaration by Chester Parrish, manager of the bus line, that a large oil tank obstructed Driver Adams' view of the watchman's lantern and the approaching train, was discounted by Carl Sullivan, one of the injured.

"I saw the train before we reached the tracks," Sullivan said. "We had stopped to take on two passengers just south of the railroad or we would have been across."

"People near me screamed as the engine came on. I saw the driver reach down and pull something. I don't know whether it speeded us up or slowed us down."

Lloyd-George May Retire To Head New Party

London, March 4.—What was regarded in political circles as seemingly a plain intimation of the early resignation of Prime Minister Lloyd-George with an endeavor to form a new national centrist party out of the moderate conservatives and coalition liberals was given by Winston Spencer Churchill, secretary for the colonies, in his address at Loughborough this afternoon.

This party, as Mr. Churchill described it in the reports of his speech received here, would be "liberal," progressive and pacific in its outlook, at home and abroad, and resolute also to uphold and maintain the traditions of the state and the power and unity of the empire.

Idaho Tossers Leave To Enter National Meet

Moscow, Idaho, Mar. 4.—Canceling the second game of its series with Washington State college, scheduled for tonight, the University of Idaho basketball team left here this afternoon for Indianapolis, to enter the national intercollegiate basketball tournament March 9, 10 and 11.

Coach David McMillan was accompanied by nine men, Captain R. Fox, forward; A. Fox, forward; Oswald Thompson, center; Harold Telford, guard; William Garlin, guard; Percy Steiner, guard; A. D. Nelson, substitute center; Harvey Edwards, guard; Henry Canine, substitute forward.

(Continued on Page Three.)