

WHY WEATHER BUREAUS TOP HIGH BUILDINGS

To the Editor:—A few days ago in removing some old newspapers, my notice was attracted to an article appearing in a copy of the Journal published during the recent cold spell, having to do with the apparent variation in daily temperature between Salem and Portland.

As an ex attaché of the United States weather bureau and a former student of meteorology, I trust I may be pardoned for a few comments on the subject, not as a means of criticism, but merely to point out the reasons for the general location of thermometers used by the bureau on top of tall buildings and which is the general practice.

Location of Instruments At the time I was attached to the station at Milwaukee, Wisconsin, our instruments were located on the roof of the Mitchell building, one of the tallest buildings in that city and in nearest proximity to Lake Michigan, from which a clear sweep of the wind was apparent during many days each month.

The weather bureau thermometers, which are tested for accuracy and read to the tenth of a degree, corrections applied for any instrumental error were found by comparison with an accurate instrument in the instrument division at Washington, D. C., so far as the accuracy of the instruments is concerned, they are considered very accurate, and records therefrom are accepted officially. There is a very wide variation in the readings of ordinary thermometers used by private individuals, and readings therefrom should not be accepted as accurate.

Reasons For Locations As regards the apparent variation in temperature between this point and Portland, permit me to say that the Government instruments are located in an instrument shelter, provided with slats for the free passage of the air and they are protected from the sun's rays and any upward movement of artificial heat from any nearby source, where such heat would possibly affect the thermometers.

If a number of thermometers were located near the ground surface in various parts of a large city, there would be a wide variation of readings of what we call the minimum thermometer, that which records the lowest temperature. This thermometer containing spirits of alcohol, a small metal index rests at the head of the alcohol column. As the temperature falls the alcohol "shrinks" or falls toward the bulb. The metal index is adhesive to the alcohol column, so to speak, and is drawn downward also. When the temperature again rises, the alcohol rises in the tube and flows past the index, leaving it in the position to which it was drawn, thus indicating the minimum temperature during the day.

At Salem we are of course located in a valley and farther from the ocean's influence than points north and northwest, of course, but a comparatively few miles farther than Portland, but while here the usual valley temperatures prevail, that is, the colder air always settles in a valley and rises in the high lands. The section about Portland while not influenced by a greater elevation than to the south thereof, comes more within the influence of a vast area covered by water which does not freeze during our coldest weather, thus its influence naturally is felt, and more so the closer we approach its shores. The heat received by the water surface warms it but slightly, for convection currents are set up everywhere the same warmth, and the heat is transferred by means of these currents to cooler portions of the water. Heat is also imparted by the water surface to the air, and is radiated outward into space as from a land surface, although more feebly, because the surface of the water is cooler; but the amount of heat returned to the air by reflection from the water surface is a very important part of the whole amount communicated to the air.



JAMES RENNIE. DOROTHY GISH. LILLIAN GISH

Lillian and Dorothy Gish, cinema luminaries, have their jewels at last, but the fancy memory displayed by James Rennie, actor-husband of Dorothy, cost him \$12,500 for his failure to declare to New York customs officials jewelry which the Gish family had purchased in Italy. The goods were seized and Rennie secured them, after six weeks, so that the film actresses could wear them for Christmas, only upon payment of a check for the amount of duty demanded. "I clean forgot about declaring them," he explained.

Contributions to this column must be plainly written on one side of paper only, limited to 200 words in length and signed with the name of the writer. Articles not meeting these specifications will be rejected.

Open Forum I am more than pleased to see we have one paper in this city that stands for right, liberty and justice in this country, something that is slipping from us very fast. Why all this intolerance? In the world growing full of fanatics? Why not let people alone so long as they do not infringe on you? But no it seems to me there is a certain force everyone to do as they wish, regardless of right, liberty or justice.

There is only one kind of law enforcement now—all others are insignificant. Autos kill more people in one year than all the liquor ever killed in ten years and still go on killing with very little attention paid to it, but let some poor man have a little liquor on his person which has hurt no one and which he had had a right for all these centuries, he is given a \$500 fine and six months in jail for the most heinous crime on earth, but the speed fiend can do his 40 or 50, endangering people's lives, he gets a \$5 or \$10 fine, and seldom that.

Why don't the liquor fanatics and Governor Pierce fine him \$500 and six months in jail? I'll tell you why. Because there would be no political job in it for them. It is not justice they want, it is office and to be on the popular side.

No wonder crime is on the increase. Where are all our empty jails, asylums, prisons and smaller police force we were promised? Just the reverse has taken place and taxes have continued to climb until they have become unbearable. I remember when Salem had two policemen and one night man; when there was a dozen saloons and everything wide open, and not half the crime we have now. What is the matter? Enact a few more fanatical laws and take what little liberty there is left from the people and we will have to double our police force, asylums and prisons.

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Capital Journal Want Ads PAY They Bring Results

Advertisement for Musterole featuring a cartoon character and text: "Musterole Will Not Blister. Better than a mustard plaster." Includes a list of ailments it treats like colds, coughs, and rheumatism.

SALEM DEFEATS CORVALLIS BY SCORE 29 TO 18

Salem took another win last night when they defeated the Corvallis basketball team on the local floor by a score of 29 to 18. The game was one of the fastest played on the local floor this year with the winner in doubt until the last quarter when Salem hit their stride.

Ellis hit the basket in the first few minutes of play followed with two points gained from free throws at the end of the first quarter the score stood 7 to 2, but in the second quarter Corvallis started ringing long shots and the crowd that packed the gymnasium to the ceiling was kept at high pitch with one side in the lead only to have the other come back and tie it. The half ended 11 to 11, but Corvallis committed a foul which Ashby converted and the score was 12 to 11. In the second half the scoring was about even, but in the last quarter Salem garnered point after point and ran the score to 29 to 13 when Huntington sent in several substitutes. The substitutes were unable to score but they held the visitors down to five points.

Heenan and Ellis starred for the locals while Gault, Tippery and Rawlings starred for Corvallis. A preliminary game between the high school second team and the United States National bank ended in a victory for the high school by a score of 16 to 11. The score at the end of the first half stood 11 to 7 in favor of the seconds. Tonight Salem will go to Silverton to meet the high school team there. The game last year was a

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