

United Press Association.
Full Leased Wire Report
The only paper in a city the
size of Medford having a
leased wire.

MEDFORD MAIL TRIBUNE

THE WEATHER.
Tonight and Friday—
clear. Wednesday—High 56,
low 39, range 46.

FOURTH YEAR.

MEDFORD, OREGON, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 23, 1909.

No. 237.

NEWRULER TO LEOPOLD'S DEFENSE

Albert Takes Oath of Office and Becomes King of the Belgians — Defends Leo- pold's Course in Congo and Says Work Will Go On.

BRUSSELS, Dec. 23.—Prince Albert became the king of Belgium today.

The oath was administered in parliament hall today in the presence of the Belgian ministry, Prince Albert's wife, the Princesses Stephanie and Clementine and scores of foreign diplomats, including the American minister, Lane.

Albert became king of the Belgians from the moment the oath was administered, in view of the fact that the official ceremony does not include a coronation.

In his inaugural speech Albert attempted to defend the government and the late King Leopold from the world's attacks because of the course Belgium has pursued in the Congo.

"We will continue Belgium's policy of humanity and justice in the future colonization of the Congo. We have great work to perform there, and we will give it our best administrative ability," the new monarch declared.

MISSISSIPPI SENATOR PASSES LAST GREAT DIVIDE

JACKSON, Miss., Dec. 23.—There is much discussion here today as to the probable successor of Senator A. J. McLaurin of Mississippi, who died suddenly last evening at his home in Brandon.

McLaurin's term in the senate will expire in 1913. One of the most prominently mentioned candidates for McLaurin's toga is John Sharp Williams, who already has been named to succeed Senator Money, whose term expires in 1911. In the event that Williams is named to serve McLaurin's uncompleted term, it will be necessary for him to resign to assume his own senatorship in 1911, and another man chosen to fill McLaurin's place until 1913.

WANT QUALITY IN CHILDREN, NOT QUANTITY

SPOKANE, Wash., Dec. 23.—"There are already too many children in the world. What we want now is quality and not quantity. Parents should be taught the responsibility of bringing children into the world and then, when they have been taught that nine-tenths of the babies born every year are nothing more or less than human culls, I believe the birth rate will decrease and we shall have a better and stronger race."

This from Mrs. Helen La Reine Baker, the richest woman in Spokane, also suffragist, reformer, philanthropist, humanitarian and apostle of brotherly love, known throughout the northwest as "the Little Mother of Unfortunate Children."

BELIEVING WIFE DEAD BUT GETS DIVORCE ANYWAY

SPOKANE, Wn., Dec. 23.—Despite the fact that he believes his wife is dead, having heard that she had drowned at sea, Arthur Simpson is taking no chances of her reappearing and yesterday obtained a divorce from Judge Hinkle in the supreme court.

Simpson resorted to this step so that he would be free in the event of the reports of her drowning were untrue and she should appear to claim the children.

According to Simpson he left his wife in England because she was negligent of the children and came to America, leaving one child with Mrs. Simpson and bring two to America. When he learned from friends she had put the child in an asylum he sent for it.

BLUEFIELDS ONE GREAT HOSPITAL

Detachments of Revolution- ists Pursuing Remnants of Zelaya's Forces — Zelaya Plans to Flee Country for His Life—Many Wounded.

(By William Deverall, Staff Correspondent of the United Press.)

BLUEFIELDS, Nicaragua, Dec. 23.—(By wireless to Colon.)—Detachments of revolutionists under Generals Chamorro, Mena, Fornas, Diaz, Matuy and Pacheco today are pursuing the remnants of the government forces who escaped capture following the engagements at Rama and Recero last Monday and Tuesday.

They expect to come upon the fugitives near Chile, according to messages from the fighting district today, where the final battle of the Rama probably will be fought.

Messages Censored.
The exact status of the situation at the front is impossible to obtain today owing to the fact that the revolutionists control telegraph lines and have established a strict censorship of messages.

While the Zelayan defeat at Rama was decisive, it was learned today that the former president still has a large loyal force in the field. The insurgent army, however, is better equipped and is far superior in numbers, and the annihilation or surrender of the remnants of the Zelayan army is predicted here.

City a Hospital.
This city is a great hospital today. More than 300 wounded have been brought in from the fighting zone and placed in the wards that have been established here. Captain Shipley of the United States cruiser Des Moines, who superintended the establishment of the hospitals and detailed a detachment of marines to guard them, is being loudly praised by the people of Bluefields for his prompt action.

Added to the wounded several hundred captured Zelayans were brought into Bluefields. Many of them are ragged and half-starved. They confirm the assertion that they were on half rations for many days and were unable to withstand the attacks of the insurgents in the recent two days' fighting.

Zelaya Ready to Flee.
MANAGUA, Nicaragua, Dec. 23.—Disheartened by the defeat of his soldiers at Rama and Recero, former President Zelaya is reported today to be contemplating flight from the country. The only thing that is deterring him, it is said, is the fear that he would be captured by the American marines. It is intimated that a plan has been adopted whereby the former president will be transferred to the Mexican warship Guerrero, now lying in the harbor of Corinto. In this event, it is thought that there will be little probability of interference on the part of the Americans.

The plans also contemplate 100 rooms in the hotel, electric elevators and every appliance that goes toward the first-class hotel. The grill room will be in the basement and will be fitted in the most modern style. The theater annex will face 75 feet on Main street at the eastern end of the building, and will be 100 feet deep. The plans contemplate seating capacity for 1000 people on the orchestra and balcony floors. No gallery will be installed at first, but provision made for its later installation.

The contract for the excavation calls for its completion by February 1 and the construction will commence as soon thereafter as possible. The material for the facing of the hotel will probably be of imported faced brick and the building will be one of the handsomest in the city.

"I expect to have the building completed in July," said Dr. Page, "at the latest. I do not propose to allow

things to lag once I get started. I have finally decided to put up this building and no not intend to tolerate any delay."

Believe Systematic Plot Formed to Smuggle Chinese

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 23.—A systematic plot to smuggle Chinese into the country through this port is hinted at in an official report of Commissioner of Immigration Hart H. North, who investigated the recent escape of eight Chinese stowaways from the steamer Ogolia. As the result of the report Hart Hawkins, and James Hale, immigration employes, face charges of inefficiency and incompetency, and the government officials have commenced an investigation of what they believe is a ring of Asiatics and Caucasians who are involved in a scheme to evade the exclusion laws.

The Louvre cafe open all the time.

PRESIDENT LOUIS W. HILL, BRIDGE CONNECTING TWIN CITIES AND THE SEATTLE WATER FRONT.



No strike during the last twenty-five years in the great northwest has resulted in such a complete paralysis of business as that now being carried on by the switchmen of the thirteen railroads connecting St. Paul with the Pacific coast. Every line of industry dependent on the movement of supplies is seriously affected, and the territory between the Twin Cities and the Seattle water front is suffering from business stagnation. Added to the difficulty of obtaining necessary supplies in the prospect of a coal famine. Mills and factories are closing, and there are already more than 12,000 men idle. Although Louis W. Hill, president of the Great Northern, admits that a general strike would be a national disaster, he declares that it is impossible for the railroad interests to bring about a peaceful solution of the problem.

PLANS HOTEL AND THEATRE

Dr. Page Is to Erect Three- Story Hotel Building With Theater Annex.

The old buildings which had stood on the property at the corner of Riverside and Main since the city was started having been removed, the work of excavating started, Dr. F. C. Page has announced that he is to erect a three-story hotel building with a theater annex and a basement underneath, and will be 225x100 feet. The building will have a frontage of 225 feet on Main street and 100 on Riverside.

The lobby of the hotel will be at the corner of Main and Riverside and the plans include five commodious store rooms on the ground floor.

The plans also contemplate 100 rooms in the hotel, electric elevators and every appliance that goes toward the first-class hotel. The grill room will be in the basement and will be fitted in the most modern style. The theater annex will face 75 feet on Main street at the eastern end of the building, and will be 100 feet deep. The plans contemplate seating capacity for 1000 people on the orchestra and balcony floors. No gallery will be installed at first, but provision made for its later installation.

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The Louvre cafe open all the time.

SWITCHMEN AGAIN WALK OUT; MINES FORCED TO CLOSE

BUTTE, Mont., Dec. 23.—Following a threat made by the miners' union to report every man taken returned to work on the Great Northern and Northern Pacific the switchmen walked out today.

Several of the mines have suspended operations and owners declare it will be necessary to close more unless the strike is settled soon.

ROAD BRINGS GREATER STIR

Work During Fair Weather Goes Ahead Rapidly—In Butte Falls in Spring.

With the past two weeks of fine weather work has been rushed on the Pacific & Eastern and gratifying progress has been made. The camps are growing as men who declined to work in the rain are returning to their jobs.

Early in the spring, probably in April, the road will be completed to Butte Falls and traffic opened. The right of way has been cleared the entire distance.

Rock work has progressed splendidly and this is the heaviest work to be done on the line. The track has already been lowered six feet in the cut beyond Eagle Point.

As a result of the rapid extension of the road great activity is being displayed in regard to land in the vicinity of Eagle Point. Buyers are on the ground every day and much property is changing hands. The Pacific & Eastern is proving a great stimulant in the section through which it is passing.

The Louvre cafe open all the time.

WARRINER PLEADS GUILTY TO STEALING FROM ROAD

CINCINNATI, O., Dec. 23.—Charles Warriner, who confessed to stealing \$160,000 from the Big Four railroad while he was its local treasurer, today pleaded guilty to an indictment charging him with the theft of \$5000. He was sentenced by Judge Woodman to serve five years in the Ohio penitentiary.

The Louvre cafe open all the time.

CHRISTMAS TRADE IS GOOD

While Trade Was Not Up to Expectations During First Two Weeks, It is Now All That Can Be Desired — Throngs of Shoppers.

While the Christmas trade was rather disappointing to Medford merchants during the first two weeks in December, the past week has been fully up to their expectations. Throngs of Xmas shoppers have flocked the streets daily for several days past and the rush will culminate tomorrow night in one grand rush to conclude the Xmas buying. Everywhere the Christmas spirit pervades. Every store is fittingly decorated, some of them being elaborately fitted and others, while less attention has been paid to details, portray the spirit of the season.

All of this week the stores have been open in the evening, which has been demanded by the large amount of trading being done. Medford is a city of happy homes—poverty is almost unknown, and it is a safe venture to assert that every little heart will be made happy Saturday.

And the time before Christmas is getting very short, shorter than the breath of old Father Time, as he climbs up the hill to the jumping-off place, from which he falls head-first into a New Year.

After today but one more sun will shine before it dawns Christmas morning. Tonight do some of your shopping. Get it over with.

"Do ye mind that?" as Mike would say. As the vernacular hath it: "It is time to get a move on."

LARGEST U. S. WARSHIP SUCCESSFULLY LAUNCHED

CAMDEN, N. J., Dec. 23.—The Utah, the largest vessel in the navy, was successfully launched today. Miss Mary Spry, daughter of Governor Spry of Utah, christened the great ship, as it slid down the ways. Governor Spry, his wife and a party of fifteen prominent Utah people were present at the launching.

LOS ANGELES BAPTISTS WANT J. WHITCOMB BROUGHER

LOS ANGELES, Dec. 23.—An answer is expected today from the Rev. Dr. J. Whitcomb Brougher of Portland, Oregon, whom by unanimous vote the congregation of the Temple Baptist church last night invited to become its pastor to take the place left vacant by Rev. Robert J. Burdett, the preacher-humorist, who was compelled to resign recently on account of ill-health.

A telegram was sent to Dr. Brougher notifying him of the action of the congregation and requesting an affirmative reply.

FIRE DESTROYS HOTEL AT JUNCTION, IDAHO

JUNCTION, Idaho, Dec. 23.—Fire destroyed the Junction hotel here, and for a time threatened to spread to adjoining frame buildings. The explosion of a gasoline tank in the hotel was responsible for the blaze. The damage is estimated at \$10,000.

WENT TO BUY CANDY FOR BOY; CAME BACK, HE'S DEAD

SPOKANE, Wn., Dec. 23.—When Mrs. J. B. Berridge, living in Hill-yard, a Spokane suburb, returned to her home after a trip to the city to buy candy for her 3-year-old son Jimmy, she could find no trace of the baby.

Searching the house was futile, until the mother looked into the wash boiler, where she found him dead. The little fellow had climbed over the edge during her absence and drowned in ten six or seven gallons of water the boiler contained.

RAH, RAH BOYS PLEASE LOCAL MUSIC LOVERS

Oregon Glee Club Appears at Opera House and Give Pleasing Entertainment.

Before a typical college setting, with banners, mottoes and colors galore, yellow and green predominating, the Rah Rah boys of the University of Oregon appeared at the Medford opera house Wednesday evening and, like Tennyson's knight, "charmed alike ye fair gentle women and ye fellow knights." The evening was most pleasant the university boys giving a very creditable production.

COMPANY TO ERECT NEW BLOCK

Medford Building Company Incorporated, Which Will Erect New Structure on the Corner of Riverside and Main Streets.

The Medford Building Company was incorporated Wednesday with a nominal capital and a directorate comprised of some of the strongest financial men on the coast, for the purpose of building business blocks in Medford. The first structure to be erected will be a four story building and basement on the corner of Riverside and Main streets, on the lot formerly owned by J. M. Root, which has been purchased by the new company.

Officers of the new concern are J. M. Root, president; W. J. Hotchkiss of San Francisco, vice president; J. E. Enyart, secretary and treasurer and W. L. Vawter and A. B. Hill of San Francisco, directors with the officers.

Mr. Hotchkiss is president and manager of the Hobb Wall Company of Crescent City, owners of an immense redwood timber belt, is also president of the Independent Canning company, operating five large canneries in California, and a power in finance. Mr. Hill is a wealthy California capitalist and the interesting of these men in Medford means a great deal for the future of the community.

The building to be erected at Riverside and Main streets will be four stories in height with a complete basement. It will consist of store rooms on the first floor with offices above and cost from \$75,000 to \$100,000, modern in every respect. Construction will begin in the spring.

Quite a boom in Riverside avenue property is on. Joe Brown, the "man who sells dirt," has been busy buying dirt for some mysterious party whose name he refuses to divulge, and he has secured a large frontage along Riverside from Main street north and along East Main. Rumor has that he is buying for J. R. Allen. Another rumor is that he represents Mr. Hotchkiss, and still another that he is making his purchases in the interest of a local syndicate.

BUILDING COST \$100,000; IS SOLD FOR ABOUT \$3000

SACRAMENTO, Cal., Dec. 23.—A little more than \$3000 was turned into the county's coffers today, the proceeds from the sale at auction of the court house and hall of records, once the capitol of California. The building cost \$100,000.

New county buildings will be erected on the site of the structure when its buyer removes it. More than half a million dollars will be spent on a new county jail and a new county court house.

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