

THE WEATHER
Cloudy tonight and tomorrow.
The Message of the Flags.
White—Fair weather.
Blue—Rain or snow.
White and blue—Local showers.
Black triangular—Above white, warmer; below white, colder.
White with black center—Cold.

You Will be Boosting Well When You Mail a Friend a New Year Edition

MEDFORD MAIL TRIBUNE

NEW YEAR'S EDITION.
The Mail Tribune will issue a special edition on New Year's day—a summary of the growth and development of the Rogue River valley and Medford during 1910. Get your orders in

FIFTH YEAR.

MEDFORD, OREGON, WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 21, 1910.

NO. 233

EXPLOSION DEALS DEATH TO 289 MEN

ENGLISH MINE IS FURNACE

Only Eleven Men Out of Three Hundred at Work Escape—Explosion Jams Cages and Demolishes Ventilators—Only One Chance for Any of Men to Have Escaped Alive.

MANCHESTER, England, Dec. 21.—Two hundred and eighty-nine out of 300 working men in the Little Hulton company's Pretoria mine, near Leigh, are believed to have been killed in an explosion and fire that has turned the workings into a veritable blast furnace. Twenty bodies have been rescued and 11 men have been rescued alive. The explosion was terrific and it is believed that its force and the fire which burst out almost immediately afterward have demolished the interior workings.

The only men who escaped were leaving the mine just as the accident occurred.

Heartrending scenes are being enacted about the pit mouth. Only with the greatest difficulty can the relatives and friends of the victims be restrained from hurling themselves into the burning shaft.

The explosion jammed the cages and interfered with the ventilating apparatus, thus rendering rescue work almost out of the question.

The cause of the disaster has not been determined. Mine officials hope that some of the men may have escaped to a gallery which is now burning and walled themselves in. This, it is believed, is the only chance that any one in the mine has escaped death.

R. P. NEIL NEW ASHLAND MAYOR

Mrs. Francis Butler Is Elected Member of Park Commission—Joseph G. Hurt Is Elected to Fill Captain Eggleston's Place.

ASHLAND, Ore., Dec. 21.—The city election yesterday resulted in the election of R. P. Neil for mayor having no opposition. The town voted dry.

The only fight of the day was for city recorder, Joseph G. Hurt winning with a majority of 89 over W. H. Gillis and C. D. Schell, his two opponents.

George G. Ewbank was re-elected city treasurer over H. F. Pohland by 300 votes.

Mrs. Frances Butler was elected a member of the park commission.

For the city council the following were chosen:
First ward, George Irwin.
Second ward, G. H. Billings.
Third ward—W. C. Fauderson.

TORTURED MAN FOUND BURNED AND FROZEN

NEW YORK, Dec. 21.—With his body from ankles to neck a mass of fur and his face and feet frost-bitten, Edward Dillisher of Scranton, Pa., is lying in the hospital at North Hudson, N. J., today in a serious condition. Dillisher, absolutely stripped of clothing, ran into the barroom of a small hotel in Granton, N. J., last night and fell unconscious to the floor. When he revived momentarily he was only able to tell his name and moment weakly:
"Burned in fire by men."

Dillisher then relapsed into unconsciousness and later became delirious. He will probably die.

Dillisher was able to say that he lived at 16 Harrison street in Scranton.

NEW WORLD'S RECORD FOR AEROPLANE FLIGHT

CHALONS, France, Dec. 21.—A new world's record for a non-stop passenger-carrying aeroplane flight was made here today when Lieutenant Commau of the French army aviation corps, accompanied by Captain Hugon, flew 145 miles without alighting.

The flight was made at the order of the minister of war and is an official record. The start was made from Chalons and the aviators flew to Montigny Sur-Aube, 72½ miles away, the turning point. Counting deviations from the course, the aeroplane really covered more than 145 miles, although that is the record with which it will be credited.

\$2,000,000 FIRE IN CINCINNATI; TWO ARE KILLED

Fire Breaks Out in Factory—Falling Wall Kills Boy and Firemen—Buildings Destroyed Stand Near County Jail.

CINCINNATI, O., Dec. 21.—A fireman and a spectator were killed and ten firemen severely hurt in a fire today that did \$2,000,000 damage. The killed and injured were caught under the falling walls of the Krippendorf-O'Neill shoe company's factory. Two engine companies were buried under tons of debris.

The fire broke out early today in the Krippendorf factory. The flames spread rapidly. The Krippendorf building and the factory of the Taylor-Poole Leather company were completely destroyed and eight other factories heavily damaged.

Big crowds gathered to watch the conflagration. They were repeatedly driven back by the police and warned of the danger of falling walls.

The engines were standing at a corner near the Krippendorf factory. The firemen were carrying a hose to the building when the walls swayed and crashed outward. The spectators who saw the first sign of the collapse shouted to the firemen and endeavored to crowd back out of the way. One boy, however, was struck by the falling mass of brick and lumber and crushed to death.

The debris fell squarely upon the firemen, who could not leap out of danger. The other companies rushed to the aid of their comrades and removed them from the wreckage. One man was dead and three others were severely injured.

The buildings that burned were in the neighborhood of the county jail. When the Krippendorf building collapsed the crash started a panic in the cellhouse and the prisoners were removed to the courthouse, where they were held under guard.

The buildings that burned were in the neighborhood of the county jail. When the Krippendorf building collapsed the crash started a panic in the cellhouse and the prisoners were removed to the courthouse, where they were held under guard.

The buildings that burned were in the neighborhood of the county jail. When the Krippendorf building collapsed the crash started a panic in the cellhouse and the prisoners were removed to the courthouse, where they were held under guard.

MAN SAVED FROM GALLOWS BY PRESIDENT

WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 21.—Answering a mother's plea, President Taft today commuted to life imprisonment the death sentence imposed upon John Wayne, who was to have been hanged for the murder of A. J. McKinnon, shipmate on the United States transport Rosserans. Wayne had developed a dislike for McKinnon and in November, 1908, at Honolulu, while intoxicated, he saw McKinnon asleep and crushed in his enemy's head with a hammer.

The commutation, in the president's handwriting, states:
"Where the purpose to kill was formed in a drunken brain, the intoxicated condition rebuts the inference of the premeditation necessary for murder in the first degree."

Wayne, advised when you need "help" financial or human.

SELECTION OF SITE MOST REMOTE

Supervising Architect in Washington Says That Delay is Due to Large Number of Sites to Be Chosen in Various Parts of the Country—Will Be Some Time to Wait Yet.

According to a dispatch received by the Mail Tribune from its Washington correspondent, it will yet be some time before the identity of the site selected for the new local federal building will be made known. The office of the supervising architect has given out this information in regard to the matter and says that on account of the large number of other sites in different parts of the country the matter will be delayed for some time, this city having to await its turn.

Further information from the office of the supervising architect is to the effect that there are some 272 similar matters to be taken up before the local decision is to be rendered. The government at present has many federal buildings, improvements and plans under consideration. For all of which appropriations have been made. These include not only postoffice sites and postoffice buildings, but other federal matters, such as harbor and river improvements of a certain class, custom houses, etc.

GEORGE, REX, MAY CREATE PEERS

Situation in England Grows More Acute—Secret Conference Is Held Between King and Premier on the Veto Question.

LONDON, Dec. 21.—A secret conference today between King George and Premier Asquith gave rise to the belief that the king has decided to create a sufficient number of liberal peers to outvote the conservative on legislation to deprive the house of lords of its power of veto.

There was no concealment of the fact that the conference was upon the veto question, but no other information was given out. It is probable that there will be no definite announcement of the king's plans until his majesty addresses parliament when it convenes.

PLAYS IN LOS ANGELES ARE TO BE CENSURED

LOS ANGELES, Cal., Dec. 21.—Every play staged in a Los Angeles theater must be subjected to the criticism of a board of municipal censors, according to plans being considered today by Prosecuting Attorney Guy Eddie. Public demand that a play at a local house this week be passed upon by the guardians of the city's morals was resented by the managers of the playhouse. Eddie partially pacified them by announcing that in all probability even the most modest plays, including those draped in the longest skirts, will be trimmed by the critics for the benefit of the city's youth.

COMMERCIAL CLUB MEETS TONIGHT

Every member of the Commercial club is urged to be present tonight. Business of importance must be transacted.

SEVERE SNOW STORM SWEEPS MIDDLE WEST

DENVER, Colo., Dec. 21.—A severe snow storm, extending from Northern Nebraska to Southern Kansas and from the middle of Kansas to the continental divide, is raging today. Telephone and telegraph companies report considerable wire trouble and trains are delayed. The storm, the first of the winter season, is moving eastward.

The storm follows zero weather which has prevailed for the past week. Much suffering is reported from many of the cities. A large number of the poorer classes in Chicago remained in bed all day in order to keep warm.

ASK PHYSICAL VALUATION OF ALL RAILROADS

Report of Interstate Commerce Commission Submitted to Congress—Report Says Fight Against Discrimination Is by No Means Won

WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 21.—The physical valuation of railroads is demanded in the report of the interstate commerce commission submitted today to congress.

The report refers to "the well-known fact that no court, commission, accountant or financial writer would for a moment consider that the present balance sheet in the statement purporting to give 'cost of property' suggests even remotely or in a reliable measure either the money invested or the present value of the railroads."

The report asserts that the most important feature of the new railroad regulation law is the provision authorizing the interstate commerce commission to suspend proposed increases in rates pending investigation.

"The fight against discrimination, continues the report, 'is by no means won. There are practices remaining which are more insidious and more difficult of extirpation than open rebating, because the hidden contractual arrangements are entirely legal except for the effect produced.'"

According to the report, the operating revenues of the railroads for July, August and September were \$745,134,294, an increase of \$42,000,000 over the revenues for the corresponding quarter in 1909. Expenses for the same period were \$489,699,378, an increase of about \$50,000,000.

The number of passengers killed during the year ending June 30, 1910, was 459; injured, 15,515; employees killed, 3418; employees injured, 68,925.

Mail Box Fire.

LOS ANGELES, Cal., Dec. 21.—The Postal authorities here are investigating the mysterious firing of a mail box in one of the residential sections of the city. They believe the blaze was started by some person desiring to destroy a letter known to be in the box. The fire was discovered by a postman, who believes it was started by dropping a lighted match through the letter slot. None of the contents of the box is believed to have been destroyed.

HUGO KELLY TO CLAIM MIDDLEWEIGHT HONORS

BOSTON, Mass., Dec. 21.—Hugo Kelly will claim the title of middleweight champion of the world. He brags his claim not so much on Stanley Ketchel's statement shortly before his death, that he intended to retire in favor of Kelly, as on his showing against Frank Klaus in their bout here last night. Kelly said today that he will fight anybody that can make the middleweight limit.

Boston fans agree that Kelly has improved wonderfully. Those who saw the fight last night say that Kelly was all over his opponent and beat him all the way. The fight was voted the fastest 12 rounds seen here in a long time.

\$250 DAILY STAMPS SOLD

Great Christmas Rush Is On—Over \$2000 Is Dispatched in Money Orders Each Day—Express Office Is Busy—All Stores Report Great Ruush by Shoppers.

Stamp sales averaging \$250 a day, the issuing of over \$2500 worth of money orders a day and the payment of orders amounting to more than \$1000 a day, indicates the volume of Christmas business which is being transacted in Medford at the local postoffice. However, with the nearer approach of Christmas the dispatching of gifts is falling off. The work from now until Sunday will be chiefly distribution of heavy mail.

Not alone in the postoffice is the Xmas business heavy. In every store in the city the Christmas rush is reported heavier than ever before in the history of the city.

The express office has been doing a record business for the past week and has been busy sending express money orders over the United States which will bring good cheer on Christmas day to many.

Grand Jury Adjourns.

LOS ANGELES, Cal., Dec. 21.—The special grand jury investigating the Times dynamiting case will not meet again until January 5. At the conclusion of its session last evening the jury was informed that it would not be called together again until that date.

COUNCIL MEETS THIS AFTERNOON

Routine Business Transacted Last Evening—Other Matters Will Be Disposed of at Daylight Session to Be Held Today.

The city council met in regular session Tuesday night and transacted only routine business. The bills against the city were paid and the \$21,000 improvement contract with the Clark-Henry company was signed. The council adjourned until 2 o'clock Thursday afternoon, at which time the election call and the charter amendments will be brought up and disposed of.

There was but little business transacted, the session being a short one.

An ordinance for water mains on Elm and West Main streets was passed.

The bid of the Clark-Henry company for \$21,000 for Medford street paving bonds was accepted and the council adjourned to meet at 2 o'clock Thursday afternoon, at which time charter amendments will be taken up and submitted to the general city election.

\$250,000 WORTH OF XMAS PRESENTS BURN

CHICAGO, Ill., Dec. 21.—Christmas gifts valued at \$250,000 were destroyed today in a wreck on the Pennsylvania railroad, when a passenger train and a west-bound freight collided in the yards on the west side here. When the train met the boiler of the passenger engine exploded, setting fire to a car.

After the fire had been extinguished a police guard was thrown about the debris, while laborers shovelled the ashes of the car into cans. Systematic sifting of the ashes began and diamonds and jewelry were recovered.

The engineer of the passenger locomotive was probably fatally scalded.

TO TELL WORLD OF MATCHLESS ROGUE CLIMATE

Every Envelope Now Leaving Commercial Club Has Stamped Upon It Nature of Weather—Statistics Show Climate Is Great Asset.

Manager Malboen of the Medford Commercial club is planning to concentrate his publicity efforts for the next few months upon climatic conditions as they prevail in the Rogue River valley. He has compiled statistics for several years, which show a remarkable state of climatic conditions. For instance, the average minimum and maximum temperatures for the different months, based on the past ten years' reports show:

	Min.	Max.	Avg.
January	30	45	37.5
February	32	50	41
March	34	56	45
April	37	64	50.5
May	43	70	56.5
June	48	77	62.5
July	53	86	68.5
August	53	87	70
September	47	78	62.5
October	41	66	53.5
November	36	53	44.5
December	31	45	38

The remarkable fact about these figures is the steady increase from January to July and then the decrease until January.

The average rainfall is 28.08 inches, distributed as follows: through the year: January, 4.81 inches; February, 4.32; March, 2.77; April, 1.29; May, 1.74; June, 1.02; July, .19; August, .44; September, .96; October, 1.77; November, 4.09; December, 4.68.

In discussing the matter, Mr. Malboen says:

"I do not think that even our own people, or at least many of them, really appreciate the superb qualities of our climate, or what it actually means in advertising value to Medford and the whole of Jackson county. Compare conditions as they are today in Medford, in what can be properly regarded as mid-season, with the frozen and blizzard-swept eastern states, and it will be easily understood why the Commercial club is getting scores of inquiries every week upon that point alone.

"I also feel we have been a little backward in making a specialty of our climate as one of the paramount features of our great resources. No one in Medford, merchant or individual, should ever miss the opportunity of placing the climatic figures before his friends or business connections throughout the United States. This is to be the regular policy of the Commercial club in future, and the statistics will be reproduced upon our letterheads, as well as in all of our literature, and in addition to this we will stamp upon every envelope leaving our hands, beginning tomorrow, the temperature and other climatic conditions of the previous day.

"The effect of this information

RAILROAD STRIKE MAY COME SOON

Grand Chief Engineer Says Matter Will Be Settled Within the Next 24 Hours—Railroad Men Say There Is No Hope of Arbitration Now, as Neither Side Will Give In.

CHICAGO, Ill., Dec. 21.—Whether the 35,500 engineers employed on the 61 western railroads, now conferring with the general managers here, shall strike will be decided within the next 24 hours, according to Warren S. Stone, grand chief of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers.

"We will not strike before night," Saone said today, "but we will not tolerate further delay. There must be short, sharp, decisive action."

Charles P. Neill, commissioner of labor, who is now here endeavoring to arbitrate the questions at issue, held a long conference with the general managers of the lines affected this morning. During the afternoon he was scheduled to confer with Grand Chief Stone. It is on the result of this conference that the engineers' action is expected to be based.

The conference began here December 12. Since then the representatives of the engineers and the general managers have been negotiating, and according to the railroad men today they are no nearer a settlement than they were when it was first announced that more than 95 per cent of the engineers had voted to strike unless an increase of 17 per cent in wages was granted.

"Unless Commissioner Neill is able to report something definite to me this afternoon," continued Stone, "we are going to act. The delay is intolerable. The best the railroads have offered us so far is an advance of 9½ per cent. This, of course, was refused. At the other offers the roads have made in regard to the questions at issue also have been rejected."

The advisory board of the Brotherhood of Engineers has been hastily summoned to Chicago, and following the declaration of Stone that "decisive action" is to be taken, it is believed that the engineers are planning to take a firm stand.

"I am doing what I can to prevent the trouble," said Commissioner Neill before his conference with the managers today. "I cannot at this time discuss the passage of the negotiations."

Some of the members of the advisory board arrived today and the remainder, it is said, will be here in time for a night session. The railroad representatives are not worried apparently by this move.

"Stone is just bluffing," said one of the railroad officials. "He does not intend to order any strike."

CAVE-IN ON SALT LAKE ROADS KILL

SAN BERNARDINO, Cal., One man is dead and five are suffering from injuries received in a cave-in on a branch of the Salt Lake road at Meadow valley. G. McCarthy was killed instantly. The injured are: R. E. Smalley, E. J. Wilson, H. Campbell and J. Gustus.

Adequate advertising—Frank informing, factual, frequent—being a part of a store's service to you, it follows that a good store is necessarily a well advertised store.

upon the minds of the eastern people is hard to conceive. Looking at the situation from the standpoint of commercial value alone, I regard the climate as worth not less than 1000 to every acre in Jackson county, and our succeeding generations will confirm this."