

FORECAST  
Tonight and tomorrow,  
fair.

# MEDFORD MAIL TRIBUNE

WEATHER  
Maximum yesterday, 41;  
Minimum today, 32.

MEDFORD, OREGON, SATURDAY, JANUARY 6, 1917

NO. 245

## BOND BUYERS REFUSE TO BID ON CITY BONDS

If Medynski Plan Carries, It Will Probably Be Impossible to Sell Refunding Bonds to Maintain City Credit—Letters From Bond Houses Give Sound Advice in Matter.

If the Medynski plan carries, it will probably be impossible to sell the \$50,000 refunding bonds, advertised by the city, to take up the refunding bonds due April 1, 1917. The bonding houses have all refused to bid upon these bonds, pending the outcome of the election Tuesday. These refusals are on file at the city recorder's office in response to requests for bids.

A sample reply is that from the Merchants Trust and Savings Bank of St. Paul, Minn., which reads as follows, dated St. Paul, January 1.

City Recorder, Medford, Ore.

Dear Sir:

"It may be of interest to you to know that we are not going to bid on your bonds for the reason that you expect to vote on January 9, on the issuance of from \$700,000 to \$920,000 special assessment refunding bonds.

"With an assessed valuation of a little over \$4,000,000 your city has accumulated an indebtedness of over \$1,200,000, the larger portion of which you intend to incur by refunding with bonds. Special assessment securities should be paid by taxes levied against the benefited property and not thrown into your general fund and assumed by the city as a whole.

"We mention the above merely from our desire to suggest where possible to municipalities, like your own, the best methods of financing their improvements, and at the same time explaining to them certain actions, which make their securities undesirable to the average financial house.

"Trusting that you will not think us impertinent, we remain,

"Yours Truly

"A. C. DENT,  
"Manager Bond Dept."

## VILLA REPULSED BY CARRANZISTS JIMINEZ BATTLE

EL PASO, Tex., Jan. 6.—An official report of the battle of Jiminez was received here today by Carranza Consul Bravo from General Francisco Murguía, commander of the north-eastern military zone. The report was dated "Military Headquarters, Jiminez, Chihuahua, January 5," and reads in translation as follows:

"My advance guards came in contact with those of the enemy and a general engagement followed, covering a field of more than eight kilometers. The enemy divided into three columns and started the attack with its left flank, consisting of about 1000 men. Because of the rapidity of this movement and my opposing column, in command of Colonel Salinas, being greatly reduced in numbers, I sent my staff to attack the enemy's right flank.

"This movement enabled us to establish a firing base and also served to check the enemy long enough to permit Colonel Salinas' cavalry to be reinforced by the fourth brigade, under the command of Pablo Gonzales, the cavalry forces of General Carlos Ojuna, and Colonel Elpidio Rodriguez. We compelled the enemy, after a severe encounter, to retire to its base on the mesa where the Villa forces were driven off by the eighth corps. The pursuit of the enemy was then taken up by the cavalry.

"While this phase of the battle was in progress the enemy, with more than 1500 men, charged with great force against the infantry lines located along the railroad. This movement was directed in person by Francisco Villa. We repulsed the Villa column and the attacks of their cavalry were overcome and the cavalry driven back."

## Medford Will Lead All Oregon Cities for Debt if the Medynski Scheme Carries

SHOWING INDEBTEDNESS OF OREGON CITIES AS COMPARED WITH MEDFORD IF MEDYNSKI SCHEME PASSES

City	Relative size of Medford's debt if Medynski bond scheme passes, with that of other cities.	Relative size of per capita indebtedness of Medford (if Medynski scheme carries) with other cities.	Per Capita Debt.	Population.
Medford	\$1,689,500		\$188	9,000
Eugene	1,333,530		111	12,000
Salem	1,133,562		75	15,000
Astoria	816,300		81	10,000
Baker	652,800		92	7,000
La Grande	598,000		119	5,000
Ashland	550,000		91	6,000
Klamath Falls	419,709		105	4,000
Grants Pass	410,812		102	4,000
Roseburg	311,655		62	5,000
Albany	306,119		61	5,000
The Dalles	243,500		48	5,000

If the Medynski bonding and bankruptcy scheme carries, Medford will have a greater indebtedness by far than any city in Oregon outside Portland, a greater debt than the other four cities of southern Oregon—Roseburg, Grants Pass, Ashland and Klamath Falls combined, a greater debt than Roseburg and Eugene combined, a greater debt than Salem, The Dalles and Albany combined, a greater debt than Baker, La Grande, The Dalles and Roseburg combined.

If the Medynski bonding scheme carries, the per capita debt for every man, woman and child in Medford will be \$188—a greater per capita indebtedness by far than in any other city in Oregon—greater than that of Salem and Grants Pass put together.

And this colossal debt, with 150 per cent additional in interest, must be paid by direct taxation upon the real and personal property in Medford, if the Medynski scheme carries.

What kind of a handicap is this to place upon the city?

## DANIELS ASKS AID IN CHECKING OIL LAND GRAB

Secretary of Navy Appeals to Senate Committee to Defeat Claimants Seeking Leases on Navy Reserve—Ships Need It for Future Supply—Rights Not Enforceable.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 6.—Secretary Daniels appealed today to Chairman Tillman of the senate naval committee to defeat the compromise legislation to give claimants leases on the navy petroleum fuel reserve in California and Wyoming. He also sent a statement of the navy's objections to Senator Pittman, chairman of a sub-committee which framed the compromise. The department of justice holds many of the claims are fraudulent and the navy maintains the safety of the nation will be imperiled by the loss of fuel.

"Every capital ship and every destroyer is now designed to burn oil and oil only," Secretary Daniels wrote Senator Tillman, "and the features of the design are such that it is impossible to return to the use of coal. The speed of our destroyers and battle cruisers would be impossible of attainment with anything but oil.

"It is therefore of the highest importance to the nation that the oil in these lands be reserved for the use of the navy. We do not want the value of the oil, but we want to preserve the oil so that we may be assured of a supply for our ships, and if we are to be placed in such a position of inferiority as we would be if forced to abandon the use of oil, the condition would be one of national humiliation."

To Senator Pittman, Secretary Daniels wrote: "I am advised that many of the claimants have no rights enforceable in any court of law or equity, and that they maintain possession in most cases by force or intimidation. These men are now asking congress to give them, at the cost of naval efficiency (which means at the cost of the national security) that to which they have no legal or equitable claim, and it is my understanding that this proposed remedial legislation is calculated to accomplish that result.

## FOOD DICTATOR IS APPOINTED IN GREECE

LONDON, Jan. 6.—The Greek council of ministers has approved a restriction of the daily rations and the appointment of a food dictator, says an Exchange Telegraph company dispatch from Athens today.

Arrest of persons accused of sedition, which had ceased for several days, has been begun again, the dispatch adds.

## WILL DRIVE OUT INVESTORS SAYS J. A. WESTERLUND

To the People of Medford: I have been a resident of Medford for 12 years. During that time I have planted and brought into bearing the largest commercial orchard in the county. Also, I have acquired property in Medford and have erected buildings thereon. This money was invested because of my faith in the future of the city, and I am now expending \$7,000 more in improvements.

I believe for the people of the city of Medford to adopt the Medynski plan would be disastrously calamitous. I have paid all of my paying assessments. This is a time when every citizen of Medford should put patriotism for his home city above selfish purposes.

I have been instrumental in bringing many people to Medford and the valley and secured the investment of considerable money within its corporate limits, but if the Medynski plan should be adopted, no sane or thoughtful citizen would consider locating in a city so tax ridden as Medford inevitably must be under the Medynski plan.

The Hanson plan is the only business-like plan to adopt.

J. A. WESTERLUND.

## MASKED ROBBERS SECURE \$10,000

PITTSBURG, Pa., Jan. 6.—Three masked highwaymen today held up an express messenger at Tarantum near here and robbed him of \$10,000, the payroll of the Placuss Glass company. The money had been sent from here by rail and upon its receipt at Tarantum was transferred to an automobile though still in charge of the messenger. As the machine was passing through the residence part of the village it was sidetracked by a large touring car and stopped. A man with a handkerchief over his face sprang on the running board and pointing a revolver at the express messenger ordered him to hand out the money. He then demanded the magneto key of the automobile and with his revolver still covering the messenger and chauffeur backed to his own machine in which were two other men. They drove away.

BERLIN, Jan. 6.—The Russians brought up reinforcements and renewed their attacks yesterday on the northern end of the Russo-Galician front, near the Gulf of Riga, it is announced officially. They entered German positions east of the River An, but elsewhere were repulsed. In a counter attack, the Germans took 900 prisoners and several machine guns.

## RUSSIAN PORT BRAILCAPTURED BY MACKENSON

In Addition to Main Danube Port, Five Other Towns in Rumania Are Taken by Teutonic Troops, Which Have Reached Sereth River at Two Points—All of Dobrudja Occupied.

BERLIN, Jan. 6.—Bavarian and Austro-Hungarian troops yesterday stormed Russian defenses on an extended front south of the Trstus valley, near the Moldavian frontier, the war office announces.

In addition to Braila, the capture of which was announced last night, five more towns in Rumania have been taken by the Teutonic troops, which have reached the Sereth river at two points. New operations have been inaugurated in Dobrudja, following the expulsion of the last of the Russians and Rumanians.

The capture of Braila by Field Marshal Von Mackensen, his advance on Galatz, twelve miles north, and the clearing of Dobrudja of Russians and further Teutonic successes in Moldavia have brought the Rumanian campaign to a new phase.

Defense of Danube.

The Braila bridgehead, while not itself an integral part of the Sereth line now held by the Russians running northwestward from the Danube toward the Moldavian frontier mountains, formed an outlying defense of that line on the Danube end and its capture weakens the eastern flank of the Sereth position.

Galatz, likewise on the Danube, lies just behind the Sereth line, and that town now is menaced by a Germano-Bulgarian movement across the Danube from it in Dobrudja, made possible by the capture of Braila.

(Continued on Page Five.)

## MEDYNSKI PLAN SPELLS DISASTER STATE PIONEERS

To the People of Medford: As among the pioneer merchants of the city of Medford, it has been a matter of pride with us to live in a city that has in the last quarter of a century increased in population from one to ten thousand. During all those years we have been willing taxpayers and have at all times endeavored to keep faith in public matters with the people of our adopted city. We have been and are paying our assessments from time to time.

## NO PEACE TERMS SENT PRESIDENT

LONDON, Jan. 6.—The Berlin newspapers Lokal Anzeiger and Vossische Zeitung as quoted by the Copenhagen correspondent of the Exchange Telegraph company, state that any peace terms of the central powers which may have been placed in the hands of President Wilson did not come from official sources. Furthermore, the newspapers state, it is not the intention to give such terms to the president. Germany, they say, is ready to lay her terms on the table at a peace conference.

## STOCK TICKERS INVESTIGATED IN LEAK PROBE

Wall Street Newspaper Men Summoned—Telegraph Companies to Bring All Dispatches—Lansing and Tammuly to Appear Voluntarily on Monday.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 6.—At today's hearing on Representative Wood's resolution for investigation of whether there was a stock market leak on President Wilson's peace note, the trend turned to investigation of Wall street ticker services, which supply news "tips" to brokerage houses.

Seven men employed by the Wall Street Journal and Central News of America, which furnished service to another Wall street newspaper, Financial America, were subpoenaed and instructed to bring their records with them.

Managers of the two telegraph companies were also subpoenaed to bring all dispatches sent to the two papers by their Washington correspondents on December 29, the day of the market crash.

Representative Harrison, democrat, of the committee, declared he believed the so-called leak was through the representatives of those two publications, who with several newspaper men had been informed confidentially by Secretary Lansing that morning that a note had been dispatched to Europe. Mr. Lansing, however, at that time declared the note did not concern peace, and would not discuss its contents.

Representative Gardner of Massachusetts put into the record today a dispatch sent out over the Dow Jones and company ticker forecasting a peace note ten hours before the note was published. He declared that records of stock market fluctuations at the same time when compared with the ticker dispatches, would prove that there was a leak.

Mr. Gardner said he placed both Secretary Lansing and Secretary Tammuly entirely above suspicion.

## PERMIT FORD TO CONSTRUCT SMELTER

DETROIT, Jan. 6.—Henry Ford, president of the Ford Motor company, was today allowed to proceed with the construction of a \$12,000,000 smelter on the Detroit river, near this city. The three circuit judges presiding at the injunction suit brought against Ford by the Dodge brothers, accepted a bond of \$30,000,000 to secure the Dodes from any possible losses.

## MEDYNSKI PLAN IS BANKRUPTCY SAYS CROWELL

Veteran Banker Regards Passage of Proposed Medynski Plan as Calamitous—Legal Tangle Certain—Running in Debt Will Not Get Us Out of Debt or Improve Credit.

"The Medynski plan spells bankruptcy for Medford," states W. S. Crowell, founder of the First National bank and well known as a banker and financial expert. "Its adoption will be calamitous for the future of the city." Continuing Mr. Crowell said:

"I shall vote against the Medynski plan because:

"It will increase our present burdensome city debt nearly \$500,000.

"It will make the city pay in thirty years for interest alone, on the Medynski bonds \$927,000, or \$27,000 more than the street improvement debt was at the beginning.

"It will make taxation so excessive that it will drive away investors, make property in Medford undesirable, and amount in many cases to confiscation.

Is First Mortgage.

"A bonded debt of the city is a first mortgage upon every man's home, which may prevent him from raising a little loan on his house and lot to assist himself with if he desires to do so.

"The percentage of our city debt is already larger than that of any other city in Oregon.

"The adoption of the Medynski plan will make us the butt of ridicule for every intelligent man of every city and every financial institution in Oregon, and wherever else the fact of its adoption is made known.

"Whenever we travel abroad and inform anyone where we reside, the remark will be:

"Oh! you live in that crazy town of Medford, where they get rich by running deeper in debt."

Legal Tangle Certain.

"The plan will be fought through the courts, and a long delay in the final settlement of our street improvement debt will be the result and in the meantime our finances, already tangled, will be involved in greater confusion. A bond issue of \$30,000 failed due April first, there will be no money to meet it and the city's credit will go to smash.

"To save the city's credit, during this period of protracted litigation, a millage tax of 8 mills will have to be levied annually to pay the interest upon the present outstanding improvement bonds, until their unknown period arrives when all the vexing questions growing out of the Medynski folly shall have been finally settled.

"Running in debt will not get us out of debt or improve our credit.

"The Medynski plan carried to its last analysis would compel the city to assume and repay all the debts which all its citizens have ever paid to everybody for anything.

"The logical result of such a course would be financial ruin.

"Every one who has the best interests of the city at heart, and their own interests as well, should vote against the Medynski plan and for the Hanson plan."

## FEDERAL PROSECUTOR FOR LIQUOR CASES

SEATTLE, Wash., Jan. 6.—United States District Attorney Clay Allen said today that he had asked the attorney general of the United States to appoint a special prosecutor in the so-called whiskey cases, involving violation of the federal liquor laws. Mr. Allen said:

"A special prosecutor is desirable because the investigation is of such importance that even a hint of personal partiality cannot be allowed to enter the case so far as the government is concerned. A special prosecutor would free the case from any such possible criticism."

The United States grand jury will reconvene next Tuesday.