

**MEDFORD MAIL TRIBUNE**  
 AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER  
 PUBLISHED EVERY AFTERNOON  
 EXCEPT SUNDAY BY THE  
 MEDFORD PRINTING CO.  
 Office Mail Tribune Building, 25-27-29  
 North Fir street; telephone 74.  
 The Democratic Times, the Medford  
 Mail, the Medford Tribune, the Southern  
 Oregonian, the Astorian Tribune.  
 GEORGE PUTNAM, Editor  
**SUBSCRIPTION RATES:**  
 One year, by mail, \$5.00  
 One month, by mail, .50  
 Per month, delivered by carrier to  
 Medford, Phoenix, Jacksonville  
 and Central Point, .50  
 Saturday only, by mail, per year, 1.50  
 Weekly, per year, 1.50  
 Official Paper of the City of Medford.  
 Official Paper of Jackson County.  
 Entered as second-class matter at  
 Medford, Oregon, under the act of March  
 3, 1879.  
 Sworn Circulation for 1916—2491  
 Full leased wire Associated Press dis-  
 patches.

**TO SHUT OFF PUBLICITY**

**F**OLLOWING the efforts to repeal the delinquent tax publication bill by the Portland Journal, in its petty spite efforts to disrupt the newspaper publishing business of the state, a bill has been introduced (senate bill 121) permitting county courts to cease publication of the proceedings of county courts.

This measure would effectually shut off publicity regarding expenditures of county funds and the taxpayer would have no method of keeping tab upon county expenditures save by personal inspection of records. With the wholesome check of publicity removed, an unscrupulous court could squander funds unbeknown to the public.

Not less publicity, but more publicity in public affairs is the cure for misgovernment. The officials themselves should desire it—for concealment creates rumors and scandal. As a matter of fact, and in the intent of the law, not only the monthly list of bills allowed, but a brief synopsis of the orders of the court, should be printed as a matter of public record.

It costs the county from \$15 to \$20 a month to print the county expenditures in the Mail Tribune, which give to the public information it is entitled to. Cessation of publicity would not be half as serious to the newspaper as to court and public. Extortion is not justified on the part of newspapers, but the present law provides ample safeguards.

**BONDS SHOULD BE 5 PER CENT**

**I**N the opinion of the Mail Tribune, the proposed refunding bonds to be issued to take up the outstanding improvement bonds, as provided under the Hanson plan adopted at the last general election, should bear interest at 5 per cent, instead of 6 per cent, as carried by the outstanding bonds.

These bonds will provide a very desirable investment, and under present conditions should find a market at par or at a slight premium. Improvement bonds are not generally considered as good an investment as general obligation bonds, but there is no reason why they should not be, backed by both the property and the city's credit. There is no instance on record of repudiation of such obligations.

It is true that 6 per cent has been the prevailing rate of interest upon improvement bonds, but money is more plentiful and cheaper in the eastern markets than ever before, and the demand for such securities greater, as shown by the premium paid for the 5 per cent general obligation bonds sold this month by the city.

Property owners who have paid up, or who may pay up, their improvement obligations will have their property exempt from the new lien. Those who have partially paid will have their property included only for the amount they are delinquent, and be given long time and easy payments to meet the obligation.

The satisfaction and content created by having the city's financial affairs equitably adjusted will go far towards restoring public confidence and re-establishing enterprise and progress along enduring lines.

**PAPER TRUST BUYS OREGON TIMBER LAND**

**MARSHFIELD, Ore., Jan. 27.**—With options already taken and others under negotiation, more than 100,000 acres of western Oregon timber, mostly spruce, is being rounded up for transfer to the International Pulp & Paper Co. of New York. The timber proposed to be sold to the great corporation is a basis for engaging in the paper-making industry on the Pacific coast is mostly in the Coast range of Douglas county, along the Umpqua and Smith rivers, with portions of the tracts extending over into Lane county on the north and Coos county on the south. It is all within reach of the Southern Pacific's new line to Coos Bay.

The options are said to have about a month yet to run and in the meantime the check cuttings are going on. Orin J. Gray of Portland, who is conducting negotiations for disposal of the Gardiner mill company's holdings on the Umpqua river to the International Pulp & Paper Co., last year bought considerable timber here for the Irvine interests at St. Paul, Minn. Apparently authentic information has come to light that the New York corporation has closed options on tracts of spruce timber in western Washington, which will take about \$4,000,000 to perfect titles of ownership.

**BINGHAM OUSTED AS SENATE CLERK**

**SALEM, Ore., Jan. 27.**—By a unanimous vote the senate yesterday afternoon passed a resolution denying Ben Bingham, of Eugene, the right to serve as clerk to his father, Senator Bingham, who is now in the east, and it is expected that this disposes of the controversy.

Early in the session the senate passed a resolution allowing each senator a clerk or stenographer. Shortly afterward it passed a resolution appointing Walter Griffin, of Eugene, a clerk to look after Lane county's interests during the absence of Senator Bingham. After that Bingham appointed his son and notified Secretary Obletz. The senate reached the conclusion that Lane county, but not Senator Bingham, was entitled to a clerk.

**CHAMBERLAIN CUTS OFF ROCKEFELLER GRAFT**

**WASHINGTON, Jan. 27.**—The senate late yesterday passed the legislative executive and judicial appropriation bill, carrying about \$30,000,000. Although the bill has been debated to days no roll call vote was demanded on its final passage.

Just before passing the measure the senate adopted an amendment proposed by Senator Chamberlain of Oregon, forbidding the payment of money by the government to officers in the federal bureau of education, receiving money from the Rockefeller and Carnegie foundations. He charged that several were paid large salaries by the foundations, drawing a nominal salary from the government, but getting the privilege of franking mail.

**BILL FORBIDS SALE OR SMOKING CIGARETTES**

**SALEM, Ore., Jan. 27.**—Sweeney of Josephine has introduced H. B. 248, prohibiting the manufacture or sale of cigarettes and the smoking of them in public places. This is the first anti-cigarette bill to come before this session of the house.

**RUMANS REGAIN GROUND, MOLDAVIA**

**JASSY, Rumania, Jan. 27.**—Rumanian troops in the last two weeks have made substantial progress in Moldavia, the war office announces. The following statement covering the period January 12-20 was issued here today:

"On the western frontier of Moldavia, up to and including the Otuz valley, there have been only infantry patrol actions."

"In the Kasino valley our troops attacked the enemy and in spite of severe cold and heavy snow succeeded after eleven hours of desperate fighting in driving him south of the Kasino and Sulinia valleys."

**WITHYCOMBE ADOPTS WEST'S PRISON POLICY**

**SALEM, Ore., Jan. 27.**—Reverting still more to the theories of the West (gubernatorial), Governor Withycombe now wants the warden of the prison and the parole officer removed from the parole board. More than that he desires that the minimum sentence, both as to first offenders and as to second and third term men, be eliminated from the punitive statutes of the state, so that the parole board will be empowered to grant parole to men confined in the penitentiary whenever the parole board shall determine that such action would be advisable without regard to length of service.

A bill reducing the membership of the parole board from five to three, was introduced in the house by Sheldon. The bill follows the recommendation of the governor, and provides that the parole board shall consist of three men, two of whom shall be appointed by the governor, while the third member shall be the private secretary to the governor.

**BELL-ANS**  
 Absolutely Removes  
 Indigestion. One package  
 proves it. 25c at all druggists.

**H. LANE WILSON QUILTS TAFT'S LEAGUE**

**INDIANAPOLIS, Jan. 27.**—Henry Lane Wilson, in a letter to William Howard Taft, president of the National Association of the League to Enforce Peace, today announced his resignation as president of the Indiana branch of the league. Mr. Wilson stated that his retirement is due to the belief that some of the leaders are trying to divert it from its original purpose and adopt as a program of action the plan for a world alliance put forward by President Wilson in his address to the United States senate this week.

"As the new doctrine announced by the president has not been rejected by those in authority in the League to Enforce Peace, and as there are indications of feverish activity in fashioning and forming the league's tendencies conformably with the program which the president has dramatically announced, I feel obliged to sever my connection with its affairs," said Mr. Wilson in his letter.

**COLD AND RAIN PREDICTED FOR WEEK**

**WASHINGTON, Jan. 27.**—Weather predictions for the week beginning Sunday, issued by the weather bureau today, are:

"Rocky mountain and plateau regions: Snow is probable over central and northern portions at frequent intervals. Fair over southern portions. Temperatures much below seasonal normal east and near normal west of divide."

"Pacific states: Temperatures below normal with frequent rains in Washington, Oregon and northern California. Generally fair in southern California."

**JOHN A. PERL**  
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**WAGE CAMPAIGN OF EDUCATION FOR PREPAREDNESS**

**WASHINGTON, Jan. 27.**—Various kinds of economic preparedness for a national crisis were discussed today before the Congress of Constructive Patriotism of the National Security League. A platform was prepared on which the league will wage a campaign for education to arouse national spirit, as well as for universal training and other military activities. A dinner tonight will close the meetings.

Representative Gardner of Massachusetts, speaking last night, protested against entrance of the United States into an international agreement to enforce peace on the ground that it would involve the country in European or Asiatic wars in which it had no interest.

"How should we have fared through this nation's history, if, instead of fighting our battles we had been asked to depend upon arbitration?" he asked. "We should be a colony of England today; Texas would still belong to Mexico; slavery unless arbitrated by Great Britain's order, might have lasted down to the present time and Cuba would even now be struggling under the domination of Spain."

Senator Borah of Idaho, had as his subject for an address "Patriotism Through Education."

**PLAN TO PUT L'CEASE ON TRADING STAMPS**

**SALEM, Ore., Jan. 27.**—Representative Langford of Multnomah has introduced a bill to provide for the licensing, taxing and regulation of trading stamps, coupons and certificates. It provides that the stamps shall be used only in cash trade. The companies introducing the stamps must have a capital of not less than \$25,000, and they are required to pay an annual license of \$500.

**SENATE KILLS BILL TO REDUCE WOMEN'S HOURS**

**SALEM, Ore., Jan. 27.**—The senate this morning killed by indefinite postponement, senate bill 78, by Gill, which reduced the maximum hours for employment of women in manufacturing, mechanical or mercantile establishments, laundry, hotel or office from 10 hours a day, or 60 hours in one week, to 48 hours in one week and provided that the law should be subject to the authority of the industrial welfare commission.

**SERVE-SELF GROCERY REDUCES THE HIGH COST OF LIVING**



**TOLEA, Kan., Jan. 25.**—The successful operation here of a grocery and provision market on a new plan has resulted in reducing the high cost of living.

The market is called the "basket store" and there is neither clerk, cashier nor deliveryman. The proprietor alone conducts the place.

Patrons are furnished a market basket free and admitted to aisles which wind between rows of shelves and tables loaded with groceries and provisions, through a turnstile.

Prices of goods are marked and as the patron passes along, he selects the articles he wants to buy.

All aisles lead to the exit turnstile where the proprietor, presiding at the cash register, checks the articles in

the patron's basket and collects the amount due.

By eliminating the credit and delivery system, clerks and cashiers, the owner says he reduces his selling cost and passes the saving on to the public.

Not only does the proprietor save in cost of operation, but he says he does a greater volume of business daily than under the old method.

**CAUCUS ENDORSES REVENUE MEASURES**

**WASHINGTON, Jan. 27.**—Backed by a caucus of house democrats, the new administration revenue bill intended to raise about \$248,000,000 to meet the government's military preparedness and other expenses, was ready today for presentation to the house. That probably will be done early next week. The caucus endorsed the bill last night by a vote of 113 to 13 after Majority Leader Kitchin had warned his colleagues of an extra session of congress unless the measure was enacted promptly and after an unsuccessful fight by several members against certain of its features. About a dozen members refused to pledge their support to the measure.

The general features of the bill have already been made public. It would raise needed revenues chiefly by an excess profits tax and an increased inheritance tax.

**SNOW BLOCKADES WYOMING TRAFFIC**

**CHEYENNE, Wyo., Jan. 27.**—While Union Pacific railroad officials and a heavy force were able to clear the line of that road of its snow blockade yesterday and to keep it clear until a fleet of eastbound trains were through the storm area, the snow and wind shut down on the lines before the waiting strings of westbound trains could get through and these still were waiting this morning for an opportunity to proceed.

The number of waiting trains was augmented during the night until now about a score of them are held at Medicine Bow until the line can be cleared at Wilcox. Some have been waiting 18 hours.

While the storm is making traffic difficult for a sixty mile stretch the worst is between Lookout and Medicine Bow. Wilcox, where the blockade is on, is 42 miles west of Laramie.

**COWBOYS CLASH WITH MEXICANS BUT NONE HURT**

**TUCSON, Ariz., Jan. 27.**—With reinforcements of Utah cavalry dispatched to the scene of the clash yesterday between American cowboys and Mexicans near the international border, forty miles south of here, fears for safety of Americans assembled at the Hogan ranch have been somewhat allayed. Reports last night said all Americans in that vicinity took refuge on the Arivaca Land and Cattle company property following the outbreak and that further trouble was believed to have been averted.

According to word received here, the trouble started when six American cowboys undertook to round up a herd of cattle on the American side. The Mexican band of twenty began firing and the cowboys returned the fire. Outnumbered they gradually withdrew northward and were reinforced by Utah cavalrymen. Later it was reported that another detachment of Utah guardsmen had been sent to the scene.

The Mexicans are said to have attacked in open formation, but soon their forces became scattered. No reports of American casualties have been received here. It is not known whether the Mexicans suffered any losses.

Early today it was believed that sufficient forces were on hand to control the situation, in the event of a further outbreak. It was said small mining camps in that vicinity were amply protected by employees.

**PRESIDENT CABLES KAISER CONGRATULATIONS**

**WASHINGTON, Jan. 27.**—President Wilson today cabled Emperor William formal congratulations on the 58th anniversary of his birth, as is the custom on the birthdays of all foreign sovereigns.

Secretary Lansing and his three chief assistants left their congratulations at the German embassy.



**How's This?**

We offer one Hundred Dollars reward for any man or woman who can be proved to have stolen a pair of shoes from the store of H. J. CHENEY & CO., Toledo, O.

We, the undersigned, have known H. J. CHENEY for the last 15 years and believe him perfectly honorable in all business transactions and financially able to carry out all obligations made by him.

NAT. BANK OF COMMERCE, Toledo, Ohio.

Hall's Catarrh Cure is taken internally, acting directly upon the blood and mucous surfaces of the system. Testimonials sent free. Price 75 cents per bottle, sold by all Druggists. Take Hall's Family Pills for constipation.

## The Electric Sign

Will Work for You from  
**SUNSET TO MIDNIGHT**

You quit selling goods at six o'clock (or thereabouts).  
 So do your clerks.  
 But the rent doesn't quit.  
 And your taxes don't quit.  
 Moreover, the people do not go to bed at six.

The electric sign and well-lighted show windows show people the way to your store and display and sell goods for you after six o'clock.

The very people you want to reach have no time to be on the street except evenings, and goods displayed in the show windows in the evening mean sales the next day.

You can use 25 ten-watt lamps in sign or show window for \$2.50 per month.

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