

The Weather

Maximum yesterday 56
Minimum today 38
Precipitation 24

MEDFORD MAIL TRIBUNE

Predictions

Probable rain.

Daily—Fourteenth Year.
Forty-ninth Year.

MEDFORD, OREGON, MONDAY, MARCH 22, 1920.

NO. 308

W. S. BENSON RESPONSIBLE STATES SIMS

Rear Admiral Sims Before Senate Committee Divulges Name of Official Who Told Him U. S. Would As Soon Fight England as Germany—Reluctant to Give Out Name But Committee Chairman Hale Insists.

WASHINGTON, Mar. 22.—Rear Admiral William S. Benson, then chief of naval operations, was the official who told Rear Admiral Sims "not to let the British pull the wool over your eyes; we would as soon fight them as the Germans."

Admiral Sims said he received his final instructions from Secretary Daniels preparatory to his departure for the United States into the war. He added, however, that it was not made in the course of formal instructions, but during a conversation in the office of Rear Admiral Palmer, chief of the bureau of navigation.

The witness told the committee that Admiral Benson repeated his admonition during a conversation the following day and that he made the same remark six months later in London.

Benson Anti-British
Admiral Sims said he did not pay particular attention to the statement at that time because he believed Admiral Benson was intensely anti-British.

"Then I will tell you the whole story," said Admiral Sims, "early in April 1917, I was ordered from my post at Newport to Washington. When I arrived I reported to the navy department by telephone and was told not to come to the department, but to get in touch with the chief of the bureau of navigation, Rear Admiral Leigh C. Palmer. Everything was very secret, the way they liked it. I could not get in touch with the chief of navigation then, and so I reported to him later at the department and then I had an interview with the secretary of the navy in his office. No one else was present, as I remember it. The interview was very brief. I was told that I was going abroad to confer with the allied admirals and that Ambassador Page had requested that an officer of high rank be sent there for that purpose. After leaving Secretary Daniels' office or just before going there I don't remember which, I went to the bureau of navigation. The admiral was there and it was at that time that the remark the chairman has asked me about was made."

"Whom do you refer to as the 'admiral?'" asked Chairman Hale.

Admiral Sims said he did not wish to indulge in personalities, but when pressed by Chairman Hale, he said he referred to Admiral Benson.

Reported to Daniels
Admiral Sims said he included Admiral Benson's remark in his letter to Secretary Daniels January 7, regarding the navy's part in the war because "if a man has a prejudice against men fighting along side of him it has an unconscious influence on him."

(Continued on Page Four)

FIRST GUN FIRED IN LONG HERALDED ATTACK BY BOLSHEVIKI ARMY

WARSAW, Mar. 22.—(By Associated Press.) Bolsheviki Friday and Saturday launched repeated attacks along various parts of the Polish front. These are considered by the military authorities to be preliminary to the long-heralded general spring offensive. The attacks were repulsed by the Poles, nine hundred bolsheviki being taken prisoner in the two days fighting.

Bolshevik officers who deserted to the Poles report that the soviet army is preparing for a general offensive in an effort to recapture Minsk, Rovno and Proskurov.

SECRET MURDER SOCIETIES RULE EMERALD ISLE

LONDON, Mar. 22.—Dispatches from Ireland show the murder of Thomas MacCurran, lord mayor of Cork, to have produced an intense, if subdued sensation throughout Ireland. This tragedy, says the London Times correspondent in Dublin, closed one of the blackest weeks since the rebellion of 1916. He gives a long list of outrages in various parts of the island, including five murders of policemen and others and an attempt to kill Professor Stockley of Cork.

The motive of the murder of the lord mayor continues as mysterious as ever. Among the theories advanced is one that MacCurran was murdered as a warning to others because he recently had the courage publicly to denigrate an attempt to murder a policeman in Cork.

London newspapers declare Ireland for the moment is largely under the domination of secret murder societies the members of which are sworn to kill those whom they believe to stand in their way.

It is remarked as a phenomenon that murder societies members after a while begin to be suspected of murdering each other. Existence of these supposed societies is declared possible owing to the "moral cowardice of the Irish public." The crimes the societies commit are repugnant to the better sort of Sinn Feiners, who, however, keep silence, fearing the consequences if they condemn assassinations, the papers say.

Even newspapers which support home rule, while condemning what they regard as the present evil system of Irish government, also denounce Irishmen themselves for condoning methods which, they say, are fast establishing a condition of anarchy and terrorism.

The anti-home rule Morning Post again attacks the government today and denounces Field Marshal French and James Ian MacPherson, saying:

"They are bringing about the hideous necessity of reconquering Ireland by force of arms, and 'civil war is within sight.'"

WASHINGTON, Mar. 22.—Helen Hamilton Gardner, first woman to be appointed to the commission, was born in Winchester, Va., 62 years ago, and has been prominent in suffrage work for years.

WASHINGTON, Mar. 22.—"America's navy will be equal to Great Britain in fighting power by 1924," Chairman Butler of the naval committee told the house today in defending the provision in the naval appropriation for continuing work on the eighteen capital ships now under construction.

"In the next four years," said Mr. Butler, "the United States will put out the most formidable armada the world has ever seen produced in a similar period."

In 1924, he continued, Great Britain will have sixty battleships, the United States, 47; France, 26; Japan 15 and Italy 13. While England will have more ships, he added, those of the United States will be about equal in power. Representative Mondell, the republican leader, said that considering foreign exchange values the \$425,000,000 total of the proposed American naval appropriation exceeded the British estimate for the year by \$100,000,000.

"For the first time in many years," he said, "the only naval establishment and program in the world at all comparative with ours is that of England. No other navy or naval program is of a size and strength even remotely approaching ours. In fact, since the practical wiping out of the German navy, all the remaining navies and naval programs of the world, exclusive of England, do not equal ours."

C. OF COMMERCE VOLUNTEERS GO OVER THE TOP

Barrage Starts at Sunrise Tuesday Morning—Forces in Action by Ten a. m.—Progress First Hour Promises to Be Sensational—Enthusiasm Is Shown on All Sides.

B. J. Palmer Beats Barrier
Chamber of Commerce membership No. 1 was received at 9:30 o'clock this morning from B. J. Palmer of 234 East Main street, just twenty-four and one-half hours ahead of the scheduled time for the enrollment of members. This is an honor, however, which Mr. Palmer did not plan for himself. Fearing that he would not be in the city tomorrow, and desiring to do his bit, he called at headquarters, tendered his check and Director Green a firm believer in "getting the getting while the getting is good" accepted the check in payment for membership dues.

The enrollment drive will not begin until 10 a. m., tomorrow.

With the heavy artillery set in place, the embankments thrown up, the ammunition dumps carefully protected and the morale of the field army one hundred per cent perfect, the Chamber of Commerce forces are



H. C. GARNETT Member of executive committee Chamber of Commerce.

resting on their arms today, awaiting the "zero hour" in the offensive for a Greater Medford, which is set for 10 o'clock tomorrow morning. The entire command from one end of the line to the other will wage five days relentless war fare on pessimism, shrewd prejudice and non-progressive civic drones.

At 10 a. m., the army of approximately 100 workers under command of two majors and eleven captains, will go "over the top" in the drive. No quarter will be asked and none will be given. It is a fight to the finish for the Medford of 1925—the Medford of tomorrow—and the support of every one is needed.

Division majors, team captains, and members of teams have been directed



A. L. HILL Member of executive committee Chamber of Commerce.

to report either at campaign headquarters at 9:45 a. m., and proceed from there to the public library where they will be photographed in a group at 10 o'clock sharp. Those who are not on hand at the appointed hour will not be in the picture, as the field army is to get into action promptly at 10 o'clock and will not tolerate any delays.

There is not the slightest shadow

(Continued on Page Six)

CUTS WIND PIPE AND JUGULAR VEIN, SUFFERS BUT FEW ILL EFFECTS

GREAT FALLS, Mont., Mar. 22.—Declared by attending physicians to have severed both jugular veins and his windpipe with a razor today, J. Wesley McClure of this city was declared to show few ill effects after the severed passages had been sewed together and a tube inserted. McClure is on parole from the state insane hospital.

MEDFORD WOMAN LEAVES CHILDREN AFTER ESCAPE

A married woman of Medford who deserted her husband and two young children last Wednesday, after she and another Medford woman had been in a joy riding escapade with two Portland traveling salesmen, became reconciled with her husband on her return to the city last Saturday night from Sacramento, and the family left Sunday for another part of the state.

The erring wife and mother returned to the city thru the efforts of Chief of Police Timothy, who had worked on the case since last Wednesday. The other woman was released into the custody of her father, and the two traveling men will probably be arrested on a state booze charge when they return to the city. Their joy ride taxi bill of \$25 is still unpaid.

The quartet started their joy ride Tuesday evening, which ended at about 3 a. m., Wednesday, during which much booze obtained at Ashland, was consumed. Wednesday forenoon the wife fearing discovery of the escapade by her husband and possible arrest, too, left her children, aged 3 and 6 years, with an acquaintance, drew \$470 out of the joint bank account of herself and husband, and pretended to go to the Sacred Heart hospital in a taxi on account of illness.

She dismissed the taxi at the hospital steps and after it had gone returned at once to the city and with the other woman left that night for Sacramento. The husband in the meantime arrived home, missed his wife, soon located the children where their mother had left them, and was told she was in the hospital. Inquiry quickly developed that the woman had not been at the hospital and he also soon learned about the money drawn from the bank.

The wife was worried about the situation here and wired back Friday from Sacramento to the woman the children had been left with about the children's care and asking if her husband "was on." The temporary caretaker of the children took the telegram to Chief Timothy who after consultation with the husband wired back in the caretaker's name the following message: "Have not wired husband. Come at once on account of the children. Important."

The worried wife and mother quickly wired back that she would be home Saturday evening. She and her woman companion were passengers on train 16 Saturday evening, got off at Ashland, came to Medford on the interurban and went home at once.

In the meantime the husband and Night Policeman Adams who were watching at the depot, when they saw that the two women had not arrived here on the trains from the south went to the erstwhile broken up home where the two women were found. The wife and mother still had \$400 of the \$470 she had drawn from the bank. The reconciliation followed and the family left yesterday for Klamath Falls.

EXCITED FLURRY STOCK EXCHANGE

NEW YORK, Mar. 22.—One of the most sensational movements in the recent history of the stock market took place during the early part of today's session. General Motors, which featured last week's bullish operations, added 29 points to its recent advances at the new high record of 109. This was followed within the first hour's active trading by a precipitate decline of 36 points.

The movement in General Motors which was apparently directed largely against the short interests, was marked by gains of 2 to 10 points in other stocks, notably Stutz Motor, which also made a new high record at 225.

RAISE PRICE OF GASOLINE IS EXPLAINED

Standard Oil Company of California Declares Increase Necessary to Increase Production and Conserve Supply on Coast—Otherwise Gas Goes East.

SAN FRANCISCO, Mar. 22.—The Standard Oil company of California, through its president, K. R. Kingsbury, in an open letter today addressed to the state railroad commission, defended its recent advance in fuel oil prices. "In the face that an increase of 25 cents a barrel would stimulate production and restore the balance between supply and demand."

The letter was issued as a result of an inquiry addressed to the oil company last week by the railroad commission asking why an increase was necessary. As many public utilities operate their plants with power obtained from fuel oil, the commission said it believed the public should know the reasons for the increase. The oil situation in California, which the company declares to be serious, is reviewed in detail in the company's letter, which points out "that an increase in price tends to conserve the use of fuel and to check the depletion of stocks. This is the only known remedy."

On the subject of gasoline, which the company says has an equal interest with that of fuel oil, the letter says:

Prevent Shipment
"Gasoline must be kept at a price level where it will not be shipped to other markets in quantities sufficient to deplete the California market. For example, at the present time gasoline is selling in New York at 28 1/2 cents a gallon wholesale. Previous to the recent advance here, it was selling at 19 1/2 cents per gallon wholesale, a difference of nine cents a gallon. The rail rate to New York is seven cents a gallon, and the water rate not to exceed four cents. Obviously unless a proper differential exists between the Pacific coast prices and the eastern prices, Pacific coast gasoline will be shipped east by wholesalers, jobbers and others and sold at a profit to the complete demoralization of the local market.

Gas Supply Short
"That the gasoline market is short may be illustrated by the fact that this company, to supply the requirements of its trade, several months ago purchased about 50,000,000 gallons of gasoline in the Mid-Continent field which the company is shipping to points customarily supplied from California.

"In this connection it may be noted that the price of gasoline has remained practically constant compared to the increased cost of other commodities. In July, 1919, the price of gasoline on this coast was increased one cent per gallon. This was the only advance that had been made since December, 1916, except an increase of half a cent a gallon, which was ordered in 1918 by the fuel administration to absorb the general freight increase throughout the country."

LATEST NEWS OF THE STATE

WASHINGTON, Mar. 22.—Victor G. Cozad of Oregon was renominated today by President Wilson to be register of the land office at Burns, Oregon.

PORTLAND, Ore., Mar. 22.—Frank Cusack, alien, said by local immigration authorities, to be one of the most desperate ringleaders in the Northwest, escaped from the Good Samaritan hospital here some time last night, it became known today. Cusack has been at the hospital, under guard, since his arrest here last January for possible deportation, when the local headquarters of the communist labor party were raided.

PORTLAND, Ore., Mar. 22.—A loss estimated at \$100,000 was suffered by the Portland Railway, Light and Power company here early today when one of its power sub-stations was completely destroyed by fire, said to have been due to the explosion of an oil switch. It is understood the loss is covered by insurance.

ORGANIZED LABOR WILL TRY TO BEAT SENATOR A. B. CUMMINS OF IOWA

WASHINGTON, Mar. 22.—Senator Cummins, republican, Iowa, is one of the members of congress organized labor will attempt to defeat in November, according to L. E. Sheppard, acting president of the Order of Railway Conductors, who is in Washington today attending the railway wage conference. Senator Cummins was the author of the anti-strike provision of the railroad bill which was thrown out in conference. Mr. Sheppard indicated that union officials were carefully studying the record of every member of congress with respect to his stand on this provision and other labor matters.

SCHOOL BOARD AGREES TO MEET WITH COMMITTEE

At the meeting of the citizens in the assembly room of the public library on Saturday last, where the sentiment favored immediate action in the matter of the public schools, as a compromise the resolution passed by the Parent-Teachers council and presented to the board of directors a week previous was enacted in preference to one of more drastic nature, the vote of 64 to 50 merely representing the majority that favored the arbitration measure. A committee composed of Mr. Hooper, Mr. Newman and Judge Colvig were appointed to present the resolution to the board of directors Monday morning. This committee presented the matter to the board and asked for a meeting with the board at the first opportunity, which request was granted with the further statement on the part of the board, that it was highly improbable that any outside teachers would be employed before such meeting and it was impossible for the board to consider the resolution today, but would meet with the committee in a day or two.

DANGER WAR SOUTH AMERICA REMOVED

BUENOS AIRES, Mar. 22.—Chile has replied to the United States' note asking the former country to "leave nothing undone to prevent a conflict between Peru and Bolivia," according to Santiago dispatches. Chile has no other desire than for peace, says the note which expresses full confidence that Bolivia will appreciate her duties in respect to foreigners domiciled in her territory.

The Peruvian charge d'affaires here, interviewed today by La Nacion said:

NEW YORK, Mar. 22.—Boxing promoters and enthusiasts assembled in New York to welcome Georges Carpentier, French pugilist, who with his bride, was a passenger on the steamship La Savoie, which arrived off this port early today. Carpentier will remain here five days and then will depart for the Pacific coast. During his stay in the United States it is expected he will sign a contract to meet Jack Dempsey.

SITUATION IN GERMANY CAN'T BE PAINTED TOO BLACK SAYS BERLIN

BERLIN, Mar. 21.—Conditions in Germany were described by the minister of defense this morning as extremely serious.

"You cannot paint the situation through Germany as too black," an official at the ministry declared to the correspondent after a survey of the reports that had come in during the night.

The situation in Berlin itself was characterized as "bad." In one case a company of volunteers had been overpowered by Spartacan forces, its officers killed and their bodies mutilated. The southern and eastern parts of Germany are reported quiet.

NEW PARTY, FIGHT DRY IS THREAT

Senator France, Republican of Maryland, Warns That Republican Liberals May Form New Party to Fight Espionage Act and National Prohibition in Effort to Restore Individual Liberty—Democrats Are Scored.

WASHINGTON, Mar. 22.—Warning that "republican liberals" might form a new political party to "fight bourbon autocracy" in an effort to restore individual liberty was sounded in the senate today by Senator France, republican, Maryland.

With repeal of national prohibition and the espionage act as the chief planks in its tentative platform, Senator France declared that liberals need not hesitate "to raise the battle against the reactionary forces of autocracy and un-American bourbonism."

"The democratic party, under autocratic leadership," he said, "ingloriously abandoned the sound doctrine of the sovereignty of the states, voted without scruple huge powers to the chief executive, who in violation of the constitution and of every cherished principle of liberty, created the most powerful despot in the world."

"If the republican party shall not now become the party of liberalism and of liberty," he declared, "then there must be a new and liberal party which shall express the aspirations of the millions of Americans who now demand restoration of their liberty and of their liberties."

WASHINGTON, Mar. 22.—A bill proposing a separate peace between the United States and Germany and Austria for the purpose of "peaceful commerce" was introduced today by Representative Britten, republican, Illinois. Creation of an European trade council to promote trade with Europe generally, was proposed.

STATE CONFERENCE SCHOOL SALARIES ALBANY MARCH 26

ALBANY, Mar. 22.—Action looking to a solution of the teachers' salary problems in Oregon is expected to be taken at a conference that has been called for March 26 in this city, when educational leaders from all parts of Oregon will consider plans by which the instructors may be paid a sufficient wage without working a hardship upon school patrons and taxpayers.

The Albany school board took the initiative in the movement, having sent out letters requesting the presence of representatives of the largest schools in Oregon at the conference. Back of the action of the Albany board is the request of teachers in the schools here for an increase in wages.

In view of the fact that other towns of the state had experienced similar agitation and that the teachers' salary question had developed into one of state-wide importance, the Albany board appointed a special committee with power to act in the matter of calling a state conference.