

Maximum yesterday.....40
 Minimum today.....39
 Precipitation......18

Rain.

Daily—Fifteenth Year.
Weekly—Fiftieth Year.

MEDFORD, OREGON, FRIDAY, DECEMBER 24, 1920

NO. 236

PRESIDENT IS SANTA CLAUS FOR DOMINGO

Wilson Announces Gradual Withdrawal of U. S. Troops as Christmas Present to the People of Santo Domingo—Commission of Natives to Govern—Review Made of U. S. Rule Over Island.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 24.—A proclamation announcing that "the government of the United States believes the time has arrived when it may inaugurate the simple processes of its rapid withdrawal from the responsibilities assumed in connection with the Dominican affairs," was issued at San Domingo today by Rear Admiral Thomas Snowden, naval governor, by direction of President Wilson.

The proclamation was in the nature of a Christmas gift to the Dominican people and presaged the withdrawal of American control over the affairs of the West Indian republic which began more than four years ago.

Admiral Snowden announced that a commission of representative Dominican citizens soon would be appointed with a technical adviser to be named by President Wilson to formulate amendments to the constitution, revise the laws of the republic and draft a new election law.

On the occasion of the Dominican republic by American marines began in November, 1915, the marine force being landed by Captain, now Rear Admiral Harry S. Knapp. This force was gradually increased and it now numbers 2,200 officers and men.

Control was continued throughout the war and for a time there was some fighting in the republic as the marines cleaned out bandits who had been making frequent raids on the cities.

History U. S. Rule. A statement issued by the state department said complete tranquility had existed for some time throughout the republic and that the people for the first time in many years had been enabled to devote themselves to peaceable occupations without fear of disturbance.

The fitness of the country, the statement continued, "have been placed on a stable basis, great improvements have been brought about in public works, particularly attention has been devoted to sanitation and public health, the educational system has been completely reorganized with the result that whereas there was a school attendance of about 18,000 pupils before the occupation, there are now 100,000 pupils attending school."

As the result of the American administration the gross revenue of the republic has increased from a total of some four millions of dollars in 1916 to a total of over seven millions and a half in 1919.

MEXICAN WHISKEY \$30 CASE, POURS OVER U. S. LINE FOR CHRISTMAS

EL PASO, Texas, Dec. 24.—Thirty dollars a case is the price Juarez bootleggers are quoting for Mexican whiskey delivered in El Paso homes for Christmas, according to an announcement today by W. W. Carpenter, collector of customs here.

The "trade" has been so heavy that county, state and federal officials have decided to combine their operations to check it, according to the collector.

Bootleggers from across the Rio Grande now are working in bands of eight or ten, heavily armed and prepared to give battle to protect their liquors, he added.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 24.—A gross deficiency in national fiscal transactions of \$2,100,000 this fiscal year and \$1,500,000 for the next fiscal year were forecast yesterday by Secretary Houston in testimony before the senate finance committee which is considering the soldiers' bonus bill.

The secretary said federal finances were in such shape that new sources of revenue must be found and no new burdens added to the treasury.

Secretary Houston said ordinary receipts this year should exceed ordinary expenditures by about \$800,000,000 and next year by about \$550,000,000, but that these sums would be inadequate to pay interest on the public debt of about \$1,200,000,000 annually.

The secretary said new sources of revenue must be found because excessive profits taxes and income taxes of higher groups were declining. He warned against "tampering" with the sinking fund arrangement for retiring the war debt, saying: "When we go tampering with the sinking fund, I believe we are gone."

DALLAS, Ore., Dec. 24.—A coroner's jury investigating the death of Mrs. Flora West, shot by her husband, George F. West, at the home of John G. Brown, in this city Monday, brought in a verdict that "Mrs. West came to her death as the result of two gunshot wounds inflicted by her husband, George F. West, and that the murder was premeditated." West is near death at a local hospital.

PORTLAND, Ore., Dec. 24.—The hearing by the Oregon public service commission on the application of the Pacific Telephone and Telegraph company for increase in rates has been adjourned to next month, subject to call. The city of Portland and representatives of other communities will be heard when the hearing is resumed.

OMAHA, Neb., Dec. 24.—A plan whereby employees of the Union Pacific railroad, the Oregon Short Line, and the Oregon-Washington Railroad and Navigation company may purchase common capital stock of the Union Pacific upon a partial payment basis, was announced here today at the office of the company's president, Carl Gray.

TAFT ASSURED HARDING WILL JOIN LEAGUE

Former President, After Conference With President-Elect, Announces Republican Course Will Be for World Peace.

MARION, Ohio, Dec. 24.—President-elect Harding turned to former President Taft today for counsel on the world peace problem and on practical details of organizing the next administration.

The conference was arranged at Mr. Harding's request and is understood to have concerned particularly the proposal for a new international court in which the former president has been interested for many years.

Mr. Taft was a supporter of the Versailles league but has taken the attitude that some different agency now must be organized to stabilize world conditions.

The coming of Mr. Taft revived speculation about his possible appointment to some high post under the coming administration.

Mr. Taft spent almost the entire forenoon in conference with the president-elect and issued this statement just before leaving Marion for Cincinnati:

"I am much encouraged to think that the senator is working out a practical solution for a world league which, while it may not be wholly satisfactory to the enthusiasts of either extreme of which I may be considered one, will satisfy those anxious to make progress and anxious to give the United States the leadership that it should have in guiding all the nations to permanent peace so far as that is practicable."

Mr. Taft asserted that the president-elect is in an "accommodating state of mind as to details and even important provisions, if the definite objectives he always has expressed to the methods and aims and obligations of a political and military character contained in the treaty of the league are obtained in this new government."

Additional demurrers have been filed by Attorney Gus Newbury in behalf of Quigley and Walker and more will follow for other defendants, it is said.

The court has them all under advisement, and it is now planned to hand down a decision thereon January 3.

There has been no word from Governor O'Leary on the petition of the citizens of Jacksonville for a special prosecutor, but a decision on this request is expected shortly after the first of the year.

PRESIDENT GIVES 3 XMAS PARDONS

WASHINGTON, Dec. 24.—Three pardons as President Wilson's Christmas gift to men serving sentences in Federal prisons were announced today by the department of justice. They were Clarence Brown, serving a life term for murder at Atlanta; Rufus Castlebury, serving a life term at Leavenworth and Edward C. Rivers, serving two years at the United States penitentiary at McNeil Island, Wash., for violation of the narcotic laws.

Commutation of sentence and extension of clemency have been granted in some fifty other federal cases.

CHAMBERLAIN HAS FIRST OPERATION

WASHINGTON, Dec. 24.—Senator Chamberlain of Oregon successfully underwent today the first of two operations necessitated by his condition. It was said at his office that attending physicians were satisfied with his progress expected to perform the second operation within two days.

MISSISSIPPI PIG IS CHAMPION BIRD DOG WITH UNERRING SCENT

NATCHEZ, Miss., Dec. 24.—Tucker Gibson, known as the champion big game hunter of Tensas parish, Louisiana claims he owns a pig which he uses in the capacity of a bird dog and which the pig makes perfect scents and never flushes a covey of birds.

Mr. Gibson said that soon after the birth of the pig, on the death of its mother, it was adopted by a pointer dog with a litter of pups and that the pig continued to associate with its foster brothers and sisters after it became well grown. He declared that the hunting proclivities of the pig were accidentally discovered the first time the young dogs were taken to the field, the pig accompanying the party and taking an animated part in the hunt.

CHRISTMAS MAIL 1920 GREATEST IN MEDFORD HISTORY

The Medford postoffice has already done twice the Christmas business both in incoming and outgoing mails as a year ago, and still more mail is coming.

Every Christmas package received arriving in the city by 9 o'clock tomorrow morning will be delivered on Christmas day. Acting Postmaster Warner announced this noon. Auto trucks will be employed in this delivery, and in addition the city carriers will make one delivery of letters and Christmas packages which will not be finished until about 2 p. m., and the rural carriers will go out as usual.

The general delivery window will be open from 8 until 10 a. m. Christmas day for the handing out of Christmas parcels and letters.

However, there will be no Sunday delivery of packages.

Last year 560 sacks of incoming Christmas mail were received and 200 sacks of presents were sent out from the city. Last night 800 sacks had been received and a corresponding number of sacks were sent out. Today and Christmas morning over 200 sacks are expected to arrive.

Thru the cancelling machine at the postoffice yesterday alone 11,000 Christmas letters and post cards were passed. Sixty per cent of these were from local senders to local addresses, showing that the custom of sending Christmas greetings by mail to friends is fast increasing in Medford.

CLEVELAND F. B. TEAM LEAVES FOR EVERETT

CLEVELAND, O., Dec. 24.—Coach Sam Willaman and his East Tech high school football squad, twenty strong, left here today for Everett, Wash., where they will contest New Year's day with the holders of the Pacific coast title for the national high school football honors.

All the players were reported in excellent physical condition. A workout was planned at either Pasadena or Los Angeles. According to schedule they will arrive in Everett the morning of December 30.

COAST B. BALL GRAFTING CASE IS DISMISSED

Judge Willis of Los Angeles Holds Charges Constitute no Crime—Babe Borion and Harl Maggert Rejoice Over Decision.

LOS ANGELES, Dec. 24.—Grand jury indictments of William ("Babe") Borion, Harl Maggert and William Rumlair, alleging that they conspired to pre-arrange decision in Pacific Coast league baseball games were quashed by Judge Willis in the Los Angeles county superior court.

An indictment against Nathan Raymond, who was accused of taking part in the alleged conspiracy, was also dismissed.

The decision of the court followed the entry of a demurrer of the indictment which was presented by counsel for the accused men when they were called upon to plead recently. The demurrer was argued several days ago, but Judge Willis took his decision under advisement until this morning.

Judge Willis held that the indictments did not allege a criminal act. The district attorney's representative in court said he could not say whether new indictments would be sought until he conferred with his chief.

After reviewing the alleged facts in the indictment which were in substance a recital of the steps by which the four were said to have arranged in advance to determine the winners in Coast league games, so that they and others could profit, Judge Willis said:

"There is nothing in the penal code of California providing for prosecution for the offense named in the indictment. The conspiracy if it existed, and if it was carried out, constituted a violation of contract. The remedy for that is in the civil courts. The contract broken provided that the men should play ball to the best of their ability."

The court prefaced this statement by saying that if the charges of conspiracy were true, "the actions on which they were based were 'reprehensible.'"

Borion and Maggert were in court and expressed great joy at the decision. Rumlair and Raymond, who were not in town, were notified by telegraph.

INCOME TAX ONE MAIN CAUSE FOR BUILDING DECLINE

WASHINGTON, Dec. 24.—One great cause of the existing shortage in dwellings, Senator Calder, republican of New York said in addressing the senate is the high rate of federal income tax.

This, he declared, was driving wealthy investors to place all their available funds in tax exempt securities issued by municipalities, the states and the national government, and he suggested that congress meet the situation by making mortgages on dwelling houses tax exempt to a reasonable figure.

"I am informed that the Marshall Field estate in Chicago and the Healy Green estate, both of which formerly loaned heavily on real estate, find their incomes from this source to be less than two per cent under taxation," Senator Calder said, "and they are diverting their capital funds to more lucrative investments. Tax exempt securities during the last five years have increased from \$3,000,000,000 to over \$14,000,000,000."

WASHINGTON, Dec. 23.—Under special order the senate today passed a bill permitting the federal farm loan board to issue mortgage bonds for short or long periods, as marketing conditions may require. Another measure extending the time in which federal reserve banks may hold temporary Liberty bonds until permanent bonds are available also was passed.

BROKEN LEGS FOR A CHRISTMAS PRESENT MAKE DANCER HAPPY

CHICAGO, Dec. 24.—With both legs broken and in plaster casts, Mrs. Gregory Kelly known on the stage as Ruth Gordon, today was looking forward to her happiest Christmas in several years.

"I am happy because my legs are broken," she smilingly asserted today. She had them broken by a surgeon in an effort to fulfill a desire to have straight legs, according to her admission.

"I was bow-legged and now they are straight," she said. "I was walking in a store and I saw a pair of legs coming toward me in a mirror. They were so funny I laughed and when I got close I found they were mine," she declared.

NEW IRRIGATION PROJECT OF 6000 ACRES ILL. VALLEY

GRANTS PASS, Ore., Dec. 24.—Figures obtained at the water master's office today show that plans are going forward for an irrigation project in the Illinois valley, which will increase the irrigated lands in that part of Josephine county by 6,000 acres.

The plan is to make use of Ballon lake, a natural reservoir in the Siskiyou.

The scheme contemplates a dam across the neck of this lake in the mountains and the diversion of stored water as needed for the land.

SALEM, Ore., Dec. 24.—S. A. Muesen and G. D. Cronmiller of Lakeview today filed with the state engineering department an application for authority to appropriate water from Canas and Deep creeks, tributaries of Warner Lake, for development of power for the use of cities and towns in Goose Lake valley.

Because of the great wave of crime sweeping all over the country and of the burglaries and attempted burglaries and large amount of petty thieving here recently, another policeman has been added to the Medford night force, to be on duty from 9 p. m. until 5 a. m. daily.

The hours on duty of Chief Timothy and night patrolman Adams and Henningstreet have been so arranged with that of the new officer that two policemen will be on duty in the business district during the most important part of the night and early morning.

The crime wave has also resulted in the city placing electric lights in the alleys back of the stores in the business section. These lights were ordered placed by the city council at its meeting two weeks ago.

NEW YORK, Dec. 24.—The actual condition of clearing house banks and trust companies for the week shows that they held \$30,559,530 reserve in excess of legal requirements. This is an increase of \$22,337,330 from last week.

CLARA SMITH RESOLVED TO REDEEM LIFE

Alleged Slayer of Jake Hamon Arrives Home Uplifted by Spiritual Vision Received in Mexico—Consecrate Future Energies to Atonement—Hopes to Return to Mexico and Aid Its People.

BHO SPRINGS, Texas, Dec. 24.—(By the Associated Press)—Concentration of her future energies to atoning to her family "for the sorrow she has brought it," and determination never again to waste another hour of her life were avowed today by Clara Smith, on route to Ardmore, Okla., to answer a charge of murder in connection with the death of Jake L. Hamon.

In an interview with the correspondent of the Associated Press lasting nearly an hour, she spoke earnestly on religion, philosophy, art, fancy work, and most earnestly of all her impressions of Mexico, where she stayed two weeks, previous to giving herself up to the custody of Sheriff Buck Garrett of Ardmore in Juarez, Wednesday night. She is tautly avoiding discussing the charge against her and mentioned Hamon's name only once when she referred to her opposition to his retiring from active life.

The interview which took place aboard the train on which she is traveling, was the first granted by her since her surrender.

"Great Spiritual Lesson. "I have just been reading some of the many letters I have received from my dear friends," she began. "I wanted to tell you of the wonderful friends I had in Chihuahua City. They were deeply religious, though not orthodox. They mothered and fathered me as if I had been a child. They brought me flowers and even toys. When I sought to thank them they protested that there was only one benefactor and whatever they did was done by Him through them as friends. It was a great spiritual lesson for me."

"As I told them before I left, before I entered Mexico I hated Mexicans, but I left it loving them, although I saw much of the beautiful religion I could not adopt for myself. They believe in spirits, although I do not say this belief is wrong; I know that I need my own level headed religion—for I have one of my own. I am too much afraid of myself to let myself dabble in the occult."

To Ventilate Mexico. "When I get back to Mexico—and I intend to go there again to rest—I shall teach my friends something of ventilation, cleanliness and hygiene."

When asked whether she ever expected to resume her secretarial career she replied:

"I have no plans. I know only that I shall devote myself to making amends to my family for the suffering brought on them. I shall never again waste even an hour of precious time left me. I do not believe people should ever retire from active work. I have always opposed any suggestion that Mr. Hamon should retire."

Won't Marry Mexican. Her face still slightly drawn from the strain of her recent experiences, took a new glow of animation as she leaned forward and added:

"I believe that every one must grow even during old age. When people don't grow, it is their fault."

Referring to the place of women in American life, she said:

"I frequently told my Chihuahua City friends I knew I could never make a Mexican man happy; they take their wives too much for granted and they do not believe that women should have a will of their own."

KANSAS CITY, Mo., Dec. 24.—A conference having to do with the affairs of the Jake L. Hamon estate was scheduled here today between Fred Ellis, attorney for Mrs. Hamon, the widow and Frank L. Ketch, lawyer for the estate.

(Continued on Page Eight)

1920 NEW FOUNDLAND FISH CROP FAILURE

ST. JOHNS, N. F.—Several thousand fishermen have left Newfoundland owing to the comparative failure of the colony's fisheries this year and the low price received for the product. They have gone chiefly to Canada and the United States.

The total catch of herring in the season which ended in the middle of last winter was only about half the average of previous years and, because of renewed competition with Scotch, Dutch and other foreign markets due to the return of peace condition, the value was greatly reduced. The early spring fishery for cod off the south coast and the seal fishery off the east coast were failures.

MYSTERY OF SPOKANE MURDERS, CLEARED UP BY DEATH OF CRIPPLED PEDDLER

SPOKANE, Dec. 24.—Police today believed that with the discovery yesterday of the body of Bert Wilson, alias Charles W. Reed, a crippled junk peddler the mystery of the murder of James Olson, a retired rancher, near here six weeks ago has been solved. They expressed the belief that Wilson, identified by Tom Sherman, as the man who on Wednesday investigated him to the outskirts of the city and shot him through the head, was Olson's slayer.

Wilson's body was found in the home of an acquaintance, shot through the head and with a .22 caliber revolver in his hand. Police officers had been seeking him all day yesterday. Sherman was shot, he had told the officers, with a gun of like caliber and Olson's slayer had used a bullet of the same size.

The police expressed the belief that both Olson and Sherman were decoyed to lonely spots and shot for their money. Sherman grasped with his assailant and disarmed him. Although the bullet was still in his head, he was not confined to his bed today.