

MEDFORD MAIL TRIBUNE

MEDFORD, OREGON, TUESDAY, DECEMBER 27, 1921

Predictions

Rain or snow.

The Weather

Maximum yesterday.....48
Minimum today.....33 1/2
Rain......02

Daily—Sixteenth Year.
Weekly—Fifty-First Year.

NO. 237

THINKS 1925 FAIR PLAN WAS BEATEN

Representative Sheldon Declares Press Reports Misleading—Failure to Secure 16 Votes in Senate Means Failure of Gas Tax—Measure May Be Initiated.

That the press association reports are quite apt to be misunderstood and that, in all probability, the legislature defeated the 1925 fair tax proposition instead of referring it to the people, is the report brought back from Salem by Representative Sheldon.

"The situation is unusual and easily misunderstood," said Mr. Sheldon. "On the face of things it would appear that the senate passed the measure but that there was some question as to the legality of its acts. A better statement of what happened is that its advocates took advantage of the peculiar situation to set up a technical 'peg' on which they could hang an appeal to the supreme court asking that the matter be considered as legally put up to the people.

Legal Question

"The facts are as follows: There is one vacancy in the state senate due to the death of Senator Hume of Portland. This leaves the senate consisting of twenty-nine. It has always been the understanding that, to pass a matter of legislation, a constitutional majority is required which means one more than half of either house; or 31 members of the house and 16 members of the senate. Those of us who were at Salem know that it was the understanding on all sides that it would require 16 votes to pass the exposition tax measure through the senate. One of the hardest fought battles in the history of the state was waged for two and a half days trying to get just one more vote to make this 16. It failed and only 15 voted for the measure.

There are several possible courses for the advocates of the exposition. They may go to the supreme court asking that the legislature's act be declared equivalent to referring the measure to the people. They may initiate a measure which would not come up for a vote until the November election. They may go back to the original plan of its first promoters, and make it a modest \$1,000,000 or \$1,500,000 expenditure in the nature of a center rallying point round which Oregon could hinge an invitation to the auto tourists of the world to make Oregon their Mecca during the year 1925. Or they may give up the fair altogether.

Fight Marks Turning Point

"In my opinion," continued Mr. Sheldon, "that fight in the legislature will mark an important turning point in the history of Oregon's business affairs. The exposition tax measure was not considered as an exposition question but as a tax question. And for the first time since I have been in the legislature, we managed to get a goodly number of the members to sit down and seriously take stock of the state's financial affairs. And such a study made some of those men wiser.

"I do not want to give the impression that the state is broke or anywhere near it. It isn't. But the actual situation respecting public debt and annual expenditures, especially when considered from the standpoint of the alarmingly rapid increase in both, and more especially still when considered side by side with the earning power of the lands which have to pay the taxes, indicates a habit, a trend, a pace which is not healthy economically. It

(Continued on page six.)

1925 FAIR PROMOTERS PLAN TEST BY SUPREME COURT OF RITNER'S RULING

PORTLAND, Ore., Dec. 27.—Ruling by the state supreme court on the constitutionality of the majority of 15 to 14 by which the state senate Saturday passed the resolution providing a referendum on the 1925 Portland fair commission and a tax on gasoline to help finance the project was expected today to be sought by the fair promoters in view of the refusal of President Ritner of the senate to sign the measures.

Ritner based his refusal upon an opinion of Attorney General Van Winkle who held that sixteen is the constitutional majority of the sen-

Prys Open Wrong Window to Retrieve His Dress Clothes

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 27.—Clyde Griffin henceforth may press his own to avoid trouble. Griffin, standing beside a young woman clad in an evening gown and holding a flashlight, was busy trying to pry open a rear window of a police court attache's home here Sunday night when a squad of policemen pounced upon him.

He developed that Griffin was bent on retrieving his dress suit from a closed tailor shop so he could attend a formal reception and in the dark had selected the wrong window. It was Christmas night, so the bluecoats turned their backs while he jimmied the right one. Correctly attired, he and the girl attended the function.

BEWARE FARM BUREAUS SAYS BOB L'FOLLETTE

WASHINGTON, Dec. 27.—Senator LaFollette, republican, Wisconsin, in a formal statement issued today charged that high railroad officials and representatives of the coal, steel and lumber interests at a secret meeting held in Washington December 9 attempted to obtain from representatives of farmers' organizations, an agreement to cease agitation for repeal of the section of the transportation act relating to railroad valuation and for restoration of state control over state rates.

Advising the farmers of the country "to beware of the leadership in any of their great farm organizations represented in Washington that would shake them in combinations with railway executives and with the great combinations and trusts of the country," the Wisconsin senator further charged that the "great special interests at the December 9 meeting were successful in obtaining the consent of certain of the farm representatives to the agreement."

In support of his charges Senator LaFollette made public what he described as "a brief report on the action of the conference," and a list of those alleged to have participated in the meeting. He did not give the source of his information but said he was informed the conferees included representatives of farmers' organizations as follows:

J. R. Howard, Gray Silver, J. C. McKenzie of New York, Ralph Snyder of Kansas, and O. E. Bradford of Chicago, all of the American Farm Bureau Federation, and W. I. Drummond, president of the International Farm Congress and T. C. Atkeson of the National Grange.

CHICAGO, Dec. 27.—"We have never entered into an agreement with the railroads to cease agitating anything," the American Farm Bureau Federation said today in reply to the statement issued by Senator Robert M. LaFollette at Washington. "We are committed to repeal of section 15-A of the railroad act and will continue to work for it, and we likewise are committed to restoration of some of the powers or state rating making commissions."

HARDINGS TO REVIVE N. YEAR'S RECEPTION

WASHINGTON, Dec. 27.—President and Mrs. Harding Monday will revive the White House New Year's reception which was discontinued during the Wilson administration. They will receive members of the diplomatic corps, cabinet members and their families and the public at large. Several thousand persons are expected to attend.

ate and that the fact that the senate had at the special session only 29 members acting, owing to the recent death of Senator Hume, did not make 15 a constitutional majority.

Just what form the legal action is to take to test the question was under consideration today by lawyers interested in the success of the movement for a state tax to aid in the fair financing. Mandamus proceedings against Ritner has been suggested as a possible course. This must be instituted before Saturday, the time limit prescribed by law for the measures to reach the governor's office.

BRIAND GOVT SUSTAINED BY C. OF DEPUTIES

Opposition to Present Premier Fails to Materialize, Though Majority Is Reduced—Feeling Against France Increases in England.

PARIS, Dec. 27.—(By the Associated Press)—The chamber of deputies today voted confidence in the government of Premier Briand by a majority of 177.

PARIS, Dec. 27.—(By the Associated Press)—Premier Briand announced his intention to introduce a bill in the French parliament this afternoon authorizing the government, through agreement with China, to use the Boxer indemnity for the re-establishment of the Industrial Bank of China, with a view to preserving France's material and moral interests in the Far East.

PARIS, Dec. 27.—(By the Associated Press)—France's determination to have a powerful fleet and objections to the limitation efforts of the Washington conference were vigorously voiced in the senate today during a discussion of the marine section of the government's budget.

LONDON, Dec. 27.—(By the Associated Press)—France's claims for a large fleet of submarines, made before the Washington conference are again attacked by the London newspapers, which resumed publication today after Christmas holidays.

"Doubting any class of naval tonnage seems on the face of it a strange preparation to reduce armaments," declares the Daily Chronicle, adding "we cannot pretend to fathom the French move for such an aggressive attitude."

Impatience with the French demand also is expressed by other liberal newspapers.

Arthur J. Balfour, head of the British delegation in Washington is given warm praise by several newspapers and the American suggestion for reduction of submarine tonnage is extolled as the next best thing to complete disarmament.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 27.—(By the Associated Press)—Failure of the French delegates to receive the formal decision of their government on the American compromise proposal for limitation of submarine strength has caused a postponement of the meeting of the arms conference naval committee scheduled for today until tomorrow. It was believed that the Japanese also might be awaiting further instructions from their government bearing on the American proposal.

There was no indication here whatever that the French were prepared to cut their suggested figure of 30,000 tons in submarines for France to the 31,000 ton figure under the American plan or that the Japanese intended to recede from their flat refusal to accept the plan, and the chances that the outlook for an agreement would undergo any improvement before the meeting tomorrow appeared slight.

TOO POOR TO MARRY COUPLE TAKE POISON

PASSAIC, N. J., Dec. 27.—Because they were too poor to marry, Thomas Brads, 18, and his sweetheart, Matilda Rist, 17, took their lives by poison early today. The boy told of the shattered romance in the general hospital where he died.

He was a mill clerk and she a stenographer. Because of their youth and his limited earnings they felt unable to assume the responsibilities of married life. Their dependency grew and they resolved to die together, the boy said.

It was shortly after midnight that the girl told her mother they had taken poison. Both died within two hours.

MASTERPIECES TRADED FOR OLD PAIR SHOES

MOSCOW, Dec. 27.—The economic policy permitting free trade within Russia has brought from their hiding places a large number of paintings, some attributed to famous artists. Among these are works by William Hogarth, Jean Baptiste Greuze, Christian Dietrich, Rosa di Tivoli and others, the Italian and Dutch predominating.

Paintings by well known Russian artists in some cases sell for the price of a pair of shoes.

MAY SUCCEED GENERAL DAWES AS BUDGET DIRECTOR



Brigadier-General Herbert H. Lord, finance officer of the war department, who, according to reports from Washington is slated to become federal budget director when Charles G. Dawes resigns. General Dawes will leave office on or before July 1.

SEVEN DEATHS RESULT STORM SAN FRANCISCO

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 27.—The Christmas storm, which brought down 1.59 inches of rain in San Francisco and precipitations ranging from .92 to 1.52 in other parts of the state during the past 24 hours, is due to continue, according to the forecast of the United States weather bureau here today.

Rain throughout California, and rain or snow in Washington, Oregon and Idaho tonight and tomorrow are predicted.

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 27.—The seventh death traceable to the gale which ushered in Christmas in the San Francisco bay region occurred shortly before midnight last night when France Rocca, 58, a bank employe, apparently blinded by wind and rain, was struck and killed by a cable car. The gripman was arrested.

PHOENIX, ARIZ., Dec. 27.—Unless more rain falls in the Cave Creek water shed, north of Phoenix, flood water from that creek which last night broke through the Arizona canal, main artery of the Salt river valley irrigation district, will not reach Phoenix, according to an announcement made by the Salt River Valley Water Users association early today. The announcement said the Grand canal, three miles north of Phoenix, was carrying off all the flood water at present.

LOS ANGELES, Dec. 27.—Railway and highway traffic has been disrupted by an almost constant rain which has reached its tenth day in southern California. No loss of life has resulted.

The flood waters reached their highest stage in the vicinity of San Diego. The highways in all directions from there are blocked and trains are not running. The only traffic today from San Diego was by steamer lines which were maintaining their regular coastwise schedules.

At Anaheim, near Santa Ana, water was running today through some of the streets, but the business district had not been invaded. There has been a break in the bank of the Santa Ana river.

The rivers in northern California were reported rising but they had not, in any instance, reached flood stage. Seasonal rainfall in the north has not reached normal yet, while in the south it has been greatly exceeded.

OREGON DAIRYMEN FAVOR LIQUIDATION

PORTLAND, Ore., Dec. 27.—The Oregon Dairymen's league was in session here today counting ballots to determine whether the proposal of the directors that the organization be liquidated should be accepted. This is the second referendum in which the members have been called upon to vote, the first having failed to develop a vote considered representative of the membership.

In case the members decide to liquidate, the plants of the organization will be turned over to organizations to be formed in the various districts of the state. Ballots had been mailed in today by 1200 members and several hundred were here to cast their votes. Up to noon 900 votes had been counted and 700 of those were for liquidation.

DEBS TO FIGHT AGAINST WAR REST OF LIFE

Socialist Leader Announces Plans for Future—Competitive World Must Be Transformed Into Co-operative World.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 27.—War against war is to occupy a great part of the future activities of Eugene V. Debs, freed from Atlanta Penitentiary by executive clemency on Christmas day, according to his own announcement here today. The socialist leader said he could make no concrete plans for the future until he reached his home in Terre Haute, Ind. He will leave Washington tonight.

Debs announced his determination to obtain if possible, a vow from every man, woman and child in this country, and every country which he might visit, that they refuse to take up arms and go to war.

"There will be war," he said, "in some form, and war growing progressively more and more destructive until a competitive world has been transformed into a co-operative world. Every war for trade sooner or later and inevitably becomes a war of blood."

Mr. Debs expressed the opinion that President Harding, at heart, was against all war, but described the president as a representative of a system that made war possible. The arms conference, he contended, was significant only in that it was a recognition of the cost of warfare and an effort to reduce expense instead of eliminating the cause.

Action in behalf of others still imprisoned for violation of war laws, Debs declared, would be undertaken as soon as he has readjusted himself to circumstances. He began today a series of conferences with friends and coworkers which was expected to last until he left the capital tonight for his home.

Mr. Debs still wore the clothing given him at the prison when he was released and declared his intention of returning home in them and wearing them for some time.

"Like the wrinkles on my face," he said, "they have cost me something."

HAWAII IS EASY FOR OREGON 'U'

HONOLULU, Dec. 27.—The University of Oregon football team easily defeated the University of Hawaii here Monday 47 to 0. Oregon's brilliant forward passing was the feature of the game. The visitors broke the Hawaii line at will and their goal never was in danger. In the first period Chapman went over for a touchdown and Leslie kicked goal.

King, Reinhart and Latham made touchdowns in the second period, and Leslie failed to kick goal on King's score.

Latham went over for a touchdown again in the third period on a forward pass and Leslie kicked goal.

In the fourth period Reinhart scored two touchdowns, one on a forward pass from Latham. Leslie failed to kick goal on the first touchdown, but booted the pigskin over on the second try.

The Oregon team is scheduled to meet a navy eleven from Pearl Harbor here Monday, January 2.

INGERSOLL WATCH FORCED TO WALL

NEW YORK, Dec. 27.—An involuntary petition in bankruptcy was filed in federal court today against Robert H. Ingersoll and brother, manufacturers of the Ingersoll watches, of this city. Liabilities were set forth as \$3,000,000 and assets, exclusive of good will, as \$2,000,000.

SALEM, Ore., Dec. 27.—Conviction of George Howard of Vale of first degree murder of George R. Sweeney, was upheld today by the state supreme court, and if the capital punishment law is upheld in a pending case, this will mean that Howard must hang.

Grandson of John Bigelow Arrested As Spy By Bolsheviks

LONDON, Dec. 27.—(By the Associated Press.)—Lieutenant John Bigelow Dodge, stepson of John Bigelow Dodge, fourth son of Lord Wimborne, was arrested by bolshevik authorities as an alleged secret British agent as he was about to embark on an Italian steamship at Batum on December 9, according to a Times dispatch from Constantinople.

Lieutenant Dodge, a grandson of the late John Bigelow, one time American ambassador to France, was born in the United States but is a natural British subject. He served in the British army during the world war.

His mother, now Mrs. Guest, was formerly Mrs. Flora Bigelow Dodge, of New York City.

ARMY ENGINEERS FAVOR \$1,371,450 OAKLAND HARBOR

WASHINGTON, Dec. 27.—Expenditure of \$1,371,450 for the improvement of Oakland harbor, San Francisco bay, was recommended to congress by army engineers.

Major General Beach, chief of the army engineers corps, in a letter forwarded today by Secretary Weeks to Speaker Gillett said that "for economical prosecution of the work" \$460,000 should first be appropriated, the balance to be provided as needed to complete the project in four years. An annual appropriation of \$60,000 for harbor maintenance also was recommended.

The proposed improvement would also affect the adjoining Berkeley and Albany harbors, the engineers' report said.

The engineers contended that government work on the inner harbor should be made contingent on the willingness of local interests to construct and maintain a dike across north channel in Brooklyn basin and to provide free of cost to the government any necessary right of way for dredged channels and suitable dumping grounds for material dredged during construction and maintenance.

The proposed improvement would also affect the adjoining Berkeley and Albany harbors, the engineers' report said.

The engineers contended that government work on the inner harbor should be made contingent on the willingness of local interests to construct and maintain a dike across north channel in Brooklyn basin and to provide free of cost to the government any necessary right of way for dredged channels and suitable dumping grounds for material dredged during construction and maintenance.

STUDENT YELLOW FEVER IS VICTIM

VERA CRUZ, Mexico, Dec. 27.—(By Associated Press.) Dr. Howard B. Cross of the Rockefeller institute died here this morning, a victim of the yellow fever.

Dr. Cross came here early this month to open a laboratory for study of the yellow fever and the marsh fever for the Rockefeller institute. Twelve days ago he went to Tuxtepec, center of the yellow fever district, and after spending two days there inspecting sanitary conditions, contracted the disease. He was immediately brought here and futile efforts were made to save his life.

The funeral will take place tomorrow attended by the medical corps and representatives of the authorities.

Dr. Cross is the second American physician to die here of yellow fever within a year, the first being Dr. Haedrick, attached to the American consulate.

BOSTON, Dec. 27.—The supreme court today denied the motion of the trustees of the Christian Science Publishing society for an injunction to restrain the directors of the First Church of Christ, Scientist, from removing the trustees. The court recently held that the directors had power to remove trustees but the trustees in their petition for an injunction, asked the court to prevent the directors from taking removal action pending determination of certain issues.

WALL STREET REFUSES TO BE DISTURBED BY GERMAN DISCOVERY SYNTHETIC GOLD

NEW YORK, Dec. 27.—(By the Associated Press.)—Wall street was undisturbed today over persistent reports that a German scientist has succeeded in making synthetic gold. Certain chemists also were skeptical.

"If the Germans wait for synthetic gold to make reparations payments they will probably need a longer moratorium than they now seek," said Dr. Horace G. Byers, head of the chemistry department of Cooper Union.

"Of course," Dr. Byers added, "it would be a brave or an ignorant scientist who would pronounce the synthesis of gold impossible. There is, however, no credible evidence that chemists are today any nearer realizing the dream of alchemists than they were in the days when the Ger-

LEAVE SUB PROBLEM TO NEXT MEET

Washington Expects Both U-Boat and Disarmament on Land Will Be Left to Future Conference—France and Japan Stand Pat—Chinese Tariff Compromise.

Washington, Dec. 27.—(By the Associated Press.)—Suggestions that the whole submarine problem be left to a future world conference gained increasing prominence today while the delegates to the Washington armament conference waited for formal replies from France and Japan to the American compromise proposal for submarine limitation.

Pending action by the French cabinet at its meeting today, the French delegates here remained confident that their refusal to accept the new American figures would be upheld by their government. The Japanese too, expected Tokio to insist that the American plan was unacceptable.

There was no meeting today of the conference naval committee and activities of the conference were confined to informal consultations among various groups of delegates.

The general impression that the question of land armament will not again come before the conference for detailed consideration was strengthened by the departure of the Italian military staff and by announcement that the British military experts also would leave on the last day of the month.

The French land armament advisers also are gradually withdrawing.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 27.—(By Associated Press.) Prospects of a compromise agreement on the Chinese tariff question were seen by the Chinese delegation today as the sub-committee of the Far East committee of the Washington conference went into session after a two weeks recess. The Chinese tariff question has been one of the troublesome questions of the Far Eastern discussions.

The prospective agreement, it was said, in Chinese circles, would permit China to levy an effective five per cent customs tariff in lieu of the present nominal five per cent or effective three and a half per cent. This would increase substantially the Chinese revenues.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 27.—(By Associated Press.) In the effort to regulate the use of airplanes in warfare, the sub-committee of the arms conference which is dealing with that subject today had before it, with prospects of adoption, a resolution declaring that all aircraft, airplanes and dirigibles alike should be considered military weapons only when manned by aviators who have had at least two years practical experience as military aviators.

BOSTON, Dec. 27.—The supreme court today denied the motion of the trustees of the Christian Science Publishing society for an injunction to restrain the directors of the First Church of Christ, Scientist, from removing the trustees. The court recently held that the directors had power to remove trustees but the trustees in their petition for an injunction, asked the court to prevent the directors from taking removal action pending determination of certain issues.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 27.—(By Associated Press.) In the effort to regulate the use of airplanes in warfare, the sub-committee of the arms conference which is dealing with that subject today had before it, with prospects of adoption, a resolution declaring that all aircraft, airplanes and dirigibles alike should be considered military weapons only when manned by aviators who have had at least two years practical experience as military aviators.

BOSTON, Dec. 27.—The supreme court today denied the motion of the trustees of the Christian Science Publishing society for an injunction to restrain the directors of the First Church of Christ, Scientist, from removing the trustees. The court recently held that the directors had power to remove trustees but the trustees in their petition for an injunction, asked the court to prevent the directors from taking removal action pending determination of certain issues.

BOSTON, Dec. 27.—The supreme court today denied the motion of the trustees of the Christian Science Publishing society for an injunction to restrain the directors of the First Church of Christ, Scientist, from removing the trustees. The court recently held that the directors had power to remove trustees but the trustees in their petition for an injunction, asked the court to prevent the directors from taking removal action pending determination of certain issues.

WALL STREET REFUSES TO BE DISTURBED BY GERMAN DISCOVERY SYNTHETIC GOLD

NEW YORK, Dec. 27.—(By the Associated Press.)—Wall street was undisturbed today over persistent reports that a German scientist has succeeded in making synthetic gold. Certain chemists also were skeptical.

"If the Germans wait for synthetic gold to make reparations payments they will probably need a longer moratorium than they now seek," said Dr. Horace G. Byers, head of the chemistry department of Cooper Union.

"Of course," Dr. Byers added, "it would be a brave or an ignorant scientist who would pronounce the synthesis of gold impossible. There is, however, no credible evidence that chemists are today any nearer realizing the dream of alchemists than they were in the days when the Ger-