

The Weather

Maximum yesterday 59  
Minimum today 32

# MEDFORD MAIL TRIBUNE

Predictions

Rain.

MEDFORD, OREGON, WEDNESDAY, MARCH 15, 1922

NO. 303

## \$15,000,000 FIRE RAGES IN CHICAGO

Entire Block Just Outside Loop  
Wiped Out By Early Morning  
Blaze—Incendiarism Sus-  
pected—Entire Destruction  
of Business District Was  
Feared—1 Fireman Killed.

CHICAGO, Mar. 15.—A spectacular early morning fire today destroyed a full square of business buildings just outside Chicago's "loop" district with a loss estimated at from \$10,000,000 to \$15,000,000. The fire started in the center of the block bounded by Van Buren, Canal and Clinton streets and West Jackson boulevard, burned every structure in that area, leaped north across Jackson and wrecked the 21-story Chicago, Burlington and Quincy railroad's general office building, which also houses the Mercantile Trust and a savings bank, and under burden of a strong wind dipped over Van Buren street and another block to Harrison street.

The flames were not brought under control until nearly five o'clock and even then firemen were fighting a dozen different fires and others broke out intermittently as the wind wafted sparks about.

Fireman Killed  
One fireman was killed, another seriously injured, ten or more slightly hurt and an unknown number of the 100,000 spectators who thronged the burning district were slightly hurt by falling bricks, burning timbers or sparks.

The fire for a time threatened to assume virtually unlimited proportions and every piece of fire fighting apparatus within five miles was called out in a series of ten alarms.

The rapidity with which the fire spread was astounding. Marshal Buckley, assistant fire chief said, "The fire actually seemed to run from us."

May Be Incendiary  
That the original blaze from which the conflagration grew possibly was of incendiary origin was the statement of Shirley High, city fire attorney, who early today announced the arrest of an unnamed man on information supplied by H. T. Schiff, president of the confectionery Specialty company at 521 West Jackson boulevard where the fire started.

Mr. High refused to divulge the name of the man arrested, but said he was being questioned regarding threatening letters Mr. Schiff said the man, a former employe, had sent to him, Mr. Schiff told Mr. High the man was discharged when he became incensed over failure to permit him to purchase stock in the company and within the past two months had made a series of threats.

Mr. High summoned several of his aides while the fire was at its height and said an investigation would be begun immediately. He placed the total loss at from \$10,000,000 to \$15,000,000.

Traversing the main burned area, the Metropolitan West Side elevated line today was seriously handicapped in diverting its patrons to the downtown district as was the Aurora and Elgin electric interurban line, which also used the four track structure which was caught in the midst of the fire.

Progress of the flames to the south was arrested by the facilities of the firemen who flocked to the roofs of smaller buildings and thus increasing the range of their streams.

A vacant lot, the site of the proposed new union station, kept the fire from spreading northward.

The Chicago river runs a block east

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## Cat Mothers' Infant Rats With Kittens, Spite of Traditions

BLOOMINGTON, Ill., March 15.—By mothering two infant rats with her new born kittens, Susie, a cat in the blacksmith shop of Jack Crawford, breaks down all previous suppositions as to cats.

Last Sunday morning she added four infant cats to the feline population of the world. Soon afterward, Lou White, a neighbor, thinking to give Susie a treat, took her to a nest where there were five new born rats.

Instead of making a meal, Susie started to purr and lay down and played with the stragglers. However, she remembered her own waiting children and carried two of the rats back to her family home.

## AMENDING PACT LOSES THIRD TIME

Senator Pittman, Democrat, of Nevada, Fails to Secure Majority for Reservation By Vote of 50 to 28—Party Alignment Is Unshaken—Charge Propaganda.

WASHINGTON, March 15.—An agreement for a final vote on the four power Pacific treaty on Friday, March 24, was said by leaders of all senate factions today to have been reached upon in private negotiations.

WASHINGTON, Mar. 15.—For the third time the senate defeated today an effort to amend the four-power treaty to permit participation of outside nations in international conferences over controversies arising in the Pacific.

An amendment for that purpose by Senator Pittman, democrat, Nevada, similar to two on the same subject rejected yesterday, was defeated 50 to 28. The treaty opponents indicated, however, that they would bring the proposal forward again later in the form of a reservation in the hope that they might secure the support of a number of senators who object to all amendments as a matter of principle.

The party alignment on the amendments was virtually the same as that which yesterday defeated similar amendments. Except for a temporary absence the same few republicans and democrats left the majority of their respective parties.

The practical effect of the amendment, Senator Pittman said, would be to confine the group of nations affected to Russia, China, The Netherlands and Portugal. He explained that he offered it because of objections that yesterday's proposals were so broad as to virtually bring the whole world under the scope of the treaty.

A "propaganda" favoring unqualified ratification of the four-power treaty was charged by Senator Pittman, who said that those responsible apparently were well meaning, but did not know what the pact actually contained.

"Great church bodies" he said, "represented by executive committees composed of perhaps a dozen men, and claiming to represent hundreds of thousands, are signing petitions for ratification of this treaty as it is. How many of those hundreds of thousands have read the treaty? How many of those Christian people do you think would ask for ratification if they knew that it contained no provision for consultation except between four powers?"

## Tanks Smash Stills in Moonshine Raid



Tanks called out by order of the governor to quell riots at Newport, Ky., have been put to new use. A raid by National Guardsmen uncovered a great quantity of "moonshine" and many large stills, which were destroyed by the tanks.

## GREER TICKET ASHLAND, LOSES IN ELECTION

ASHLAND, March 15.—The "Bankers Ticket," so-called by Bert Greer, won out at the Chamber of Commerce election on Tuesday. Of the 214 members of the chamber eligible to vote, 288 exercised that privilege, the figures standing as follows: Fred Homes leading with 245; V. O. N. Smith, 176; E. V. Carter, 167; W. H. McNair, 165; J. W. McCoy, 163; L. P. Ferguson, 143; Amos Ninger, 135; Louis Dodge, 120; A. L. Lamb, 118; O. G. Helman, 109; J. H. Dill, 104; Homer Billing, 84. It will thus be seen that Homes, Smith, Carter, McNair, McCoy and Ferguson have been elected directors of the chamber. These, together with the six hold-overs, constitute the full directorate of a dozen members. The result of the election is taken to indicate that the present administration of the chamber has been more than vindicated.

Greer's "Progressive Hotel Ticket," defeated, included the names of Homes, Ninger, Helman, Dill, Lamb and Dodge. Fred Homes appearing on both tickets, his candidacy being eminently acceptable to both factions.

Following this exciting campaign, another forum luncheon took place at Hotel Astor today, under "Hots at Hotel Ashland" today, under Chamber of Commerce auspices.

The speaker was Prof. J. J. Landers, of the Oregon State Normal, and his topic, and in addition, dealt with "The Normal School of Ashland." It is confidently anticipated, however, that the hotel project has not been thrown into the discard as a result of this election, but that even under changed auspices, steps will not halt in efforts to secure this big improvement.

## CONVICTED BANKER GETS NEW TRIAL

OLYMPIA, Wash., March 14.—The state supreme court today granted a new trial to O. S. Larson, formerly president of the defunct Scandinavian-American bank of Tacoma, when it reversed the Pierce county superior court's conviction of Larson on the ground that the court erred in allowing the state to cross-examine the appellant in regard to alleged loans from the bank previous to September 25, 1920. Larson was sentenced on a charge of violating the banking laws of the state by loaning \$10,000 to himself on that date without authorization by resolution of the board of directors.

## 6 BEAVER ROOKIES DROPPED BY BILL

PASADENA, Cal., Mar. 15.—The weeding out process in the training camp of the Portland Pacific coast league team got into full swing yesterday when Manager Bill Kenworthy of the Beavers notified six rookies that their services are no longer required. Those who ate their last meals at the Portland training table are: Outfielder Holden, Catcher Gulphin, and Pitchers Banks, Strong, Beett and Truina.

## Young Girl Starts Voyage to Cocos Is. To Hunt Treasure

SAN JOSE, Costa Rica, March 15.—A treasure hunting expedition, headed by Miss Jane Sands, plans to sail from here today for Cocos island, 545 miles west southwest of Panama in an attempt to recover the gold supposed to have been buried there by the pirate, Morgan, in 1720. Cocos island, which has been searched for treasure many times by various expeditions, was the location of Robert Louis Stevenson's "Treasure Island."

## MINERS STAND PAT AGAINST ANY WAGE CUT

NEW YORK, March 15.—Anthracite miners and operators were prepared today to begin negotiations for a new wage agreement to take the place of the two-year contract which expires at the end of this month. A large number of operators arrived to participate in the first joint conference of the representatives of the miners comprising the scale committee have been in the city several days conferred, the last to arrive being President John L. Lewis of the United Mine Workers.

The miners enter the conference determined, they say, to resist any effort to reduce wages.

"There must be no backward step," President Lewis has said, and the miners have declared themselves unanimous in supporting him.

Beyond the general statement that the workers shall share in the general deflation by accepting a wage cut, the mine owners have not indicated what proposition they will make. It has been reported that they are not a unit on what percentage of decrease they shall ask.

The principal demands for the miners follow: A two-year contract. A 20 per cent increase in the contract wage. A dollar a day increase to all labor paid by the day and that differentials existing between different classes of employes prior to the 1920 award be restored.

A uniform wage scale in all collieries and occupations of like character. An eight-hour day for all employes, those working under ground to count their hours from the time they enter the mine until they leave it. A standard check-off provision.

That where coal is paid for by the car the system be changed to a tonnage basis.

## VON DER HELLEN GETS CONTRACT TALENT DITCH

What is said to have been one of the first free and open bidding contests for irrigation work in Oregon for many years was held in Talent yesterday, when the contract for building the Talent irrigation district dam was awarded to D. M. Stevenson of Portland for \$78,595 and the contract for the construction of the 18.3 miles of canal to Wm. Von der Hellen of Eagle Point for \$67,444. The following 12 contractors from all parts of the coast offered bids:

C. E. Adams, Los Angeles, Calif.; Johnson Contract Co., Portland, Ore.; Grant-Smith Co., Portland, Ore.; Soleim & Gustavson, Astoria, Ore.; John Hampshire, Grants Pass, Ore.; Wm. Von der Hellen, Eagle Point, Ore.; Wolke & Schroeder, Grants Pass, Ore.; Pacific Coast Paving Co., Tacoma, Wash.; Albert Anderson, Grants Pass, Ore.; E. J. Cheatham & Sons, Spokane, Wash.; V. R. Dennis Const. Co., McMinnville, Ore.; D. M. Stevenson, Portland, Ore.

Heretofore the contracts have usually been controlled by the bond houses taking the securities. Both awards were made to the lowest bidder.

Work is expected to start on the canal about April 1st and on the dam about May first. There will be 8,600 acres in the district and the final success of the project comes after years of fighting against heavy odds and a series of disappointments.

## IRRIGATION DUES CAN BE EXTENDED

WASHINGTON, March 15.—The senate has passed the McNary bill authorizing the secretary of the interior to extend for two years the plan for payment of construction charges of irrigation projects when the owners of the land can prove inability to make their payments now. Similar relief, the bill provides, may be extended to organized groups of water users on irrigation projects, when a sufficient number can show that they are unable to meet the charges when due. The deferred charges are to bear interest at 5 per cent a year.

An amendment by Senator Jones of Washington was adopted, providing for extension of water charges of \$2.50 an acre on the Yakima Indian reservation in Washington.

## The Daily Bank Robbery

EPHRATA, Wash., March 15.—Three young men, their arms and ammunition are being held for arrest in connection with the unsuccessful attempt at blowing the vault of the First State bank of White Bluffs, Benton county, about 1 o'clock this morning. The explosion alarmed nearby citizens and the would-be robbers made so speedy an exit they left their tools and nitroglycerine behind them. Three men with a car of the same make as that driven by the men arrested were seen near White Bluffs.

## Expert Moonshiners Get \$50 a Week, But Work 16 Hours Day

DENVER, March 15.—Expert moonshine makers can obtain steady employment in Denver at \$50 a week with room, light and heat free, Victor Lewis Hargrave told local federal prohibition officers today. The work day is 16 hours long, however, according to Hargrave.

Hargrave was found in a residence here in which were three stills which were said to have been turning out \$2,000 worth of moonshine liquor a day. Five thousand gallons of mash also was found.

Hargrave was not arrested. No liquor was found, but the stills were seized.

## FORCE CANAL COMPANY TO CLEAR LAND

Councilman T. W. Miles Urges Necessity of Immediate Action to Insure Purity of Medford's Water Supply—Legal Problem Involved—Filter at Intake Is Suggested.

Councilman T. W. Miles was the principal speaker at the Chamber of Commerce forum luncheon at the Hotel Medford this noon, during which the local water situation was extensively aired.

P. E. Merrick acted as chairman of the meeting and prior to his introduction of the speaker he gave a resume of the water situation of years ago before the present system was installed, the voting of the bonds for the present system, etc.

Mr. Miles stated that he wished to make it clear that whatever he might say was his own personal opinion and not that of the council or any other body.

Mr. Miles spoke of the period in 1915 when the Rogue River Valley Canal company constructed the Fish Lake dam. He stated that before the work on the dam was begun the city and the canal company came to an agreement concerning the timber and brush around the shores of the lake and that the Canal company had verbally agreed to clear away the timber and brush before the water level was raised by the dam. This was not done and the result is known to all Medford water users who resided in this city during that period of time. The water was murky, filled with chips, splinters and small particles of bark which detached themselves from the decomposing trees and bushes which had been killed after a certain period of submergence. This condition will recur the speaker warned, unless action is promptly taken.

Mr. Miles pointed out that a good water supply was an invaluable asset to any city and that the pollution of the water, not particularly with disease germs, but with distasteful and unpalatable particles of debris would be a serious menace to growth and prosperity.

The canal company will again raise the level of the dam this summer and unless the timber and brush is cleared from the land which will be flooded a condition similar to that which existed in 1915 will arise. Mr. Miles stated that this question rests individually with each Medford citizen and that a solution of the problem is suggested.

## MUCH MARRIED MAN REMEMBERS 2 MORE WIVES HE HAD FORGOTTEN

INDIANAPOLIS, Mar. 15.—Two more wives were added today to the list of matrimonial ventures of Isaiah Moore, who is under arrest here charged with bigamy and embezzlement.

"I have kept a pretty good record of my marriages and I am sure there are only thirteen," said Moore.

## REBELLION IN AFRICA NEAR END

Country Cleared of Rebels After Hard Fighting, Except in Parts of Johannesburg and On the Rand—Artillery and Airplane Brought Into Play.

LONDON, March 15.—(By the Associated Press.)—With all the affected areas in South Africa cleared of rebels except portions of the Johannesburg or central region of the Rand the uprising apparently has entered its final phase. Jephtown near Johannesburg, appears to be the principal remaining center of resistance.

Artillery, tanks and airplanes were used in the capture of Fordsburg from the revolutionists. They disregarded notices dropped from airplanes giving them until 11 o'clock in the morning to surrender, but capitulated after 75 minutes of bombardment.

Johannesburg, March 15.—(By the Associated Press.)—Advises from Fordsburg, timed late yesterday, report that government infantry was then clearing the streets after the capture of the town from the rebels. Many prisoners had been taken and the remainder were retiring on the Langlaagte river.

Leaflets were dropped by airplanes warning the women and children to leave before the town was bombarded.

There was an immediate response, a steady stream of refugees proceeding to a special camp outside the zone of bombardment.

Although the houses in Fordsburg had been deserted by the men, only women and children being found when the government forces entered, sniping at the troops continued. One of the snipers, apparently a woman, was shot at, and when the body was recovered, was found to be a man dressed in woman's clothing.

Transvaal Scottish forces, took Dunsward on Sunday by a frontal attack with the bayonet, but the stretcher bearers were unable to remove the wounded, owing to continued firing from the houses until reinforcements arrived in the afternoon, the report stated. Every house on the main street of Benoni, captured last week was fortified and barricaded had been placed in the streets. Sunday night houses and shops were ransacked and saloons were looted.

LONDON, Mar. 14.—(By Associated Press.) Pretoria government forces are closing in upon the revolutionaries on the east and west, according to late advices from South Africa. The main centers of resistance are now at Fordsburg and Jeppestown where the government forces are opposed by heavily armed rebel commands.

A Bloemfontaine dispatch says the main railway was dynamited near the Transvaal border and a locomotive was derailed, but there were no casualties. Johannesburg, which on Saturday and Sunday was the center of the battle area, resumed its normal appearance yesterday, according to Reuters' correspondent there. The streets were filled with the usual shopping crowds and the fashionable tea rooms and stores were all doing business.

Miss Minter Sails Away  
SAN FRANCISCO, March 15.—Miss Mary Minter, motion picture actress, registered under the name of Miss Shelby, was a passenger today on the steamer Wilhelmina sailing at noon for Honolulu.

## BEST HOTEL IN RENO BURNS IN EARLY MORNING, GUESTS ESCAPE IN NIGHTIES

RENO, Nev., March 15.—Scores of guests escaped from upper windows in their night clothes when the Riverside hotel, the largest hotel here, was destroyed by fire early this morning, at a loss of \$250,000.

At 5 o'clock the building was still a furnace and the ruins could not be searched, but a check was started to learn if any guests were missing. No serious injuries were reported. The fire, believed to have started in the engine room, broke out shortly after 2 o'clock. The flames spread up-

ward quickly and the guests, aroused by the smoke, found the stairways cut off. Most of them were rescued by firemen with ladders.

The firemen prevented the flames from spreading to other buildings but could not save the hotel.

## AMERICAN EXPORTS CONTINUE TO DROP

WASHINGTON, Mar. 15.—American exports for February amounted to \$251,000,000 as compared with \$278,827,530 for January and imports last month were valued at \$217,000,000 as compared with imports of \$217,195,190 the previous month, according to the foreign trade survey issued today by the department of commerce.