

The Weather

Prediction.....Rain
Maximum yesterday.....53
Minimum today.....38
Rain in past two days.....52

MEDFORD MAIL TRIBUNE

Weather Year Ago

Maximum.....35
Minimum.....29
Precipitation.....31

Daily—Seventeenth Year.
Weekly—Fifty-Second Year.

MEDFORD, OREGON, WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 27, 1922

NO. 236

MRS. LEARY ADMITS TALE FABRICATION

Portland Woman After Severe Cross Examination Breaks Down and Declares Whole Story of Murder False--Weirs Will Probably Be Given Freedom.

PORTLAND, Ore., Dec. 27.—Unless some unexpected development occurs in the meantime, District Attorney Stanley Myers will move for the dismissal of charges against Cash Weir and his son Earl at the preliminary hearing in police court this afternoon. Myers announced this morning after police reported that Mrs. Helen Leary had admitted the falsity of a story she had told that the elder Weir had slain a girl in his houseboat and that the son had aided in the disposal of the body.

Myers added that he would ask Dr. S. C. Kohn, psychologist of the court of domestic relations, to examine Mrs. Leary as to her sanity.

PORTLAND, Ore., Dec. 27.—Mrs. Helen Leary, whose charge that Cash Weir killed a fifteen year old girl in his houseboat September 23, caused the district attorney's office to file a charge of murder against Weir and a charge of accessory after the fact against his son, Earl Weir, declared her whole story false while under severe cross-examination, the police announced today. The grilling followed receipt by the police of a letter from a girl who said she was in the houseboat that day and took part in a clash between Mrs. Leary and the elder Weir.

After she had declared "It's all a lie, the whole thing is false," Mrs. Leary was further questioned by Lieutenant Thatcher and told an entirely new story, according to Thatcher's account. Only the statement that the victim was about 22 years old, was named Betty and had black hair could be gained.

"Why did you tell the other officers that your other stories were lies?" queried Thatcher.

"They asked me so many questions that I had to tell them something," she answered.

The police this morning were still holding the two Weirs for further investigation.

Federation Women's Clubs Wire Protest Fatty's Reinstatement

NEW YORK, Dec. 26.—A protest against the reappearance of Roscoe Arbuckle in motion pictures was telegraphed today to Will H. Hays by Mrs. Wood Allen Chapman, chairman of the committee on motion pictures of the General Federation of Women's Clubs, with a membership of 2,500,000.

"This organization," the message said, "stands ready to assist any individual to rehabilitate himself, but not at the expense of ideals of the nation. The youth of our land must be protected from a revival of interest in the degrading details of his trial and from continued discussion of immoral living associated therewith."

Landlord Sent to Jail

NEW YORK, Dec. 27.—Jacob Solotoff was sent to jail for sixty days charged with failure to warm the homes of his 72 tenant families.

LEGION HEAD CERTAIN BONUS BILL WILL BE PASSED OVER PRESIDENT'S VETO

FORT WORTH, Texas, Dec. 27.—Passage of the adjusted compensation bill at this session of congress is practically assured, said Alvin M. Owsley, national commander of the American legion, who spoke at a luncheon in his honor here today and attended a session of the state executive committee of the legion.

Even should the bill fail at this session that it would be cared for at the next session is already certain, Owsley said, as the required number

Sarah Bernhardt's Condition Critical But Will Unbroken



SARAH BERNHARDT

PARIS, Dec. 27.—(By the Associated Press.)—Madame Sarah Bernhardt's condition took another turn for the worse today, physicians ascribing it to fatigue following her exertions yesterday when she arose from her bed, partook of solid food and received many callers.

The actress' household is again depressed, although she herself is just as confident as ever that she will recover. Two more doctors were called in today besides Professors Obisler and Marot, and after a long consultation they issued the following instructions to the household:

"The undersigned physicians insist upon the absolute necessity of letting no one enter the sick room."

(Signed) "Labbe, Des Nos, Obisler, Merot."

"These orders are clear," said Madame Bernhardt, governess of the household, after scolding the butler for permitting the correspondent to enter the house, "but Madame insists upon seeing whomsoever she pleases."

"The doctors do not conceal their admiration for Madame Bernhardt's courage and declaring that she is 'the most wonderful woman.'"

Terrific Gales on Coast Topple Walls of Astoria Buildings

ASTORIA, Ore., Dec. 27.—A southeast wind, estimated by mariners to have reached a velocity of 70 miles an hour, toppled over several walls in the wreckage of Astoria's fire-swept business district last night.

Part of the west wall of the Elks temple fell on a partly built temporary building being erected for a cigar store. No one was hurt.

Towering fragments of the Astoria Savings bank ruins and one of the standing walls of the First National Bank building also fell, but did no damage.

The high wind fanned into increased combustion smoldering coal piles in the basements of some of the buildings destroyed in the conflagration of December 8.

LODGE SEES NO HOPE OF PEACE MOVE

Massachusetts Senator Leads in Fight On Borah Measure --France Chief Obstacle to Land Disarmament--Urges U. S. A to Build Small Ships and Planes.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 27.—Administration senators under the lead of Chairman Lodge of the foreign relations committee began in the senate today a determined fight against the proposal of Senator Borah, republican of Idaho, for a new international conference in Washington to discuss economic conditions and disarmament.

Senator Lodge, who was said by his colleagues to have ascertained the views of President Harding and his administration advisers opened his attack as soon as the senate began work on the Borah proposal, which is in the form of an amendment to the annual naval bill requesting the president to call an economic and armament conference.

The foreign relations chairman recounted the difficulties of further armament limitation encountered at the Washington arms conference a year ago and declared that in view of the attitude taken by other powers, it would be "useless to attempt to limit land armaments unless it were established beforehand that France had changed her position."

The fight on the senate floor began after a score of administration senators had conferred in Senator Lodge's offices and mapped out a program involving for a resort to parliamentary tactics if necessary to defeat the move by Senator Borah. Part of the senate irreconcilables who have voted with Mr. Borah on many other questions of foreign policy, also were arrayed against his amendment, while the attitude of the democratic side of the chamber seemed to be a waiting one, with many members undecided whether to support or oppose the conference plan.

Senator Lodge declared the amendment was an entirely new subject and was of "grave importance." He recited that he would not be bound to accept any advice offered by the senate, although almost any president would give weight to senatorial advice.

Reviewing the work of the Washington arms conference, the republican leader recalled that Premier Briand had told the conference that France could not consent to any limitation of land armament.

"Of course that put an end to any further action by the conference on the question of land armament," said Senator Lodge, "because no action could be taken except by unanimous agreement. France may have changed her attitude within the year, but if so I have no notification to that effect."

Senator Lodge said he was informed of the competition among other powers in small naval craft, submarines and aircraft, permissible under the Washington treaty and he urged that the United States should build more light armored cruisers, airplane carriers and aircraft.

U S CONSTRUCTION FIRMS BUSY IN JAPANESE FIELD

TOKIO, Dec. 27.—Construction work under way in Japan by American contracting firms represents several million yen, with prospects of a much larger volume.

The George A. Fuller company already has completed several office buildings in Tokio, Yokohama and Kobe, and has started on others in the capital. Stone & Webster, Inc., of Boston have in hand the construction of a high dam hydro-electric plan on the Shio river in Toyama prefecture, which is the largest in Japan, its ultimate capacity being 70,000 kilowatts. It is designed to supply the various industries of the west coast as well as those in the larger industrial centers.

The most important of the new work, for which the American firms will bid, is the building of a small industrial city at Tsurumi between Tokyo and Yokohama, for the Shiba Engineering company, which is associated with the General Electric company of America.

This firm has decided, owing to the lack of space in the vicinity of its present plant, to move bodily to Tsurumi. Besides the buildings, there will be water, sewage and street car system to be installed as well as the other public utilities that go to make up a modern town.

The New Senator From Michigan



Senator Charles E. Townsend of Michigan confers with his new conferee, James Couzens, former mayor of Detroit, who was appointed to the senate to fill the vacancy made by the resignation of former Senator Newberry.

PAPER ROUBLES RUSSIA REACH A DIZZY HEIGHT

Total Passes 17 Trillion Mark and Now Estimated in 16 Eignes -- Invasion Still Feared--Tax Reforms Are Advocated.

MOSCOW, Dec. 27.—(By the Associated Press.)—The Russian soviet congress at its session yesterday heard reports concerning the financial situation, taxes and industries, to which questions the various government departments are giving much attention because of recent events.

M. Sokolnikoff, the acting commissar of finance asserted that he was not prepared to present the budget for 1923 because of the unstable condition of the rouble and declared that the depreciation of the rouble and the budget deficiency had necessitated a further issuance of paper money, with the result that the currency had not yet been stabilized.

As one of the means for overcoming the deficit M. Sokolnikoff recommended a change in the tax system, asserting that he thought it best to shift from a tax in kind for the peasant to a monetary tax. He suggested that the change be brought about gradually so as to prevent confusion and hardships among individuals.

Invasion Feared
M. Stalin, commissar of national matters, urging unification of the allied republics, announced that curtailment of the soviet army to 600,000 men had already begun. He asserted, however, that owing to the fact that there was still danger from outside attack because of unsettled conditions, Russia should have a strong, unified army for protection.

The commissar asserted that another cause calling for unification of the soviet republics into a single socialist federation was the economic situation, inasmuch as nearly all of Russia's resources had been exhausted.

The small autonomous republics, he said, could not exist without Russia proper, and on the other hand, Russia could not satisfactorily reestablish her national life without their combined support. "The present financial condition of the country necessitates unification."

Unification Proposed
There was no opposition to the unification proposal and it was suggested that special congresses be called to make the plans a reality. The present congress appointed delegates Leon Trotsky, commissar for war and navy; Leo Kameneff, president of the Moscow soviet; M. Stalin and M. Sokolnikoff.

M. Sokolnikoff, emphasizing the importance of the tax question, cited figures showing that from January, 1922, to September, the state collected taxes totalling 35,000,000 gold roubles, which amounted to only 28 kopecks per head on one-twentieth of the pre-war figure.

To give an idea of the situation confronting the country as a result of the rouble depreciation, the commissar said that last January 17 trillion of paper roubles were in circulation while at the present time the total was 7,800,000,000,000,000. He recommended another grain loan in the spring in addition to the gold loan authorized several months ago which is expected to realize 100,000,000 gold roubles.

M. Bogdanoff, chairman of the supreme economic council, said industry and commerce had shown good results, justifying the new economic policy. Commerce, Bogdanoff said, had suffered heavy losses because of lack of capital and the unsettled con-

DECLARE TARIFF IS NOT SHOWING ANY ILL EFFECTS

WASHINGTON, Dec. 27.—Discussions at yesterday's cabinet meeting dealt with the effect of the tariff law as shown by foreign trade statistics. Exports and imports of the United States it was said, are increasing at a rate which convinces responsible officials that the world is recovering from the depression which followed the war and the new tariff law is not registering any of the ill effects which were expected from it.

Secretary Hoover was said to have told President Harding that further evidence of the improvement was likely to be shown soon in exports of gold from the United States.

The balance of trade between the countries of the world, together with the "invisible balance" arising from expenditures of American travelers abroad and other indirect influences, is such as to draw gold away from the United States. This will tend to restore the purchasing power of countries to which the gold traveled, President Harding was informed, and was considered to be of beneficial effect.

CHARGE CHICAGO MAYOR GRAFTED MANY MILLIONS

CHICAGO, Dec. 26.—The Municipal Voters' league in a statement made public today charged Mayor W. H. Thompson and his supporters in this city with responsibility for an alleged waste of city funds in what it declared "excessive payments to five real estate and building experts employed by the city."

In 1920 the Municipal Voters' league charged, five "Thompson real estate experts" * * * got away with \$2,742,666 from the city treasury and drew a total of \$3,287,534 in three years, according to the city controller.

"Chicago's city hall gang is believed to have cost Chicago more than the Tweed ring cost New York," the statement continued.

Suits have been filed in court against Mayor Thompson, the city controller and the five experts for recovery of part of the alleged wasted money paid the latter.

R. R. Strike Predicted
ST. LOUIS, Dec. 27.—Edward J. Manion, president of the Order of Railway Telegraphers, predicted a strike on western lines unless the railroad labor board acts favorably by January 1 on a petition for a rehearing on the wage question of 11,000 operators.

Inquest Is Held
DENVER, Dec. 27.—A coroner's inquest held at Deer Trail, Colo., to inquire into the shooting to death of Howard Hamilton and wounding his companion, Miss Pearl Coeur, returned a verdict holding "unknown assailants" were responsible.

Buy Box of Apples Becomes Slogan of Seattle Businessmen

SEATTLE, Dec. 27.—To absorb a glut of apples in eastern Washington created by insufficient cars to ship the crop when the market was alive, a campaign led by the Seattle chamber of commerce got under way today.

"Buy a box of apples," is the slogan.

Seattle residents are asked to remember that their city has become the financial transportation center for the Washington apple industry, especially since the vogue of sending the fruit all over the world by water.

Businessmen are urged to buy apples and sell them to employees and customers at cost.

CURZON FLATLY REFUSES TURK MOSUL DEMAND

Great Britain Declares She Will Hever Abandon the Mosul Oil Vilayet--Break Up of Conference Threatened By Turks.

LAUSANNE, Dec. 27.—(By Associated Press.) Through Foreign Secretary Curzon Great Britain informed Turkey today that the British never will abandon the Mosul oil vilayet, as requested by the Turkish delegation and that no prolongation of the Near East conference can influence the British government to recede from its position.

LONDON, Dec. 27.—A Reuter's dispatch from Lausanne says: "There is serious danger of the Near East conference becoming abortive if the Turks persist in their present methods."

The British position is outlined in a letter sent by Lord Curzon to Ismet Pasha, head of the Turkish delegation, covering the formal reply of the British delegation to the Turkish note of Sunday last which insisted Mosul belonged to Turkey.

Lord Curzon stated that the British government had expelled the Turks from the Mosul area and occupied and administered it. The British had taken a pledge to free the area both from Turkish rule and establish the government of the Iraqi, and England since then had repeatedly given her word that the Arabs would not be interfered with.

Lord Curzon added that Great Britain had given her solemn pledge to let no foreign power take any part of this territory and that she would steadfastly adhere to her promise.

The foreign secretary, however, said that Great Britain was prepared to have her experts meet the Turkish experts to define the northern boundary of the Iraqi.

The British delegation's formal reply to the Ottoman note questions the reliability of the statistics put forth by the Turks to justify their claim to Mosul. Although the Turks ruled this district for centuries, they never collected exact information, it was pointed out, and no confidence could be placed in their statistics.

MOSCOW, Dec. 27.—(By Associated Press.) Maxim Litvinoff, acting foreign minister, has sent a note to Great Britain, France and Italy regarding the settlement of the fate of the Mosul territory. The note asserts that any decision in which Russia is

(Continued on Page six.)

FEAR SEATTLE APPLE SHIP ADRIFF IN ATLANTIC OCEAN MAY BE LOST

SEATTLE, Dec. 27.—The freighter Tugor Star, reported as possibly lost in the Atlantic ocean is in tow of a rescue vessel, according to a cablegram received today from Liverpool by the Admiral Oriental line, agents for the Tugor Star.

SEATTLE, Dec. 27.—The Blue Star freight steamer Tugor Star reported possibly lost in a storm on the Atlantic, sailed from Seattle November 1 with a cargo of apples for London.

NEW YORK, Dec. 27.—The French liner Savoie, arriving here today after the roughest voyage in her history, re-

EX-MAYOR MER ROUGE IS JAILED

Dr. McKoin's Hearing On Murder Charge Postponed Until Tomorrow -- Former Mayor Denies He Is Member Ku Klux Klan--More Arrests Are Expected.

BALTIMORE, Md., Dec. 27.—In an effort to obtain bail before commencing his fight against extradition, Dr. B. M. McKoin, former mayor of Mer Rouge, La., arrested here yesterday at the request of Governor Parker of Louisiana, obtained a writ of habeas corpus today in the city court.

Governor Parker accused Dr. McKoin of murder. The writ was made returnable immediately but upon request of Dr. McKoin's counsel, former United States District Attorney Robert H. Carman, the hearing was postponed until tomorrow and Dr. McKoin was taken back to his cell.

A short time before, in central police court, Dr. McKoin's case was adjourned by Justice Stanleigh until January at the request of the detectives.

Carman declared he believed there was no prima facie charge of murder against the former mayor and expressed the belief that the Louisiana officials called for his arrest here because they wanted him more as a witness or for the purpose of obtaining possible information from him.

Did Not Flee

"Dr. McKoin did not flee from Louisiana after the trouble at Mer Rouge," said Carman. "He remained there for many weeks after the death of the two men (Watt Daniels and Thomas Richards). He was with his father thirty miles away from Mer Rouge from August until October, when he came to Baltimore at the request of Dr. Hugh Young, who offered to permit him to associate with him at the Johns Hopkins hospital."

"The mayor placed himself at the disposal of the district attorney of his county seat and was in consultation with him for a long time before he left."

"There was nothing for him to hide and he gave whatever information he had at his command."

Dr. McKoin made no statement in police court, but in conversation with reporters he repeated previous denials of implication in the murders or any connection with the kidnapping. If his arrest were made in connection with the deaths of Daniels and Richards he could prove an alibi, he asserted.

Dr. McKoin again denied he was a member of the Ku Klux Klan and said he never had been asked to join it.

\$1000 WAR SAVINGS STOLEN RETURNED

SPOKANE, Dec. 27.—When the vaults in a local office building were robbed of about \$20,000 worth of securities and other valuables last July, W. C. Losey, one of the tenants, lost \$1000 in war savings certificates, registered in the owner's name.

Today he received them by registered mail, carrying a Spokane postmark. At the time of the robbery a burglary charge was issued against Isadore Edelstein. He was never apprehended.

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