

Prediction - Fair, not so cold
Maximum yesterday - 49
Minimum today - 16.2

Weather Year Ago
Maximum - 44
Minimum - 31
Precipitation - 40
Snow - 2.6

Daily - Seventeenth Year
Weekly - Fifty-Second Year

MEDFORD, OREGON, FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 1923

NO. 273

SCORES KILLED IN MINE EXPLOSIONS

115 KILLED IN NEW MEXICO, 50 IN BRITISH COLUMBIA; FIRE DAMP HORROR CAUSE

Little Hope for Survivors Trapped Underground at Dawson, N. M., and Cumberland, B. C.—Chinese Worker Escapes After Attempt to Rescue—First Bodies Brought Out—Blasts Rouse Little Towns—Aid Rushed to Scene—Cumberland Mine Scene of Disaster Last Summer—Gas Fills All Tunnels—Pair Saved By Miracle.

DAWSON, N. M., Feb. 9.—(By the Associated Press.)—Up to 2:45 o'clock this afternoon eight bodies had been recovered from Phelps Dodge corporation mine No. 1, where 122 men were entombed by an explosion yesterday.

They walked out unassisted. As they neared the mouth of the mine they met a rescue party coming in.

The men were Charles Candale and Plini Martinez. They were in the fourth south tier of the property when the terrible blast came.

Candale and Martinez remained in the mine all night, afraid to venture from the tier where they were standing when the explosion came.

The escape of the pair caused renewed hope that other miners inside were alive.

As the miners stepped from the workings of the property a cheer rang out from the eager group of watchers at the mine's mouth.

DAWSON, N. M., Feb. 9.—Seven bodies of miners entombed in mine No. 1 of the Phelps-Dodge corporation here by an explosion yesterday afternoon, have been recovered and the company has announced that there is "very little hope" of rescuing alive the other 115 men who were in the mine at the time of the accident.

Two bodies were recovered a short distance inside the entrance. The others were found a mile or more from the mine portal. Identity of only two bodies has been announced.

As soon as the entrance, which had been blocked by the explosion, could be cleared, exploration of the mine was begun under the direction of the manager and general superintendent.

The first men reached were the motorman and the nipper, who were only a short distance inside the mine. Both were dead.

As ventilation was restored by construction of temporary stoppings on cross cuts the rescuers proceeded into the mine. They encountered numerous falls and considerable debris.

A large number of people have been congregating as near the mine entrance as they could get ever since.

(Continued on Page Three)

CUMBERLAND, B. C., Feb. 9.—The death toll in last night's explosion in No. 4 mine of the Canadian collieries, Dunsuir, Ltd., two miles from here, was definitely placed at 14 white miners and twenty Chinese in a statement issued by line officials here this afternoon.

Seven men, brought to the mine mouth by rescue parties after heroic endeavors, were taken to a hospital, where they lay still unconscious but with a chance for life.

CUMBERLAND, B. C., Feb. 9.—Fifty-one coal miners lost their lives when fire damp exploded in the second level of Mine No. 4 of the Canadian Collieries, (Dunsuir) Limited, two miles from here last night.

At 4 o'clock this morning word was received here that four men were alive in mine No. 4 of the Canadian collieries (Dunsuir) two miles from here.

A Chinese in the hospital here was the only other known survivor of an explosion of fire damp in stope number one of the mine last night at 8 o'clock which imprisoned 50 to 60 men of the night shift who had just gone to work.

The disaster was the second to occur in mine No. 4 in six months, an explosion there August 30, 1922, took a toll of 13 lives.

No hope was held of recovering the rest of the imprisoned men, as they were entombed in sections filled with poisonous gas that followed the explosion. Practically all of the deaths were attributed to asphyxiation.

Doctors who were down in the mine with rescue crews declared that ventilation was entirely cut off from the portion of the mine in which those accounted for were supposed to be.

The disaster has taken rank as one of the worst in the history of mining on Vancouver Island.

No explanation for the explosion was offered. It was stated that the mine was equipped with safety devices, and that most of the lighting and power were given by electricity.

Two rescue parties worked in the mine all night, and a third was being recruited.

(Continued on Page Six)

BLACK ADMITS ORGY OF CRIME, LYNCHING LOOMS

Militia Guards Waco, Texas. Jail Following Confession By Negro of Brutal Assaults and Murders — Innocent Man Killed for One Deed.

WACO, Texas, Feb. 9.—Local police and the Waco National Guardsmen were being mobilized this afternoon to defend the county jail, in event of an attempt made to get Roy Mitchell, negro, alleged confessor, to eight murders.

WACO, Texas, Feb. 9.—A series of crimes which have baffled officers here for the past year, were cleared today by the alleged confession of Roy Mitchell, negro, to having committed eight murders, three assaults to murder and a number of attacks on women from February 12, 1922, to January 19, 1923, according to Sheriff Leslie Steagall and County Attorney C. S. Farmer.

The slayings said to have been confessed to by Mitchell follows: Murder of W. H. Barker and his wife and Homer Turk at Concord, February 12, 1922.

Three women were assaulted when their escorts were killed, two of the women having been subjected to two assaults, according to the alleged confession. The confession was made to the sheriff and county prosecutor last night, put in writing and signed by Mitchell.

Two negroes were tried and convicted for the slaying of Mr. and Mrs. Barker and Turk, the killing of whom Mitchell confessed. One of these negroes, Cooper Johnson, was sentenced to death and the other, Bennie Young, life imprisonment.

When Harrel Bolton was killed his girl companion was assaulted. A negro was later identified by the young woman and was shot by the girl's father. A mob then burned his body.

On May 17, 1922, Mitchell confessed, he shot a man and woman, who were driving in Cameron park, but was frightened away and both recovered. Early in January, 1923, he held up a negro couple in South Waco, forced the man to leave the car and driving to a secluded spot, assaulted the woman.

Mitchell's alleged statement that he killed Mr. and Mrs. Barker and Homer Turk, a boy, at Concord, was not put in writing, according to County Attorney Farmer, who said he was inclined to give it little credence. Robbery was the motive for this crime, which was enacted at a little country store operated by the Barkers.

FORD ADHERENTS BLOCK ACTION

WASHINGTON, Feb. 9.—Declaring there was no hope of obtaining the necessary votes so long as "adherents of the Ford proposal" opposed him, Senator Norris, republican, Nebraska, today withdrew his amendment to the army bill appropriating two million dollars for completion of nitrate plant No. 1 at Muscle Shoals, Alabama.

RUSSIAN CLERGY TAKE TO KILLING

WARSAW, Feb. 9.—(By the Associated Press.)—The chief of the Russian church in Poland, the Metropolitan George, was assassinated last night by the Russian Monk Smarago. The assassin belonged to a group of the clergy which opposed the metropolitan because of the latter's pro-Polish policies.

"Tiger Lady" Trailed to Lair in Chihuahua, Mexico



CLAIRA PHILLIPS

HOUSTON, Texas, Feb. 9.—Chief of Police Oaks of Los Angeles, Cal., was here today to take in custody "Little Phil" Alguin, wanted there to answer to a charge of slaying Detective Sergeant John Fitzgerald in May, 1921.

Los Angeles several months ago. She has been reported as being in various places in Mexico and Alguin was questioned as to what he knew of her whereabouts.

BRITISH WAR DEBT REFUND BILL PASSED

WASHINGTON, Feb. 9.—The British debt settlement agreement was formally approved today by the house by an almost unanimous vote. It now goes to the senate.

Representative Burton, Ohio, a member of the American debt commission, was given an ovation by his republican colleagues today when he appeared to ask for acceptance of the British settlement. He told the house that no measure of such far-reaching importance had been presented to congress "since the days when our armies were battling in the field."

Reiterating that the debt should not be cancelled, Mr. Burton argued that "there should be, however, some leniency in terms." He explained that it had been impossible to fund the debts within the terms laid down by the existing law and that the commission had undertaken therefore to make a "just and equitable" settlement with Great Britain.

Replying to questions of democratic members, Mr. Burton declared that in his judgment it would be "entirely impossible for England to pay higher rates of interest than provided for in the bill."

The British settlement, he described as the "high water mark" of the funding of the debts and Representative Byrnes, democrat, Tennessee, interrupted to remark that he thought the common people would rejoice to know that the United States could settle with the other nations on such terms as agreed to with Great Britain.

GOVERNOR ASKS SOLONS TO DO SOMETHING; RELIGIOUS ANIMUS BILL IS KILLED

Action Urged On Income Tax and Consolidation Bills in Next Six Days—Other Recommendations Made in Address to Joint Session—Plea for Economy Made—Lane County Solon's Anti-Catholic Measure Defeated—Law for More Butterfat in Ice Cream Approved By Senate—Last Minute Rush On.

SALEM, Ore., Feb. 9.—Reminding the legislature that only six days of the session remain, Governor W. M. Pierce, addressing both houses today, urged action on measures which he had recommended in his inaugural message.

An income tax was emphasized by the governor and he reiterated his plea for a state government consolidation measure. Other recommendations were:

Passage of bills to increase fees of insurance companies and corporations; alterations of the assessment laws with safeguards to prevent additions to the state bonded debt resulting from an increased assessment roll; closer control of the two so-called self-sustaining commissions; investigation of the matter of the state guaranteeing interest on irrigation bonds; creation of a state market agent; a severance tax law; that supervision of patrolling the state highways be taken from the state treasurer and given to the highway commission.

The governor concluded with a renewed plea for economy, and congratulated the joint ways and means committee on reductions already effected.

SALEM, Ore., Feb. 9.—The senate today killed the bill introduced by Representative B. F. Keeney of Eugene, which would place a tax on literary, benevolent, charitable and scientific institutions when operated for compensation. The bill was opposed by representatives of hospitals, churches, the Y. M. C. A. and other institutions. Keeney, former assessor of Lane county, admitted that the bill had been aimed at a Catholic hospital at Eugene.

Senator Bruce Dennis of LaGrande, at a hearing last night said he deplored dragging into the legislature of religious animus which had characterized the campaign last fall.

The senate today passed Senator W. J. H. Clark's bill requiring a literacy test for applicants for registration to vote when ability of applicants to read or write English is in doubt.

The senate also passed the bill introduced by the banking committee making Lincoln's birthday and Armistice day legal holidays.

A compromise income tax bill resulting from conferences between Governor Walter M. Pierce and Representative Bennett, McMahan and Carlin, was introduced in the house today. The bill combines two bills introduced by Carlin earlier in the session, with a change in the rate of tax and the imposition of a flat four per cent tax on corporations.

The senate had passed the house bill requiring registration of brands for milk bottles and prohibiting the use of containers by persons other than the owner.

Senators Zimmerman, Taylor and LaFollette have introduced a joint resolution providing that newspapermen be admitted to all sessions of the ways and means committee. The resolution grows out of the action of the majority members of the committee Tuesday in barring the press from executive sessions.

The senate has defeated a bill re-

stricting the use of pistols and revolvers to bona fide residents and to them only if permits have been obtained.

SALEM, Ore., Feb. 9.—The house bill increasing the butterfat content of ice cream from six to eight per cent and requiring that solids used in ice cream be not less than 20 per cent passed the senate unanimously yesterday.

After a vain attempt to re-refer Representative L. M. Graham's bill to provide for the re-issuance of road bonds for the construction of market roads in the various counties, the house passed the bill with only a handful of negative votes.

The highway commission appeared before the joint roads and highways committee during the noon recess and opposed the bill.

The senate passed a house bill providing that licenses to operate automobiles may be issued to minors between 14 and 16 years old for the purpose of transporting pupils to school.

HOPES FOR PEACE IN IRISH FACTIONS GROW BRIGHTER

DUBLIN, Feb. 9.—(By the Associated Press.)—Hopes for a reconciliation between the Irish free state government and at least an important republican element were brighter today in consequence of the developments that led Richard Mulcahy, the minister of defense, to offer amnesty "to all in arms against the government who will surrender their arms on or before March 15."

The Freeman's Journal says that 600 prisoners at Limerick have also asked "for the opportunity to press upon their leaders the futility of a war of extermination."

The newspaper describes the new developments as a genuine effort for peace.

The article concludes as follows: "Nobody will any longer have doubt as to where the responsibility rests for the continuance of the struggle."

LONDON, Feb. 9.—Liam Lynch, chief of the republican forces, in reply to the peace proposals of Liam Forbes, informed him officially on behalf of "the republican government and army command" that the proposals could not be considered.

DUBLIN, Feb. 9.—(By the Associated Press.)—The proposal for surrender contained in Liam Deasy's letter to Eamon DeValera and other leading irregulars cannot be considered, says an official communique issued by the republican headquarters staff on behalf of "the republican government" and its army council.

HUSBAND CALLED HER 'BRAINLESS,' MOVIE QUEEN NOW SEEKS DIVORCE

LOS ANGELES, Feb. 9.—Failure to provide, brutality, refusal to work and dissipation of large sums of money she gave him were four of the grounds on which Wanda Hawley, motion picture actress, asked a divorce from Allen Burton Hawley in an action filed here yesterday.

Miss Hawley alleged she not only had to make her husband's also; that he treated her with contempt; called her "a brainless fool," swore at her in the presence of others, criticized her personal appearance in public, bruised and injured her by dragging her from an automobile and told her "it was none of her business" when she asked about reports that he was entertaining men and other women at his home.

PARENTAL BLESSING ASKED BY GIRL ON HER BETROTHAL TO VANDERBILT MILLIONS

NEW YORK, Feb. 9.—Seeking parental blessings on her marriage to Reginald V. Vanderbilt on February 7, Miss Gloria Morgan, has called her father, Harry Hays Morgan, American consul general at Brussels, that she and Mr. Vanderbilt are engaged.

Mr. Vanderbilt, who is 43 years old, came into an estate of \$8,000,000 when he became of age. He was married in 1903 to Miss Cathleen Gebhard Nielsen, who divorced him sixteen years later, alleging desertion. The daughter, Cathleen, was given to the mother.