

The Weather

Prediction Fair
Maximum yesterday 57
Minimum today 25.7

MEDFORD MAIL TRIBUNE

Weather Year Ago
Maximum 51
Minimum 37
Precipitation .08

MEDFORD, OREGON, MONDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 1923

NO. 287

LOCAL FIRE DEPT. FIRED BY COUNCIL

Mayor Gaddis, With Unanimous Approval of City Council, Ties Can to Chief Lawton and Entire Force—Too Old Is Claim—Roy Elliott New Chief.

The general public will probably learn with surprise that the fire department has been fired by Mayor Gaddis, on recommendation of the council fire committee with the unanimous sanction of the city council, and Roy Elliott, a former member of the fire department for two years and a half before the world war, has been appointed fire chief by the mayor, with the privilege, in line with the policy heretofore in existence for years, of selecting his own men for the department, subject to the approval of the council.

This radical change was decided upon by the mayor and councilmen at a star chamber session of the council held last Friday night, which was called for the ostensible purpose of discussing city auto camp arrangements. The meeting was legally called and held in the office of the city recorder and the city treasurer. No one was present outside of the mayor and City Recorder Alford. The members of the council fire committee are J. H. Butler, chairman; E. H. Janney and B. W. Paul.

Quick Action Unexpected. The sudden action of the city officials in making a clean sweep of the present fire department on five days' notice was totally unexpected, outside of councilmanic circles, although it had been known ever since E. C. Gaddis' election that the new mayor was going to make a complete change in the fire department personnel, and he had so notified Chief Lawton. The mayor was averse to making such change during the winter months and had said that the firemen would be given ample notice before the change was made.

The firemen and their friends, while recognizing the right of the mayor and councilmen to oust the fire department members at any time they choose, resent the short notice given them, especially in the case of the chief in view of his 12 years' service in the department, the past nine of which he was chief.

The sole reason as announced for making the change is that the present fire fighting force is too old, and that younger and more active men are needed in the department, which has had a good record in handling fires for several years past and has been commended annually for its service in this regard by the state fire marshal's office.

The reason for the sudden haste by the city government to oust the old firemen and to put new ones in charge is that with the grass fire season coming in they thought that the new fire chief and firemen should be installed as soon as possible so that they could become thoroughly familiar with their duties and the fire fighting equipment before such a season arrived. The grass fires danger usually comes in midsummer and lasts until late fall.

Chief Lawton, known by his many friends familiarly as Wes and his brother, D. T. Lawton, are among the best known old residents of the city. Most of the firemen are married men and have been citizens for years here. The present personnel of the fire department is as follows:

J. W. Lawton, 69 years old and member of the department for the last 12 years, the last nine of which he has been chief; D. T. Lawton, 70 years old, four years service; Frank N. Parker, 53 years old, three years service; Taylor Burch, 53 years old, five years service (off and on); James Roseberry, 56 years old, four years service (off and on).

The new fire chief, Roy Elliott, who will command and reorganize

Admiral Sims for Open Season On K. K. Ear Bounty Favored

ST. LOUIS, Feb. 26.—Rear Admiral Williams S. Sims, retired, in an address here this afternoon attacked the Ku Klux Klan and said that if legislation would not prove effective against the wearing of masks, an open season might be declared for the klan and a bounty offered for their ears. He spoke before the Chamber of Commerce.

EAST ST. LOUIS, Feb. 26.—Chief of Police Mulconery today announced that Ben O. Morrow, arrested Saturday night on a charge of distributing anonymous campaign matter has signed a statement admitting that he was employed by the Ku Klux Klan at \$10 a day as a "precinct committeeman."

LOOK FOR BODY OUTRAGED GIRL; FIEND CAPTURED

PHILADELPHIA, Feb. 26.—Search for six year old Lillian Gilmore, who with her five year old sister Dorothy, was kidnapped from in front of her home Saturday, driven in an automobile to the outskirts of the city and ill treated, was continued today. The police had orders to examine all vacant houses, lots, freight cars and any other place where the child or her body might be concealed. The Delaware river and nearby streams also were being dragged. The condition of Dorothy, who after having been put out of the motor in an isolated section, made her way home and identified a suspect as the man who had carried her and her sister off, was reported as improved. Dorothy's sister led the police to believe her sister was killed. Wylie Morgan, identified by Dorothy as the kidnapper, is wanted in Texas on a similar charge, the police say. He was said to have come from Maud, Texas.

the department, is 34 years old and unmarried.

Experience of New Chief. Prior to the world war he served two and one-half years in the department, and while still a fireman here, enlisted. During the war he served as driver of a chemical truck and was acting assistant fire chief and an inspector at Hazelhurst aviation field, Garden City, Long Island, New York. For some time past he has been an employe of Watkins' feed store.

This noon Mr. Elliott announced that he would retain Taylor Burch, one of the present members of the department permanently, and that temporarily he would retain James Roseberry until he could find another capable man to look after the motor apparatus of the department. He also said that he had, at this time, decided on another man for one of the permanent positions, and hoped to have all positions filled with capable men by Wednesday night, midnight, when the change takes place.

It had been Mayor Gaddis' intention, if possible, to find a capable man of long fire fighting experience among the firemen retired on a pension from one of the big Pacific coast cities, but who are still in their prime. He had intended to take ample time to seek out such a man.

This plan was altered however, on the return home recently of J. H. Butler, chairman of the council fire committee, after a month's sojourn in southern California, during which he studied over the fire situation, and conferred with some of the fire officers of the California cities. He brought back the report that instead of Medford having a veteran retired fireman as the new chief it would be far better in his opinion to break in

(Continued on page eight)

PIERCE SIGNS RELIEF BILL FOR ASTORIA

State Executive Fearful of Precedent Established in Remitting Taxes for Period of Seven Years—Also Signs Carkin Bill Increasing Gasoline Tax.

SALEM, Ore., Feb. 26.—Governor Pierce this morning signed the Astoria relief bill introduced by Representative Mott and passed by both houses of the legislature on the closing day.

The governor also signed the income tax bill. "I am frank to say," said the governor in his message transmitting the bill to the speaker of the house and the president of the senate, "that I signed the bill with considerable reluctance, due, not at all to the fact that I am unwilling to aid Astoria in its hour of need, but due to the fact that the bill suggests and initiates a policy that may prove unwise and in its present form cause a constitutional query as to its validity."

The Mott bill remits the state taxes of the city of Astoria for a period of seven years, limiting the remission of any one year to \$77,000.

SALEM, Ore., Feb. 26.—Governor Pierce declared his belief in the constitutionality of the income tax bill which had been questioned by a Portland attorney.

The governor signed sixteen other bills, including the Carkin bill increasing the gasoline tax from two to three cents.

JAP MUTINEERS ARRESTED WHEN SHIP HITS PORT

VANCOUVER, B. C., Feb. 26.—Nine armed sailors, plotting with 23 stowaways, led the voyage of the 6000 ton freighter Taihu Maru under a virtual reign of terror during her voyage from Kobe, Japan, to this port. The voyage, which was dominated by the rebellious party, ended late last night when the vessel arrived.

The tempestuous voyage was revealed after the captain of the Taihu wireless to this port for help and on arrival here the crew members and stowaways were arrested by police and immigration officers.

The stowaways, according to ship officers, huddled in the ship's coal bunkers, made their appearance on deck a few days after the vessel left Kobe enroute for this port. Joined by nine members of the crew, the party, most of whom were heavily armed with revolvers, told the Japanese captain that they would be in charge of the voyage. All of the mutineers were Japanese. There was no resistance on the part of the ship's officers or the thirty remaining members of the crew.

For ten days the ship was under the sway of the stowaways and nine crew members. As the vessel neared Vancouver harbor yesterday afternoon the mutineers told the captain to land at a certain dock. The captain then sent a wireless message to Captain Barney Johnson, Vancouver representative of the vessel who had a squad of police and immigration officials on hand when the ship arrived.

4 KILLED BY TRAIN WRECK IN SOUTH

CALHOUN, Ga., Feb. 26.—T. H. Groover of St. Louis and E. H. Doak were killed and several injured today when the second section of the Dixie Flyer, northbound on the Nashville, Chattanooga and St. Louis railroad jumped the track one and one-half miles north of here.

BIRMINGHAM, Ala., Feb. 26.—Three trainmen were killed and another trainman was seriously injured today afternoon in the wreck of a freight train on the Frisco railroad at Pratt City, a suburb, according to reports which have reached here.

Duke of York Inspects His Troops



The Duke of York, whose engagement to Lady Elizabeth Bowes-Lyon was recently announced, visited Glasgow recently and inspected the guard of honor at St. Andrews hall.

BOOZE AIRPLANE CAPTURED BUT PILOT ESCAPES

SPOKANE, Feb. 26.—An airplane identified as the one which yesterday landed eight cases of whiskey at the Parkwater aviation field here and made its escape, was located today on the ranch of Frank M. Pershall, at Five-Mile prairie where it landed at 3 o'clock yesterday afternoon.

The pilot, said to be Jack Smith, of Spokane, for whom a federal warrant was issued, told officers a connecting rod in his machine had broken, forcing him down. The gasoline tank was found empty.

Examination of the plane showed it had been specially prepared for the carrying of heavy cargoes, one seat having been removed.

Federal officials ordered that it be disassembled and held. Frank Kepl, arrested yesterday with B. H. Kerner when the unloading of the plane was surprised, was at liberty today on \$1,000 bond, while Werner remained in jail. The automobile to which the bundles, found by officers to contain liquor, were being transferred from the plane, also had been seized.

Five-Mile prairie is five miles north of Spokane.

FRANCE EXTENDS OCCUPATION TO RAILROAD LINES

DUESSELDORF, Feb. 26.—(By the Associated Press)—The French are today in possession of the strips of territory between the Cologne and Coblenz and Lenz and Mayence bridgeheads, thereby securing railway lines that heretofore have been in unoccupied territory. The operation was planned to strengthen the Rhineland customs control.

Between twelve and fifteen thousand civilian workers from France and Belgium are awaiting the word to put them to work on railway lines throughout the Ruhr and Rhineland. Plans for operating the roads, it is expected will be completed this week. The disciplining of the city of Bochum for its attitude toward the occupation has been featured by wholesale arrests and the virtual declaration of a state of siege. The French showed their strength by bringing tanks and machine guns to the heart of the town. Most of those arrested were released.

KENNETH WILLIAMS SIGNS UP, ST. LOUIS

ST. LOUIS, Mo., Feb. 26.—Kenneth Williams, 1922 American league champion home run slugger, today signed up with the local Americans, Bobb Quinn, business manager of the Browns, announced. Terms of the contract were not made public.

After Hearing Rhea N. Y. Bootleggers Cut Prices 5 Per Case

NEW YORK, Feb. 23.—Rhea Crawford, former Salvation Army captain who recently resigned after her arrest in Times Square for conducting a religious meeting that obstructed traffic, intends to organize a band of young people to accompany her on her proposed evangelical tour of the country.

More than a thousand of her friends and admirers gave her a farewell party last night in a theater at which she explained her plans.

Will Rogers, the comedian, who introduced Miss Crawford, said she was the only person in New York he could introduce to his friends without an apology. He said he knew of bootleggers who after hearing her speak at an open air meeting, had cut their prices 5 per case.

WARRANT ISSUED FOR ARREST OF FED'L OFFICIAL

A complaint and warrant charging Tom Word, department of justice agent, with headquarters at Portland, and chief investigator of the Jackson county nightriding cases last spring, with violation of the prohibition laws, was filed in Justice of the Peace Glenn O. Taylor's court late Saturday afternoon. The complaint was sworn to by Chief of Police Chas. Adams, and the warrant placed in his hands for service. Up to noon today it had not been served. Chief of Police Adams said he intended to serve the warrant when Word arrived this morning on the 9:17 train, but was unable to be at the depot. Word called on friends and officials, and said he understood a warrant was waiting for him.

The specific charge in the warrant alleges that Word was "intoxicated on West Main street, and the date is given as November 22, 1922."

It is reported that the grand jury at its sessions last week devoted considerable time to the investigation of the allegation set forth in the warrant, without taking any action. Word arrived in the city today as a witness in the nightriding cases, scheduled for hearing this week in the circuit court.

DUMPING MERCHANT FLEET NEXT STEP

WASHINGTON, Feb. 26.—Chairman Laaker of the shipping board today discussed with President Harding the liquidation policy which the administration has determined to adopt under the merchant marine law as an incident to failure of the shipping bill.

A definite plan, Mr. Laaker said, probably would be passed upon by the full board this week and given approval by the president. He emphasized the necessity for speedy adoption of a comprehensive policy now that it is known that the shipping bill is not to go through.

Secretary Hughes Abandons Trip. WASHINGTON, Feb. 26.—Secretary Hughes has definitely decided that he cannot leave Washington to attend the Pan-American conference at Santiago next month. Although he hoped to arrange his official affairs at the last moment so as to go, he has found it impossible to do so.

LONDON—Turkish papers in Constantinople published dispatches from Angora announcing that a majority of the grand national assembly, supported by the military demanded rejection of the Lausanne treaty.

SECY. AGRIC. WILL FIGHT ARMOUR CO.

Sec'y. of Agriculture Charges Armour and Morris Companies With Violation of Packer's Act—Action Result of Meeting With Meat Magnates, December.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 26.—Armour and company and Morris and company Chicago packers, were served today by the secretary of agriculture with a complaint charging them with violation of the packers and stockyards act in connection with the tentative acquisition of the plants and business of Morris and company by the Armour interests.

Secretary Wallace set April 2 for a hearing in Washington. The complaint stated that in December, J. Ogden Armour entered into a written contract with Morris and company to acquire all of its assets. In so doing, it was charged, parties to the contract violated the packers and stockyards act.

Secretary Wallace claimed such acquisition would have the effect of restraining interstate commerce or of creating a monopoly in many sections of the United States in the purchase of livestock and in the shipment and sale of meat and other livestock products.

The complaint also charged that the contract would have the effect of manipulating or influencing prices. The proposal first came to public notice early in November when J. Ogden Armour and other officials of Armour and company conferred with Secretary Wallace. After conferences between Mr. Wallace, President Harding and Attorney General Daugherty which followed, it was announced that it had been agreed that there was no obligation on the part of the government to endorse or to acquiesce in the proposal.

Secretary Wallace declared today that early in December he told J. Ogden Armour and J. Edson White, now president of Armour and company, that he "did not think we could look with favor upon the transaction proposed and suggested that they should do nothing further with it."

Mr. Armour, he said, then remarked that they felt that it was necessary that they should complete the purchase in order to increase their volume of business and thus better be able to meet heavy overhead charges.

A week or so later, Mr. Wallace said he again advised the Armour officials that the "best thing to do was to drop the whole matter, and before the conversation ended, I told them plainly that if they should go ahead and consummate the purchase I would feel it my duty to issue a complaint, which very likely would be followed by an order to cease and desist in order that a judicial decision might be obtained."

The agreement between the Armour and Morris companies, according to the complaint, called for a purchase price of \$30,000,000 of which \$10,000,000 was to be in cash, \$10,000,000 in preferred stock and \$10,000,000 in common stock of Armour and company. The transfer was to be made on or before February 28.

Wallace's Statement in Full. Mr. Wallace, in a statement today said: "On January 29, I heard that some sort of an agreement had been signed by J. Ogden Armour and by the stockholders of Morris and company. I called Armour and company at Chicago and asked whether such an agreement had been signed, and was told that it had been, but that its terms had not yet been put into effect. I told representatives of Armour and

(Continued on page eight)

MAY CONNECT NEW YORK CITY ARMS CACHE WITH AGENTS OF IRISH REPUBLIC

NEW YORK, Feb. 26.—Government agents and the police bomb squad, who are seeking the owner of the cache of machine guns, grenades and cartridges found in the basement of a lower west side house last Saturday today admitted they were baffled.

They have learned that Arthur Lowmeyer, proprietor of a seaman's supply store in Hoboken, leased the basement recently, but he denies ownership or knowledge of the contraband. No charges have been made against him.

4 KILLED BY TRAIN WRECK IN SOUTH

CALHOUN, Ga., Feb. 26.—T. H. Groover of St. Louis and E. H. Doak were killed and several injured today when the second section of the Dixie Flyer, northbound on the Nashville, Chattanooga and St. Louis railroad jumped the track one and one-half miles north of here.

BIRMINGHAM, Ala., Feb. 26.—Three trainmen were killed and another trainman was seriously injured today afternoon in the wreck of a freight train on the Frisco railroad at Pratt City, a suburb, according to reports which have reached here.

KENNETH WILLIAMS SIGNS UP, ST. LOUIS

ST. LOUIS, Mo., Feb. 26.—Kenneth Williams, 1922 American league champion home run slugger, today signed up with the local Americans, Bobb Quinn, business manager of the Browns, announced. Terms of the contract were not made public.

TWO NEW YORK CENTRAL MAIL TRAINS ROBBED IN LAST TWENTY FOUR HOURS

NEW YORK, Feb. 26.—Theft of thousands of dollars of registered mail from a New York Central train between Syracuse and Albany several days ago was reported by authoritative sources today. The robbery, it was said, was similar to that in Grand Central terminal yesterday.

NEW YORK, Feb. 26.—Postal inspectors and railroad police today declared that last night's robbery of mail pouches on a Chicago train with through mail from San Francisco by a lone bandit was the third that took place on the same train within two months. The bandit escaped.

Both postal inspectors and railroad police declared it their belief that the robber had boarded the train at some up-state point and had made his way into one of the steel mail cars before reaching Grand Central station. The bandit's haul was said to have been one registered package, mailed in Chicago.