

The Weather
Prediction Rain
Maximum yesterday 55.5
Minimum today 28.5

MEDFORD MAIL TRIBUNE

University Library
Weather Year Ago
Maximum 50
Minimum 3b
Precipitation .02

Medford, Oregon, Thursday, March 8, 1923. NO. 296

CHARACTER WITNESS'S ARE CALLED

Ex-Mayor Gates and Other Prominent Citizens Testify to Good Reputations of Defendants in the Nightriding Trials—Klan Issue Comes to Front.

Citizens long prominent in the affairs of southern Oregon—lawyers, bankers, merchants—including two former mayors of Medford and a prospective candidate for governor at the primary last spring, testified this morning for the defense in the Jackson county nightriding cases. They came to testify to the reputation of the three defendants, Dr. J. F. P. Bray, Jesse P. Hittson, and Howard A. Hill, "for being law abiding and peaceful citizens," to the reputation for "morality and veracity" of J. F. Hale, their chief accuser, and star witness for the state, and incorporation of the alibis the defense offered, relative to their whereabouts on the night of March 17, 1922.

Charles E. (Pop) Gates, former mayor of Medford, prospective republican candidate for governor last spring, with a state-wide acquaintance, testified that the reputation of Hale for "morality" was bad, and said he based his opinion on his own personal experience. Asked if he belonged to any lodges with the defendants, Gates replied "the Elks, the Shrine, the Masons, the K. of P. and the Klan." Gates was a willing witness, and overrode the objections of the defense counsel, expressing a desire to talk.

"If these men are guilty of what they have been accused of," volunteered the former Medford mayor, "I would help convict them," and added that "upholding of the law was the first principle of the order, as a matter of fact."

Assistant Attorney General Liljequist complimented Gates upon his frankness and responsive answers.

Black Robes Were Seen.

Black robes, that during the nightriding trials, it has been testified were worn at the "hanging" of J. F. Hale, and at the meeting of "an organization" that held its meetings in the Odd Fellows Hall in the city of Medford, again entered the testimony at the morning session of the case. Assistant Attorney General Liljequist questioned William Offutt, Jr., upon this point.

Offutt, an auto mechanic, testified that Tom Word, federal agent, had promised him immunity "if he would come through." He denied that he was present at the Hale "hanging," and swore that he was at the home of J. F. Hittson, defendant, on the night of the episode, March 17, 1922, between from eight to half past eleven o'clock, and that a contract had been entered into at that time between himself and Hittson, the legal paper being introduced as evidence.

The witness was asked if he ever belonged to the same organization as any of the defendants, and replied that he did, and was asked if he recalled appearing before the grand jury investigation. He said he did.

Offutt was asked if he ever remembered hearing a conversation between Defendant Hill and the two Klan klanes, in which the burden of the conversation was that "Hale had not been hurt," and during which the alleged statement was made, that Hale had been lifted off the ground, and not hurt, but had had a "fit." The witness did not definitely recollect the conversation.

The witness was asked by the state if he had not testified before the grand jury investigation, that "he had attended a meeting in the Odd Fellows hall, which was a meeting of the Ku Klux Klan, at which there were eight officers in the chairs, and eight black robes worn." The witness previously testified that he had seen "white robes" at a meeting in the Odd Fellows hall.

The witness said he had attended a meeting, the date of which he did not remember, in the Odd Fellows hall, at which Hill and the two klanes were present. He thought the date of this meeting was some

Emigration to U. S. A. From Great Britain Breaks All Records

LONDON, Mar. 8.—If the flood of English emigration to America continues at the present rate, Great Britain's quota under the American law will be reached long before July 1, the end of the fiscal emigration year.

Contrary to the general impression it is learned that Britishers are going to America at a rate almost never equalled and there is room for only 28,000 more in this year's quota.

Emigrants are leaving Glasgow alone at a rate of more than 500 weekly, which is greater than the number from all other English ports combined last year. The annual quota for Great Britain now is 77,312.

DEATH BED IS SCENE OF ATTACK BY BLACK FIEND

SPENCER, Tenn., March 8.—Posses from both this and White counties are searching the banks of the Calf Killer river near Sparta, for Lewis Douglas, negro paroled convict, who early today attempted to kill the Haston family at their home at Cummingsville, three miles from here.

The wounded include: Sam Haston, brother of Ernest Haston, Tennessee's secretary of state; Mrs. George Haston, Sr., his mother; Mrs. S. D. Shapero, a sister; Tullus Trogen, a boy living on the place and another person, also living on the place but whose name is not known here.

Members of the Haston family were sitting at the bedside of Mrs. Sam Haston, who was ill, when someone went to the corn crib and said to have found Douglas there. He was ordered away and left. Later however, Douglas returned and when near the house called out.

Members of the family went to the door and Douglas, who had armed himself with a shotgun, began firing, it is reported.

Sam Haston was shot in the thigh. The wound is regarded as serious. Mrs. George Haston was shot in the head. The Trogen boy's eye was wounded. Mrs. Shapero was shot in both hands and in the arm as she attempted to close the door. The injuries of the other persons are not known here.

Following the shooting the negro escaped and was heard of later near Sparta, in White county. He is reported surrounded in a bend of the Calf Killer river near Sparta, in White county. The injuries of the wounded were dressed by physicians who came from Sparta, and just as the broken leg of Sam Haston was set, his wife died. She had remained unconscious throughout the shooting.

Secretary of State Ernest Haston in Nashville was notified by wire and started for the scene with bloodhounds.

Douglas was sent to state prison from Shelby county in 1915 for arson, his conviction carrying a term of five to twenty years. Sympathy excited for him is said to have moved members of the Haston family to secure his release on parole to them.

The Noted Dead

OREGON CITY, Ore., March 8.—Mrs. Mary Apperson, widow of the late Captain J. H. Apperson, pioneer of eastern Washington and Oregon, was dead today at her home near here. Captain Apperson was an Indian fighter in the early days at Walla Walla, Wash., his will provided that on the death of his widow, his \$100,000 estate should be turned over to the state land board as a trust fund for educating worthy students at Oregon Agricultural college.

LONDON SEES BLOODSHED OR COLLAPSE

England Gloomy Regarding Outcome in Ruhr Valley—Expects Open Revolt and German Massacre or Quick Surrender to French Control—Conditions Bad.

LONDON, March 8.—(By the Associated Press.)—Gloomy pictures of the situation in the Ruhr, with warnings of an impending crisis, are painted today by some of the London newspaper correspondents.

A Dusseldorf dispatch to the telegraph says that unemployment is increasing and that the political situation is dangerous. Economic conditions he describes as disastrous, asserting that 25,000 persons are without work in Dusseldorf alone and that the employment wages are insufficient. Workmen are noticeably depressed, the correspondent adds and rumors are current that they are beginning to doubt the issue of the struggle.

The French, this dispatch adds, are preparing to deal with the food problem which will undoubtedly arise with the increase of unemployment. Their soup kitchens, boycotted at first, are now popular.

The Cologne correspondent of the Daily Express reports that conditions in Essen and Bochum are pitiful and that the death rate among the children has risen twenty per cent in the last month and that milk is almost unobtainable.

The phrase "hunger blockade" is on the lips of the whole German population.

The French military authorities have given definite orders to admit all foodstuffs to the cities, but some of the trucks never arrive and part of the shipments are stolen.

French Occupy Schools

Education, the correspondent adds, is at a standstill for the French have occupied the schools. The passing of each day finds public feeling more embittered.

The impression that the "cauldron in the Ruhr may boil over at any time with fearful results in bloodshed," is expressed by the Cologne representative of the Westminster Gazette. He continues:

"It is the opinion of those best able to judge that unless an agreement is soon reached it can only be a matter of time before another war breaks out."

I am told that France would not hesitate to declare war and bomb the German cities including Berlin if her forces are attacked.

The correspondent adds that it is only fair to point out that many reports of this character may be traced to German sources. He asserts that the difficulty of obtaining reliable information because of the severance of communications is being constantly emphasized. In this connection the Cologne correspondent of the Express says it is impossible to verify some of the stories in circulation and that rumors much more serious than the facts warrant are rife.

Disarm German Police

BERLIN, March 8.—(By the Associated Press.)—A telegram from Dortmund states that the French reentered that city, surrounding a school house and disarming the police who were quartered there. The force was removed to an unknown destination. The French allowed the patrolmen to take their belongings with them while the officers were permitted to retain their swords. The town hall was later occupied. Units from Dortmund and Herten were used in the operation.

PARIS, March 8.—(By the Associated Press.)—The government's naval program was introduced in the chamber of deputies today by Minister of Marine Raiberti, with the remark that the program "was conceived within the framework of the Washington accords, so that the government cannot give stronger proof of its intention to obtain their ratification."

"The program," continued the minister, "does not fix the number of units, as that may vary with the needs of the national defense, but it fixed the tonnage for each category."

"For battleships it provides for 175,000 tons, but the preamble explains that the government has no intention of constructing to that extent for the present, for these reasons:

"Firstly, the type of the capital ship has not been settled upon; secondly, the fleet must be in accord with our financial means, and France has not the means to construct a fleet of capital ships and a fleet of light units."

The Bathing Hour at Palm Beach



Miss Constance Peabody and Mrs. J. Theus Mundy of New York, ready for a plunge in the briny at Palm Beach.

JAMES H. OWEN HERE TO INSPECT LUMBER SITUATION

Mr. and Mrs. James H. Owen arrived in Medford the first of March after a several months' visit in the east and expect to remain here for the next two months.

J. H. Owen, who resigned from the presidency of the California and Oregon Lumber company at Brookings, Ore., and disposed of his interests in that concern last fall, is looking for a location to begin lumber manufacture again.

He is looking over the situation here and states that he has made no definite decision as to the beginning of operations. A. R. Owen, representing the John S. Owen interests, of Owen, Wis., will arrive about May 1, to collaborate with J. H. Owen and give the situation a close inspection and fuller consideration.

The John S. Owen interests own approximately 15,000 acres of timber in the Butte Falls district which is penetrated by the Brownlee-Olds Lumber company railroad. A little over half the timber is yellow and sugar pine while the remainder is Douglas fir.

The John S. Owen interests also own the John S. Owen Lumber company at Owen, Wis., near Eau Claire, and the Rust-Owen Lumber company at Drummond, Wis.

In regard to the local situation Mr. Owen makes it quite emphatic that nothing is being done at present and that there is no certainty of anything being done.

The Del Norte Triplicate of Oct. 13, 1922, expresses the following sentiment with regard to the resignation of James H. Owen as head of the C. and O. Lumber company:

"J. H. Owen has resigned from the presidency of the California and Oregon Lumber company, and has disposed of his interests in that concern, according to information reaching here this week, the resignation having already taken effect."

"Mr. Owen built the town of Brookings and to his executive ability and far sightedness the concern reached a high pinnacle in the Pacific coast lumber world. Hampered by every obstacle conceivable he kept his organization intact through the trying times of the war and soon as it was over he battled through the depression period, coming up with a bigger and better equipment to take care of the growing business."

Mr. Owen still has and represents large timber holdings in this county and contemplates entering business here, according to information reaching here. Mr. Owen's entry into the lumber business in Del Norte county would mean the construction and operation of another big redwood mill. The Triplicate feels perfectly safe in assuring him the full cooperation of the people in Del Norte for any payroll proposition he might inaugurate here."

ABANDON PLAN TO SHIP U. S. NEGROES TO FRENCH MINES

NEW YORK, March 8.—(By the Associated Press.)—Harry V. Dougherty, member of a detective agency which specializes in furnishing labor to industrial concerns, has given up his hope of helping France exploit the coal mines of the Ruhr through the medium of American negroes.

Dougherty announced upon his arrival on the steamship yesterday that he would transport from 2500 to 5000 negro miners to the Ruhr. Today he said he had dropped the plan because he had learned since his arrival that instead of thousands of negroes eager for the jobs, he couldn't find 100 who were willing to accept them.

He said his plan for transporting a miners' expeditionary force had started January 16 when on a voyage from Algiers to Marseilles he met Louis Janneau, a French labor commissioner.

Janneau was conveying about 700 Arabs from Algiers to the coal fields, Mr. Dougherty said. "He told me that these Arabs were no good as mine workers. He said that this was his second trip and that the previous bunch had lasted only a few days. I told Janneau that I had had experience in supplying large bodies of men for industrial occupations. Janneau became interested at once and proposed that I see what I could do, telling me he could use all the men I could get up to 3000. He said he would take care of all matters affecting compensation and transportation and would also see that any international complications that might arise would be handled from Paris thru the French foreign office."

NEW YORK, March 8.—Harry V. Dougherty, arriving on the steamer Majestic today announced he had perfected plans to transport between 2500 and 5000 American negro miners to the Ruhr to work coal mines seized by the French government.

STANFORD DINNER TOMORROW NIGHT

A radio program from the broadcasting station at Stanford University will be part of the entertainment of the Founders' Day dinner of Stanford alumni tomorrow night at the Hotel Medford.

All Stanford alumni in the Rogue River valley and their wives and husbands have been invited to the dinner at 7 o'clock. A permanent alumni organization will be formed at that time. All those who intend to be present are asked to phone their reservations at once to C. E. Blee, the California Oregon Power company.

Don Runyard, Copco employee and radio expert for a number of years past, will set up his apparatus in the dining room of the hotel for the reception of the radio program. A loud speaker will be used in connection with the apparatus.

Miss Lenglen Supreme

MENTONE, Mar. 8.—(By Associated Press.)—Miss Suzanne Lenglen defeated Miss Cadie of England in the women's singles of the Mentone tennis tournament today, 6-0, 6-1. Miss Cadie is the player who on Tuesday eliminated Mrs. Molla B. Mallory, the American champion.

Boost McAdoo for 1924.

AUSTIN, Texas, March 8.—Organization of a "McAdoo for President" club was perfected here last night by approximately 100 members of the Texas legislature and others. The club will urge the candidacy of William G. McAdoo for the presidency.

U. S. Commissioner in Alaska Frozen to Death in Wilderness

NOME, Alaska, Mar. 8.—(By Associated Press.) W. O. Marx, United States commissioner at Teller, was frozen to death on an untracked trail between Teller and Shishmaref, February 27, according to advices from Teller today. A companion named Reed who became separated from Marx in a blinding snowstorm finally reached Teller safely and organized a searching party. The body was found 25 miles from Teller.

Searchers said that Marx, finding his companion missing, had evidently back trailed several miles and had fallen over a high precipice. Apparently uninjured he had continued in the direction of Teller until overcome by the cold.

FIND HORROR MACHINE IN BASTROP, LA.

Authorities Believe Watt Daniel and T. F. Richard Were Tortured and Killed By Road Tractor—Metal Cleats On Wheels Responsible for the Bone Fractures.

BASTROP, La., Mar. 8.—(By Associated Press.) Persons who have examined carefully the report of the pathologists on the condition of the mutilated bodies of Watt Daniel and T. F. Richard, found in Lake Lafourche December 22 last, and who are familiar with mechanical devices declare they believe they have identified the so-called "torture machine" as one of the many road or farm tractors in use throughout the parish.

Daniel and Richard were kidnapped August 24 and nothing was heard of them until four months later when two bodies were discovered in the lake and identified as those of the missing men. The head of each was crushed. The hands and feet had been crushed off and at equal distances, the lower legs, thighs, upper arms and forearms were broken. The chests had been crushed in.

The pathologists testified at the open hearing here in January that an examination indicated that the wounds had been inflicted before or just after death. The heart of each man, they said, had been drained of blood.

About three miles from Bastrop, on the Bastrop-Colliston-Monroe highway is a huge tractor used to pull a road scraper, a typical machine of its kind. The iron wheels are seven or eight feet in diameter while the rims have a width of approximately three feet. Riveted to the rims to prevent the wheels from slipping in soft earth, are steel cleats the width of the wheels and about fifteen inches apart.

The bodies apparently had been stretched full length when they were mutilated with the arms brought above the head. Fractures of the forearms were on a level with the heads and those who assert the bones must have been broken with a tractor, believe they were stretched on the ground and the machine run or pushed over them. Such a machine as the one near here, it is contended, would inflict such injuries, the heavy cleats on the wide wheels fracturing the arm and leg bones, crushing the heads and chests and severing completely the hands and feet at the wrists and just above the ankles.

It is known that the authorities have received numerous anonymous letters from plantation owners and farmers suggesting that a tractor must have been used.

Daniel was forced to submit to an operation and those who have determined upon a possible motive for the mutilation believe that he bled to death or that his captors realized he would succumb. Having blood on their hands it either was determined to make away with Richard as he might have recognized one or more members of the band, or Richard might have broken his bonds and during an attempt to go to the assistance of Daniel was killed.

BASTROP, La., March 8.—Jim Noraworthy and "Tot" Davenport were witnesses today before the Morehouse parish grand jury investigating hooded band atrocities. Noraworthy testified at the open hearing that, while a captain in the Morehouse parish Klan he had been ordered by J. K. Skipworth, the exalted cyclops to whip two men and put them across the border into Arkansas. He also said the black hood was a part of the Klan regalia.

Davenport was one of the five men kidnapped by hooded men on August 24. He was released without being flogged.

BALFOUR SCORES COL. HARVEY FOR PILGRIM SPEECH

LONDON, March 8.—(By the Associated Press.)—Speaking in the house of lords today the Earl of Balfour, secretary for foreign affairs in the cabinet of Former Premier Lloyd George, declared that his circular note to the allies on the subject of interallied debts did not deserve the strictures passed upon it by American Ambassador Harvey in his recent speech here.

In concluding his explanation, the former foreign secretary said that from a strictly commercial viewpoint Ambassador Harvey's statements might have been correct, but that "I for one take less of a commercial view of the deal."

"Silence on my part after such a statement by one holding the high post of ambassador would probably be misunderstood," Lord Balfour said in explanation of his reply.

Referring to the statement in his note that the British debt to America was incurred for other countries and not for Great Britain, he insisted upon the truth of his statement, in substance if not in form, and proceeded to facts and figures substantiating his claims.

SAYS LOCAL TRIAL A POLITICAL PLOT

ROSEBURG, March 8.—Fred L. Gifford, grand dragon of the Ku Klux Klan, in Oregon, addressed 200 klanmen in Roseburg Monday night. An informal banquet was given before the meeting by business men who are members of the organization. Gifford touched on the coming fight over the school bill, and pledged the support of the Klan in aiding officers in enforcing law and order.

Gifford stated that the Medford case now on trial, is a political plot brought on by leaders in state politics. He will visit other klans in Oregon before returning to Portland.

Gifford arrived in Medford for a visit following the Roseburg meeting.

Pierce Refuses to Grant Clemency to Condemned Slayer

SALEM, Ore., Mar. 8.—Governor Nor W. M. Pierce announced today that he had refused to commute the sentence of Husted A. Walters, condemned to hang at the state prison here Friday for the slaying in Portland of Jerome Palmer, a patrolman. Pleas for executive clemency in the case had been made.

FUNERAL OF "SPIDER" YOUNG WHO WON CHEERS THOUSANDS ATTENDED BY ONLY 10

NEW YORK, March 8.—Whenever Harry "Spider" Young climbed the outside of a tall building in fly fashion or did stunts atop a flag pole 20 or 30 stories above the street, he won the cheers of thousands as he defied death.

Thousands in Broadway saw him killed Monday in a plunge from the tenth floor of the Hotel Martinique in one of his thrilling stunts. Yesterday only ten persons attended his funeral and only two floral pieces were placed on his bier.

Two of the mourners were men who earn a living by challenging the law of gravitation—George "Daredevil" Raymond, who tearfully told how he had taught "Spider" Young his risky trade, and Peewee J. Curtis, an airplane stunt performer.

A flag draped the coffin, tribute to Young's war work for the Red Cross. His widow, who saw him fall to his death, and his two small children by a former marriage were the only ones to accompany the body to Evergreen cemetery.

CHICAGO HOTELS UNDER POLICE G'D AS RESULT OF ANTI-VICE CRUSADE

CHICAGO, Mar. 8.—A hint of what the law enforcement could be was given today in Chief of Police Fitzmorris' silent show of force in his new policy of espionage of vice.

After a raid on one downtown hotel at night and the arrest of three men and three women who had registered under one of them under assumed names, the commanding officer of the district placed a uniformed policeman near the desk in each of two hotels.

Protests from the hotel managers who professed themselves amazed, failed to cause revocation of the orders. The three hotels affected were DeJonghe hotel on Monroe street, DeJonghe hotel on Clark street, Victoria hotel, Clark and Van Buren streets.