University Library

The Weather
Prediction ..... Rain
Maximum yesterday 79
Minimum today 46
Precipitation ..... .04

MEDFORD MAIL TRIBUNE

Weather Year Ago
Maximum 61
Minimum 42
Precipitation ..... Trace

Daily—Eighteenth Year.
Weekly—Fifty-Third Year.

MEDFORD, OREGON, SATURDAY, MARCH 31, 1923

NO. 8

EX-OREGON EVANGELIST MADE BOMB

Wilson, Awaiting Trial for Murder, Confesses Part in Wall St. Explosion—'Bunk' Say Officials—Los Angeles Authorities Withhold Admission—Agents Investigate.

MIAMI, Fla., Mar 31.—William J. Burns, chief of the department of justice, investigation bureau, said today he is waiting word from Washington as to developments in the alleged confession of Herbert Wilson in Los Angeles yesterday that he manufactured the bomb that killed 39 persons in Wall street, New York, in September, 1920.

"I expect to get word from Washington either today or tomorrow," said Mr. Burns, "but if I do not hear from Washington by tomorrow I shall leave for Los Angeles at once, going by way of New Orleans, and should reach Los Angeles in about five days.

"Without access to my records and trusting to my memory I would say that the name of Wilson has not been mentioned at any time in connection with the bomb plot investigation altho we have what we consider to be a good line on the men involved."

LOS ANGELES, March 31.—Many of the details of the purported confession of Herbert Wilson, convicted murderer, alleged mail robber and former evangelist, that he manufactured the explosive in the bomb which killed 39 persons and destroyed property valued at thousands of dollars in Wall Street, New York City, September 17, 1920, are withheld from the public "for the present," it was admitted today by county and federal agents.

Wilson, a prisoner in the Los Angeles county jail, and former Oregon evangelist, has been questioned at length by groups of deputy sheriffs and postal inspectors, according to the Los Angeles Times and the officers expect others of various branches of the federal government, including W. J. Burns, director of the bureau of investigation of the department of justice, to come here to try to obtain fuller information than they yet have persuaded Wilson to give.

Wilson is said by Los Angeles officers to have told them he had designed the bomb and manufactured some of its most intricate parts at his home here, while under the impression it was to be used by bank burglars who wanted to wreck a vault to hide evidence of having opened it by using the combination.

He stated he went east in August, before the September tragedy and, at a point near New York City, met a man who employed him to construct the engine of destruction, which he turned over only a few days before the explosion.

Later, he was quoted, he learned from "friends in the underworld" what use had been made of the bomb and still later recognized a published photograph of a man in Warsaw, Poland, as that of the purchaser of the infernal machine.

While officers said they viewed the alleged confession with more or less skepticism, "the fact remained that Wilson had made it," and they could see little he could hope to gain if it were not true, considering he had been convicted of murder, still faced possible trial for mail robbery—the government preferring to keep that in abeyance pending the result of his trial for the murder of Herbert R. Cox, his alleged accomplice—and also faced trials for other felonies growing out of a break from jail last October.

Wilson indicated he was actuated by regret for "earlier mistakes."

NEW YORK, March 31.—The report from Los Angeles that Herbert Wilson had told the police he could solve the Wall street bomb explosion

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Nippy Weather for Easter Bonnets in East and South

WASHINGTON, Mar. 31.—The predicted Easter cold weather blight was sweeping steadily eastward and southward today and by tonight, according to the official forecast, the chill high pressure area originating somewhere in the Arctic regions will overspread practically the entire east.

By tomorrow, the weather man says the chilling fingers of the Arctic visitor will have spread frost as far south as northern Florida, with a sharply declining scale of temperatures northward. To the dubious Easter bonnet, however, he does hold out the faint hope of a "slowly" rising temperature Sunday afternoon.

SILENCE COVERS FATE OF VICAR SOVIET DOOMED

May Have Paid Death Penalty—Clemency Refused and No Appeal—Foreign Legation Appeals Unanswered and No Information.

MOSCOW, March 31, 5 p. m.—(By the Associated Press)—The death sentence imposed on Vicar General Butchkavitch, commutation of which was denied by the central executive committee, has not yet been carried out it was said at five o'clock this afternoon.

MOSCOW, March 31.—(By the Associated Press)—Inquiry at a number of government departments today failed to reveal whether Vicar General Butchkavitch has already paid the death penalty. The general impression last night seemed to be that there was slight probability of the central executive committee changing its decision to grant no clemency to the prelate. Appeals have been made to the foreign office by the heads of the Polish, Czecho-Slovak and Italian missions. Under ordinary circumstances, when clemency is refused an execution is carried out within a few hours. Whether the central executive committee met again yesterday to re-consider its decision in view of the many verbal appeals, could not be ascertained officially this morning.

Father Walsh, representative of the Catholic welfare board, told the correspondent he had no answer to his request that he be allowed to administer the last sacrament to Monsignor Butchkavitch.

The foreign legations which asked that clemency be granted to the prelate were without information at noon as to whether he had been executed.

ENGINEER KILLED IN S. P. S. WRECK

PORTLAND, Ore., March 31.—Engineer George Koontz was killed and the fireman and baggageman were injured when passenger train No. 2 of the Spokane, Portland and Seattle railroad which left here last night was derailed one and one-half miles east of Cheney, 17 miles west of Spokane, according to reports to railroad headquarters here today. All the cars were derailed except two sleepers and the observation car.

The baggage car was badly smashed. Engineer Koontz was a resident of Spokane. The cause of the wreck was not given in reports received here.

The Presidential Vacation in Florida

Upper—His first game upon arrival at Palm Beach, Fla. As soon as the presidential party stepped from the houseboat Pioneer at Palm Beach, the president started looking for the links.

Lower left—First close up of Mrs. Harding since she went to Florida on her vacation. She is shown sitting on the deck of the Pioneer with Mrs. F. S. McLean, her hostess.

Lower right—Excellent "closeup" of President Harding, caught by the camera as he was about to start out on an automobile trip. The president is evidently in the best of health and humor

BILL HART MADE FUND FOR BABY

But Film Star Never Admitted Parentage of Child Says Woolwine—Denied Girl's Claim, But Manner Deceptful at Interview in Office of District Attorney.

DENVER, Colo., March 21.—William S. Hart, despite his emphatic denials made a $50 a month trust fund for a child alleged by the mother to be Hart's, Thomas Lee Woolwine, district attorney of Los Angeles, declared in a statement here today, he had been informed, following his own investigation of the case with a view to bringing criminal proceedings. The settlement was made after the woman had engaged an attorney to bring civil action, Woolwine said.

"The case first came to my attention in December, 1918," Mr. Woolwine stated. "The woman with the baby came to my office, declaring Hart was the father and that he had refused to see her. You know we have a statute compelling a father to support his children, whether illegitimate or lawful. I took an interest in her story. She gave me her version of the whole case.

"Of course it is necessary to hear both sides of any matter before taking action, so I summoned the actor to my office and confronted him with the claim.

"Hart denied everything, denied it with emphasis. But there was something about his manner which led me to believe he was not telling the whole truth.

"I had a transcript made of the woman's declarations. It was a lengthy document, telling in detail the circumstances of her meeting the actor, the subsequent alleged intimacy and the birth of her child in New York City.

"Preparations were being made to take criminal action against the movie man when the woman employed an attorney and made ready to take civil action. Then I was informed that the case had been settled out of court, that Hart had made a trust of $50 a month for the support of the child.

"So far as I know Hart never admitted parentage of the child."

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CEEPEE DIVORCE WOULD DISRUPT SHIPPING, CLAIM

Espee Owns But 527 Miles of Pacific System, and Efficiency Now Developed in Moving Fruit Would Be Wrecked, Says Buckhalter.

SAN FRANCISCO, March 31.—The Southern Pacific company owns but 527 miles of the 7,111 miles of trackage in its Pacific system, F. L. Burckhalter, general manager of the northern division of the company's system testified today at the opening session of an inter-state commerce hearing on proposed rail carrier groupings under the transportation act of 1920.

The Central Pacific system owns 2307 miles of the trackage, while the remainder is owned by other lines, Burckhalter said. He emphasized the necessity of the present grouping of the system remaining intact in order that there shall be no possible upheaval of present shipping arrangements. Burckhalter was the first witness called.

"Fifty-three years of growth have produced intimacies of joint ownership between the Southern Pacific and the Central Pacific that cannot be destroyed without drastic consequences upon the railroads and the shippers," Burckhalter said.

"Freight now moves through 23 junctions on the Pacific system, Burckhalter said, without any consideration of the ownership of these junctions. The complicated and intricate transportation arrangements, particularly in the fruit shipping season, depend upon unified operation and even the slightest change would have a far reaching effect.

"It would be necessary for the Southern Pacific to lengthen its line by 47 miles between the division points of Gerber and Goshen Junction, Cal., a distance of 322 miles, in the event of a separation of the two systems," he said. The movement of dried fruits and raisins from the fields to the packing plants with the present efficiency is the result of unified operation.

There are four changes of trains in the system from Oakland to Portland and as many from Oakland to Los Angeles, Burckhalter said. The southern Pacific and Central Pacific alternate in all these changes.

The Daily Bank Robbery

KANSAS CITY, Mo., March 31.—Two crews of bandits obtained $9986 in cash in two holdups of bank messengers in the Armourdale district today and escaped with the money.

401 OWNERS TO RESCIND JAP LEASE

Vice-President of Sacramento Concern Wires Efforts Being Made to Cancel Lease to Japanese and Promise Cooperation—Legion Opposition Helps.

Through the prompt and efficacious work of the Medford post of the American legion in starting a local and state-wide protest over the leasing of the 401 orchard by the Sacramento Investment company, owners of the orchard, to a group of 40 Japanese, to take effect April 1, such lease has been headed off, at least for the present, and probably permanently.

The first inkling of this came today when telegraphic orders were received from the company ordering the superintendent and 21 other employes of the company, to remain at work pending negotiations looking toward canceling of the company contract with the Japanese.

The state department of the American Legion and the local fraternal organizations and other persons had been busy the past day and a half wiring protests to the company headquarters at Sacramento. Not only that but even some of the prominent members of the local small Japanese colony also got busy in efforts to prevent the lease from being fulfilled.

Confirmation that the company was endeavoring to get out of the lease was contained in the following telegram received early this afternoon by C. Y. Tengwald, commander of the local legion post, from Sheridan Downey, of Sacramento, vice-president of the Sacramento Investment company:

"When lease was made with Japanese, I was entirely unfamiliar with conditions at Medford and did not know there would be any objection. I regret exceedingly the action that has been taken and now am using my best endeavors to secure rescinding of the lease. I will notify you promptly of any further developments. We will be very glad to cooperate with you in any way we can for the best interests of Medford."

George R. Wilbur, state commander of the American Legion also wired today as follows to Mr. Tengwald the local commander.

"Have read press reports of proposed Japanese invasion of Jackson county. Legislative action not in effect yet, but proposal is a moral violation of the law and the desire of

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Here Lie Three Who Didn't Beat Train to Crossing

FRESNO, Cal., March 31.—Mrs. Andre Andresian, fatally injured late yesterday when a Santa Fe freight train at Calway crashed into an automobile loaded with five persons, killing Mrs. M. Kadijian of Fowler and her six months' old infant, died today at a local sanitarium. Charles Tutunjian, also of Fowler, driver of the car, is in a serious condition at the county hospital, and may die.

The train crew in statements to the coroner declared that the driver of the machine was racing to cross ahead of the train.

RUHR WORKERS IGNORE FRENCH ORDERS; 6 DEAD

Seizure of Krupp Motor Factory Cause of Drastic Move—Strikers Told to Go to Work Or Be Expelled From Ruhr District.

BERLIN, March 31.—(By the Associated Press)—Six German workers at the Krupp plant in Essen have been killed and twenty injured in a conflict with the French military says a Central News dispatch from Essen today.

The trouble occurred through the French unexpectedly proceeding to occupy certain of the Krupp motor works whereupon the workers stopped machinery and went outside to offer opposition, the message states. The officer in charge of the French tried to persuade the men to return to duty but they refused and surrounded the troops, threatening them with attack unless they withdrew.

The officer pointed out that he must carry out his orders, but the workers were obdurate, declaring they would defend their plant.

Four machine guns then opened fire, adds the message and six workers fell dead while twenty were wounded seriously. The remainder scattered and the French then proceeded to occupy the works.

DUESSELDORF, March 31.—(By the Associated Press)—General DeGoutte's proclamation that all striking German railway workers in the occupied zone must either return to work or be expelled finds the allies in possession of all Ruhr and Rhineland rail lines except those in the British area.

Enforcement of the order, it seems, will offer the transportation officials something of a problem for approximately half a million persons, including the families of the men, may be affected. It is expected that the process of expulsion will take several weeks and special transportation to the frontier must be provided.

The ten billion marks and four hundred thousand French francs which French customs officers seized in an automobile at Hoechst yesterday will be used toward defraying the expenses of French troops on the left bank of the Rhine.

The Noted Dead

CHARLOTTE, Mich., March 31.—Congressman J. M. C. Smith of the Third Michigan district, died here last night.

LONDON, March 31.—(By the Associated Press)—Robert G. Goldie, British vice-consul at Naples, died today of injuries inflicted by a man who attacked the official while he was visiting a grotto near the city in company with his wife, according to a Central News dispatch from Naples.

PRESIDENT PAYS VISIT TO STRICKEN

Harding Forsakes Links to Call On Blind and Deaf—Affected By Sad Farewell—Chief Executive to Probe Sugar Price Rises—Holds Conference.

ST. AUGUSTINE, Fla., March 31.—President Harding postponed his morning round of golf today to visit the Florida state school for the deaf and blind and to make a brief talk to the faculty and more than 300 students.

"I am not going to make an address this morning, as I am not making addresses during my vacation," the president told the students, assembled in front of the administration building. "I have just stopped to say good morning. I called on you when I was here two years ago and I have very pleasant memories of that visit to you. I wanted to greet you again.

"As I told you on the former occasion I have a very special interest in the blind children. We have found a way to make the blind see and the deaf to hear and to make those who have some defect as nearly perfect as possible. It is a pleasure to see you again and I wish to you the best of luck. If any of you ever come to Washington I hope you will call on me as I have called on you."

The president was introduced to the faculty and students by Herbert Fekel, editor of the St. Augustine Evening Record and the president's remarks were conveyed to the deaf in the sign language by Dr. A. H. Walker, president of the school.

After concluding his little talk, Mr. Harding shook hands with each of 300 or more boys and girls, patting the deaf on the back and to the blind extending such greetings as "hello there," "good morning," or "how are you?"

The president was visibly affected as the scores of children filed by him, some groping in their perpetual darkness for his hand and as he turned to leave after greeting the last child tears came into his eyes.

ST. AUGUSTINE, Fla., March 31.—The sugar price fluctuation seemed likely to engage the attention of President Harding during the last day spent in St. Augustine. C. H. Huston, who until about two weeks ago was assistant secretary of commerce and who is here en route to Miami, expected to see the president during the day.

Because of his official position during the period when sugar prices made their most rapid advance, Mr. Huston is intimately acquainted with the production of stocks and commodity. This information he was prepared to place in the president's hands.

Mr. Huston, from his study of the matter, is of the opinion that little or no excuse for the advance in prices may be found in the state of production of stocks and he said today that speculation in the selling of the commodity alone was responsible.

In addition to the probability of seeing Mr. Huston, President Harding's program for the day included a final round of golf over the St. Augustine links and the exchange of farewells with a number of friends. With Mrs. Harding and other members of the vacation party, he will leave early this evening by special train for Augusta, Ga., where the party will remain most of the week, according to present indications.

MONTANA LADY IN HER NIGHTIE RUNS OFF BANDITS TRYING TO ROB UNCLE SAM

GRANITE FALLS, Wash., Mar. 31.—An attempt by three bandits to rob the Granite Falls postoffice early today was frustrated by Mrs. Florence Carpenter, wife of the postmaster, who, clad only in her night clothes, engaged in a running gun fight with the bandits, driving them off after more than a dozen shots had been exchanged. No one was injured.

Postmaster I. C. Carpenter said there was an unusually large amount of money in the postoffice vault, including payroll for a number of logging camps in the vicinity.

The bandits who had jimmied the front door of the building, had fired one shot of nitro-glycerine in the vault when they were discovered.

Mrs. Carpenter was awakened by the first shot and from a window in her house 100 feet distant, saw one of the bandits maintaining a lookout in front of the building. She armed herself with a 22 caliber pistol and rushed to the front porch, opening fire. Two other men joined the lookout and returned the fire. They fled, pursued by Mrs. Carpenter and made good their escape.

TWO LITTLE BOYS FOUND DEAD IN BOX; KIDNAPPERS OR GRIM TRAGEDY

SAN BERNARDINO, Cal., Mar. 31.—Bruises on the body of Dickie Jensen and Dean Mecham, found in a packing box last night after having been missing for nearly a week, formed clues which investigators at the sheriff's office said today indicated a possibility the children were victims of a kidnaper. Dean was dead when found and Dickie died a short time afterward.

The box was in a building under construction a short distance from the Jensen home. It closed with a spring catch which was so difficult to close that officers said they doubted that the boys could have operated it from the outside of the box. On the other hand the bruises on the bodies, it was said, might have been caused by efforts of the children to release themselves.

Dean had been dead at least 48 hours when the discovery was made by Patrolman Manuel Joseph. The building had been searched several times for the boys but searchers overlooked the box.

Officers said they considered it significant, however, that no one heard any sounds. Dickie was 5 years old and Dean 4.