

The Weather

Prediction	Rain
Maximum yesterday	37
Minimum today	32
Precipitation	Trace

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

MEDFORD MAIL TRIBUNE

MEDFORD, OREGON, FRIDAY DECEMBER 28, 1923

NO. 238

Weather Year Ago

Maximum	49
Minimum	38
Precipitation	.66

SUPERVISION
TAX LAW IS
RULED OUT

State Supreme Court Holds
Tax Supervision Law Void
Because of Defects in Title
—Co. Courts Free to Tax
As Desire—Decision Is
Unanimous.

SALEM, Ore., Dec. 28.—The supreme court today decided that the tax supervision commission law passed by the 1923 session of the legislature is void because of defects in the title of the measure as enacted. The court did not pass upon the constitutionality of the act.

The justices were unanimous in their decision.

Multnomah county is not affected by today's opinion, as the act providing for its commission was passed in 1921.

"The county courts," a statement issued by the supreme court states, "of the various counties are now free to make levies in accordance with their own judgment without reference to the recommendations of the tax conservation commission but subject to the provisions and limitations of the constitution and the statutes."

The defect in the 1923 act, it was said, was that the legislators neglected to include the entire state when they amended the 1921 act, which applies only to Multnomah county.

"In the first place," the statement says, "this matter has come up at a very late date and this is the last day on which an opinion can be rendered."

The counties which attacked the constitutionality of the act thereby bringing it before the supreme court, were Yamhill, Umatilla, Klamath, Polk and Tillamook.

U. S. PACT OK'ED
BY MEX. SENATE

MEXICO CITY, Dec. 27.—(By the Associated Press)—The Mexican senate today ratified the general United States-Mexican claims convention by a vote of 42 to 5. The general claims convention was approved as a whole, 38 against one. The senate then adjourned, leaving the discussions, article by article of the general convention until another session.

The greatest opposition against the conventions has been against article nine of the general convention which opponents claim discriminates in favor of citizens of the United States.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 28.—(By the Associated Press)—The two claims conventions in Mexico City were sent to the senate by President Coolidge early in December and they are pending before the foreign relations committee. Action is expected soon after the holiday recess ends in January.

Death Toll of
the Automobile

OYLMPIA, Wash., Dec. 28.—Seattle leads the fatality list in the number of automobile accidents in the state of Washington during November, with eight killed, according to a report compiled by the department of efficiency today. A total of 27 was run up for the entire state, an increase of almost one hundred per cent over November of last year. So far this year 204 persons have died as a result of accidents in which automobiles played a part, as compared with 169 for the entire year 1922.

SENATOR SPEEDS TO SAN DIEGO TO
PREVENT SON MARRYING DIVORCEE

SPOKANE, Dec. 28.—State Senator Charles F. Meyers of Davenport, republican candidate in a special election last fall for congressman from the fifth Washington district, is en route for San Diego today in an effort to dissuade his son, Philip E. Meyers, from his announced plan of marrying on New Year's day Mrs. Marguerite Gilchrist Overman, who

Sailstad & Sunshine
Girl Plead Guilty;
Get 4 Years Each

SUPERIOR, Wis., Dec. 28.—Edward J. Sailstad and Dorothy Anderson of Eau Claire today pleaded guilty to a charge of arson and were sentenced to four years imprisonment by Judge Archibald McKay in superior court here.

Sentence was pronounced after a ten minute court session.

Sailstad must serve his sentence at the Men's Reformatory in Green Bay, while his "sunshine girl" is to be confined at the women's reformatory at Taycheedah.

The prisoners will not be eligible for parole until they have served half of their sentence, according to the Wisconsin statutes.

MELLON PLAN OF
TAX REDUCTION
ADOPTED ENTIRE

WASHINGTON, Dec. 28.—Reversing its previous policy, the house today means committee today made public the new revenue bill in the form it was sent to the capital by Secretary Mellon.

The text contains few changes from the outline of the bill which has been publicly announced at the treasury.

It follows Mr. Mellon's proposals for a sweeping revision of administrative provisions to prevent tax dodging, includes a provision for a board of 23 tax appraisers to act as a court of appeals in disputed cases and makes detailed provision for the tax reductions advocated by the secretary.

A fight for publicity for the measure was conducted in a sub-committee meeting yesterday by Representative Garner of Texas, ranking democratic member. Chairman Green and other majority members insisted then that the text should be held in confidence as a courtesy to Mr. Mellon. Inasmuch as the principal provisions already have been published, however, Mr. Green decided today that there was no necessity for further withholding publication.

The sub-committee recessed after today's session until after the first of the year, when the full committee again will take up consideration of the measure.

LET CONTRACT FOR
NATRON CUT OFF

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 28.—Contracts for construction work on the third unit of the Southern Pacific company's new main line in Oregon, between Klamath Falls and Eugene have been let to the Utah Construction company of Ogden and San Francisco.

The contract provides for the building of 32 miles of roadbed and boring a 3700 foot tunnel under the summit of the Cascade range, according to the Southern Pacific announcement yesterday.

The Noted Dead

PARIS, Dec. 28.—Alexandre Gustave Eiffel, the engineer who built the famous tower that bears his name, is dead. He was 91 years old.

The Eiffel tower, the world's highest structure, was built in the Champs de Mars, Paris, for the exposition of 1889. It is now used not only as a point of vantage for sightseers, but for meteorological and scientific observations, and as a radio station.

Eiffel was widely known as a builder of great metal bridges. He also designed the sluices for the Panama canal when the French company undertook to dig the waterway.

FIND BODY
OF AIRSHIP
COMMANDER

Paris Officially Announces Dirigible Dixmude Lost at Sea When Body of Lieut. Grenadan Is Hauled Ashore in Fisherman's Net On Coast of Sicily.

PARIS, Dec. 28.—(By Associated Press). An official announcement today said that the dirigible Dixmude had been lost at sea.

PARIS, Dec. 28.—(By Associated Press). The body of Lieutenant Grenadan, commander of the missing dirigible Dixmude, has been found in Sicilian waters, it was officially announced this morning. The body was found by fishermen six miles from land off Sciaccia, Sicily. Its discovery was reported by the Italian maritime authorities to the French naval attaché at Rome.

The receipt of a telegram from the French naval attaché in Rome announcing that the body of Lieutenant Grenadan, commander of the missing dirigible Dixmude, has been found in Sicilian waters, caused all hopes for the safety of the Dixmude to be abandoned. These hopes had flared up last evening on receipt of reports that the balloon had been seen floating helplessly over the Sahara.

The Rome advices convinced officials there could be no possible doubt as to the identity of the body picked up as Lieutenant Grenadan had an identification tag on his wrist. Fishermen hauling in their nets brought the body to the surface last night.

It was rushed to Girgenti, a small cove near Sciaccia, on the southwestern shore of Sicily. None of the fishermen was able to read the identification tag and the identity of the dead man was only made a certainty when the mayor and the school teacher of the village viewed the body, which was then taken to Sciaccia.

Orders were immediately telegraphed to the naval base at Toulon to dispatch all available light speedy craft to Sicilian waters to continue the search for bodies from the ill-fated airship.

The fact that no vestige of wreckage from the airship or other bodies of her crew were found, caused the ministry of marine to refrain from giving orders as yet to discontinue the search of the African desert for traces of the dirigible. The coming of the Mediterranean however, between Sicily and the coast of northern Africa, will be the foremost branch of the search in the immediate future. It is surmised that Lieutenant Grenadan when he realized that the dirigible was lost, may have instructed his men to jump with their parachutes and that he decided to remain on board the ship, which might have stayed aloft several hours, the commander going down with her, while some of the crew may have descended in the wilds of northern Africa.

50 Men on Board
The Dixmude had fifty officers and men on board when she left the Guers-Pierrefeu airbase near Marseilles on December 18 for a seventy-two hours cruise. She flew across the Mediterranean and over Algeria and Tunisia to the edge of the desert of Sahara and then turned toward home. She was last heard from directly on Friday, December 21, at 6 p. m., when she was about ninety miles south of Biskra, Algeria, headed north toward the Atlas mountains, intending to pass over Algiers on the Mediterranean. She was instructed not to attempt to make for France across the Mediterranean, however, as a gale was blowing on that sea.

Given by Germany
The Dixmude a Zeppelin rigid airship built in Germany during the war and turned over to France on reparations account, was considered to represent the acme of achievement in rigid airship construction. She was the largest military airship in the world, the Shenandoah, the American dirigible, coming next. The Dixmude held the world's record for distance and endurance, made last September with an uninterrupted flight of 4560 miles in 113 hours, 41 minutes, traversing much the same route that she was traveling when she disappeared.

The Daily
Bank Robbery

SPOKANE, Dec. 28.—Four unmasked men held up Cashier Burr Hughes of the First National bank at Medical Lake this county, shortly before noon today, together with another employee and two customers and escaped with about \$1000. The robbers outdistanced in their automobile three cars which gave chase.

The bank was robbed in 1917.

Dies On 100th Birthday
UNIONTOWNS, Pa., Dec. 28.—Taken ill suddenly after celebrating her 100th birthday anniversary, Mrs. Harriet Ross Reed died today.

Theda Bara Broke, Now
That Vamping's Passe?
Broadway Hears Denial

MISS BARA AND HER HUSBAND, TO WHOM SHE CONFINES HER VAMPING ACTIVITIES NOW THAT THE SIREN TYPE OF MOVIES HAS PASSED OUT.

NEW YORK—Theda Bara "broke?" The famous original vamp of the silver screen lifted expressive eyebrows this week when told rumor was lifting up and down Broadway that she was out of funds. "Miss Bara is under contract at \$4,000 a week," denied her attorney. Her husband, Charles Brabin, is a director at \$5,000 a week. Miss Bara has two big automobiles and two chauffeurs, and her husband has two of his own. She owns a New York house, a California bungalow and supports her mother and sisters in an apartment on Riverside Drive. Now, is she broke?

The rumor arose from the fact that the famous vamp's collection of rugs, furniture and antique silks is on public auction here.

PHILIPPINOS
OUTRAGED BY
SHIP PROGRAM

WASHINGTON, Dec. 28.—Believing that American coastwise shipping laws should be extended to the Philippines if American tonnage is adequate for that trade, President Coolidge had determined to ask the war department to make a survey to see if American ships can furnish sufficient service.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 28.—Extension of the coastwise shipping laws to the Philippines, separation of the emergency fleet corporation from the shipping board, compulsory co-operation between American railroads and shipping and a survey of the needs for a permanent merchant marine were recommended to President Coolidge today by Chairman Jones of the senate commerce committee.

Senator Jones submitted his recommendations in response to a request from the president who asked him for memorandums of his views on various shipping and allied problems.

Extension of the coastwise laws may be accomplished by presidential proclamation whenever the chief executive is satisfied that there are adequate shipping facilities under the American flag for the Philippines-United States trade. Such extension has been advocated for nearly two years by Senator Jones and by the shipping board, but heretofore has been blocked by advice from the state department that it would contravene several trade treaties to which the United States is a party.

Manuel Roxas, speaker of the Philippine house of representatives and head of the special Philippine independence mission, issued a statement today declaring "the undying opposition of our people to this measure."

"The application of the coastwise laws to the Philippines," Speaker Roxas said, "would create an absolute monopoly of the carrying trade between the islands and the United States in favor of American bottoms, with all the evils consequent upon special privileges of this kind. This arrangement is bound to increase freight charges at the expense of the Philippine people, both producers and consumers. Such being the case, the attempt to enforce this plan without the consent of the Philippine people is tantamount to taxation without representation, which the American

GOVERNMENT IN
JAPAN RESIGNS,
CRISIS LOOMS

TOKIO, Dec. 28.—(By Associated Press). In view of developments growing out of the attempted assassination of Prince Regent Hirohito yesterday, the latter has requested the members of the cabinet to continue in office for the present, but they are expected to retire before the meeting of the diet on January 20.

The diet was in session all day today considering the situation precipitated by the attack on the prince regent, which has increased greatly the difficulties confronting the minister.

Home Minister Goto is said to be insistent upon the acceptance of his resignation, presented yesterday inasmuch as he is compelled by custom to hold himself officially responsible for such untoward incident as the attempt to slay the heir to the throne.

Many officials still are being carefully guarded, even the approaches to their residences being patrolled.

The resignations of various police officials, following in the wake of the attempted assassination is merely a formality.

TOKIO, Dec. 27.—(By Associated Press). The critical situation prevailing here as a result of the attempted assassination of Prince Regent Hirohito earlier today, resulted in an attempt, by a crowd of ruffians, to obtain entrance to the quarters of Premier Yamamoto and Baron Goto, both of whom resigned.

Baron Goto has been accused of having socialist tendencies since he extended a private invitation when he was mayor of Tokio, to A. A. Joffe, special envoy from the Moscow soviet, to the Far east, to visit Tokio.

Investigation of the attempted assassination which occurred while the prince regent was on his way to convene the diet in ordinary session this morning has indicated that Daisuke Nambu, his assailant, attended Waseda university where a large radical element is said to exist.

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 28.—R. O. Courtwright, football and basketball coach at the University of Nevada, has made formal application for the position of coach at the University of Oregon, according to a letter received from Courtwright today by the San Francisco Call.

In the letter Courtwright points to the fact that Nevada had won 24 of the 32 games that it played in the last five years.

Chink Pirates Nab
British Ship; Make
Away With Money

HONG KONG, Dec. 28.—(By Associated Press). The British steamer Hydranga was attacked by pirates last night while on her way from Hong Kong to Swatow.

Upon a given signal, the pirates, who were distributed about the vessel in the guise of passengers, surprised the guard of Indian troops the ship carried and rushed the saloon where the captain and officers were dining.

They soon controlled the steamer and their own pilot navigated her to Bias bay where she grounded. There the pirates escaped.

They had ransacked the passengers' belongings and looted the vessel of valuable articles. There were no casualties.

CHANGE OF SEX
NOT IMPOSSIBLE
SAYS SCIENTIST

CINCINNATI, Ohio, Dec. 28.—(By the Associated Press)—An extraordinary story of an egg-laying female dove that was completely changed into a male through a tuberculous infection, was told today to the American Society of Zoologists by Dr. Oscar Riddle of the research staff of the Carnegie station for experimental evolution at Cold Springs Harbor, Long Island, N. Y.

Dr. Riddle declared that investigations carried on during several years have proved that sex can be changed in the earliest or egg laying stage, of the pigeon, but that a reversal of sex in a full grown bird or animal is an exceedingly rare occurrence.

He concluded from the result of the experiment with the dove in the case depicted that "it becomes wholly probable that all hereditary characteristics of every human being and of every organism are capable of reversal and modification, and that the accomplishment of this merely awaits the definitely directed efforts of investigators in this branch of science."

The bird concerned in the story told by Dr. Riddle was a female blond ring dove, like thousands of others studied. She was laying eggs for a period and then the laying ceased. Later the bird assumed sex behavior of a male dove. Still later, the speaker said, the former female developed the crow of the cock pigeon. During this period the body weight increased so that it came to be more nearly that of a male pigeon.

"The result clearly indicates," Dr. Riddle declared, "that the hereditary basis of no bodily or mental characteristic may be considered as irrevocably fixed and uncontrollable."

FAMOUS PLAYERS
TO OPEN JAN'Y 7

LOS ANGELES, Dec. 28.—The Famous Players-Lasky studio in Hollywood, recently closed because of what company officials termed the exorbitant cost of motion picture production today faced a year of activity augmented by its temporary suspension of film play making, according to an announcement last night by Jesse L. Lasky, first vice president of the company.

Declaring that the shutdown had accomplished its purpose—the creation of a "same business attitude among producers and directors after a period of reckless competition"—Mr. Lasky said that work would be resumed at the Hollywood studio January 7 with three producing companies and with the number increasing until twelve companies are at work. Forty-five pictures will be made at the Lasky studio here in 1924, the producer added, constituting 75 per cent of the total Lasky output for the year.

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MOONSHINE FATAL TO 875 PERSONS
IN PHILADELPHIA; PUBLIC IS WARNED

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 28.—Poisonous liquor was held responsible for the deaths of 875 persons here this year, in a statement published by Deputy Coroner Frank Paul today.

"This city is wide open," he continued. "So called liquor is being sold openly on the corners. You can buy all you want. But most of it is poisonous. You cannot buy the pre-war liquor for no one will sell it."

To guard against an old fashioned

K. K. LETTER
MOTIVE IS
QUESTIONED

Spokesman for President Says
Klan Move By E. Y. Clarke
Indicates Mere Desire for
Publicity—Clarke Declares
Klan Is Now a Lawless
Organization.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 28.—Action of E. Y. Clarke, former klan official, in making public a letter to the president prior to its presentation at the White House was criticized today by a spokesman for President Coolidge, who asserted that such a course tended to indicate that the communication was written more for publicity purposes than for consideration by the executive.

Washington, Dec. 28.—Warfare, which will make the mountain feuds of Kentucky look like play will break out between factions of the Ku Klux Klan unless present conditions are removed, Edward Young Clarke, formerly imperial wizard of the klan predicted here yesterday in a statement.

After an open letter from Clarke had been left at the White House offices, Clarke, in a sensational statement, declared he was through with the klan; that a reign of lawlessness "almost beyond belief" is attributable to klan strength in Texas, Louisiana, Arkansas and Oklahoma; that in Ohio, Michigan and parts of Illinois the klan is becoming a "master political machine."

Clarke said the licensed carrying of guns by klanmen should be prohibited "as the influence on the individual who carries the gun is injurious and serves to make him an undesirable citizen."

"In Pennsylvania and Indiana licenses to carry guns have been and are being obtained by klanmen under an old unenforced law with relation to the protection of cattle and other animals," Clarke said.

"I am informed that within the last few days about 150 such commissions have been issued at one time in Indiana and Ohio," he declared.

He is making himself a target, Clarke said, out of a feeling that it is his duty to "make war on a condition and a process of development through which the klan is passing and which, unless checked, will mean either the destruction of the klan or the development of an organization to a point where it will be a real menace to the nation."

Sets Great Animosity
"The klan today, on the inside, is a seething mass of animosity, strife and hatred and unless something is done to change the situation there will be practical feudal warfare. The far-famed mountain feuds of Kentucky are but play in comparison to the bitterness and hatred now existing between the two factions and bloodshed is as certain to come as night follows day."

Good men in the klan are afraid to speak out, he said. Legislators, senators and congressmen "are being whipped into line," and for this reason, he said, "it has become necessary for me to declare myself or prove untrue to the allegiance to my country."

Clarke is head of the faction which opposes control of the klan under the administration of Hiram Evans, present imperial wizard.

The open letter presented by Fuller was a violent attack on the present control of the K. K. K.

Calls It Menace to Law
As now operated, Clarke's letter said, the klan is "a real menace to law and order, individual rights and democratic political government."

He said that "the thing which

(Continued on Page Three)