

The Weather

Prediction	Rain or snow
Maximum yesterday	26
Minimum today	25
Snow	1 1/2 inch
Precipitation	15

MEDFORD MAIL TRIBUNE

Weather Year Ago

Maximum	45
Minimum	31

MEDFORD, OREGON, THURSDAY, JANUARY 3, 1924

NO. 242

HOT FIGHT
IN PORTLAND
OVER BOOZE

Dist. Atty. Meyers Refuses to Issue Complaint Against A. G. Labbe and Orders Dry Deputy Out of His Office—Raid New Year's Party Is Cause of Ruction.

PORTLAND, Ore., Jan. 3.—District Attorney Meyers today refused to issue a complaint against A. G. Labbe, Portland businessman, who was arrested at his home Monday in a raid by state prohibition officers, pending disposal of a motion to quash the search warrant under which the raid was staged by state prohibition agents. The motion had been filed earlier in the day by attorneys for Labbe.

In the course of a dispute over the case with Willard M. Houston, chief deputy under State Prohibition Commissioner George L. Cleaver, Meyers ordered Houston from his office. State prohibition agents raided a private social function at the home of A. O. Labbe, head of the Willamette & Steel Works, at 1015 Quimby street, shortly before midnight Monday and arrested Labbe on charges of violating the prohibition law. Labbe was taken to the county jail and forced to deposit \$500 bail.

Cleaver said that he held as evidence two quart bottles of liquor labeled "James Catto, Extra Special Liqueur," and two pint bottles marked "Water," which is liquor of some undefined nature.

Labbe and his guests characterized the raid as a farce. They said that nothing was found in the place but a small flask, which had been carried into the house by one of the guests. About eighty persons, all prominent in the social, political, financial, business and professional life of the city, were attending the function.

Many of the guests declared that the raid was unjustified and conducted solely for theatrical effect.

Acts on Tip. State Prohibition Commissioner Cleaver, however, issued a formal typewritten statement in which he gave the impression that there was a considerable supply of liquor in the house. He admitted, however, that information that led to the raid was received in the form of an anonymous letter. On this tip the search warrant was obtained.

The letter addressed to George L. Cleaver, state prohibition commissioner, 1914 N. W. bank building, Portland, Ore., reads in part as follows:

Can thirty or forty couples of the best society people of the city get away with a subscription dance to be given at the home of A. G. Labbe, 1915 Quimby street, on New Year's eve? The subscription fee is \$15.00, the larger part of which, it is openly boasted, will be spent for liquor.

The "lower" classes would be raided under similar circumstances. Wouldn't it be a good idea to let the wealthy learn that they, too, must obey the laws? Publicity is the only thing that people of this class are afraid of.

This set has been made bold by the success of similar affairs given in recent months.

The writer will be a participant on Monday night and will be interested to note whether there will be any arrests from this tip; and if so, by which officer of the several that are being advised.

If there is any activity shown, further information that can be fully relied upon will be forthcoming from time to time by "62-612."

On the strength of this letter the state prohibition commissioner ordered his chief deputy to procure a search warrant for this residence.

At about 10:30 o'clock Officer Houston and five other men acting for the state prohibition commissioner visited the residence of A. G. Labbe, 1015 Quimby street, and found a fancy dress party in full blast with

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190,000 Licenses for
Oregon Automobiles
In 1924 Predicted

SALEM, Ore., Jan. 3.—During the year 1924, automobiles operated by Oregon motorists will carry over the state highways and streets approximately 178,125 pounds of license plates. A pair of the plates, which are now being issued by the secretary of state in large numbers, weighs 15 ounces. This year, in the opinion of C. A. Laughridge, chief deputy in the secretary of state's office, there will be about 190,000 cars licensed. These will carry around 2,850,000 ounces of plates alone.

REBEL ADVANCES
ON MEXICO CITY
IN FULL SWING

Vera Cruz Announces Start of Big Offensive — Federals Claim Many Victories and One Defeat—Workmen Join Obregon Forces.

(Associated Press Summary) Mexico City announced rebel forces threatening Puebla, capital of Hidalgo, northeast of Mexico City, had been defeated.

Vera Cruz, revolutionary headquarters, said the advance on Puebla and Mexico City would begin today. Mexico City admitted the defeat several days ago of General Gardenas, federal cavalry leader, before Guadalajara.

Obregonistas claimed they defeated General Figueroa, operating south and west of Mexico City, and that there are many desertions from Figueroa's forces.

Trade unionists, as well as agrarian workmen, continue to join federal colors, Mexico City says.

VERA CRUZ, Jan. 3.—The general advance of the rebels on Puebla and Mexico City will begin today, according to insurgent headquarters. General Guadalupe Sanchez, military leader of the rebellion, has left here to take command of the troops massed on the Vera Cruz front. In conjunction with General Mayotte, he will direct the forward movement.

Federal and insurgent forces are reported to have been fighting yesterday around Puebla. The Obregonistas have advanced to Tehuacan. General Maran has assumed charge of the operations which have as their object the capture of Tampico.

The Daily
Bank Robbery

LOS ANGELES, Jan. 3.—A bank in the business district was held up today and \$600 taken.

The two bandits kept four of the bank's customers, its manager, J. H. Toland, and four employees covered while they rifled the vault and the teller's drawers. With the \$600 in a canvas sack, they then ran out to the street, boarded a dilapidated automobile and sped away before anybody could get the number of the machine.

The Noted Dead

PORTLAND, Ore., Jan. 3.—John Hall, vice counsel for New Zealand, was found dead in bed at his home here early today. Death was believed due to cerebral hemorrhage. He was born 72 years ago aboard his father's ship off the Azores. Before coming to Portland 32 years ago he was editor of a New Zealand paper.

NEW YORK, Jan. 3.—Bartholomew B. Coyne, a New York lawyer, who for several years has represented Harry K. Thaw, today definitely confirmed reports that his client, the slayer of Stanford White, now in a Philadelphia asylum would soon seek his freedom.

PHILADELPHIA, Jan. 3.—Former Judge James Gay Gordon, counsel for Mrs. Mary Copley Thaw, mother of Harry K. Thaw, indicated today that any attempt to have Thaw released from the Pennsylvania hospital for mental and nervous diseases would be opposed.

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FILM STAR
IN TRAGEDY
VERY SICK

Mabel Normand in Hospital and Is Operated Upon for Appendicitis — Victim of Shooting Improves—Chauffeur Denies Drugs, But Admits Crimes.

LOS ANGELES, Jan. 3.—Mabel Normand, film actress, was operated on for appendicitis today and is resting easily, according to an announcement made by her physicians this afternoon.

LOS ANGELES, Jan. 3.—Courtland Dines passed a satisfactory night here in the Good Samaritan hospital and was resting easily today, according to attending physicians. They added that his chances for recovery were good.

Miss Normand, a patient in the same hospital, is said to be in a highly nervous state. She will be operated on for appendicitis in a couple of days, her physicians said.

Greer again questioned today by the police, flatly denied that he ever had used habit-forming drugs. His statement on this point was brought out as the result of Dines' allegation that Greer must have been "full of hop" when he fired the shots.

The chauffeur also went further into his record as a rubber heel burglar. He said he and a chance acquaintance, James Gallagher, entered a store in Oakland in 1914 and that Gallagher stole a pair of rubber heels, while he (Greer) was buying a pair of second hand shoes. Greer said he was sentenced to ninety days, but that he escaped from a prison road camp and fled to Omaha, where his family then was living.

LOS ANGELES, Jan. 3.—What drove Mabel Normand's chauffeur to shoot Courtland S. Dines, Denver oil operator and clubman, in Dines' apartment here New Year's night in the presence of Miss Normand and another motion picture actress, Edna Purviance, today was a matter on which those most intimately concerned in the shooting seemed utterly unable to agree.

Horace A. Greer, the chauffeur, also known as Joe Kelly, still insisted that he put a bullet through Dines' lung in self defense. The police were equally positive that infatuation for Miss Normand, coupled with an ambition to be her hero and protector, led Greer to shoot. Miss Normand, ignoring her chauffeur's self defense plea, ridiculed the police theory of infatuation with: "Impossible! The man must have been insane."

Dines, on his cot at the Good Samaritan hospital, said he didn't know "why in the world that fool ever shot me," but in the same breath declared, "He must have been full of hop."

The theory advanced by Miss Purviance was that Greer was foolishly jealous. Meanwhile Greer remained in the city jail on a charge of assault with a deadly weapon. Dines was said to be recovering at the Good Samaritan hospital; Miss Normand was in the same hospital suffering from what physicians termed a nervous breakdown and Miss Purviance was resting at home after announcing that reports of her engagement to Dines were not entirely unfounded.

Engaged? Yes and No. "Mr. Dines and I were engaged—and yet we were not engaged, if you understand what I mean," she told newspapermen last night, explaining that while the Denver man had "never given me an engagement ring, there was an understanding between us that we would be married."

"I am not ashamed to say that I am most terribly fond of him," she added. Charles Chaplin, who starred Miss Purviance recently in a picture of his direction and who was reported to have decided to use her as a feminine lead in his next comedy, announced today that it is possible someone else may take the role, but denied that the publicity arising from the Dines shooting would influence his choice.

"It was unfortunate for Miss Purviance to be there," he said, "but I certainly wouldn't discharge her for something for which she is not in the least to blame. Such a thing might happen to anyone."

Officials of the Sonett studios here, with whom Miss Normand has been working under one-picture agreements, declined to say whether or not her connection with the shooting would have any effect on scheduled showings of her pictures throughout the country or on possible future agreements with Sonett.

Greer re-iterated that Dines had interfered with his efforts to assist Miss Normand out of the Denver man's apartment and was about to hit him with a bottle when shot.

Calls Greer a Liar

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France's Six Loveliest
Women To Carry Style War
Into England and America

MLLE. SPINELLY.

PARIS—C'est la guerre! But not with bayonets. With frocks, and hats, and hose, and shoes, and leathers and frills to delight the feminine heart. Paris, where the franc is twenty to the dollar, will war on American dress designers who have dared to defy her domination of the fashion world, by sending six of the loveliest women in France, two to America, two to South America and two to England.

Mlle. Spinelly, French actress, will be one. She will bring to America the latest individual wardrobe ever to leave Paris.

PARIS FLOODED,
WATER RISING
FEAR DISASTER

PARIS, Jan. 3.—(By the Associated Press)—The flood in the Seine is assuming the proportions of a disaster in sections of Paris and its environs.

The river rose fifteen inches in the 24 hours ended at noon today, adding to the considerable damage already done in the suburbs and along the river in the departments of the Seine and Seine-et-Oise and causing the city itself to suffer seriously.

Many buildings along both banks of the river, notably the ministry of foreign affairs and the ministry of finance, have had their cellars flooded, and today a small army of men and bricklayers began filling up all the entrances to the chamber of deputies and foreign ministry to prevent further ingress of the waters.

The river is rising fast and gaining steadily on the pumps, being feverishly worked to keep the subways from being flooded and the water from further encroaching upon the important buildings near the river bank.

The first fatality in the Paris region from the flood occurred today when an automobile attempting to cross a street along the river at Conflans was carried into deep water by the current and the car and its driver swept away.

The first infiltration of the Paris subway system was reported at a station near the chamber of deputies. The Quai d'Orsay and Invalides railway stations are flooded and have been shut down.

Daily Report on
the Crime Wave

LOS ANGELES, Jan. 3.—Two bandits held up the cashier and a salesman of the Challenge Cream and Butter company in the center of the industrial district today and escaped with \$21,000 in checks and \$5,000 in cash.

SALEM, Ore., Jan. 3.—Frank Bramwell, state superintendent of banks, announced today he has issued a call for statement of conditions of all banks and trust companies at the close of business December 31.

BERT HANEY TO
BE REPLACED ON
SHIPPING BOARD

WASHINGTON, Jan. 3.—With selection of a new chairman for the shipping board virtually decided upon, President Coolidge is understood also to have worked out many of the points of his general policy with respect to the nation's merchant marine.

The results of the president's study of the various marine problems are not expected to be made public for several days, but Chairman Jones of the senate commerce committee, one of his principal advisers on the question is preparing, meanwhile for expeditious action on nominations to fill the three shipping board vacancies to permit an early re-organization of its personnel.

Leigh C. Palmer, former chief of the navy department's bureau of navigation, is thought to be the president's choice for the board chairmanship.

The nominations of Frederick I. Thompson, of Mobile, Ala., and Bert E. Hanev, of Portland, Ore., which were withdrawn when it became necessary to select a new chairman after the committee had voted their approval, will be re-submitted, it is understood, when the name of Mr. Coolidge's choice to fill the third vacancy and take over the chairmanship goes forward.

EX-MAYOR, ASTORIA
SUES DRY LEADER

WASHINGTON, Jan. 3.—Francis C. Harley, former mayor of Astoria, Ore., who yesterday sued Wayne B. Wheeler and other dry leaders for \$100,000 for libel, extended his offensive today to include Representative Cramton, republican, of Michigan, one of the prohibition spokesmen in the house.

Suit for \$50,000 was entered against Mr. Cramton on the charge that he made a libelous attack on Mr. Harley from the floor of the house. The suits are an outgrowth of a poll conducted by the National Liberal Alliance under Mr. Harley's direction on the prohibition question.

Russian Princess
Steals Jewels From
Week-End Hostess

COPENHAGEN, Jan. 3.—The Russian Princess Olga Koslovsky, daughter of the late General Vladimir Koslovsky, is under arrest, charged with stealing jewels valued at 15,000 kroner from a country house near Elsinore, where she was a guest. The arrest has caused a sensation in Copenhagen's social and diplomatic circles.

Her father who was killed by the bolsheviks was once enormously wealthy but all his property was confiscated and his widow and daughter were made practically penniless.

WASHINGTON IS
ORDERED TO CUT
OUT ALL BOOZE

Representative Upshaw of Georgia Calls for Resignation of Every Official in Capital Who Drinks — Would Revoke Privileges.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 3.—Drastic action to put a stop to alleged liquor drinking by members of congress and other high government officials and to prevent leakage of "diplomatic" liquors into bootleg channels was demanded today by Representative Upshaw, democrat, Georgia. His demand was embodied in a resolution and speech.

Mr. Upshaw said congress should "clean around its own door by passing a resolution declaring persons non grata to the floor of the house any member found under the influence of liquor in the capitol or house office building or known to have liquor illegally acquired in his office."

He also suggested that all federal appointees, including cabinet officials, army and navy officers, and diplomatic and consular representatives abroad be required to give a pledge of total abstinence. The "executive gullotine," he added, should be used on all government officials known to drink liquor.

In reference to "diplomatic" liquor Mr. Upshaw said: "The flagrant abuses of diplomatic immunity on the part of many of the attaches of foreign legations and embassies, puts into italics the necessity for revoking a privilege that should never have been allowed under our national prohibition law. Recent investigations have convinced me that some of these diplomats would be heartily glad to be relieved of the expense and all their other troubles and responsibilities from liquor immunity. I am introducing a bill to relieve them of their bacchanalian temptations in our prohibition land."

The Georgia representative expressed the opinion that the state department should respectfully request that all foreign governments discontinue sending to this country diplomatic and consular representatives who exert a demoralizing influence upon our official and social life by dispensing from their residences and offices intoxicating liquors prohibited by our laws to American citizens.

If he were president, said Mr. Upshaw, he "would declare without delay or equivocation, that the White House shall be dry, the president shall be dry, all his appointees shall be dry, and I here and now call for the immediate resignation of every executive appointee, including army, naval and cabinet officers who drink liquor that has been outlawed by the constitution of our country."

A series of resolutions presented today by Representative Blanton, democrat, Texas, would call for removal of all government officials who violate the prohibition amendment, return to

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35 KILLED
IN FACTORY
EXPLOSION

Dust Explosion in Corn Products Plant, Pekin, Illinois, Fatal to Scores—Over 100 Injured—Fire Adds to Horror—Aid Rushed From Peoria, Illinois.

PEKIN, Ill., Jan. 3.—Dumb sorrow and horror held the little city of Pekin in its grasp at noon today as the list of dead or missing in the dust explosion at Corn Products company plant here mounted and perhaps may pass the number of forty.

PEORIA, Ill., Jan. 3.—Between 25 and 35 men are believed dead and more than a hundred injured in a terrific dust explosion at the starch plant of the Corn Products company at Pekin today.

It was estimated it would be several hours before the ruins could be penetrated and the bodies removed. Eighty injured, many of them badly mangled, had been removed from the wreckage by eight o'clock and taken to hospitals in Pekin and Peoria.

Two hundred and fifty men were working in the plant.

Immediately after the explosion, a call for help was sent to Peoria, 11 miles away and Peoria firemen, doctors and police, with ambulances, were rushed to Pekin.

When the Pekin hospital was filled with injured, the others were rushed to Peoria hospitals as fast as they were taken from the wrecked plant. An undetermined number of bodies are believed to be in the ruins of the wrecked starch plant building, according to unofficial reports reaching here by telephone.

Fire broke out after the explosion. Rescuers could see the bodies of approximately between 25 and 35 victims lying in the ruins but the flames prevented attempts to reach the bodies.

At seven o'clock the Pekin fire department apparently had the fire under control and none of the other buildings of the big plant appeared in danger.

With the estimates on the known dead running as high as 35, six men had been identified as dead. Fire kept rescuers from removing bodies which could be seen in the blazing ruins and it is feared many bodies will be buried.

The Corn Products company plant, known as the sugar factory since it was built 24 years ago, was the principal industry of Pekin. It was built by the Illinois Sugar Refining company. About eighteen years ago, the plant was sold to the Corn Products company and since has been enlarged many times.

The factory recently was enlarged at a cost of \$1,500,000. It was safeguarded by all the known safety appliances.

Sings to Aid Fellows

Trapped on the third floor of the building, Frank Lichtmeis, 22, Peoria, sang to his fellow workers for nearly an hour to calm them and when the last retreat was cut off, he jumped from a window of the blazing building. Lichtmeis was at work on the third floor when the explosion occurred. He has a good voice and some of his companions went to their death with the strains of songs in their memory. He did not jump until all the men who were able to leave the floor had done so. He was severely burned with an injury to his eyes and is in a hospital here.

The plant employed about 800 men. The 250 at work in the starch house when the explosion occurred were members of the night shift.

The cause of the blast has not yet

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ARE SPOOKS ABROAD IN MARION? GUARDS
OF HARDING'S TOMB ORDERED TO SHOOT

MARION, Ohio, Jan. 3.—Soldiers guarding the vault where the body of President Harding is entombed have been given orders to shoot directly at persons who have been causing disturbances around the tomb at night. Lieutenant R. H. Harriman, in command of the soldier guard announced today.

Lieutenant Harriman said that ever since the guard has been stationed at the tomb certain individuals have been annoying the detachment. At first it was thought it was small boys, but when the disturbance kept up the guard took it more seriously.

The disturbances have consisted of throwing stones at two small guardhouses on each side of the entrance to the vault. A bugle has been blown in remote parts of the cemetery about the midnight hour.

Flot guns have been sent from Fort Hayes, Columbus, headquarters for the guard detachment here and these loaded with buckshot will be used if the disturbances continue, Lieutenant Harriman said.

No cause for the disturbances is known.