

The Weather
Prediction: Rain tonight and Sunday.
Maximum yesterday.....40
Minimum today.....50

MEDFORD MAIL TRIBUNE

Weather Year Ago
Maximum.....45
Minimum.....32

Daily—Eighteenth Year. Weekly—Fifty-Third Year. MEDFORD, OREGON, SATURDAY, JANUARY 26, 1924 NO. 262

REPORT ON OIL LEASE DEMANDED

President Coolidge Requests Immediate Report From U. S. Department of Interior As to Nature of Oil Leases—Refuses to Delay Probe By Federal Government

WASHINGTON, Jan. 26.—While the senate oil committee was seeking further light today on the relations of former Interior Secretary Fall and Harry Sinclair, President Coolidge asked the interior department to submit to him expert advice as to the wisdom of the policy under which the Sinclair and Doherty interests secured leases from Mr. Fall for the reserves in Wyoming and California.

The president asked the department to furnish him at the earliest possible moment a report on the question of whether the leases protect the interests of the government.

This inquiry is separate from the instructions given the department of justice which is studying the evidence to determine whether there has been proof of fraud, but both actions are directed toward the same end. The purpose is to ascertain definitely whether the leases should be cancelled.

Mr. Coolidge may make a public statement of the government's intentions both as to criminal and civil proceedings as soon as the departmental investigations are concluded and as soon as Mr. Fall has been given an opportunity Monday to present his side of the matter to the senate committee.

No Delay Warranted

The president believes the evidence produced before the committee is too serious to warrant much delay in investigating the government's course. He does not think it should be postponed until the committee makes its report.

The disclosures before the senate committee were talked over by the president today with John T. Adams, chairman of the republican national committee. Mr. Adams declined to discuss the nature of the conference but indicated that his view on the matter had been set forth in an editorial appearing in the current number of the National Republican, which says:

"The disclosures in the Fall case are in a sense discreditable to the United States senate and to the Harding administration, for Senator Fall was a member of both. They do not, however, involve the integrity of the senate or of the Harding administration as a whole.

"Guilt is personal and dishonesty is a characteristic that has been noted in men of all parties. There will never be a political party in which all of its members charged with official authority may be depended upon not to betray their trust.

"Every act committed by an official in violation of laws he has sworn to uphold, every betrayal of trust by whomsoever committed should be prosecuted with a view to punishment of the guilty."

Lease Is Explained

Reviewing the terms of the leases to the Sinclair and Doherty interests Senator Walsh, democrat, Montana, in a statement today said that if all the oil in the Teapot Dome reserve were taken out under the lease and the government given from 16 to 17 per cent, the government would have not to exceed 5,000,000 barrels. "The question is presented accordingly," Senator Walsh said, "as to whether it would be better for the government to have 22,000,000 barrels in the ground or five million barrels out of the ground. But that is not the whole story. The contract of Sinclair is not only a lease, but it is a contract of sale, under which the government sells its royalty oil to Sinclair who pays for it in royalty certificates receiving the amount of oil sold by the government with the value thereof at the current rate, settlements being made monthly. These certificates may be exchanged for fuel oil at the seaboard barrel for barrel. They may be utilized to purchase from Sinclair gasoline, kerosene, lubricating oil and other oil products."

Klan Egg-Throwing Case Dismissed, No Witnesses Appear

FOREST GROVE, Ore., Jan. 26.—A crowd gathered in justice court here yesterday to hear the finale of the egg throwing episode that occurred early in December when the Ku Klux Klan was staging a parade. There were no witnesses or attorneys present to prosecute and Judge C. D. Wagner dismissed the case on motion of Attorneys Loyal M. Graham and W. P. Dyke.

32 MINERS ARE KILLED IN COAL MINE EXPLOSION

Frightful Loss of Life in Illinois Coal Mine When Mysterious Explosion Occurs—Bodies Horribly Mutilated—Mine Manager Killed.

JOHNSTON CITY, Ill., Jan. 26.—(By the Associated Press.)—Two more bodies were brought from the east mine of the Cerar-Clinch Coal company this afternoon, bringing the number of known dead in yesterday's explosion to thirty-two. James Britt, head bookkeeper, said six more men are in the colliery.

JOHNSTON CITY, Ill., Jan. 26.—Thirty miners were killed, two probably fatally wounded and eight others seriously scorched in an unexplained explosion late yesterday on the main level of the McClintock coal mine here operated by the Cerar-Clinch Coal company.

Approximately sixty of the 376 miners at work were entombed in the lower levels of the mine but a few of them escaped. A number of bodies brought to the surface last night and early today were burned beyond recognition and attempts to identify the dead were unavailing, mine company officials giving up the attempt until a full check of the force could be obtained.

Company officials declined last night to make any statement as to probable cause of the explosion.

The bodies brought up bore mute testimony as to the force of the explosion. The clothing had been almost torn away and all were badly burned, even the hair being scorched away. The men near the entrances escaped easily.

The dead include Herbert McCoullough, mine manager and his assistant, Jesse Ford.

In several cases, two members of the same family, father and son, were killed.

MOTORIST DRIVING TO FUNERAL KILLED

FRESNO, Cal., Jan. 26.—Tyler Thomas Holcombe, San Jose salesman was instantly killed this morning when the machine he was driving to his mother's funeral in Los Angeles skidded at the sharp turn in the highway entering Fresno and crashed into a telephone pole. His brother, Dr. J. V. Holcombe of Oakland said that the car failed to negotiate the turn because of the light fall of rain and because of the sharpness of the curve. He was only slightly injured. The sons were motoring to Los Angeles to attend the funeral of their mother, Mrs. T. T. Holcombe.

NEAR RIOT IN FRENCH PARLIAMENT, POINCARÉ THREATENED BY DEPUTY

PARIS, Jan. 26.—A tremendous hubbub broke out in the chamber of deputies today when Premier Poincaré was speaking on his tax program. Deputy Leon Blum started to rush to the speaker's stand. An attendant stopped him.

Poincaré, replying to an interruption from Deputy Bracke, said: "That is a thing that will be settled outside. The left benches were highly incensed against the premier because of his assertions that Frenchmen were helping to depreciate the franc."

Deputy LaCotte, the first speaker in today's debate, said the salvation of the franc depended upon the friendship of the United States adding that the foreign policy of France was inadequate to bring out the advantages that friendship might afford. For instance, he said, it was a great error for France to treat her debts to Great Britain and the United States on the same footing.

W. LINCOLN MURDER IS CLEARED UP

Mysterious Crime in Aurora, Illinois, Solved By Second Confession and Finding of Bodies Encased in Concrete Where They Were Put By Eccentric Lawyer.

AURORA, Ill., Jan. 26.—Warren Lincoln today confessed to the police that he had shot and killed his wife, Lina, and her brother, Byron Shoup, January 10, 1923, and had buried their remains after dismembering the bodies. The heads were found, as he described, in the city dump, embedded in a concrete block, 24x18x22 inches, he had moulded around them.

A new confession by Lincoln that he killed both—although he previously has said he had killed his wife in self defense after she had shot and killed her brother—led the way to clearing much of the long mystery that has interested this county. Lincoln's mind is believed to be wrecked. When he had told today of having dismembered the bodies and sealing the heads in a concrete block, the police rushed to the dumping ground and found the block where Lincoln said he had placed it. When the hardened concrete was chipped off the heads were found.

Mystery Is Solved

The finding of the victims' heads clears a mystery which the police have worked months to solve. It had its beginning in the disappearance of Lincoln, a lawyer-horticulturist, from his little home and greenhouses on the Indian Trail near here last year, under circumstances designed to make it appear that he had been murdered or kidnapped. Bloodstains, which he afterward admitted he had made after killing chickens, first pointed to a theory that Lincoln had been murdered or at least seriously maltreated and his body, dead or alive, hidden or carried away.

Lincoln's wife and her brother could not be found and it was upon those two that Lincoln, according to the authorities, sought to throw suspicion for his disappearance. A few months later Lincoln turned up alive and the mystery was regarded by many as a hoax.

Lincoln again later last year dropped out of sight. Through letters the suspicion arose that Lincoln was hiding in Chicago as the letters were mailed from Evanston, a suburb. In that way Lincoln was traced and arrested there and taken to Aurora where he made his first confession that his wife had shot and killed her brother and believing that she was about to turn on him he killed her with a poker and burned both bodies in the furnaces of his greenhouse.

Murder Over Year Ago

The double killing occurred on January 10, 1923, according to Lincoln's new confession, in which the police say he admitted that he shot and killed both. The date was only a few days before Lincoln disappeared to make it appear, he himself had been slain or kidnapped. Lincoln's eccentricity had made him a figure of mystery and little credence was placed by the authorities in much of his former statements.

The question of a motive for which the authorities had sought was another mystery, although there was evidence that Lincoln hated both his wife and her brother. He had declared they often had beat him and had wanted to get rid of him.

Mrs. Lincoln is said to have owned land near Roosevelt, Okla., valued at nearly \$20,000, and this property was held by some investigators to have been a sufficient motive to a man willing to profit by murder.

COUNCIL OF EMERSON KILLED BY TRAIN

ST. HELENS, Ore., Jan. 26.—C. W. Emerson, 82, who claimed to be a second cousin to Ralph Waldo Emerson, died twenty minutes after being knocked down by the Astoria bound train here last evening. Emerson evidently did not see the train as it slackened speed for the station and was hurled several feet by the impact, suffering injuries to the head. He died in the depot almost as soon as a doctor could be summoned.

SINCLAIR IN PARIS, NOT WORRIED BY OIL PROBE

PARIS, Jan. 26.—Harry Sinclair, American oil magnate, is being kept fully advised by private cables of the senate investigation of the Teapot Dome lease but he absolutely refuses to comment at present.

Mr. Sinclair's visit here is described as one of business.

He will remain in Europe until his business is completed. He is consulting numerous persons, presumably in regard to the Russia concession.

Tempest Over Teapot Oil Lease Becomes Political Storm, Threatens Cabinet



SECRETARY DENBY AND ASSISTANT SECRETARY ROOSEVELT LEAVING THE WHITE HOUSE. THE ROCK FROM WHICH TEAPOT DOME OBTAINS ITS NAME.

NEW YORK—Here's why they call it Teapot Dome—the oil lands leased by former Secretary of the Interior Albert B. Fall to the Sinclair interests, without asking for competitive bids.

The present "tempest in a Teapot" in Washington, arising over charges of Senator Cawley that Fall "sold the lease for a corrupt consideration," reported to be over \$100,000, bids fair to become a political cyclone, involving a number of cabinet members.

Some of those affected by the alleged scandal are Secretary of the Navy Denby, who recommended transfer of oil reserves to Fall's department, Theodore Roosevelt, Jr., assistant secretary of the navy and director of the Sinclair Oil Company, Attorney-General Daugherty, and others.

COUNTY COURT ORDERS PAVING RUCH HIGHWAY

Unexpected Action Taken By County Court 24 Hours After Mass Meeting—Mike Hanley Demands Similar Pavement to Lake Creek.

The county court at a session Thursday afternoon reached a decision to pave the road between Medford and Ruch, work to start as soon as the material and equipment can be gotten together.

This decision came quicker than anybody expected, following the mass meeting in the courthouse Wednesday afternoon when County Judge Gardner announced that the matter would be taken under advisement, with no definite time fixed for a final decision. It was generally understood that another public meeting would be held before any final action was announced.

The proposed road is 12 miles in length, and the estimated cost of paving is \$13,000 per mile, with a mile on the steeper part of that grade that will not be paved. Available funds for the construction consist of the "left over" of \$80,000 from a 1920 bond issue, and \$45,000 from the market road levy of this year, to be matched by the state.

Incidental to Medford-Ruch road building, the citizens of Lake Creek and Eagle Point headed by Mike Hanley, plan to circulate petitions at once for the paving of the road from Eagle Point to Lake Creek. Hanley called at the county clerk's office this morning, and secured all the available forms for petitions, and has hired a lawyer to see that it is done right. A mass meeting on the subject also impends.

PRINCE REGENT OF JAPAN WEDS ROYAL PRINCESS

Tokio Indulges in First Joyous Celebration Since the Earthquake Disaster—Ancient Ritual Observed—Bowls of Wine Are Interchanged.

TOKIO, Jan. 26.—(By Associated Press.) In the sacred precincts of the Imperial palace and in accordance with ancient ritual, Prince Kuniaki, eldest daughter of Prince Kuni, was wedded this morning to Prince Naruhiko, eldest son of Prince Kuni.

Residents of Tokio indulged in joyous celebration of the event, the first public expression of joy since the disaster of last September. Great crowds gathered in the streets which were gaily decorated for the occasion and thronged the open spaces in the vicinity of the palace for a glimpse of the royal couple. The spirits of 123 royal predecessors witnessed the union and gave their blessings, according to devout Japanese belief. The couple exchanged bowls of sacred rice wine, to plight their truth, after the ancient custom.

No foreigners witnessed the ceremony, only the members of the royal family and the highest dignitaries of the government being permitted to attend the rites.

The ceremony was comparatively simple, being comparable to a civil wedding in Christian countries, according to Japanese students.

Tremendous crowds greeted the prince and his bride as they passed to and from the palace, before and after the ceremony.

After the ceremony the Imperial salute of 101 guns announced the completion of the wedding ceremony to the throngs waiting outside the palace.

ARCHBISHOP CHRISTIE BETTER TO LEAVE FOR HOME SOON

OAKLAND, Cal., Jan. 26.—Archbishop Alexander Christie, who has been suffering from ptomaine poisoning at a hospital here was reported late today as showing much improvement in his condition. He plans to leave for his home in Oregon sometime during the coming week.

40 Miners Entombed By An Explosion in Pennsylvania Mine

CRESSON, Pa., Jan. 26.—Forty miners were reported to have been entombed in an explosion late today at the Lancaster mine No. 18 of the Barnes and Tucker Coal company at Shankstown, Indiana county, forty miles from here.

First aid crews from the mines of the Bethlehem Steel company at Hellwood were hurried to the scene. It was reported that both openings to the mine had been closed by the force of the blast and several hours must elapse before it would be possible to reach the imprisoned miners.

INCOME EARNED IN OREGON ONLY WILL BE TAXED

State Income Tax Rules Interpreted by Tax Commission—Non-residents Have Right to Adopt Own Method of Apportionment.

SALEM, Ore., Jan. 26.—The state tax commission at a meeting held Friday tentatively approved regulations for the new income tax law. The printed regulations will be ready for distribution about February 5.

The blank forms adopted by the tax commission are similar to those used by the federal government. Most of these forms have been received from the state printer. Forms to be used by individuals, partnerships and fiduciaries are being mailed to the tax payers today. Annual information returns, similar to federal forms 1098 and 1099 are now ready for distribution and will be furnished by the commission upon request. Forms to be used by corporations will be mailed to tax payers during next week.

The statement prepared by the commission today says:

"So far as the Oregon law does not conflict with the federal income tax act, Oregon will closely follow the regulations issued by the treasury department."

"A regulation was adopted to provide for the apportionment to the state of Oregon of that portion of the income of non-resident individuals and corporations to be taxed under the state income tax law. This regulation provides that only income earned within Oregon by non-residents shall be taxed. In case the non-resident conducts business both within and without the state a rule was adopted by which to determine the part of his income earned in Oregon. However, if the non-resident can show fairly the portion of his income earned in Oregon, the tax commission will accept the taxpayer's method of apportionment."

MISSOULA BANK FORCED TO CLOSE

MISSOULA, Mont., Jan. 26.—Due to heavy withdrawals since the first of the week, the American Bank and Trust company closed its doors, an hour after it had opened for business.

John Daigren, president of the institution said the action was taken at the order of the board of directors. The bank he said, carried the bulk of farm loans in this vicinity.

EX-SEC'Y FALL A VERY SICK MAN, HEARING POSTPONED UNTIL TUESDAY

WASHINGTON, Jan. 26.—Examination of former Interior Secretary Fall in the senate oil inquiry has been deferred until next Tuesday. Chairman Lenroot said it was doubtful that Fall would be able to appear Monday as planned, because of ill health, and that, besides, senators wanted to be on the senate floor Monday because the whole subject would be debated then.

Mr. Fall remained secluded today at the home of J. W. Zevely, Harry Sinclair's personal attorney, who testified yesterday that Sinclair loaned Mr. Fall \$25,000 in Liberty bonds three months after he left the cabinet.

PIERCE IS ACCUSED OF BAD FAITH!

State Prosecuting Attorneys Charge Governor With Going Back On Promise Made to Them Thursday Through Ward Irvine, Private Secretary, Regarding Dry Law.

PORTLAND, Ore., Jan. 26.—Indignant over statements made by Governor Walter M. Pierce in his speech at their annual banquet last night, district attorneys of Oregon declared at their convention today that they were ready to fight the executive to a finish and would refuse to cooperate with him until he shows a change of heart as regards responsibility for the enforcement of the prohibition law.

Charges were made from the floor that the governor had gone back on his pledge to cooperate and had repudiated an agreement made with the district attorneys through his private secretary, Ward Irvine, at a conference held in Portland Thursday afternoon.

It was said that at this conference, which was arranged by the governor's representative and attended by officers of the district attorney's association, the governor tacitly agreed through Irvine that hereafter he would notify district attorneys in advance when he planned to send special prosecutors or investigators into counties of the state and that he would give them ten days in which to state their side of the case before taking any action. Through his representatives, it was asserted the governor also agreed that all state prohibition agents should take the district attorneys into their confidence and present their cases to them for legal opinion instead of working in secrecy, as in the past.

District Attorney Myers of Multnomah county; Clyde N. Johnston, president of the association; and Ben S. Fisher, secretary, represented the district attorneys at the conference with the governor's personal representative, it was stated.

A Direct Turnback

District Attorney Myers outlined the steps leading to the conference Thursday and the agreement reached, adding:

"His speech was a direct turnback on the course he had agreed upon through his representative. I firmly believe he intended it that way."

Fisher declared that "if there is a single district attorney who swallows the speech the governor made last night I say you are easily led."

"I say that the governor questioned our integrity. He may question my ability but not my integrity. He's going to notify me hereafter when he sends an agent into my county or there will be no co-operation between me and the governor's office."

District Attorney Francis V. Galloway of The Dalles said he would resign if the governor sends special representatives to his county to take general charge of prohibition enforcement.

"The law says I have control of the prohibition fund and I won't approve vouchers of any special investigators sent by the governor or anyone else," he declared.

The Governor's Speech

PORTLAND, Ore., Jan. 26.—District attorneys of Oregon, here attending their annual convention were discussing today an address delivered by Governor Walter M. Pierce last night at the annual banquet of their association.

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