

The Weather

Prediction Fair
Maximum yesterday 58
Minimum today 28

MEDFORD MAIL TRIBUNE

Weather Year Ago

Maximum 42
Minimum 32

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

MEDFORD, OREGON, WEDNESDAY, MARCH 5, 1924

NO. 295

PROSECUTION IS ORDERED BY COOLIDGE

President Directs That Case of Two Congressmen Involved in Veteran Bureau Graft Be Placed Before Grand Jury at Once—Names Are Withheld.

WASHINGTON, March 5.—Not only the charges against two members of congress, but evidence relating to other suggestions of wrongdoing by officials in Washington will be laid before a federal grand jury here immediately.

White House officials said today that all phases of evidence adduced recently by the Chicago grand jury and not passed on there because of lack of jurisdiction would be gone into by a grand jury here.

The subjects expected to come under inquiry involve charges that one or more high official used official influence for purposes of speculation; liquor permits were wrongfully procured through use of money; and that official government files were turned over to persons not entitled to them.

For the present, no official will discuss details of these charges nor disclose in what direction the inquiry may lead. The development has created a stir in official circles, second only to that which followed the oil disclosures.

President Coolidge announced last night that the charges against the two members of the house, involving acceptance of money in connection with the release of federal prisoners would be thoroughly investigated by a grand jury. Prior to that the senate veterans committee had held two sessions to consider the charges and a resolution for an investigation had been introduced in the house.

John W. H. Crim, who was in charge of the Chicago investigation, has conferred with members of both senate and the house, but he has declined to furnish them the names of those involved or any details, taking the position that the evidence requires further development before any of it can be divulged. It was developed incidentally at Chicago in connection with the veterans' bureau inquiry that resulted in the indictment of Charles R. Forbes.

Mr. Crim also has reported the facts to the White House, leaving to President Coolidge the decision as to what action should be taken. Today's announcement was interpreted as an indication that the executive was prepared to demand a complete sifting of the evidence, regardless of whom might be involved.

The investigation resolution introduced yesterday in the house by Democratic Leader Garrett, was referred to the rules committee, but Chairman Snell said today that no action would be taken on it for the present.

He reached this decision after a conference with Mr. Crim, who told him no information could be furnished a congressional committee without embarrassing the justice department in its presentation of the case of a grand jury.

100 MEN WALK OUT MARSHFIELD MILL

MARSHFIELD, Ore., Mar. 5.—About one hundred men at the Coos Bay Lumber company quit work today to enforce a demand for a \$4 minimum daily wage. The company recently raised the wages of about 600 men employed in the mill to \$2.50. Those going out today were mostly in the common labor class, according to mill officials, who said they could soon replace the men who walked out.

SILVERTON WOMAN, FOLLOWING SUICIDE PACT, SUES HUSBAND FOR DIVORCE

SALEM, Ore., March 5.—Following the attempted fulfillment of a suicide pact here last week between George Russell and Florence Russell, his wife, from Silverton, in a local apartment, Florence Russell has started divorce proceedings in circuit court. The couple were found nearly dead from taking overdoses of a drug. The woman was sent back to her parents at Silverton and Dr. Russell committed to the asylum where he previously has been on a number of occasions because of drug addiction. In her divorce complaint the woman states they were married at Independence in 1917. Prior to the marriage, she says, her husband had been a drug addict, but he represented to her he had taken treatments which had resulted in his complete cure.

Doesn't Like Indoor Murder; It Messes Up Clean Floors

LOS ANGELES, March 5.—Killing a man because of jealousy is a less heinous crime in the estimation of Mrs. Rosa Valdez, than "messing up" her clean floor with the victim's blood, according to her testimony here today in the trial of her husband, Tony, accused of murder in connection with the slaying of Esperdion Gligalva, February 20 last.

"I told him it was hard work to keep my floors clean and that he should do his shooting outside," Rosa testified she informed her husband.

Valdez was held to answer to the superior court.

WOOD POLICY IN MANILA OKEYED BY PRESIDENT

WASHINGTON, March 5.—President Coolidge informed the Philippine Independence mission today that in his opinion the time has not yet come for separation of the Philippines from the United States.

In a letter to Manuel Rojas, chairman of the mission, the president also declared that the United States government "has full confidence in the ability, good intentions, fairness and sincerity" of Governor General Wood.

"In the present state of world relations," the letter said, "the American government owes an obligation to continue extending a protecting arm to the people of these islands."

Mr. Coolidge's letter was written in reply to resolutions passed by the island legislature, asking for independence and attacking General Wood.

The president's views are expected to have weight in house consideration of a bill providing for independence, recently reported by the insular committee. This measure, committee members say, was brought in merely to place the question squarely before the house itself for discussion.

BACKER DENIES REPORT HIRAM JOHNSTON DEAD

John Baird of Michigan Offers to Lead Reporters to Swamp Home of Candidate Reported to Have Been Buried Last July.

BAY CITY, Mich., March 5.—"Hiram Johnston" is dead, he was buried in Oakridge cemetery here last July.

Thus further confusion is added to the Michigan presidential primary selection of April 7, next, in which the name of "Hiram Johnston" was to have appeared in the public column together with the names of Senator Hiram W. Johnson of California, President Coolidge and William G. Simpson of Detroit.

Johnston's name was ordered stricken from the ballot yesterday by Secretary of State Charles Deland upon receipt of a letter purporting to come from "Hiram Johnston" of a Milwaukee township. The letter was a scrawled township, the letter simply that his name be withdrawn.

It was dated "Milburne, Mich., and was presented to the secretary of state by John Baird, state conservation commissioner, whose home is at Milwaukee. The letter bore no postmark.

"Milburne" is not listed in post-office guides.

The correct name of the man who died last July is on the records as Martin Hiram Johnston. He was better known as "Paddy" Johnston.

He lived in a house on the Saginaw river and was employed as a watchman by the North American Chemical company of this city.

LANSING, Mich., March 5.—Anyone who doubts the existence of the "Hiram Johnston" whose name was certified for the Michigan presidential primary election and then ordered stricken from the ballot, may have visual proof that he lives by accompanying John Baird, state conservation commissioner into the swamps of Milwaukee township next Saturday.

Baird hurled this challenge to the skeptics today almost at the same time that newspaper men learned that a "Hiram Johnston" who lived in the same neighborhood as Baird's "Zilwaukee Hiram" died last July and is buried in a Bay City cemetery.

Baird's offer to newspaper men is this:

"Be at my farm in Zilwaukee at ten sharp Saturday morning," he said, "and be sure to wear your hunting clothes. It is six miles from my place to Milwaukee, where Johnston lives and there is no road. We will walk through swamp land most of the way. Inasmuch as I generally take a zig zag course, we probably will travel a little more than six miles before we find the man we are looking for."

Baird today said he filed the Johnston petition, "because I wanted to show that the Michigan presidential preferential primary law is a joke." Johnston consented to "run," Baird said, saying it would be "fun to see my name in the papers."

"Zilwaukee Hiram" made Baird promise, the commissioner said, that he would have to make no speeches.

John A. Westerlund

Born June 10, 1865. Died March 5, 1924



John A. Westerlund, 58 years old, for twenty years identified with the community and orchard development of Medford and southern Oregon, and one of her best known citizens, died at his home on East Main street, this city, this morning at 10:30 o'clock after a long illness from Bright's disease. The body will be returned to burial.

Mr. Westerlund is survived by his wife, Mrs. Ella C. Westerlund, his father Peter Westerlund, and several brothers and a sister living in Oregon and Chicago, Illinois. Mrs. Louis A. Salade, Jr., of Central Point is a niece and Sophie A. Holmberg, a sister-in-law. Carl Y. Tengwald of this city is a close friend of the family.

Uncle John, the news of his death cast a pall of sorrow and regret throughout the city.

Mr. Westerlund came to Medford in 1904, and immediately became identified with the civic life of the community. He was builder and owner of the Hotel Holland, a director of the Medford National Bank, and identified with one of the largest commercial orchards in the state.

In 1910 he was elected to the legislature on the Republican ticket, and in 1912 was renominated and re-elected, without opposition. He was the

Oregon News in Brief

ASTORIA, Ore., Mar. 5.—Clatsop county's two major bridge construction projects are moving rapidly with the advent of spring weather.

The contractors are now concentrating their efforts on the west approach to the Lewis and Clark river draw bridge and have the fill for that portion nearly completed.

At Seaside the first cofferdam for the new concrete arch bridge across the Necanicum river at Broadway has been sunk. The old bridge has been torn out and traffic is being handled over the two smaller bridges. The contractor believes he will have the new arch structure ready before the summer tourist season opens.

SALEM, Ore., Mar. 5.—A charter was issued by the state banking department today to the new American Bank of Marshfield. The capitalization is \$150,000. Charles Hall is president, John E. Ross and C. Mc. Johnson, vice presidents, and George F. Winchester, cashier.

SALEM, Ore., Mar. 5.—Charles Gregory of Dallas today filed with the secretary of state his statement as a candidate for the republican nomination for district attorney for Polk county.

Merrill C. Shaver of Sutherlin filed as a candidate for the republican nomination for the representative of Douglas county in the state legislature. His slogan is "reduction of the property tax by increasing the property taxed."

Rum Fleet Appears Again Off N. Y. Coast With \$8,000,000 Cargo

NEW YORK, Mar. 5.—The British steam yacht Istar, "queen of the rum fleet," has re-appeared off New York, twelve miles out, with twenty other vessels, ready for the spring trade, coast guard cutter commanders reported today. They estimated the twenty-one ships carried 160,000 cases of liquor worth at \$50 a case f.o.b. rum row, an aggregate of \$8,000,000.

OPENING UP OF BEATTY STREET LAID ON TABLE

The long talked of opening up of Beatty street to North Riverside avenue, thus making a diagonal connection between North Central avenue and that thoroughfare was dropped suddenly last night when the council unanimously voted not to make the suggested improvement.

This action was precipitated by a large delegation of business men from the western section of the business district headed by their spokesman, C. E. Gates, who protested against the so-called improvement, as they were of the firm belief the movement was planned and inaugurated solely to divert traffic from the Pacific highway, which is Riverside avenue all thru the city from both ends of the city limits, to Central avenue which parallels the Spokesman.

The spokesmen of the indignant protesting delegation, formerly mayor of Medford for six years prior to the time the present administration came into power, last night lived up to his nickname of Pop. Indeed he fairly sickened at times from the moment he arrived with the delegation and handed in to City Clerk Alford a petition signed by about 150 names gathered in an hour or so yesterday, and announced that if given an hour or so more of time hundreds, or millions more signatures could have been obtained.

Pop, when in a fishing or righteously indignant mood, pays no attention to a little thing like exact figures.

Before he had subsided he had quoted from religious publications, city ordinances, state laws, the Mellon tax bill, several reliable almanacs, and wept gushing tears over the down-trodden tax payers and their rights, commented on tea pot gushers, and declared that the ordinance to divert traffic from the present Pacific highway to already crowded Central avenue could only be passed and put into effect over the dead bodies of nine-tenths of the population of this beautiful city of the charming and fertile Bear creek.

He demanded action at once which would kill the heinous, iniquitous measure, which threatened to curtail the bread and butter supply of business men in the western section of the business district and along the Pacific highway.

Then F. E. Merrick, another delegation spokesman backed up Mr. Gates' vehement talk with a few remarks. Councilman B. W. Paul, chairman of the street committee, explained that the suggested improvement was misunderstood and not aimed to divert traffic from the Pacific highway to Central avenue, which precipitated a debate between him and Pop, and all the evidence was in.

Councilman A. C. Hubbard made a motion that the proposed extension of Beatty street be laid on the table, and this was unanimously passed without further ado.

Then as the protesting cohorts walked out of the room with gleeful, triumphant faces Pop Gates wiped off his chin and said, "We thank you gentlemen, that's all we wanted."

A humorous outstanding feature of last night's events is that the same action would have been taken by the council had no protest been entered, as the councilmen had decided informally to kill the project, as they were disgusted among themselves as to its merits, and a report by the street

PRESIDENT IS DRAGGED IN TO OIL MESS

Senator Hefflin Charges That 'Principal' Referred to in McLean Telegram Is President Coolidge—Another Oil Counsel Objected to By Senator Walsh.

WASHINGTON, March 5.—"I think the 'principal' referred to here is the president," Senator Hefflin, democrat, Alabama, declared today in the senate in discussing the telegram which Ira E. Bennett sent from Washington to Palm Beach last January 29.

In the message Bennett, who is an editorial writer on the Washington Post, informed his employer, E. B. McLean, that he had seen the "principal," who had assured him there would be "no rocking of the boat and no resignations."

"This telegram was sent," Senator Hefflin said, "when the senate was discussing the necessity for the resignation of Secretary Denby and suggestions were made that Attorney General Daugherty resign."

The senator said he wanted the oil committee to ask Mr. Bennett who it was he said and to have him explain exactly who he meant when he said he had seen "principal," who according to another part of the telegram, "expects reaction from unwarranted political attacks."

"I want the committee to go very thoroughly and minutely into the details regarding this telegram," Senator Hefflin continued, "I understand Mr. Bennett is to be called tomorrow and so I call the committee's attention to this matter a day in advance."

Knight Objected to WASHINGTON, March 5.—While the oil committee was obtaining more important information in a private examination of telegrams today opposition developed to the confirmation of Samuel Knight of San Francisco to be special government counsel in the litigation for the recovery of California oil lands from the Standard Oil company of California.

Sensor Walsh of Montana, prosecutor of the oil inquiry, announced that he had been "reliably informed" that Mr. Knight is counsel for the Equitable Trust company of New York, which is a Rockefeller bank.

According to this information, Senator Walsh said, Mr. Knight now is engaged in litigation for that bank in California. He added that if the story proved correct, it would be a basis for opposing confirmation by the senate.

Mr. Knight was selected by President Coolidge to bring action under a resolution offered by Senator Walsh and unanimously adopted by both the house and senate. Senator Walsh was not consulted in the selection.

Foregoing its usual public hearing to examine telegraph records sent here from Palm Beach, the oil committee today found further reference to the "principal" mentioned in one of the McLean telegrams previously read into the record.

A delay in preparation of the necessary papers prevented the initiation of court action today by the special government counsel designated to bring proceedings in the Sinclair-Doheny annulment cases.

Civil actions probably will be started tomorrow or Friday.

Deserters to Be Released WASHINGTON, March 5.—Amnesty was granted by President Coolidge today to all deserters from the army and navy during the period between the armistice and the official conclusion of the World War.

Messages from London said Thurber had made his confession to the American consular general in London and that the official sent it to Secretary Hughes, who forwarded it to Governor Smith. The latter got in touch with District Attorney Benton who ordered an immediate check-up.

(Continued on Page Eight)

FEW CASUALTIES IN COSTA RICA

SAN JOSE, Costa Rica, March 5.—(By the Associated Press)—Only a few casualties have been reported this far in consequence of the series of earth shocks which occurred yesterday. Great property damage was caused in San Jose, Heredia and Alajuela, and a few small towns were wiped out.

The American embassy building in San Jose was slightly damaged. The tremors continued today and all business is closed, the people seeking shelter in open places. Port Limon was not damaged. News has not been received from the Pacific coast.

4 NEW FLAX MILLS ARE TO BE BUILT IN MARION COUNTY

SALEM, Ore., March 5.—At a conference of state officials and some outside advisers here yesterday a decision was reached that the state this year will contract for 3000 acres of flax with the farmers of Marion and Polk counties, to be worked up at the state prison flax plant. The farmers will be paid \$21.50 for short straw and \$26.50 for long straw. The acreage will be more than double that of last season. At least four new scutching mills are projected for the valley this year. The Polk people who own the Canadian pulper that was demonstrated here last year, announce that they will establish a mill at Stayton. Turner and Albany are each to get a mill, it is said, and possibly one will go up at Aumsville.

Cash Bonus Offered. WASHINGTON, March 5.—A two-fold soldier bonus plan providing options of full cash payments or paid-up insurance was proposed to the house ways and means committee today by a committee of veterans representing house democrats.

LATEST CLUE TO WALL STREET BOMB THROWER BLOWN UP BY PRISON RECORD

NEW YORK, March 5.—Whatever hopes the New York police had of solving the mystery of the famous Wall street explosion through the reported confession of Ralph Thurber flickered and vanished today when the police were advised that Thurber was in San Quentin penitentiary, California, when the explosion occurred.

Thurber's story, which was made known to District Attorney Benton through a telegram from Secretary of State Hughes to Governor Smith, was seriously questioned by detectives after they had failed to find the addresses of two men whom Thurber, in an affidavit in a London prison, had implicated in the explosion. Reports from other cities, the police said, indicated that other details in the confession were valueless.