

The Weather

Prediction Partly Cloudy
Maximum yesterday 50
Minimum today 24.8

MEDFORD MAIL TRIBUNE

Weather Year Ago

Maximum 48
Minimum 41

MEDFORD, OREGON, SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 29, 1924

NO. 214

PUCCHINI OF OPERA FAME IS STRICKEN

Noted Italian Composer and Author of 'The Girl of the Golden West' Dies in Brussels Following Operation of Throat—Favorite of United States.

BRUSSELS, Nov. 29.—(By the Associated Press.)—Giacomo Puccini, famous operatic composer, died at noon today from a throat infection following an operation. The death of the composer was due directly to a heart attack.

Puccini was born at Lucca, Italy, June 22, 1858. Coming from a family which for a century and a half produced an unbroken line of famous musicians, it was not surprising that Giacomo Puccini early showed signs of precocious musical talent.

Puccini was one of the few composers of recent times whose opera successes were both numerous and lasting. As to numbers, he is matched only by Massenet, but so far as frequency of performances is concerned the Italian composer far surpasses the Frenchman in America at least.

Giulio Gatti-Casazza, general manager of the Metropolitan Opera House, once said Puccini was the most popular composer with Americans.

In his youth Puccini was in terms whose riches were measured in a genius rather than in hard cash. He lived in an attic, where he found the problem of existence more baffling than those of harmony and counterpoint.

When Puccini had learned all that the schools of his native Lucca could teach him, his name won him a pension from the queen of Italy. This enabled him to enter the Milan conservatory. His chief instructor was Amilcare Ponchielli, at whose suggestion he undertook the composition of 'La Villi,' a one-act opera. This was so successful that it was revived and expanded into three acts. One of the unfortunate efforts of Puccini was 'Edgar,' produced at the Scala in 1889. Although he remained silent nearly four years, the composer atoned for his failure with his 'Manon Lescaut.' This and his later works, including 'La Boheme,' 'La Tosca,' 'Madame Butterfly' and 'The Girl of the Golden West,' proved such popular successes that it is seldom a season of opera anywhere which does not include one or more of them.

'The Girl of the Golden West' was the fulfillment of a promise by Puccini to Americans upon the occasion of his visit to the United States in 1907. He came to attend the first American performance of his 'Manon Lescaut.' He was so well pleased with the reception of his work that he promised an opera with many stories of the western United States and had become fond of that class of reading. Upon his return to Europe he began work upon the opera with the scenes laid in that section. He dedicated the opera to Queen Mother Alexandria of Great Britain.

He had begun work on his latest opera, 'Turandot,' which he had virtually completed and which was to have received its premiere at the Scala theater soon.

Wedds an Actress. CHICAGO, Nov. 29.—Alva Dinkey, Jr., son of the former president of the Bethlehem Steel corporation, and Miss Mary Gayer, an actress known as Maria Brown, were married here yesterday. The bridegroom, a world war veteran, is employed as a blower in the blast furnace department of the Illinois Steel company.

To Deport Ponzi. BOSTON, Nov. 29.—Charles Ponzi, promoter of the 'get rich quick' scheme of four years ago which attracted investments of many millions, was arrested early today by immigration authorities on a warrant charging that he is in the country illegally. Deportation proceedings will begin immediately. It was said by Immigration Commissioner John P. Johnson,

seek to enjoin the state from the collection of the taxes, since the attorney general in his opinion suggested that there should be a supreme court opinion on the question. If the state is successful in making the collections the additional revenue derived from that source is expected to run from \$600,000 to \$700,000. Although the law provides that fourth installments must be paid by December 15, Mr. Fisher said that he does not expect his department to finish its work before February or March of the coming year.

Contractor Known Here Held for Death In Auto Crash

ROSEBURG, Ore., Nov. 29.—The coroner's jury investigating the death of William Lamere, who on last Tuesday evening was struck and killed by an automobile driven by S. S. Shell of Oakland, today brought in a verdict charging Shell with manslaughter. Lamere was a pedestrian on the highway about a half mile north of Roseburg when struck by Shell's car, which turned over in the ditch a short distance beyond the place where the impact occurred. Shell in testifying before the coroner's jury, said he was blinded by the lights of an approaching car and did not see Lamere and did not feel the collision, and knew nothing of striking the man until told about it after being extricated from the wreckage of his own car.

Shell was the contractor for the Jacksonville-Ruch-Medford highway and is well known in this city and valley.

SLAIN BANDIT LOOT IS \$17,000 POLICE BELIEF

Bride of Three Months Shows Bank Book—Savings From Hold-Ups—St. Louis Cashier and Des Moines Grocer Are Victims of Robberies.

SEATTLE, Wash., Nov. 29.—A bank balance of \$17,000 was left in a Seattle bank by Karl Peterson, killed in a daylight with two detectives here Monday. It was revealed by the police today. An investigation was begun on the presumption that the money was obtained in holdups.

A bank book brought here by Mrs. Peterson, a bride of three months, from Vancouver, Wash., showed that Peterson had made deposits of \$9000 and \$8100 on the same day. Police are investigating a theory that Peterson sold loot stolen here in Portland, Ore., and sold in Seattle which he operated in Everett and several other Washington cities was also believed by the authorities.

Peterson was killed when he fired on the officers after being questioned about the license plates of an automobile. ST. LOUIS, Mo., Nov. 29.—Two robbers today held up the cashier and assistant cashier of the St. Louis Star in an elevator at the ninth floor of the Star building and escaped with a \$6000 payroll.

After obtaining possession of the bag containing the money the robbers took control of the elevator, forced the two newspaper employees and the negro elevator operator off at the eighth floor and descended to the third floor where they abandoned the car and reached the street floor by stairway.

DES MOINES, Ia., Nov. 29.—Locking Sam Poignes, grocer, in the box at his store, four youthful robbers last night escaped with \$256 in cash and merchandise valued at approximately \$2000. Poignes was released from the ice box this morning when clerks opened the store.

CHICAGO, Nov. 29.—(By the Associated Press.)—Prison sentences aggregating 177 years—the limit of legal punishment—were imposed by Federal Judge Cliffe today on William Fahy, former postoffice inspector, and James Murray, local politician, convicted of plotting the \$2,000,000 mail train robbery at Rondout, Ill., last June 12. The judge, however, stipulated that the sentences should run concurrently so that the maximum actual sentence to be served by each is 25 years.

CHICAGO, Nov. 29.—(By the Associated Press.)—William J. Fahy, former postoffice inspector, and James Murray, a local politician, convicted of plotting the \$2,000,000 mail train robbery at Rondout, Ill., last June 12, were sentenced to the federal prison at Atlanta by Federal Judge Cliffe today. The sentence was for 25 years. Sentencing of Fahy and Murray, the convicted arch plotters of what has been called the "greatest train robbery," followed denial of new trials to Murray and Fahy. Sentencing of Willis, Willie, Jessie and Joseph Newton and Brent Glasscock, the latter in charge of the actual robbery, was deferred until Monday.

NO ILL EFFECTS BLACKMAILING OF PRINCE 'A'

Fears of Reaction in India Now Allayed—New Arrests in Sensational British Case—Attempted Flight of Solicitor's Clerk Halted.

LONDON, Nov. 29.—After a preliminary hearing in court today the jail doors closed again upon William Cooper Hobbs, solicitor's clerk, one of the prominent figures in the suit of C. E. Robinson, a former bookmaker, against the Midland bank, the testimony in which revealed a blackmailing plot through which an unnamed Indian potentate was being out of 150,000 pounds after being discovered in a Paris apartment with Robinson's wife.

The arrest of Hobbs at Gravesend last night as he was trying to leave the country, charged with receiving property stolen abroad, provided a sensational sequel to the Robinson trial, in which final judgment was deferred yesterday pending legal argument.

Hobbs was charged under the larceny act with receiving property, which was described by a representative of the director of prosecutions as a check for 150,000 pounds, which Hobbs is accused of having received on December 17, 1921. The court ordered Hobbs remanded.

In the testimony of Montague Noel, an ex-army officer, who was brought from abroad and paid 3000 pounds to become a witness in the case, Hobbs was described as a solicitor whom the alleged conspirators against the potentate's well filled coffers had engaged to handle their affairs when a lawyer's services were necessary. Noel is reported to have left England last night.

It was learned today that Scotland Yard detectives have for more than a year been investigating aspects of the affair of Newton, Hobbs and Robinson. Fear felt in some official quarters in London that the connection of the potentate with the affair might have been made known in the native state of India of which he is the ruler, with a consequent possible serious reaction on his subjects, was somewhat allayed today.

LONDON, Nov. 29.—The jury in the Robinson conspiracy suit involving an unnamed Indian prince rendered a verdict this evening finding that a conspiracy had existed to extort money from the prince, known as Mr. "A," but that Robinson and Mrs. Robinson were not parties to it. The jury also found that Mr. "A" was induced to part with two checks for 150,000 pounds each through such fear and alarm.

The trial has aroused more interest in England than perhaps any other case that has been tried in London this century. Sir John Simon, counsel for the bank, in a scathing denunciation of Robinson today declared that this is the first time in the history of law that a man has had the hardihood to come into court openly to obtain a subpoenaed sum of money which has been proved to have been the result of blackmail.

MASTER MINDS OF PERFECT ROBBERY GIVEN 177 YEARS

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START TALKS FOR FRANCE TO PAY US

War Debts to Be Discussed at December 1 Meeting—Method of Approach Puzzles Paris—Find Out Financial Ability of Debtor Nation Main Object of Conference.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 29.—Formal exchanges looking to a refunding settlement of the French debt to the United States have progressed to the point where the matter will be laid before the American debt commission for discussion at a meeting called here for December 1.

Secretary Mellon called the meeting yesterday shortly after it had become known that the treasury had held a series of informal conferences recently with Ambassador Jusserand on the subject of his government's war time obligation to the United States which ranks second in amount to the British debt, already refunded.

The result of these conversations, to guide the commission in its discussion of the matter, is understood to be chiefly in the nature of a clarification of the fiscal position of the French government in its bearing on a possible basis for formal negotiations. While the commission at this meeting, the first in six months, is expected to do little more in regard to the French debt than go over the situation in the light of the recent conversations, it is believed these eventualities will lead to tangible results.

PARIS, Nov. 29.—(By Associated Press.)—With regard to the conversations in Washington between Ambassador Jusserand and Secretary Mellon the subject of the French debt today that Premier Herriot, ever since he took office has believed that some arrangement for a settlement with the United States should be reached. The difficulty in his mind and in the minds of his associates has been largely as to the method of approach.

It was provisionally decided at one time that Finance Minister Clement should go to Washington next spring to deal with the negotiations himself, but this idea was abandoned about two weeks ago. The principal reason, it appears, was the belief that it would be better for the finance minister to remain in Paris where he could consult with the premier, and his other colleagues upon the developing phases of the conference, instead of going to Washington where he might be expected to make instant decisions.

It also has been thought that the question could most conveniently be opened by the American debt refunding commission through diplomatic channels. M. Jusserand's conversations with the treasury were in conformity with this policy.

BERGER UPHOLDS BOB'S OUSTING

MILWAUKEE, Wis., Nov. 29.—Victor L. Berger, representative in congress, who leaves here today for Washington expressed the opinion that the republican party had acted properly in reading Senators LaFollette, Ladd, Frazier, and Brookhart out of the party.

"It was absolutely proper for the republican senatorial caucus to read Senators LaFollette, Ladd, Frazier and Brookhart out of the party, because, as I take it, only a republican has the right to belong to the republican party and only a democrat has the right to belong to the democratic party," Mr. Berger said.

HELP THE BOY SCOUTS. During the coming week the citizens of Medford and vicinity will be asked to give their support to the Boy Scout movement. Not only from the standpoint of the amounts contributed should we get back of this project, but we should also lend every effort to assist in carrying out the next year's program.

Development of the highest type of future citizens is the privilege accorded us through the Boy Scout organization. Such a movement has my fullest endorsement. Let's respond promptly when the committee calls for our subscription and go over the top for our boys. E. C. GAD.

DEMOCRACY TO HELP PASSAGE OF G. O. P. BILLS

Sen. Robinson Promises Aid in Securing Legislation at Session of Congress—No Further Tax Reduction Seen—Minority Leader Hopeful.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 29.—Senate democrats have no disposition to obstruct legislation in the coming session of congress on any measure of general importance which can be fairly considered, Senator Robinson of Arkansas, the minority leader, declared today upon his arrival here from his home state.

He added that the democratic opposition would co-operate in the passage of the appropriation bills. Senator Robinson said it was incumbent on the republican majority to formulate the legislative program and that the democrats would not assume the initiative unless public necessity required. The minority leader added, however, that it was not to be expected that many measures of general importance would be acted upon finally at the short session opening Monday.

"The indications are," he said, "that among the subjects which will receive attention are farm relief legislation, including co-operative marketing, the transportation act as it relates to the adjustment of labor disputes, rate-making and freight schedules. It is doubtful whether any of these will be brought to a conclusion. It is anticipated that an effort will be made to dispose of the Muscio Shoals project and the policy of completing this project by the government seems to be gaining support."

"Further tax reductions can hardly be accomplished in the immediate future, owing to the condition of the revenues, but this subject undoubtedly will be revived in the early future."

FORMULA TO MAKE ILLICIT LIQUOR MURDER MOTIVE

LOS ANGELES, Nov. 29.—Fred W. Ferrer, 44, French chemist found slain in a suburban cottage near here yesterday, an undischarged revolver near his side and a "lucky" rabbit's foot in his pocket, was killed by persons eager to gain possession of a secret formula he carried with him, was the belief expressed by police investigators working on the case today. Ferrer, whose business life has been to a great extent shrouded in mystery, Tuesday went out with the explanation, according to his wife, that he was going to keep a business appointment.

He had an afternoon appointment with W. W. Cromwell, for whose company he had recently done some experimental work, but that appointment was not kept, police learned. Two days later George Hunter and Mrs. Elsie Hildreth went to the cottage formerly occupied by Edward Eldridge to get, at his suggestion, a pet kitten he had left there.

Instead of the kitten they had expected to see they found Ferrer, his throat cut and his body covered with knife wounds. They fled, telling Eldridge what they had seen but not informing the police.

Police say Ferrer was in possession of chemical formulae of unusual value to manufacturers of illicit liquor and was probably slain when he went to the cottage to negotiate for the sale of one of these formulae. The cottage figured recently in a liquor raid.

Ferrer came from France five years ago, according to his wife, he married two years ago. He was educated in Toulouse, France, where he studied chemistry. Since their marriage, Mrs. Ferrer said, her husband had told her nothing of his business affairs or associates.

In the cottage where his body was found police discovered a blood-stained envelope addressed to Mrs. Etta Winegar, of San Francisco and North Bend, Ore., and containing a marriage license issued in 1924 at Bakerfield, Cal., to Karl Edwin Winegar, of San Francisco, and Etta Elsie Vagen.

Burns to Death. SAN FRANCISCO, Nov. 29.—Miss Marie Edmonds, 23, of Los Angeles, was buried to death here today in a fire which destroyed the home of John S. Sheehan, where she was visiting Miss Alice Sheehan, a student at Stanford university.

Rescue Hope Gone. CARDIFF, Wales, Nov. 29.—The rescue crews this morning abandoned hope of rescuing alive the 11 miners entombed in the pit at Durvant Thursday night by roof falls, caused by a sudden rush of water.

Cross Word Puzzle Instead of Sermon For His Congregation

PITTSBURGH, Nov. 29.—A crossword puzzle will hold sway in the Knoxville Baptist church on Sunday evening when members of the congregation will be called upon to solve a puzzle signed by the pastor, the Rev. George W. McElveen. A large blackboard has been placed in front of the pulpit and today the minister was busy working out his combinations. After the opening prayer on Sunday night the churchgoers will be told that the puzzle must be solved before the pastor can preach.

COAST BUSINESS IN MOST LINES TREND UPWARDS

Steady Marketing and Higher Prices Offset Crop Losses—Building Continues in 20 Leading Cities—High Price of Wheat Reduces Flour.

SAN FRANCISCO, Nov. 29.—The upward trend of business activity, checked temporarily during September, was resumed in October, it was stated in a report issued today by John Perrin, federal reserve agent for the twelfth district comprising states of the Pacific slope.

"The improvement was moderate and minor movements contrary to the general trend were present," according to the statement, "but the total volume of business transacted in the district was noticeably larger than in the previous month."

"Steady marketing of the district's crops, generally at prices above those paid in recent previous years, has contributed greatly to the improvement in the business situation. The rise in prices of farm products during the period of heavy sales following the harvest did much to offset the effect of smaller than average crops and encouraged prompt sales of the yields which were secured."

"The amount of building construction now under way is larger and so also is permits issued in twenty principal cities during October."

"Lumber mills of the district increased their output during October but sales were smaller than in the previous month and considerably less than production. While distributors and consumers of lumber have shown little tendency to anticipate future needs, many mills are reported to have limited sales commitments in expectation of a rise in prices."

"The flour milling industry operated at reduced capacity during the month. The rapid advance of wheat prices during recent weeks and persistent sluggishness in the market for flour have been the primary causes of curtailed output."

K. F. WRESTLER TO BE WEDDED TONIGHT

KLAMATH FALLS, Ore., Nov. 29.—Henry Burke, middleweight wrestling champion of central Oregon, lost in his first bout with Dan Cupid today, succumbing to a heart hold. In company with Miss Margaret Low, he left by automobile this morning for Grants Pass, where they will be married tonight at the home of the bride-to-be's relatives.

Burke wrestled Gus Schneldau twice in this city last winter, and lost both times.

BOY'S FOLKS WELCOME TEACHER BRIDE BUT SCHOOL BOARD WOULD OUST

CANDY, Ore., Nov. 29.—Mrs. Clifford Leroy Samuelson, high school teacher, formerly Miss Rosamond Lee Shaw, who was married recently to one of the seventeen year old pupils of the school, announced today that she would fight action taken last night by the school board in dismissing her. The board decided to revoke the teacher's contract after considering a petition signed by 106 citizens and patrons of the school.

ARMY WINS FROM NAVY 12-0 SCORE

President and Mrs. Coolidge and 78,000 Others See Classic at Baltimore—Toe of Garbisch Brings Victory to Cadets.

BALTIMORE, Md., Nov. 29.—(By Associated Press.) The United States Military academy of West Point defeated the United States Naval Academy of Annapolis twelve to nothing at football here today.

Captain Ed Garbisch, playing his last game for the army, kicked four field goals today and gave the cadets all of the twelve points that carried them to the twenty-seventh annual service classic fought out before a record crowd of 78,000 which included President and Mrs. Coolidge.

BALTIMORE STADIUM, Nov. 29.—(By Associated Press.) Love of football reached out today and gathered at the sidelines here for the Army and Navy game the most notable crowd ever assembled for the annual gridiron encounter between the two service schools.

The spirit of the contest reached far and wide in gathering its thousands of cheering fans. From all along the Atlantic seaboard and from far inland states special trains and hundreds of automobiles brought to the city thousands of fans and spectators to swell the crowd that turned out from the city itself.

Half an hour before the game time there was no doubt that the municipal stadium would be filled to its capacity of 78,000. Among the early arrivals was President Coolidge who temporarily put aside the government's business to join with the thousands that the national capital sent here to watch the encounter. He was accompanied by Mrs. Coolidge and Mr. and Mrs. Frank Stearns, close personal friends.

AUTO LICENSE AND KINDRED SOURCES OF TAXES HEAVY

SALEM, Ore., Nov. 29.—The 30 counties of Oregon received during the year September 16, 1923, to September 15, 1924, a total of \$1,129,936.18, for highway purposes from the state receipts from motor vehicle, chauffeur, dealer and operators' licenses and other sources in connection with the licensing and operation of motor vehicles, while the state from the same resources received from its highway fund a total of \$3,419,808.55. This is under the law whereby the counties receive one fourth and the state highway fund three fourths of the proceeds. These figures are shown in a statement prepared by Secretary of State Kozler.

The total in cash turned over to the state treasurer from these sources was \$4,774,911.03, but refunds on account of duplications deducted from this figure amounted to \$3,645,104.92, and from this latter figured \$209,423.36 in administrative expense was used, leaving a total net receipts for the counties and the state highway fund \$4,559,744.73.

Paderewski Honored. WARSAW, Nov. 29.—Ignace Jan Paderewski, the great pianist and former premier of Poland, is to be offered the post of minister to the United States. It is rumored in political circles. His acceptance, however, is considered doubtful.

STATE TO TRY AND COLLECT FINAL PAYMENTS OF REPEALED INCOME TAX

SALEM, Ore., Nov. 29.—State Tax Commissioner Earl Fisher is preparing to send out notices for the collection of fourth installments of income taxes from individuals, corporations and partnerships that have chosen to pay by the installment plan. About 4000 notices will be sent out as a result of a recent opinion of Attorney General Van Winkle holding that the unpaid portions of the income tax can be collected notwithstanding the repeal of the act at the election of November 4. It is presumed that someone will