

The Weather

Prediction — Unsettled. Maximum yesterday 74. Minimum today 38. Precipitation Trace.

Daily—Twenty-second Year Weekly—Fifty-sixth Year

MEDFORD MAIL TRIBUNE

MEDFORD, OREGON, TUESDAY, MARCH 20, 1928.

Weather Year Ago

Maximum 87. Minimum 29.

No. 360.

Today

While Ye Have Light Brave, Pious Patrick Making Steel With Gas Big Bootleg Bribes

By Arthur Brisbane

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NEWTON, Kas.—As this is written on the way through Kansas, two cars are visible up to their hubs in mud on the road beside the Santa Fe track. There should be a national well paved highway 100 feet wide running from ocean to ocean in place of this long mudhole.

Senator Capper's title "Tompkins Daily Capital" carries this appropriate text on today's editorial page today: "While while ye have light, lest darkness come upon you. John 12:35."

Bouffals in his "Denver Post" says the Colorado Fuel and Iron Company will make steel with natural gas. They will also use gas from coke ovens since coke is needed in the blast furnaces.

Why not change natural gas at the well into electric power, manufacture steel by the electric process, do away with coke and make better, cheaper, almost rust-proof steel? That should interest Mr. Rockefeller who controls Colorado Fuel and Iron. Mr. Wills who helped help wonderfully strong steel alloys, could tell how to do it.

Prohibition inspectors bribed in Detroit for taking bribes from rum runners are said by the district attorney to have received \$200,000 in the first six months of 1927.

Bootleg liquor must flow in freely for the inspectors get only \$1 a case for whiskey, 25 cents a case for beer.

Under prohibition customs inspectors can get a hundred thousand dollars a year each, in bribes, if willing to take them.

The Pullman porter who said "Not all gentlemen steal soap from Pullman cars, but everybody has his price," would doubt the possibility of finding enough honest inspectors.

Victor Berger, only Socialist in Congress and a sincere advocate of obedience to law, sometimes says things that need to be said.

When congressmen of both big parties had worn themselves out urging reduction of big individual and corporation income taxes, Victor Berger said, "I want to say a few words for men and women who do not earn enough to pay any income tax."

"They are the people without whose toil and effort the income taxpayers could not exist for a single day. They are the people without whom civilization could not exist for a single day."

How are y anything is said in Congress about individuals that don't pay income tax. Yet they number more than one hundred and fifteen millions. Congressmen don't agree with Berger, but listen to him, laugh at his good points and applaud him. THEY KNOW HE IS HONEST.

A thousand more marines are sent to Nicaragua. Three thousand five hundred of our "devil dog" fighters will watch the polls at Nicaragua's election.

Nicaragua might ask, "Why don't you use a few of them in your big city elections?"

Those in whom a fondness for killing things survives will yearn as they read that farmers near El

(Continued on Page Four)

G. BARKER MISSING; SHUT BANK

Well Known Bank Official's Car Found Near Butte Falls — Sheriff Starts Search—State Bank Examiner Takes Charge of Pine Belt Banking Co.

As a result of the mysterious disappearance Monday afternoon of George W. Barker, president of the Pine Belt Bank of Butte Falls, the institution was closed today by order of the state banking department, and a search for Barker in the wilderness of northeastern Jackson county, in charge of Sheriff Jennings, is underway.

Barker's automobile was later found abandoned in the hills two miles northeast of Butte Falls, and a search for the missing man is proceeding from there.

State Superintendent of Banks Schramm, notified of the affair, arrived here today and left at once for Butte Falls. He refused to make any statement relative to the bank.

Deputy Examiner Goset maintained the same attitude.

The incidents immediately preceding the vanishing of Barker, as stated by District Attorney Newton W. Chaney, are as follows:

The regular examination of the books of the bank by Deputy State Examiner Goset was underway. Barker left the bank at 1:30 o'clock Monday, ostensibly to get lunch. When he failed to return in an hour, Deputy Examiner Goset notified J. H. Simmsville, a merchant of Butte Falls, and a stockholder in the bank, and a search was instituted.

Citizens reported they saw Barker driving in his car in a northerly direction into the heavy timber, and later his car was found on a one-half mile away. There were no signs of Barker. This morning the search was renewed, and up to two o'clock this afternoon no clues as to his whereabouts had been found.

This morning, through the request of Mrs. Hazel Barker, wife of the missing man, and other officers and stockholders in the bank the affairs of the institution were placed in the hands of the state banking department. Deputy Examiner Goset now conducting an examination.

No reason is given for the unexplained disappearance of Barker, who is well known in Jackson county. He has conducted the bank at Butte Falls for 29 years, is a graduate of the University of Oregon, and enjoys an excellent reputation. Local friends insist the affairs of the bank are in good shape.

County funds in the closed institution totalled about \$20,000, and are protected by a surety bond.

District Attorney Newton W. Chaney, upon the arrival of the state officials, took charge of the investigation.

The bank was believed to be in a thriving condition, by reason of the last official report. It handled many of the checks of the Owen-Oregon Lumber company, which centers its logging operations in that vicinity. Last November Mr. Barker purchased a home in this city, and owns considerable Medford property.

FEAR ANOTHER TRAGEDY OF AIR IN ALASKA HOP

NEWARD, Alaska, Mar. 20.—(AP)—The possibility that Captain George Herbert Wilkins, Australian aviator-explorer and his Alaskan pilot, Lieutenant Carl Ben Eielson, may have crashed their plane in making a landing at Point Barrow, yesterday was seen here today when effort to get into communication with the expedition failed.

Captain Robert W. Overton, the United States radio officer of the Seaward and Interior Alaska districts, who heard the distress of the plane's wireless transmitter from the time of the hop-off at Fairbanks, until Wilkins' dramatic message, "going to land, going to land," was received, was unable to get a reply from Wilkins in more than three hours of continuous effort.

FAIRBANKS, Alaska, Mar. 20.—(AP)—On the first hop of their projected flight to the other side of the world over the Arctic "blind spot," Captain George H. Wilkins and Lieutenant C. Ben Eielson, his thorough pilot, took off from Point Barrow, from the Fairbanks airport yesterday.

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JOHN D. JR. TO BE PUT ON CARPET

Rockefeller, Schwab and Mellon to Be Called to Explain Horrible Conditions in the Coal Districts of Pennsylvania—Fannie Hurst Makes Report After Trip.

WASHINGTON, Mar. 20.—(AP)—An announcement that subpoenas would be issued today for John D. Rockefeller, Jr., Charles M. Schwab and R. B. Mellon to testify before the senate committee investigating the bituminous mining industry made by Senator Wheeler of Montana, was met with a statement from Chairman Watson that this would have to be agreed upon first by the full committee.

While acting as chairman yesterday, Senator Gooding of Idaho, republican, acceded to Wheeler's request that Rockefeller, Schwab and Mellon would have to be called.

It was explained by Wheeler yesterday that he wanted to question Rockefeller because of his connection with the Consolidation Coal company of West Virginia. He said also that Schwab would appear as chairman of the board of the Bethlehem Steel corporation which mines coal in Pennsylvania and that Mellon, a brother of the treasury secretary, would be questioned as a member of the board of the Pittsburgh Coal company.

Miners' families in the Pittsburgh district are "living under animal conditions," the committee was told by Fannie Hurst, authoress, who declared that conditions in that area "were worse than I found in Russia."

"The human degradation there is beyond the telling," she said, and her views were seconded by Gooding.

Senator Wagner, democrat, New York, likewise agreed with the story of "malignant conditions" in Pennsylvania, adding that he was struck by the indifference of the state government toward the situation.

Miss Hurst described large families of striking miners as "living in shambles," and said such conditions "sow seeds of anarchy." She advocated government intervention.

Herbert McCorkery, a photographer who visited the Pittsburgh coal area for the New York Daily News, said he saw negro strike breakers shooting into homes of strikers and into the school house at Broughton, Pa.

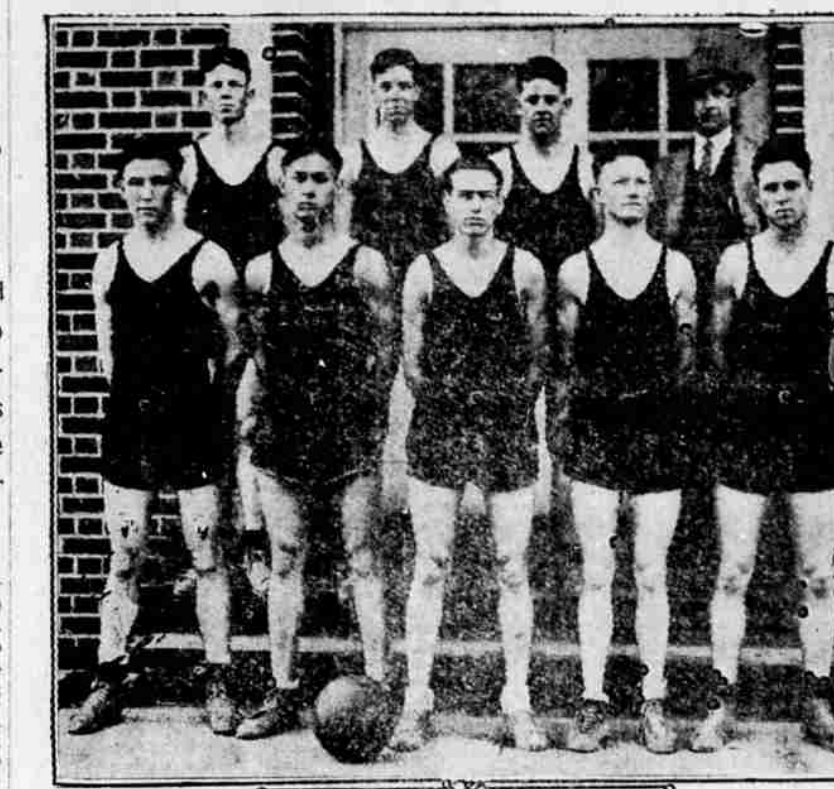
LINDBERGH IS AIR HOST FOR CONGRESSMEN

Famous Pilot Takes Up Lady Members of Congress First—Flights Will Continue Over Three Days—Big Fokker Used.

WASHINGTON, Mar. 20.—(AP)—Members of congress took to the air with Colonel Lindbergh today as the New York-to-Paris flier began a series of flights for the legislators which will extend over three days.

Among the seven passengers on the initial courtesy flight were two of the four women members of the house—Mrs. Edith Nourse Rogers of Massachusetts, and Mrs. Katherine Laney of Kentucky.

Here They Are!—Medford's Fighting "8"



To row, left to right—Fred McDonald, forward; Earl Phipps, center; William Morgan, guard; Coach Callison. Bottom row—Bernard Hughes, forward; William Bowerman, utility; Virgil Swanson, forward; Al Melica, guard, and Clifton Garnett, guard.

TOTAL INCOME M. H. S. TOSSERS HARDING PAPER TAX PAYMENTS LEAD STATE IN TO BE PROBED MAKE RECORD ALL STAR TEAM FOR OIL BONDS

Total Thus Far is \$18,000,000 Greater Than Year Ago—Mellon, However, Wants to Wait Before He Draws Any Conclusions.

WASHINGTON, March 20.—(AP)—Treasury receipts from the March 15 income tax payments, which are being watched closely by congress and the administration, show that at the close of business March 17, the government had obtained payments of \$213,550,000.67, while on the same date last year the total was \$197,690,378.51.

If this proportion should carry through for the entire collection of 1928, the treasury would be likely to have about \$100,000,000 or more above its estimates. On this showing urges the fight in congress over taxation, but Secretary Mellon is said to await a fuller return before deciding on the issue.

The returns comprise one-fourth of the 1927 income, although full and thus the quarter is far the most profitable in increasing government receipts.

The statement of March 17 included all receipts received and checked during the full business day of which the installment fell due. At the end of the month the government might find itself with less cash than it obtained last year in the same period.

Another effect of the inflow of income tax funds was to bring the government's cash balance last Saturday to the comparatively high figure of \$428,372,477, the manipulation of the floating debt dated the March 15 payment date has resulted in the retirement of short obligations to the total of \$324,999,999 for the month and the incuring of new short-time debts as far in 1928 month to a total of \$1,056,999,999.

WON'T SUMMON GOV. AL SMITH

WASHINGTON, March 20.—(AP)—A definite declaration that Governor Alfred E. Smith of New York, a Democratic presidential possibility, will not be called before the senate Teapot Dome committee, was made late today by Senator Walsh of Montana, a candidate for the Democratic nomination.

Casualties of the Air Service

SAN ANTONIO, Tex., Mar. 20.—(AP)—First Lieutenant William C. Williams, air corps reserve and a judge in Atlantic, Iowa, was killed here today when his plane crashed into a telephone pole near the second division air field at Fort Sam Houston.

Official Coleman Names Even Death Fails to Check Investigations of Senate Committee—Editors of Marion Star Welcome the Decision.

Melvin, McDonald and Phipps on All-State Basketball Team—Latter Selected as Guard Instead of Center.

WASHINGTON, Mar. 20.—(AP)—With the estate of the late President Harding now within its focus, the senate Teapot Dome committee's long and ramifying investigation of the now cancelled oil leases and their subsequent connections is nearing an end to the accompaniment of violent political eruptions on the floor of congress.

Today was another off day for the inquiry but it will get under way again tomorrow and after two days of sub-committee investigation in Chicago.

Meanwhile, further reaction was looked for following the announcement yesterday by Senator Neumann, North Dakota, chairman of the Teapot Dome committee, that the committee would look into the records of President Harding's estate.

While he did not believe any of the bonds would be found there, Nye said there would be a lack of satisfaction if this committee submits a report to the senate without going into the matter.

"If they are there, we are going to tell the world," he added. "If they are not there, we are going to tell the world; I don't think they are there."

Agreeing that Nye was "absolutely right," Louis H. Bruch, who with Roy Moore, purchased the Marion (Ohio) Star from President Harding, issued a statement last night saying he and his associates were in Washington on another matter, were willing to give the oil committee "any and all details of the transaction."

"Let us, for the sake of square shooting and in fairness to the memory of President Harding," the newspaper man said, "bring this thing right out in the open and let it straighten through it."

The Marion Star figured in the early part of the oil investigation when inquiry was made into the profits of the navy's oil reserve deals were included in the sale price of the paper. The newspaper's purchases vigorously denied this at the time and no evidence was uncovered to support the charges.

A committee investigator will be sent to Marion to inspect the Harding estate files.

It was President Harding who signed the executive order by which Albert B. Fall, as secretary of the interior, assumed direction over the Elk Hills and Teapot Dome reserves and later, leased them to Edward L. Doheny and Harry F. Sinclair.

DAM WAS BLOWN UP IS CLAIM

Asa Keyes Said to Have Evigence That Newhall Tragedy Was Work of Dynamiters — Incriminating Note Found — All City Lines Guarded.

LOS ANGELES, Mar. 20.—(AP)—The Evening Express says today that Los Angeles officials are carrying on their investigation of the St. Francis dam disaster on the theory that the collapse of the big buttress was caused by dynamite.

Evidence pointing to the alleged act is said to be in the hands of District Attorney Asa Keyes. The following statements are listed in support of the claim that the death-dealing deluge in the Santa Clara river valley was the work of bomb setters.

1.—Investigators are said to have in their possession a sheet of newspaper, found at the dam site and kept secret until today, on which was drawn a rough chart of the St. Francis dam.

2.—The notations on the chart were said to be written in the same handwriting that sketched charts found at the scene of recent dynamite explosions in the city aqueduct.

3.—A short length of newly frayed rope, of the same strand, hemp and size as that used by aqueduct dynamiters in Owens valley to lower their charges into several sections of the waterway, was found at a spot where the dynamite could have been lowered into the St. Francis dam reservoir.

Coincident with the discovery of the alleged evidence, President and guards have been ordered placed at every vulnerable spot in the city's domestic water supply artery. A heavy armed patrol that section of the aqueduct traversing Owens valley, particularly the big reservoir.

The evidence, the Express says it learns, will be put before a coroner's jury when Los Angeles' official inquest over some of the bodies of nearly 600 known dead in the disaster, is held.

In connection with the theory that dynamiting may have caused the great concrete structure to give way at both ends, it is recalled today that several persons reported having seen big flashes of light on the sky over San Francisco canyon about the time the dam collapsed. These flashes have been accounted for by the assumption that the flood waters broke down high power lines, causing short circuits.

Chief Engineer William Mulholland of the Bureau of Water and Power, who was refused a "leave of absence" by the power board and was given a vote of renewed confidence by that body yesterday, informed the board last night that after a close inspection of the crumpled structure he "was not satisfied that the dam had collapsed because of fault or act of God."

Competent engineers, working on the theory of "fault" in construction, had been notified by the fact that the central, which was the most vulnerable section of the dam, still stands. It is said to be the belief of many investigators that work today in secret, that the wings of the dam were dynamited simultaneously, leaving the center standing intact.

SALEM, Ore., March 20.—(AP)—Earl Shipp, 19, voluntary substitute at a Woodburn filling station, playfully filled his mouth with gasoline, spraying it out and at the same time touching a match to the spray in an effort to amuse some young ladies who had called for gasoline. The amusements of the trick, which he claims to have successfully staged in the past, and was burned about his mouth and chest.

PORTLAND SCHOOL BOY IS MISSING

PORTLAND, Ore., Mar. 20.—(AP)—Missing since he left home for Grant high school yesterday, no trace had been found this morning of Robert W. Smith, son of Circuit Judge John H. Stevenson, Donald Hardin, who was with him yesterday, also was missing.

OWEN-ORE. TO EXTEND RAILROAD

Asa Keyes Said to Have Eight Miles of Standard Gauge to Be Built This Year—New Surveys Ordered—Many Improvements Arranged—Will Operate 12 Months Per Year.

As soon as weather conditions in the hills will permit, the Owen-Oregon Lumber company will dispatch an engineering contour force into the Butte Falls district, to make surveys for future extensions of their railroad from a junction point near Butte Falls, according to an announcement made yesterday by James H. Owen, vice-president and general manager of the company, who returned a week ago from the annual meeting of the directors of the company, held in Wausau and Eau Claire, Wisconsin.

The surveys will be in a north-easterly and a southeasterly direction from a junction near Butte Falls, and will eventually cover all the timber holdings of the company in that section, including a line covering the old P. & E. line extension.

Until the surveys and contours are completed, the final destination and future plans, will not be announced, according to General Manager Owen.

Construction of eight miles of standard gauge track in the Butte Falls district this summer, in the main body of the company's timber in the foothills southeast of Butte Falls for use in case winter operations are carried on, was also announced. This line, said Mr. Owen, later will be extended as required.

New Building Program The building program of the Owen-Oregon company, as approved by the directors for the Medford plant, is as follows:

The re-building of the old saw-mill for a finished lumber storage shed, with a capacity of 2,000,000 feet, which is now underway. The company recently completed the installation of a shaving blower system for conveying shavings and fuel from the planing mill to the saw-mill vault at the sawmill, representing an expenditure of \$4000.

The extension of the lumber storage yards, to a capacity of 10,000,000 feet, at a cost of \$200,000.

The enlargement of the trackage system, to cover the east portion, as the entire yard will be under rails, with electric locomotives and cars. Lumber carriers are now being used in the handling of the output.

Future improvements by the company include the building of additional dry bins, in order that the better grades of lumber will go through the dry kilns, and be ready for marketing without being stored for air drying.

Operate on All Year Basis It was also announced by Manager Owen that it is planned to operate the local plant upon a twelve-month basis, single shift, increasing to a double shift if conditions warrant.

It is planned to cut 70,000,000 feet during the year. In addition to the logs that the company will cut from its own and government land in the Butte Falls district, they will purchase the output of small operators.

The cut of the mill, which was completed in 1927, exceeded expectations, according to Manager Owen, who stated that operation during the installing of improvements had been more or less of a handicap. It is the intention of the company to make 124 a cut year for the local plant. The total will have a bearing on the future enlargements and improvements of the plant.

Payroll Plant and logging operations of the company now provide regular employment for 512 men and women. Of this total, 78 per cent are married, and many own their own homes in this city and nearby towns. The monthly payroll averages \$25,000, and if it is decided to put on a double shift, this will be increased to \$29,000 per month. These facts were gleaned from the statistics of the company.

The records of the assessor's office show that the Owen-Oregon company, next to the Southern Pacific railroad, is the heaviest taxpayer in Jackson county. In 1927, the company paid taxes at the rate of \$1.43 per thousand feet of lumber manufactured.

Fruit Prices Today

SAN FRANCISCO, Mar. 20.—(AP)—Federal State Market News Service. Apples: California boxes, deficient \$2.50; winter bananas, fancy \$7.25.