

The Weather
Forecast — Rain, possibly mixed with snow; rain Tuesday.
Highest yesterday 47
Lowest this morning 33
Precipitation .01

MEDFORD MAIL TRIBUNE

Weather Year Ago
Maximum 46
Minimum 39

Daily—Twenty-third Year
Weekly—Fifty-seventh Year

TWENTY PAGES

MEDFORD, OREGON, MONDAY, DECEMBER 31, 1928.

No. 281.

Today

By Arthur Brisbane

One Really Good War.
Public Works That Pay.
Blessed Word—Relativity.
New Blood, New Soldiers.

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Tidewater and Standard Oil have begun what the late Joseph Pulitzer called "the only sensible war," a war of advertising. Tidewater sells a good gasoline, colored green. Standard Oil has a pink brand that doesn't knock, kick, carbonize or get tired. The advertising is well prepared on both sides and newspaper publishers approve the war.

NEW YORK and New Jersey built a tunnel under the Hudson, after much talk about expense. New York's share of the profits will amount to \$24,000,000 in the time that it will take to build a new tunnel. So another tunnel is to be built and four more after the first two all out of net profits.

Good roads, bridges, canals, tunnels, power and irrigation plants that would pay for themselves, are needed all over the country and should be built by private initiative, if government lacks intelligence to do the work. But government should do the work, and will, if intelligently and honestly managed.

Scientists, discovering that a small spiral nebula is flying off into space at 2500 miles per second feel like the farmer who cried on first seeing a zebra. "There is no such animal." Astronomers say "There is no such speed."

And they decide that "the apparent speed is due to a crumpling of space, a relativity effect."

When puzzled, mention relativity, which means nothing. Science admits a cosmic speed of about 1250 miles per second. Why balk at 2500 miles?

Light and electricity travel 186,000 miles a second. What's to prevent an infinitely tenuous nebula from speeding along at 2500 miles?

If a man started traveling at the speed of light, through space, say the scientists, he would ultimately come back to the point whence he started. "This is a closed universe," say the wise ones, and space is not unlimited.

It is not a closed universe, but great scientists have finite minds, unable to grasp the infinite. And their "closed universe" discussion is worthy of hoptoads beside the track speculating on the limitations of a passing express train. "Sir," said Samuel Johnson, to a group discussing free will and predestination, "we know the will is free and there's an end of it."

You feel inclined to say to the "closed universe" hoptoad scientists, "Sirs, we know the universe is infinite, because it could not possibly be anything else, and there's an end of that."

Very late, perhaps altogether too late, British doctors are talking of blood transfusion for the king. The simple operation, resorted to at once, might have saved the king's life.

His doctors say "It is not so much that the king is ill, as that he is not getting well." Fresh new blood would make him well. Tired blood cells that have been fighting septicaemia for months cannot do it. Blood transfusion, until recently resorted to only as a last desperate resort, is now a regular part of intelligent medical practice in America.

It does for the individual human

MOTHER OF BEAST BOY CONFESSES

Mrs. Northcott Pleads Guilty to Slaying Walter Collins and Given Life Sentence — Puts Blame On Husband and Son's Accuser — Callous Story of Killing

RIVERSIDE, Cal., Dec. 31.—(AP)—Mrs. Sarah Louisa Northcott pleaded guilty to the murder of Walter Collins in superior court here this morning and was sentenced to life imprisonment.

The woman, who was accused with her son, Gordon Stewart Northcott, Wynette chicken ranch operator, of the death of the Collins boy, accepted full responsibility for the murder of the lad.

The unexpected court appearance of the woman, who with her son led southern California officers on an international manhunt previous to their capture in Canada and return here, followed a secret confession given Saturday night to Chief Deputy District Attorney Earle Redwine and Sheriff Clem Sweetser. Yesterday she dismissed Norbert Savay, her attorney, and asked that she be taken before the court this morning.

She was taken before Superior Judge O. K. Moran and entered her plea shortly after 9 o'clock this morning. In the confession Mrs. Northcott was said by Redwine to have assumed responsibility for the murder of Lewis and Nelson Winslow and the unidentified Mexican youth as well. However, she blamed her husband, Cyrus Northcott, and Sanford Clark, her grandson, and Gordon Stewart Northcott's chief accuser, with complicity.

Mrs. Northcott told the court to-day that she did not know who the boy was she killed, but said that she did not believe him to be Walter Collins.

The child wandered into the ranch one night, tired, hungry and in ragged clothing. I felt sorry for him and fed him, and gave him a bed in the chicken house. He stayed at the ranch the next day, and that night when I went to the brooder house to see how he was getting along, he was apparently dead," the old woman explained. "His skull was battered, but he was still moving. I seized an axe which stood nearby and struck him dead."

RIVERSIDE, Cal., Dec. 31.—(AP)—Sheriff Clem Sweetser, who with his wife and Chief Deputy District Attorney Earle Redwine of Riverside county, listened to the confession of Mrs. Sarah Louisa Northcott Saturday night, told the Associated Press today that the woman had confessed that Gordon Stewart was the son of an English lord whose identity she withheld. "When I was 15 years old," Mrs. Northcott told Sheriff Sweetser she said, "I met a young Englishman about to come into a lordship, at Saskatoon, Canada, my home. We fell in love with each other and were married, but I persuaded him to return to England without me, as the sacrifice of the marriage would be great to him. He is the only man I ever loved."

Walter to the Altar



Gov. Governor Pierce

SALEM, Ore., Dec. 31.—(AP)—Cornelia Marvin, state librarian, and ex-Governor Walter M. Pierce will be married tonight at 6 o'clock at Miss Marvin's home at Sola, near here. Rev. Norman K. Tully, pastor of the First Presbyterian church of Salem, will perform the ceremony. Miss Marvin's resignation as state librarian is effective January 1.

It is understood they will live at LaGrande.

GEORGIA TECH-CALIFORNIA TOP NOTCHERS OF ROSE BOWL BATTLE



Outstanding figures of the football year, in the lineup of the Golden Tornado and Golden Bears, clashing at Pasadena to date mine gridiron supremacy between the two seaboard. Left, Mizell, Tech halfback; large head, Phillips, California end; upper center, Lom, California half; lower, Tech center; upper right, Watkins, Tech tackle; lower right, Schmidt, California fullback.

AIR ENDURANCE BOOST COST OF EXHAUSTION OF LOOKS LIKE A PLANE OF ARMY WHOOPEE UPON BRITON RULER LYNCHING BEE READY FOR TEST THE WHITE WAY FRETS DOCTORS DOWN IN DIXIE

'Question Mark' Goes Aloft at Daylight Tomorrow—Will Be Gassed On Wing —Missouri Rival Plans to Start at Midnight.

LOS ANGELES, Dec. 31.—(AP)—The big army Fokker monoplane "Question Mark," was housed at the metropolitan airport here today awaiting daylight tomorrow, when it will go aloft, take on fuel from another plane in the air at intervals, and remain up until its engines quit.

Burning 36 gallons of gas every hour, the plane will require refueling three times a day in mid-air. At the "Question Mark" shuttles between Los Angeles and San Diego a smaller plane will fly above it when refueling is necessary. The refueling plane will come as close to the question mark as possible and will lower a hose which will be connected with the big machine's fuel tanks.

Twice a day the Question Mark will take on 300 gallons of gasoline the third refueling will include only 150 gallons a minute.

Oil and other supplies will be transferred from the small to the large plane in a similar manner. The five men aboard have planned a routine, which calls for breakfast at 6 a. m., lunch about 12:30 p. m., and dinner at 5:30. There will be an opportunity for each man to take exercise and a sponge bath daily.

The plane is so designed that anyone of its three motors will keep it in the air. Hence it is expected to keep going after two of the engines are worn out.

The longest known endurance flight where refueling was made by a Belgian and lasted 60 hours.

FLU SPREADS TO ATLANTIC COAST; MANY NEW CASES

WASHINGTON, Dec. 31.—(AP)—Influenza reports to the public health service today, showed 16,299 new cases in Michigan, and 1948 in Maryland for the week ended December 29, indicating, officials said, that there are at least 25,000.

They interpreted the reports on Maryland, and estimates of 40,000 cases in Virginia, for the previous week as showing the spread of influenza on the Atlantic coast.

The medical officer in charge of the United States marine hospital at Memphis today reported 823 cases in that city during the past 30 weeks. He "surmises that this is merely a beginning of the epidemic in Memphis." One doctor, one nurse and four other hospital employees, he added, had been attacked, and there are 13 influenza patients in the hospital.

ELLIOTT, Iowa.—(AP)—Systems have attained sudden popularity here because Mrs. J. R. Meeks found a pearl in a quart of oysters she bought at a meat market.

NEGRO CLUBS IN HARLEM PREPARE FOR GOLDEN HARVEST TONIGHT — CHICAGO ENFORCE TO WATCH GAY CAFES INSTEAD OF GUESTS.

NEW YORK, Dec. 31.—(AP)—Mine host, whether in a Harlem night club, or a smart mid-town hotel, was making elaborate preparations today for the entertaining of Father Knickerbocker and his guests New Year's eve.

Cover charges in hotels, night clubs, restaurants and cabarets were high.

The increase in the fee charge for a seat, a noisemaker and a bag of confetti, was greatest in the Harlem clubs. It is the fee for white society folks to patronize clubs in this negro section. Popular Harlem clubs were setting charges as high as \$25.

The celebration at the Waldorf-Astoria, which will tax the famous house to capacity will be something in the nature of a farewell party for another New Year's will see the hotel razed.

CHICAGO, Dec. 31.—(AP)—The Chicagoan's hip pocket tonight is reasonably safe from government investigation, but hotel and restaurant proprietors will be held accountable for any infraction of the dry laws that New Year's eve celebrants may commit, while their guests.

E. C. Yellowley, federal prohibition administrator for this territory, said the government agents would not go around searching individuals.

"We expect to concentrate on the institutions—hotels, cafes and cabarets, rather than their guests," Yellowley said.

NO DEATHS FROM POISON LIQUOR IN YULE SEASON

WASHINGTON, Dec. 31.—(AP)—Prohibition Commissioner Doran took a look at the immediate past and future of enforcement today and found encouragement in his report to Assistant Secretary Lowman of the treasury that no deaths due to poisoned alcohol have been reported to him during the Christmas holidays.

Summing up the year-end situation, Mr. Doran said a great advance had been made over previous years in relation to fatalities caused by wood alcohol or liquor containing other poisons. He added, however, that a few deaths from acute alcoholism had been reported.

The commissioner attributed the lack of death reports this year to the education of the public and to the new formula used by the prohibition bureau to render alcohol unfit for beverage purposes. The old formula, which included the use of pyridine, was discarded about a year ago and alcohol was substituted.

Prison Doors Ppen For Actress; Yawn For Mother of 10

SAN QUENTIN, Cal., Dec. 31.—(AP)—The state board of prison directors set the term of Dorothy Mackaye, actress imprisoned for a non-paying husband after a fist fight, at one year. With two months off for good behavior, the sentence ends at midnight, December 27, leaving her free for New Year's. She was sentenced in Los Angeles.

LANSING, Mich., Dec. 31.—(AP)—Mrs. Ella Mae Miller was found guilty by a jury in circuit court here this afternoon on four convictions of liquor felonies. The jury was out 12 minutes. Judge Charles H. Collinswood immediately sentenced her to life imprisonment in the Detroit house of correction.

SUSPENSE FUND OF COUNTY PUT IN ROAD FUND

Will Be Used in Payment of Highway Interest — Action of County Court Leaves Way to Build Courthouse Without Direct Taxation.

Disposition was officially made today by the county court of the \$270,000 of the O. and C. fund money, after having been held in a suspense fund for some time, pending the outcome of the case of the state of Oregon versus Marion county to collect a portion of the O. and C. moneys.

The sum of \$270,000 that has been in the suspense fund for some time has been a problem for the county court in regard to its final disposition. If the sum was not placed in some other designated fund, it would by law automatically revert to the general fund of the county and would be paid out for general expenses.

The money today was authorized to be placed in the bond fund to be used for payment of principal and interest of county road bonds or for such other purposes as may be legally authorized by existing laws or future legislation.

It has been the intention of the county court to set aside money for the construction of a new courthouse and if the \$270,000 had not reverted to the general fund under the 6 per cent limitation law, it would have required a special election each year for several years to authorize the court to increase tax levies to raise sufficient funds for general purposes.

The present O. and C. funds, now in the bond fund, in addition to amounts to be received from the same source during the next two or three years, added to the amount in the sinking fund, will furnish sufficient funds to pay all bonds and probably leave a balance sufficient to build a new courthouse without any direct tax levy.

OREGON CAPTAIN HURTS HIS NECK

HONOLULU, Dec. 31.—(AP)—A football neck, due to an automobile accident last night, will not keep Captain George Burnell of the University of Oregon football team out of the lineup against the University of Hawaii tomorrow, unless coaches and the police interfere.

Burnell, asserting his injury was slight, announced he had come thousands of miles to lead his team to victory, and that he expected to do it.

MUCH GOOD FROM TRIP OF HOOVER

Calmed Politics of Central America and Economic Conditions in South America — Better Relations Established By Frank Conferences.

U. S. S. UTAH EN ROUTE TO HAMPTON ROADS, Dec. 31.—(AP)—Herbert Hoover's good-will trip had two distinct stages in the view of his associates on the mission: First, in Central America, turning unexpectedly into what might be termed political channels, while the second in South America found economic conditions at its base, with questions of better relations with the United States overlying all.

During the very first call at Honduras contending political factions were brought together at a reception with what was expected to be beneficial results, both sides promising that they would have more amicable relations. The same was true in Nicaragua, where political leaders met in a friendly manner, with Diaz and Moncado both going publicly on record as favoring the retention of American marines, at least until the local constabulary could be organized and recruited to full strength. In Costa Rica members of the party were given to understand that an appeal by that government to the League of Nations for an interpretation of the Monroe doctrine in no way was intended as a slap at the United States.

Also in Costa Rica, as well as in other Central American republics, including Salvador, Mr. Hoover was apprised of the need of the countries for additional capital to bring about internal improvements and to develop natural resources.

Throughout South America members of the mission were somewhat surprised at the extent of American investments in the republics. They were informed that American capital was welcomed and that apparently South America was looking to the United States for funds to assist in the vast development which is possible for everyone in those countries.

In Ecuador, President Ayora frankly discussed the problems of his country with Mr. Hoover, emphasizing the need for outside financial assistance.

Peru, one of the largest of South American republics, and regarded as unusually rich in natural resources, appeared especially eager to welcome American capital. President Leguia in his conversations with the president-elect stressed the need of better steamship connections, air lines and roads.

Holivians, who boarded the Maryland at Antofagasta, discussed the road program, but they also went into the question of the outlet to the sea, explaining the difficulty of bringing in supplies for the country. Mr. Hoover listened but made no comment when political ques-

(Continued on Page Six)

Will Rogers Says:

NEW YORK, Dec. 31.—Before our usual list of millionaires issue their yearly optimistic New Year's statement, please publish the following statements by men who are not connected with Wall Street:

Perival Stroud, an actor: "It's absolutely the worst season our profession has ever witnessed, and I see no chance for the better."

James Swaup, secondhand car dealer: "You can't tell a second hand car unless you take in a third handed one. It's a tough year."

Jim Goodview, suburban real estate: "They are building the houses up, instead of out, so who wants any more ground?"

Sam Wildoats, farmer: "1929 just brings on 365 more days to pay interest to the people who are prosperous." Yours,

WILL ROGERS.

Death Toll of the Automobile

CENTRALIA, Wash., Dec. 31.—(AP)—Margaret Greenwood, 24, of Centralia, was killed and three other persons were injured last night, none seriously, when cars driven by S. W. Louie of Chehalis, Alvin Mervin of Seattle and W. E. Thompson of Grand Mound collided on the Pacific highway north of Centralia.

PORTLAND, Ore., Dec. 31.—(AP)—The police court docket today carried the names of 180 automobile drivers arrested over the week-end for traffic law violations.