

Forecast: Tonight and Friday rain, moderate temperature.

Temperature table with columns for Highest yesterday, Lowest this morning, Precipitation, To 5 p. m. yesterday, To 5 a. m. today.

Twenty-Fifth Year

TWELVE PAGES

MEDFORD, OREGON, THURSDAY, JANUARY 22, 1931

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Today

By Arthur Erlabane. Do Nothing Policy. Poor Harding. Death at a Distance. To Detect Falsehood.

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Every newspaper, congressman, clergyman and at least 50,000,000 others have discussed the Wickersham prohibition report. The discussion will continue, with minority members telling what they think. The fact is that the commission recommends, by a majority vote, to do nothing except spend more money on enforcement, which, according to the commission's unanimous opinion, does not enforce.

The President approves the commission's condemnation of repeal or modification. Therefore there will be no change in the law or the national policy until March 4, 1933, in any case, and the public mind should turn to other things.

The public will applaud President Hoover's determination to officiate at the Harding Memorial celebration. Harding was a President of the United States and President Hoover, setting aside any personal opinion, acts well in accepting the Harding committee's invitation.

Alas, poor Harding. This celebration and Mr. Hoover's acceptance remind you of a western funeral, at which no one rose to say a good word for the deceased, until after ten minutes waiting, one tall man got up and was asked "Are you a friend of the deceased?" He replied: "Not exactly, for I never heard of him. But I'm a friend of any man that has as few friends as he seems to have here."

Distance lends enchantment, perhaps. It surely creates indifference. Under the heading "millions dead of famine," you read six lines of Associated Press copy to the effect that in China's Shensi province alone 2,000,000 have died of hunger and 400,000 have been sold into slavery within a short time. Are we our brothers' keepers? Not if the brothers live 7000 miles away.

Chicago's police have a "lie meter" that, attached to the arm of a suspect under cross examination, tells when he is lying. It works, because the human heart, not the anxious process of lying, beats. In India, barefooted natives sipping toddy, lie with straight faces.

(Continued on Page 8, Story 2)

Abe Martin



Keep th' arms an' hands free t' raise instantly. Some folks would rather get murdered than drop a mackerel or a sack o' cornmeal. Th' biggest disappointment is meetin' someone we've heard so much about.

WOULD ADD TO GAS TAX FOR AUTOS

One Cent Addition Would Make Oregon Fee 5 Cents Gallon—Sen. Upton Asks Week-End Ban On Public Highway Carriers.

STATE HOUSE, Salem, Ore., Jan. 22.—(AP) The bill abolishing the public service commission of Oregon, long-awaited by the legislature, was introduced in the house this afternoon. With it was a special 500-word message from Governor Meier, outlining the purpose of the measure.

This bill, his message said, was designed for "more effective control and regulation of public utilities" in the state and for the correction of "many unsatisfactory conditions of rates and service," as well as for the promotion of public interest.

The bill provides for creation of a one-man commission. At the same time an administration bill was introduced in the senate providing for creation of a state hydro-electric commission of three men. This commission would consist of the state engineer and two other men to be appointed by the governor, and to serve without pay.

The duties of the commission will be to issue preliminary power permits and to investigate water resources of the state. SALEM, Ore., Jan. 22.—(AP) Another 1-cent a gallon would be added to the state gasoline tax, making a total of 5 cents, by a bill introduced today by Senator Joel Booth of Linn and Lane counties. It is estimated that the added cent would return \$1,500,000 annually in state revenues.

Operators of motor carriers would be prohibited from operating their vehicles on the public highways between 12 o'clock noon on Saturdays and 12 o'clock midnight on Sundays, and would also be prohibited from using trailers. Provisions of a bill introduced by Senator Upton.

Senator Marks introduced a bill amending the act giving the right of lien to persons performing labor upon, or who assist, in manufacturing sawlogs or other timber into lumber.

SALEM, Jan. 22.—(AP) Criticism piling up against the state engineer. (Continued on Page Four, Story 1)

BANDITS FORCE PASSENGERS TO GIVE UP MONEY

BELLEFONTAINE, Ohio, Jan. 22.—(AP) Working with quiet but grim precision, six train bandits routed sleeping Florida bound passengers from their berths as a Big Four train neared here early today, shot one man and made away with cash and jewelry with a combined worth estimated at \$3000.

Evidently timing the holdup well in advance, the gunmen, all masked and armed, invaded the next to the last Pullman of the No. 9 train, on route from Detroit to Cincinnati. One man who shouted in alarm was shot and critically wounded, and the remaining six passengers were marshaled in the drawing room with the porter and a brakeman.

One robber stood guard while the rest went through the car, snatching money and valuables. As the train slowed down for Bellefontaine, the bandits leaped from the rear car and disappeared into the dark.

LOS ANGELES, Jan. 22.—(AP) Mrs. Maude Branton, 43, is dead today as the result of one of the most unusual accidents on record in surgery, termed by medical authorities an explosion of anesthetic gas. The woman was being given an anesthetic preparatory to undergoing an abdominal operation in a local hospital. Oxygen and ether had already been administered and the patient was semi-conscious, when Dr. C. E. Warner, surgeon, applied a cone of nitrous oxide.

Five Men Quaff Radiator Fluid Death Cocktail

ASHLAND, Ky., Jan. 22.—(AP) Five men were dead today as a result of drinking anti-freeze solution yesterday. The dead are Cyrus O'Brien, Charles Brown, Ben Fannin, Earl Cox and Dudley Goe. Before his death early today Fannin told police he bought the solution at a gas-line service station and took it to a boarding house where he shared it with the other men.

FRUIT MEN ARE URGED TO ATTEND

Future of Industry Will Be Discussed Friday Afternoon at Elks' Temple Meeting of Fruitgrowers' League—Open to All

The Fruitgrowers' league will hold its annual meeting Friday afternoon at the Elks' temple, starting at 1 o'clock. A large attendance of fruitmen and all others interested is urged, as matters dealing with the future of the fruit industry in this valley will be discussed. This includes merchants, bankers, lawyers, doctors, bakers, chefs, the hewers of wood and the shafts of water.

Frank P. Scott of San Francisco, president of the California Pear-growers' association, will deliver the principal address. He is an authority on all phases of the pear industry. Conditions are the same in his home state as here, and he will discuss the problems confronting the growers and shippers, fearlessly, frankly and openly.

California pear interests, after the most disastrous marketing season in history, are laying preliminary plans for an organization to prevent a repetition of last year's collapse. Scott will explain these plans. Local growers will also discuss the valley fruit problems. Much interest is being developed in the meeting and its purposes, and E. W. Carleton especially urges that all fruitgrowers make it a point to attend.

MADRID STUDENTS STAGE DISORDERS

MADRID, Jan. 22.—(AP) Disorders broke out among students in the University of Madrid today. Student leaders in fiery addresses demanded the establishment of a republic in Spain. Despite the continuation of martial law, proclaimed during recent revolutionary attempts, about 3000 student members of the university scholars federation struck as a protest against the government.

Meetings were held in the university buildings and the monarchy denounced. No serious fighting was reported.

SNOW TURNS TO RAIN MID-COLUMBIA AREA

THE DALLES, Ore., Jan. 22.—(AP) Following a three-inch snowfall in the higher levels and the grain area, the mid-Columbia storm today turned to rain, with a precipitation of one-fifth of an inch. The lowland rain was accompanied by heavy snow in the mountain forests.

Woman Dies In Surgery When Anaesthetic Gas Filling Lungs Explodes

LOS ANGELES, Jan. 22.—(AP) Mrs. Maude Branton, 43, is dead today as the result of one of the most unusual accidents on record in surgery, termed by medical authorities an explosion of anesthetic gas. The woman was being given an anesthetic preparatory to undergoing an abdominal operation in a local hospital. Oxygen and ether had already been administered and the patient was semi-conscious, when Dr. C. E. Warner, surgeon, applied a cone of nitrous oxide. Suddenly the saturated cone became ignited from an electric spark igniting the gas. Mrs. Branton inhaled flaming gas and an explosion resulted in her lungs, which were ruptured, causing instant death. Dr. R. A. Wilkes, superintendent of the hospital reported.

SHE REPLACES 'IT' GIRL IN FILM



Clara Bow has been removed from the position of a costar with Gary Cooper in the film "City Streets." Here is Sylvia Sydney, recently of the Broadway stage, who will replace her.

CROSSING PLEA WHISKEY SEDAN IS OPPOSED BY NABBED BY COP TRAFFIC GROUP NEAR ASHLAND

Opening of Eighth Street Would Hamper Switching of Fruit Cars, Is View in Resolution.

Opposition to the opening of Eighth street, across the Southern Pacific tracks as proposed by the city, was voiced in a resolution adopted by the Rogue River Traffic association, and which will be presented to the streets and roads committee of the council.

Fruit shippers claim the crossing will restrict the local yards, hamper switching, result in the removal of one warehouse, the partial removal of another, and affect the entire packing district. The crossing would cross five tracks.

The Traffic association also voted to request the Hill lined to route one of their new refrigerator cars to this city, for inspection by shippers and growers. By uses of chemicals, it is the latest invention in transportation refrigeration. The joint committee named to formulate a plan for the formation of a central fruit organization, to consider fruit industry problems of this valley, reported that it had nothing definite to report but was still working on the proposition.

RECLAMATION FUNDS SOUGHT IN CONGRESS

WASHINGTON, Jan. 22.—(AP) Projects for providing the reclamation bureau with funds for the continuation of contracted work, took shape today in two quarters. Chairman Thomas of the senate reclamation committee, urged President Hoover to support a postponement of repayment to the treasury of \$5,000,000 by the bureau.

HOOVER ON RADIO HOOKUP TONIGHT

WASHINGTON, Jan. 22.—(AP) President Hoover, as president of the American Red Cross, today accepted an invitation to participate in the special drought relief program arranged by the Red Cross and the National Broadcasting company to be broadcast tonight from 9 to 10 o'clock P.M.T. The entire program is to be devoted to the drive of the Red Cross to raise \$10,000,000 to relieve suffering in the drought stricken areas. Other speakers will include former President Coolidge and Alfred E. Smith.

DRY REPORT COMMITTEE WRANGLLED

Inside Story Reveals Long and Bitter Disputes Between Members in Framing Recommendations—Wording Changed Often.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 22.—(AP) Senator Tydings, democrat, Maryland, moved late today in the senate to strike from the pending deficiency appropriation bill the \$342,370 provided for additional prohibition agents. It prompted the first test of the session there on prohibition.

The senate rejected the Tydings proposal without a record vote. As congress and the country plunged into new phases of the long prohibition dispute today, enough of the inside story of the Wickersham commission was disclosed to indicate the bitterness of some of its internal differences.

There was no authoritative support, however, for reports that the disagreements of the commissioners arose either from any interference by President Hoover, or from any alteration of the commission report after it had been signed by members. In the course of its preparation the wording of the report was changed again and again in an effort to compile a draft all eleven commissioners could sign.

This process brought to the surface in an emphatic manner the varying views of the membership. It led to many long and vigorous discussions. It shuffled some of the members into positions of determined insistence their colleagues found difficult in accepting.

In the end all but one of the eleven signed. He was Monte M. Lemann of New Orleans, who in a separate report declared for repeal of the Eighteenth Amendment.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 22.—(AP) Emphasis was made today by Senator Fess, republican, Ohio, to the point that President Hoover in objecting to the Wickersham commission's substitute 18th Amendment had not closed the door to all revision proposals. Party leaders looked significantly at this statement of Senator Fess, who is chairman of the re-

NO VERDICT FOUND BY DE BOE JURORS

LOS ANGELES, Jan. 22.—(AP) Other than early indications yesterday that the jury had halloated and disagreed, no official word came from the locked chambers where seven men and five women were considering the fate of Daisy Detton, charged with theft of \$15,000 from Clara Bow.

The jury returned to its chambers at 10 a. m., from a hotel, where it had spent the night. The hallooting would be lengthy because a separate verdict must be returned on each of the 25 counts of grand theft.

DEFICIENCY BILL PASSES SENATE

WASHINGTON, Jan. 22.—(AP) The \$129,000,000 deficiency appropriation bill carrying more than \$20,000,000 for immediate emergency construction, was passed today by the senate. It now goes to conference.

VARNEY PILOT LOST ON EASTERN FLIGHT

SEATTLE, Wash., Jan. 22.—(AP) Walter C. Case, Varney air mail pilot being reported missing since 8 a. m. today, was being sought by four airplanes this afternoon.

Drought Fund Head



Dr. C. W. Warburton, secretary of the national drought relief committee, is in charge of the administration of the \$45,000,000 appropriated by congress for loans to farmers in the drought areas.

KLAMATH FIELD OF BATTLE FOR RAIL INTERESTS

Officials of G. N. and S. P. Gather for Hearing On Plea for South Link From Klamath.

KLAMATH FALLS, Ore., Jan. 22.—(AP) Railroad officials of both the Great Northern and Southern Pacific lines were gathering here today for another battle over right of way.

A joint meeting of the Oregon public service commission and the California railway commission will be held tomorrow to consider the amended application of the Great Northern to build south from Klamath Falls. The northern line proposes in this amendment to construct a separate line between Klamath Falls and the junction with the Western Pacific line in northern California.

The Southern Pacific has filed answer to the application pointing out that this road offered the Great Northern joint user privileges over Southern Pacific lines for 48 miles south of Klamath Falls. The Great Northern rejected the proposal.

PORTLAND, Ore., Jan. 22.—(AP) Arthur Curtis James of New York known as the world's largest holder of railroad securities, and director of the Great Northern and Western Pacific roads, paid Portland a flying visit today.

STEEG GOVERNMENT DEFEATED IN FRANCE

PARIS, Jan. 22.—(AP) The government of Premier Theodore Steeg was defeated in the chamber of deputies tonight by a vote of 293 to 283 after a debate on the 1931-2 agricultural policy.

Faith Healing Approved For Church of England By Vote In Lower House

LONDON, Eng., Jan. 22.—(AP) With only three dissenting votes the lower house of the Canterbury convocation of the Church of England today gave its approval of faith healing and asked that it be given the official sanction of the church. The approval took the form of a petition to the archbishop of Canterbury, asking him to appoint a commission to frame a provisional service for use by the imposition of hands, this service to be used until a permanent and fully authorized form could be issued under synodical action. The vote on the resolution followed discussion in which Christian Science was praised as a healing method. The Rev. T. F. Monahan declared it as a delicious faith. In other speeches it was praised as a means of faith healing. "We cannot lose sight of the fact," said the Rev. Monahan, "that a great deal of what is called faith healing is really due to natural causes, and that the faith which is essential is subjective rather than objective. That is why we see so many cures from what is called Christian Science. It doesn't matter what the faith of a person is where a mental healing is concerned." The bishop of Woolwich said Christian Science had grown because of neglect by the Church of England. "Communicants in our church," he said, "are continually joining Christian Science. They say: 'I have been in the church for 30 years, but I have never heard spiritual healing mentioned once. Since I have joined Christian Science I have never heard anything else. I want to get what has been denied me by my church.'"

ROGUE RUIN PICTURED IN HOT DEBATE

Daniels Leads Sportsmen's Delegation at Public Hearing—Commercial Nets Fast Depleting Fish, Is Argument Local Men.

SALEM, Jan. 22.—(AP) Proponents and opponents of the Rogue river fishing bill now before the Oregon legislature, which would close the stream to commercial fishing, clashed last night in the first public hearing of the present session. For three hours, members of the joint fish and game committee and a crowded senate chamber heard arguments for and against legislative passage of the measure. T. E. Daniels of Medford led the delegations, from Jackson and Josephine counties favoring the bill, while Frederick Macleay of Portland led the opposition.

Statements that fish in the Rogue river were being depleted and unless action is taken, the stream as a sport fishing area would not be worthy of the name, and that 60,000 people in the upper valley cut down the high cost of living by angling in that stream, were made by the Medford, Ashland and Grants Pass speakers.

Cosos Has Argument. Cosos and Curry county speakers presented figures and statements to show that commercial fishing did not deprive the upper regions of fish, but to the contrary, stream pollution, irrigation ditches, and riffles which can not swim were the causes, if any, of depletion. "You can not legislate fish up the river," George D. Chenoweth of Gold Beach declared in his argument.

Daniels opened the arguments in support of the bill by stating that stream pollution did not kill the fish, and that commercial fishing must cease if the tourists for sport fishing, J. E. Chilson, chairman of the game commission, former Senator J. C. Smith of Grants Pass and O. O. Alenderfer of Medford argued for the bill, pointing out that only 82 families were supported by commercial fishing.

Cowgill Testifies. Ralph Cowgill of Medford presented figures of a survey made of the Rogue to show that irrigation ditches were screened, and that the run of fish was decreasing. Joseph Wharton, president of the Grants Pass chamber of commerce, declared that the future welfare of the Grants Pass district depended upon closing the stream to net fishing. Other speakers for the proponents were William Briggs, president of the Ashland chamber of commerce, Martin Hughes of Grants Pass, representing the Josephine Pomona Grange and Irving T. Vinling, Ashland, Wilfred Allen of Grants Pass, member of the game commission, closed the arguments for the delegation, while Daniels took charge of the rebuttal.

Macleay, who operates a cannery at Wedderburn, mouth of the Rogue, in his opening argument.

WILL ROGERS SAYS

WASHINGTON, Jan. 22.—Frank Hawkes, Casey Jones and I flew in here yesterday afternoon from N. Y. Went up to the "Opera Comique" and heard the cast argue in both houses. Senator Thomas from our great old state of Oklahoma was trying to get a little appropriation for the Indians. Vice-President Curtis and I were the only two applauded. It's tough to get help for even the little white brothers, much less us Indians. The lower house was arguing over the soldiers' bonus, whether to give them some aid now or get 'em another year.

Had lunch with Al Smith in New York Tuesday at the Democratic club. The Republicans' club is on the same street half a block away, and a speakeasy located between the two, talking about a location.

WILL ROGERS SAYS

WILL ROGERS SAYS. (Continued on page 4, story 3)