

The Weather
Forecast: Tonight and Saturday
increasing cloudiness. No change
in temperature.

MEDFORD MAIL TRIBUNE

Temperature	
Highest yesterday	68
Lowest this morning	30
Precipitation	0.00
To 5 p. m. yesterday	0.00
To 5 a. m. today	0.00

Twenty-Fifth Year FOURTEEN PAGES MEDFORD, OREGON, FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 1931 No. 324

Today
By Arthur Brisbane

Again East to West.
The Reality of Drought.
Romantic Names.
A Great Country.

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LAS VEGAS, New Mexico, Feb. 13—This is written on the train, westbound, from the Atlantic to the Pacific, third trip across the continent, with a little place in the big state of Colorado near the place where Dick Wootton built his ranch house long ago. He little thought he lived above a coal mine.

On the right of the track is a great pile of black dust. People live around that hole in the ground as ants live around a little hole in your garden path. And, most important, the biggest, finest building on a hill in the bright sunlight, is the public school.

Everywhere in this western country the school buildings are finer than any others.

On the left of the track mules gallop and buck around their corral, pointing their hind hoofs toward the sky, waiting their turn to work in the dark coal tunnels.

It is hard to realize that not long ago in England women worked in coal mines with tunnels so low it was impossible to stand up. They crawled on hands and knees, dragging small coal cars attached to chains fastened around the woman's neck and passing under her body.

And it is hard to believe that in this country recently boys of grade school age worked on the breakers, with bleeding fingers sorting sharp pieces of slate from good coal. There is progress.

Respectable New York financiers are annoyed by western senators. Clamoring for drought relief. Drought seems so unreal in New York where you get anything you choose to order, alcoholic, and have the Hudson river on one side, East river on the other.

Those financiers would change their minds if they could have seen from this Santa Fe 'Chief' this morning, just west of La Junta, Colorado. Dead animals, horses, cows, calves, lying beside the fences, pitifully emaciated, killed by lack of water and pasture. Fortunately rain is falling, snow piling up in the mountains, and farmers can look forward to a better year.

There is interest in every mile
(Continued on Page Seven)

Abe Martin



We wonder how it feels for a keeper of a gas-line filling station to get robbed himself? The Moon did not go to work this morning as he didn't want to see his car mud-dy.

TAXATION CURE-ALL ADVANCED

Legislature Program Would Eliminate Property Tax With New Intangible Tax and Increase in Excise and Income Tax.

SALEM, Feb. 13.—(AP)—Out of a series of conference by legislative leaders during the past two years has grown what is considered well-defined tax program of the present session. It embraces a group of four or five prospective bills calculated to wipe out completely the state tax on property next year and thereafter by increasing the rate of the present excise tax law from 5 to 8 per cent, re-enacting the intangibles tax act with an 8 instead of a 5 per cent rate, and possibly increasing the range of the income tax rate from 1 to 8 per cent instead of from 1 to 5 per cent as at present.

The assessment and taxation committees of the two houses have formulated this program after calling into conference the members of the state tax commission, one of the conferences being in the office of Governor Julius L. Meier yesterday.

This group of measures is launched the committees will drop house bill 174, which provides for enactment of a retroactive intangibles tax law at the 5 per cent rate to cover incomes for 1929, and which was designed to make unnecessary a refund of the tax collected for that year under the old act that was held unconstitutional by the supreme court.

This does not mean, however, that the tax committees will surrender immediately to the demand for a refund. It is planned to include another bill in the new group which would authorize a refund of collections under any tax act that might be invalidated by the courts. An effort will be made to amend the intangibles act to the United States supreme court. Should the court refuse to accept the case, or should it affirm the state supreme court, then the general act authorizing a refund would be applied to the intangibles collections of 1929.

After a study of authorities, tax leaders think there is no doubt that the case is appealable, since the state court's decision hinged on the interpretation of a provision of the federal constitution. It is pointed out, however, that should the tax commission make the refund now, or should the house bill providing for a refund, be passed by the legislature, the intangibles tax case in which the state supreme court made its decision, would remain simply a moot case and probably not be accepted in the court at Washington.

In defense of the proposal to enact a new intangibles law with an 8 per cent rate it is said that in many states and no higher than the average.

In their calculations looking to elimination of the state tax on property the legislative leaders are not considering the 2 mill elementary school tax, which is not considered a state tax although it is administered by the state tax commission.

Assuming that the excise and income taxes were not changed and the intangibles tax not re-enacted, it is estimated that the levy on property in 1932 would be \$4,428,240. By increasing the rate of the excise tax from 5 to 8 per cent it is estimated that this would increase its return to the state from about \$700,000 to \$1,120,000, an increase of \$420,000. Estimated receipts from the income tax at the 1 to 5 per cent rate are \$1,000,000, and at the 1 to 8 per cent rate \$1,250,000. It is estimated that the intangibles act at 8 per cent would yield \$1,800,000 in 1931 on 1928 incomes and \$2,000,000 in 1932 on 1931 incomes. This would make a total of \$4,428,240, plus the \$420,000 in new money, sufficient to wipe out the estimated 1932 property tax of \$4,428,240. Added to the approximately \$1,000,000 which the excise, intangibles and income taxes are capable of yielding at the old rates the new plan, it is said, should increase the total returns to better than \$7,000,000. This, it is believed, will satisfy the taxpayers who are organizing to resist property tax collections.

CHAPLIN VISITS SING SING CELLS

OSBURNING, N. Y., Feb. 12.—(AP) Charlie Chaplin is out of Sing Sing and well pleased. He attended a showing of his latest movie before convicts and made a speech, telling them they made him think his profession was worth while and he felt well repaid after seeing their happiness.

WINS FREEDOM AFTER TWELVE YEARS



Ruth Garrison (center) was found sane by a Seattle, Wash., jury after she had spent 12 years in the state ward for the criminally insane for her part in poisoning Mrs. Douglas Storrs when the latter refused to divorce her husband. Left to right: Mrs. Laura C. Kurtz, Miss Garrison, Prison Warden Clarence E. Long and Matron E. E. Stillman after the jury's verdict.

BOWLE'S TRIAL NOW ASSURED FOR HILLSBORO

State Will Not Seek Change of Venue—Portland Liable and Flame Removed to New Jail Today.

PORTLAND, Ore., Feb. 13.—(AP) The doors of the Multnomah county jail opened today and Nelson C. Bowles, capitalist, and Irma Loucks, his former secretary, were one step nearer their trial for the murder of Bowles' wife.

The two, in custody of three deputies, were taken to the Washington county jail in Hillsboro where the murder trial will be held.

Miss Loucks today complained of being ill and apparently suffered a recurrence of the nervous disorder which made it difficult for her to walk.

Bowles seemed in good spirits and bade goodbye to his 47 companions in the jail corridor. They wished him "luck."

Portland, Feb. 13.—(AP)—Definite and positive assurance was had today that the Bowles murder case will be held in Hillsboro.

An announcement from the district attorney's office said the state will not seek a change of venue from Washington county, reports of which had been in general circulation. The case was brought to Hillsboro on a defense motion for a change of venue.

George Mowry, deputy district attorney, said one of the greatest objections the state had against Hillsboro as the trial city was because of difficulty in keeping in touch with witnesses because they would be passing back and forth between Hillsboro and Portland.

This difficulty would not be encountered if the trial had been taken to a city more remote from Portland.

Nelson C. Bowles and Irma Loucks, charged with the fatal stabbing of Mrs. Leone Bowles last November 12, were to be transferred to the Hillsboro jail sometime today.

INDIANAPOLIS, Ind., Feb. 13.—(AP) Harry E. Rowbottom, republican representative in congress from the First Indiana district, was indicted today by a federal grand jury on charge of accepting bribes for using his influence to obtain postoffice appointments for persons in his district.

BENNETT BILL PUTS CURB ON LONG CAMPAIGN

Provides for Primary in September Instead of April As Now—Would Save Time, Tempers, Gasoline, and Wind.

SALEM, Feb. 13.—(AP)—Senator M. E. Bennett's bill to change the date of primary elections from May to September found considerable favor when it came up for third reading today, but was tabled for further consideration. This was done on motion of Bennett himself after technical points in the measure had been discussed.

Senator Bennett said that only four states have their primary elections in May. He criticized the present system on account of the long campaign period which he said extended from April to November. "It is customary," he said, "for a governor who is a candidate for re-election to send his appointees out over the state campaigning in his behalf, beginning in April, and the music keeps up until the November election." He said that a "tremendous expense" is attached to the traveling campaigns in the use of state-owned automobiles and probably with state gasoline.

Senator Bennett said that the prolonged campaign period causes the people to lose interest in politics and disrupts business. He quoted Ex-Governor Alfred E. Smith of New York as saying that in the "horse and buggy days there was some excuse for a long campaign period," but under modern conditions, Bennett said he believed the change would eliminate the necessity and expense of more than one issue of the Voters' Pamphlet.

Senator Gus C. Moser said he had no serious objections to the bill, but feared it would cause confusion because of the last of a method of electing delegates to the national party conventions in presidential election years.

VANCOUVER IN FIGHT TO LAND VETERAN HOME

Seattle Times Editorial Irks Columbia River City, Hinting 'Oregon Plot'—Site Selection Within Week.

VANCOUVER, Wash., Feb. 13.—(AP)—An editorial on the front page of Wednesday's Seattle Times, headed "Oregon Plotting Veterans' Home in Its Back Yard," was condemned today by the Vancouver Chamber of Commerce.

The Times' editorial said unless concerted action was taken by Washington cities the northwest home for disabled soldiers would be located in Vancouver.

At a special meeting of the Vancouver chamber's board of directors, a resolution was passed protesting the editorial and asking the state chamber of commerce to disavow the newspaper's action, and pledge their support to a centrally located city for serving the entire Pacific northwest.

The resolution added, "We resolved that the Vancouver chamber believes the Seattle Chamber of Commerce should, with a view to promoting the cause of state-wide recognition that Vancouver is as much a part of the state of Washington as Seattle."

WASHINGTON, Feb. 13.—(AP)—The report on prospective sites for a national soldiers' home in the northwest, submitted to the federal board of hospitalization by General A. H. Woods, will be taken up by the board within the next week or ten days.

COMMITTEE ENDORSES VET BONUS

Compromise Plan Carries 17 to 4—Objectors Ask More Time—'Box Car Battalion' Advances in Trek to Washington, D. C.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 13.—(AP)—The house ways and means committee today ordered a favorable report to the house on the \$700,000,000 veterans' compensation compromise plan.

The vote was 17 to 4. The four committee members recorded against the Buchanan compromise were: Chairman Hawley, Representatives Treadway, Massachusetts; Chidbloom, Illinois, and Ramseyer, Iowa, Republicans.

Hawley said those opposing the compromise "want time for further investigation to see whether additional legislation is required to raise revenue to meet the payments."

CHICAGO, Feb. 13.—(AP)—Twenty five disabled veterans of the World war, but a remnant of the original "box car battalion" that started at Seattle with 127 members, slept last night on the floor of an Indiana Harbor, Ind., railroad station. One of their number stood as a lookout in an attempt to spot a freight bound for Washington.

PENDLETON, Ore., Feb. 13.—(AP)—One hundred hungry, weary and penniless men passed through here today on a tramp to Washington, D. C., in the interest of the veterans' compensation bill. They said they were World war veterans. The trek to the capitol started in Seattle with 200 marching, half going by the southern route. Local restaurants fed the men this morning.

LEATHERNECKS TO LEAVE NICARAGUA

WASHINGTON, Feb. 13.—(AP)—The United States is to withdraw marines from Nicaragua.

Acceptance by President Moncada of Nicaragua of a definite plan to substantially reduce marine forces in Nicaragua by June and pave the way for complete withdrawal after the elections of 1932 was announced today by Secretary Stimson.

The marines to be withdrawn by June, plans for which will become immediately effective, are those on combat duty against the insurgent forces and total about 800. The remaining marine force will be stationed in Managua, the capital, and will devote their attention solely to training purposes and as an aviation unit required in some sections due to lack of roads.

ASHLAND GIRL IS DEBATE WINNER

CORVALLIS, Ore., Feb. 13.—(AP)—Oregon State College co-ed debaters stopped the winning streak of Washington State co-eds today by taking a 3 to 0 decision from the visitors. It was the opening feature of the annual educational exposition.

13TH DAUGHTER TO OHIO HOME THIS JUNE DAY

Friday the 13th Sees Oregon Author Robbed of All Silver But Butter Knife—Mauretania Delays Sailing

MARION, O., Feb. 13.—(AP)—Friday the thirteenth brought the thirteenth daughter to the home of Mr. and Mrs. Chauncey Chandler, who reside on a farm near here. The mother is 41 years of age and the oldest daughter is 16. Ten of the 13 daughters are living and reside with their parents.

NEW YORK, Feb. 13.—(AP)—The Cunard liner Mauretania will sail for Cherbourg and Southampton tonight at five minutes after midnight, to avoid any conflict with passengers who feel dubious about putting out to sea on Friday the 13th.

PORTLAND, Feb. 13.—(AP)—Friday the 13th brought ill-luck early to Albert Richard Wretjen, Oregon author and playwright. Returning to his home at 1 a. m., he discovered that one butter knife was all that remained of a set of sterling silver. The burglar left no clues.

All Medfordites today, whether or not of superstitious nature were extra careful in their movements today, as this was Friday, the thirteenth day of the month.

Special precautions were exercised by a batch of fraternal order members fired from their lodges this week for non-payment of dues and the local sportsmen, almost frantic with anxiety as to what action Governor Meier would take on the Rogue river commercial fishing closing bill today—veto, sign it, or let it become a law by default—because of the hoodoo day were pathetically anxious as they strained their ears toward Salem.

Al Solinsky, superintendent of Crater National park, who lost two rows of teeth by the dental route a week ago, skidded on the metal rim of one of the federal building entrance steps and landed on a part of his frame far lower down than the former teeth were located.

"Wotta life," he muttered disgustedly through the vacancy in the interior of his face.

NEW ZEALAND AGAIN ROCKED BY EARTHQUAKE

WELLINGTON, New Zealand, Feb. 13.—(AP)—A large section of New Zealand was rocked today by severe earthquakes. In the Hawkes Bay region of North Island the tremors were much more intense than those which devastated the district last week.

Shocks of varying intensity were recorded also throughout the Otago province of South Island. Chimneys fell at Queenstown and household goods were dislodged in Dunedin. Communications with Napier and Hawkes Bay area were disrupted, but later re-established.

The director of the geological survey, after inspecting the Hawkes Bay district, reported that the quakes there February 3 raised the coastline at Napier three feet, seven feet at Papan and six feet at Tonoio.

The shocks were felt as far north as Hamilton and as far south as Invercargill. They were very strong at Takaka and at Lesser Wellington.

CLUB PAYS HOMAGE TO HONEST ABE

Annual Lincoln Day Banquet Held Last Night—Miss Regina Johnson is Named President for 1931—All Districts Represented.

That annual big Jackson county social and political affair, republican rally, feast of oratory and music, as embodied in the annual Lincoln club banquet, was held at the Hotel Medford last night, featured by one of the most eloquent Lincoln addresses, by Rev. W. W. Youngson, Portland, heard in southern Oregon in recent years.

The dining room was appropriately decorated and was filled with diners from all parts of the county, with Ashland well represented.

Club officers for the ensuing year were nominated and elected. Miss Regina Johnson of Ashland, was named president; John Homer, Medford, vice-president; Don Newberry, vice-president; Frank Paul, secretary and treasurer.

The nominating committee report was given by Fred Homes of Ashland, a past president of the club. Miss Johnson, Ashland newspaperwoman, is the second woman to be the club leader. Mrs. Grace Chamberlain of Ashland in 1923 was the first.

No Lincoln banquet would be complete without the presentation of Lincoln's famous Gettysburg address and as in the past, was given again this year by an Ashland civil war veteran, George Washington Noble, who imparted deep feeling in its recitation. Erasmus K. Hall and J. P. Sayles, both of Ashland, were the only other Civil war veterans present. Medford was not represented.

The history of the club was reviewed by Will G. Steel, who recalled how the first meeting was held to be called in 1915. He gave Bert Anderson, unable to be present last night because of illness, the major credit for the organization of the club. Mr. Steel also reviewed the part his parents took in the slavery question in Ohio and in Virginia, aiding slaves to gain the liberty.

Mayor E. M. Wilson spoke at short length on the greatness of Lincoln and was followed by a similar tribute from Mrs. Fred Wagner of Ashland. In the past, Dick Posey, also known as Richard Campbell, Ashland poet, had always given a poetry number on the program, but death overtook him during the past year. A special poem memorial to Posey was fittingly given by Delroy Gatchell. Remarks were also made by S. Sumpter Smith, one of the club's organizers.

The session was opened by County Judge Alex Sparrow, outgoing president, and was followed by an invocation by Rev. C. B. Porter of the Presbyterian church. "Abraham Lincoln—The First American," was the subject of the masterful address given by Rev. William Wallace Youngson, D.D., superintendent of the Portland

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WILL ROGERS says:

TEXARKANA, Texas, Feb. 13.—My friend Mr. Parks, editor of Fort Smith, says "Somebody must have been kidding Will about that circus stranded here." Nobody was kidding Will. I talked with the women on the committee that had to dig up the feed. I bet the editor never even knew they were there. Besides if people do send checks and things to eat for 'em, and they don't need it why send 'em back? Give 'em to the Red Cross there. There is nothing that a lion eats that a human don't. And we got people hungry enough that I would even hate to trust 'em with an elephant's hay.

Well I have to fly to California tomorrow. I got a wire from the Fox people that I better rush home to work on a picture or I would join the unemployed.

Will Rogers