

The Weather

Oregon—Fair Sunday and Monday; warmer Sunday in the interior of northwest portion; moderate west winds offshore.

Twenty-Sixth Year

MEDFORD, OREGON, SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 6, 1931.

No. 166.

Today

By Arthur Brisbane

Folly and Trouble, Strikes and Riots, Our Golden Good Fortune, What About Silver?

Copyright King Feature Synd., Inc. It's a foolish troubled world, its inhabitants not knowing what is wrong, willing to try anything, usually the wrong thing.

Yesterday morning you read these items. From Chile: "Reds rioting, demand Russia's plan of government. Sailors of navy rebel, communists work with them. Airplane bombs will be used to subdue mutinous sailors."

Spain sends word of serious "revolutionary strikes by syndicalists in Barcelona, city in darkness, 300,000 workers involved."

This morning you will read Chile's statement that the mutiny is under control, and Barcelona's report, "the strike has been put down, with few killed." But control and putting down do not last.

After closing for seven weeks, Berlin's stock exchange reopens with an exhibition of stocks tumbling 25 to 40 per cent. The drop from prices of seven weeks ago reminds you of an old lady, sent upward by an explosion, and on her way down, saying to one going upward: "Come on down, we're all going down."

Austria, under League of Nations control, which means French control, gives up her plan for a customs pact with Germany, which might have saved her, but would have increased German strength.

Vienna's population has stood still for five years, few children born, as always, when a nation becomes discouraged.

Now, with schools half filled, the Viennese feel that fragmentary nation, to which the Versailles treaty reduced them, will not last long.

The Balkan criminal who murdered the Austrian prince little believed that his bullet would start the world's greatest war, and its worst calamity since the Black Death, wiping out the Hapsburgs, forever, and ending the historical career of the ancient Austrian empire.

In America, instead of complaining, we should thank Swinburn's "Whatever Gods May Be."

We still have all that we ever had except that part of our national conceit and courage.

President Hoover and Mr. Mellon ask a short term loan of \$300,000,000 and get it instantly, at 1 1/2 per cent interest. They ask a loan of \$800,000,000 for 20 years, and it is oversubscribed at 3 per cent interest.

We have too much of everything—oil, cotton, wheat, coal, sugar, machinery, automobiles, buildings, and GOLD.

And we do not know how to take care of ourselves, or restore workers to employment, while we float around on an ocean of "too much."

This country is like the baby hippopotamus, floating, asleep, on the river and waking its mother up to grumble, "I want a drink."

No criticism of anybody, in or out of office, is meant.

We are all equally puzzled, like little boys at the Sunday school festival competing as to which could eat the most ice cream. They needed, and got, castor oil.

We need something in the way of unpleasant experience, and shall get it.

That will be followed by hard thinking, wiser planning, and a better start than ever.

We, also, have had too much ice cream.

Who understands money, mysterious "high finance"? Every pes-see "beat mind," business, industrial or financial, will tell you all about finance, in good times.

This week Uncle Sam brought his board of gold up to and above FIVE THOUSAND MILLION DOLLARS. Not mere credit, or printed paper or silver money, mind you, but FIVE BILLIONS IN GOLD.

An old beggar woman was found dead in New York, half starved, with thousands of dollars and several bank books, hidden in her room.

(Continued on page nine)

RAIL RATE BOOST PROSPERITY TONIC SAYS ECONOMIST

Dr. Friday Cites Upturn In Textile Industry As Proof—Advertising Key To Business Recovery—Chicago Hearing Ended.

CHICAGO, Sept. 5.—(AP)—As the interstate commerce commission concluded hearings on the proposed 15 per cent freight rate increase today, Dr. David Friday, Washington economist, predicted the rate boost would stimulate the return to prosperity which he said was already indicated by upturn in the textile industry and other consumption goods fields.

Dr. Friday was the last witness and chief economist presented by the railroads in rebuttal to the mass of evidence submitted by agriculture and other industries tending to show that industry was hard hit by business depression and could not stand the boost that its answer to the increase would be diversion of traffic to trucks and waterways.

With the whole economic picture of the nation before it, contained in the testimony presented during the week here and in other hearings, the commission announced it would transfer the field of final action to Washington, setting Sept. 8 as the deadline for briefs and Sept. 21 for verbal arguments.

NEW YORK, Sept. 5.—(AP)—Gage P. Wright, editor of the Business Economic Digest, predicted today a trend toward greater use of newspaper advertising space to stimulate regional sales if advertisers are to take advantage of "such business recovery as may be in store for this country in the near future."

Wright based his forecast, he said, upon conferences with many business men recently.

LOSERS AT CUPID GAME TRY AGAIN ON FLIP OF COIN

TULSA, Okla., Sept. 5.—(AP)—James H. Taylor, 46, sought companionship in the courthouse here today. He seated himself beside Eva Wallace, 23, on a bench in the lobby.

Conversation developed that Taylor had been married five times and the young woman had failed in three matrimonial ventures.

"Life is all a gamble and so is marriage," she sighed.

"Well," offered Taylor, "I'll see how good a gambler you are. I'll match you coins. If I don't match you, you pay me a dime; if I do, you marry me."

WEST VIRGINIA 'BLUEBEARD' AND HIS VICTIMS



Harry F. Powers, 45, alias Cornelius O. Pierson, modern-day bluebeard, is shown above (center) with police after he confessed killing Mrs. Asta Bulck Elcher (lower right) of Park Ridge, Ill., and her three children. He also confessed the slaying of Mrs. Dorothy Pressler Lemcke (upper right) of Northboro, Mass. He lured his victims to his home near Clarksburg, W. Va., through advertisements in matrimonial periodicals. The bodies were found buried near a specially constructed "garage" on his property. The slain children shown below are, left to right: Annabelle, Greta and Harry Elcher.

EX-FELON SLAIN SHOOTING IT OUT IN BERRY PATCH

Third Gun Battle In Two Days With Portland Officers Brings Albert Gould To Morgue—A 'Petting Party' Bandit.

PORTLAND, Ore., Sept. 5.—(AP)—Wanted on a hold-up charge, Albert Gould, 38, ex-convict from San Quentin, shot it out with Deputy Sheriff Bill Keller here today. Gould died in a hospital four hours later.

It was Gould's third encounter with deputy sheriffs and his second gun battle within a few days. The first time Gould and a companion were stopped after an automobile chase. The officers released them after questioning.

Thursday night, armed with John Doe warrants charging hold-up, deputies and police stormed an apartment in which Gould was living with James S. Smith, 28, and Mrs. Irene Williams, 26, formerly of Seattle. Gould escaped after exchanging shots with Keller.

Smith, a paroled Oregon convict, was arrested and his woman companion held as a material witness. Today's shooting happened in a berry patch on the east side after officers had been tipped off as to Gould's whereabouts by a woman he had forced to give him shelter.

Gould and Smith were wanted for "petting party" hold-ups.

LOOT LADEN TRUCK WRECKED, 5 HURT

PORTLAND, Ore., Sept. 5.—(AP)—Five persons were injured today when a truck, belonging to the Virginia grocery and market here and filled with loot from that store, was wrecked on the Columbia River highway 12 miles west of Hood River, police here were notified by the Hood River sheriff.

ESTATE OF FIFTH BLUEBEARD VICTIM IN LEGAL TANGLE

Suit Filed Against Bank And Business Partner Of Mass Killer—Safety Deposit Box Contents Still Mystery.

CLARKSBURG, W. Va., Sept. 5.—(AP)—Whatever estate was left by Mrs. Dorothy P. Lemcke, Northboro, Mass., one of five persons alleged by the state to have been slain by Harry F. Powers, was bound up tonight with a chancery writ.

Wilford B. Grimm, sheriff of Harrison county, was named administrator of her estate, and attorneys brot suit in his behalf against Powers; his sister-in-law, Eva B. Strother; his wife, Luella B. Powers; the latter two engaging in the retail grocery business as Strother and Powers, J. Edward Law, attorney for the accused man; and the Empire Bank of Clarksburg.

Frank M. Powell, attorney for the Lemcke estate, which was said by Massachusetts relatives to have been from \$12,000 to \$14,000, said a bill of particulars yet to be filed would prevent any disposition of Powers' property. The bill also will charge that assets in Powers' possession at the time of the alleged killings were to Strother and Powers.

Attorney Law and the bank were named as defendants because police have said that when Powers was arrested he gave the key to a safety deposit box to his counsel. Officers have been unsuccessful in their attempts to ascertain the contents of the box.

UPSTATE DRIZZLE CHECKS FIRE IN HILLSBORO AREA

TIMBER, Ore., Sept. 5.—(AP)—Fires which raged over about 40 miles of timber in the Cochran-Mayo district near Salmonberry river yesterday were under control tonight.

A drizzle, starting about noon, checked the flames and enabled the 500 fire-fighters to get their trenches around the burned area. Though light, the rain appeared sufficient to bring the district through its fire crisis.

Today the Southern Pacific put crews to work rebuilding two wooden trestles burned out on the Portland-Hillsboro branch between Cochran and Mayo. Several section houses, the decking on a steel bridge and lagging in a tunnel were also destroyed. The company estimated its damage at \$25,000. It announced that traffic would probably be resumed on the line Tuesday.

Some timber company officials said they believed total damage from the blaze would reach \$1,000,000. Besides the great acreage of merchantable timber, about 6,000,000 feet of felled and bucked logs, two camps with all equipment, nine logging railway bridges and three skidroads were destroyed.

While many stories of narrow escapes were told, officials believed there had been no fatalities or serious injuries to persons.

DEATH CAR DRIVER, SLAYER INDICTED

PORTLAND, Ore., Sept. 5.—(AP)—Indictment charging Harry D. Emery, 55, with first degree murder of his former wife, Beatrice Turnbull, 36, was returned by the Multnomah county grand jury here today.

EUGENE RUMORED BOARD SELECTION AS HOSPITAL SITE

Special Dispatch To Oregonian Says Choice Sent To White House For Approval Ten Days Ago, With Recommendation.

PORTLAND, Ore., Sept. 5.—(AP)—A special dispatch to the Morning Oregonian tonight said, in connection with the statement that the veterans' board had made its recommendation to the president of a site for the Oregon soldiers' home:

"Rumors say that the board has favored Eugene in its report."

"It is believed that the board selected Eugene and made an informal report to the White House ten days ago," the dispatch continued, "and this report was sent back."

The board met again Friday afternoon, made its selection and transmitted the recommendation to the White House in more formal manner, the dispatch continued. Under usual procedure nothing is said until the president signs approval and returns the recommendation.

FRANCE BESET BY RAIN AND SNOW

PARIS, Sept. 5.—(AP)—Premature snow in the Alps, Pyrenees and Auvergne, menacing floods in the principal rivers and downpours which wrought havoc in the wine producing region and drenched Paris itself today ushered in the Labor day weekend.

Cherbourg was hit by a violent northeast gale. A sloop at Rochefort was struck by lightning and no boats have been able to leave Lorient for 24 hours.

Several towns in the interior are deprived of electric current, hundreds of livestock have perished, many bridges were destroyed and a property damage of several hundred thousand dollars was reported from the Cartholice region.

REVOLUTIONARY DAY LANDMARK BURNS

BEACON, N. Y., Sept. 5.—(AP)—The Mount Gullian house, headquarters of Bacon Von Steuben during the Revolutionary war was destroyed by fire tonight. Most of the relics, paintings and antiques in the house were removed by firemen.

Sheriff O. Leigh Cookingham of Dutchess county said the fire probably was started by a pyromaniac. Five other mysterious fires during the past week are being investigated.

AURORA BANDIT TURNS OUT TO BE SOVIET WORKER

Pal Also A Communist And Robbery Staged To Aid Cause—Hint Bruggman Victim of 'Frame-up'

PORTLAND, Ore., Sept. 5.—(AP)—Members of the local police communist squad were wondering today whether Louis Bruggman, alias Smith, was a victim of circumstances or a police double-crosser and willing accomplice in the Aurora Bank robbery which cost him 10 years in the penitentiary.

Bruggman was placed in the state prison Wednesday after he, Edmund Sigmond and Frank Farley had pleaded guilty before Circuit Judge McMahon.

Detective W. B. O'Dale and Patrolman M. R. Bacon said Bruggman told them Tuesday morning, the day of the robbery, that he had been asked to participate in the robbery, the details of which he had not learned.

Sigmond and Farley, were Communists, the officers continued. They believed the money from the bank was to go into funds of that party.

Bruggman told the officers the two robbers had asked him to get a car. They expected to get between \$1500 and \$2000 at the unnamed bank and were later to rob a bank in Seattle.

He was to meet them at noon and at 2:30 p. m. they were to show him what they planned to do. He told the officers he believed a time for a later hold-up would be planned.

O'Dale and Bacon said they told Bruggman to get all the details and report back. The next they heard of him, he was in jail in Salem.

The local officers don't know just what to think about the case. They say Bruggman rendered the valueless service in his campaign against communists.

NOTE GIVES CLUE TO MYSTERY LOSS OF CROWN JEWELS

DUBLIN, Irish Free State, Sept. 5.—(AP)—The Irish capital today buzzed with a report that an anonymous letter, written on expensive note paper, has been received by authorities here offering to deliver, for a ransom price, the famous crown jewels which were stolen from Dublin castle in 1907.

Police headquarters insisted it was ignorant of the letter, but the report continued to circulate, and it was believed that police reticence might be due to a desire to catch the thieves.

The jewels, which are worth \$300,000, were stolen from the castle 24 years ago in the very shadow of Whit-then was the detective headquarters, and within halting distance of the governor himself.

SOLDIER ADMITS ON WEDDING DAY HE SLEW 'BUDDY'

Body Found In Garbage Dump—Youthful Killer Faints And Begs to Attend Funeral—Broken Auto Trip Promise Motive.

PORT TOWNSEND, Wash., Sept. 5.—(AP)—On the day he was to have been married to 17-year-old Norma Solid, Arthur L. Stratton, 23, former soldier, led authorities to a garbage dump on the beach near Coupeville, Whidby Island, today to point out the body of his "buddy," William Frawley, 33, whom he confessed to slaying in a fit of anger.

Breaking under the strain, young Stratton poured out his story last night pleading "please let me go to Bill's funeral. Please hang me; won't you please hang me?"

With the same caravan in which Frawley's body was returned here, Stratton came back to his cell in the Jefferson county jail. He said he killed Frawley when the veteran army sergeant broke a promise to take Stratton and his fiancée on an automobile trip around the Olympic peninsula.

Prosecutor W. J. Daly said he was preparing murder charges to be filed against Stratton.

Suspicion was first attached to Stratton, a butcher's apprentice, when he was seen with Frawley's car and attempted to transfer one of the elder man's bank accounts from a Port Townsend institution to a Seattle bank.

Bobbing, Stratton led the party to three garbage dumps. He collapsed and fainted. Prosecutor Daly, pushing on ahead, found the body partly covered with grasses and boards.

Stratton told Sheriff Carroll he shot and killed Frawley August 26 in his victim's cabin near Port Worden.

He said he carried the body in the back of Frawley's automobile to the beach on Whidby Island where he dropped it down an embankment. When it stopped rolling, face up, he went down and covered it over, he added.

Fiancee's mother, Mrs. Peter Solid, Coupeville farmer's wife, said her daughter was heartbroken.

PORTLAND TELLER HELD FOR THEFTS, PLAYED WALL ST.

PORTLAND, Ore., Sept. 5.—(AP)—Birger Bugge, 42, teller in the Foreign Exchange department of the First National bank, was arrested here today on a federal warrant charging embezzlement of \$20,000.

Officers said they believed playing the stock market was the cause of Bugge's shortage. It is charged he kited exchange checks over a period of a year.

MACHINE EFFECT ON EMPLOYMENT UNDER SCRUTINY

Congress May Act For Workers Displaced By Machinery—Relation To Depression Also Viewed—Future Course Considered.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 5.—(AP)—Recommendations to congress may result from a study of the permanent phases of the unemployment problem which was in progress today thru a committee appointed by Secretary Doak.

The group was composed of experts appointed by the labor secretary to study technological unemployment and the effect of displacement of men by machinery.

The scope of this committee's work was outlined in an interview by Chairman Charles A. Prosser.

Pointing out that the value of American industrial output in 1929 was \$6,000,000,000 more than in 1919 with 500,000 less workers, Dr. Prosser said technological unemployment may result in "sweeping economic and social changes" in this country.

The committee, Dr. Prosser said, has divided the problem into two parts. First it must be determined what effect technological improvement has on opportunities for employment, and second, what can be done to "conserve" the worker who has been displaced by machinery.

"One group believes," he said, "that the invention and use of a machine results in the employment of more people, usually at a better wage. The other group believes that whatever may have been true heretofore, the frequency and extent of technological changes is producing exactly the opposite effect."

"The answer can only be made on the basis of reliable statistics and the committee on technological employment will attempt to indicate the kind of studies and the kind of data that needs to be collected and interpreted to indicate trends in employment and sweeping changes that are under way."

This will enable the American people to get a better understanding of where we are going with regard to opportunities for employment. We can then shape our course accordingly.

"Such studies of particular industries where sweeping changes have been made or are impending will also allow those immediately concerned to anticipate results ahead and protect themselves by long time planning against pronounced injury or disaster."

Dr. Prosser said the problem of "conserving" the worker displaced by machinery involved the problem of caring for all unemployed, regardless of the cause.

"In this connection," he said, "it will be well to know from technological studies whether displacement of workers per 100,000 workers is increasing in number or in frequency and whether the lag or period between displacement and re-employment in a new job is increasing or decreasing on the average."

"The committee will also make a report regarding ways and means of safeguarding workers before displacement, at the time of displacement and after displacement through improved placement and restraining service in states and local communities."

KANSAS SWELTERS IN RECORD HEAT

KANSAS CITY, Sept. 5.—(AP)—A record breaking heat was scored in Kansas and Oklahoma today and caused other midwestern states to swelter.

The mercury soared to 111 degrees at the Fort Hayes, Kan., United States agricultural experiment station, a September mark unrecrued before in the 84 years records have been kept. Salina, Kan., reported 112. It was only slightly cooler in other parts of Kansas, Oklahoma, Missouri and Nebraska.

MILLION CHINESE PERISH IN FLOOD

SHANGHAI, Sept. 6.—(AP)—Chinese press reports from Peiping today said 1,000,000 persons drowned in the region of Kungshien, in north central Honan province, when the Yellow river recently overflowed its banks.

While it was authoritatively believed this figure was vastly exaggerated, a characteristic of Chinese estimates, reports indicated another major flood disaster has been added to those of the Wuhan district, comprising the cities of Hankow, Hanyang and Wu-chang, and northern Kiangsu province.