

The Weather
Forecast: Unsettled, followed by clear-
ing Sunday; no change in tempera-
ture.
Highest yesterday 48
Lowest this morning 38

MEDFORD MAIL TRIBUNE

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Twenty-Seventh Year

MEDFORD, OREGON, SUNDAY, APRIL 24, 1932.

No. 28.

INCENDIARY PLOT SCENTED IN LOSS OF FRUIT PLANTS

State, County, City Officers Open Probe in Quarter Million Conflagration Here Early Saturday Morning

State, county and city agencies launched an investigation yesterday of the \$250,000 fire that swept widely separated sections of the packing plant district early Saturday morning, as the evident result of an incendiary plot. The state fire marshal's office was sending a detail of investigators here to co-operate with the state police, sheriff's office and city fire department.

Evidence was gathered immediately following the blaze that they were set, but authorities were at sea as to a possible motive. They scouted the theory that a conflagration was linked with a \$10,000 fire in Klamath Falls Friday morning, or a series of attempts to set fire to the industrial section of Eugene Thursday night. Little evidence was given also to the theory that a radical, disgruntled with the latest decision in the Tom Mooney pardon case, has vented his spleen against society with a torch.

Started in Box Pile
The watchman at the California Oregon Power company storage warehouse, adjacent to the packing district, reported that when the first alarm was sounded he looked out and saw a pile of fruit boxes burning on the loading platform of the Bardwell Fruit company plant. The flames spread rapidly. The copco workers unrolled their hose and played two streams of water on their own structure and the Knight cannery across the tracks.

Attempt on Pinnacle
Raymond Reter, manager of the Pinnacle Packing company, was convinced the fire was incendiary and said that about a dozen men in an attempt was made to burn down the Pinnacle plant No. 2 on South Central.

In a pile of lug boxes on the shipping platform a recess had been made and within a large pile of newspapers had been burned, which charred the floor and boxes but, apparently, because of lack of ventilation, did not ignite them or the building.

"I am convinced," said Reter, "that this was an attempt to set fire to the warehouse, for if it had been a retreat for some boys or hobos, they would have stamped out the fire when they left. They would also have made enough room to sit or lie down. But the interest in the papers had not been touched; obviously the person who did it, lighted them and left, blocking up the entrance so the fire would escape detection. I believe the warehouse would have burned if lack of ventilation had not prevented the flames from igniting the pile of boxes.

Authorities were busy Saturday morning running down the incendiary rumors, one being that the telephone wires south had been cut before the fire to prevent a call to Ashland for assistance if needed.

Swift to Open Monday
Swift & Co., whose plant was destroyed in the flames, through their local manager, F. Crough, Saturday announced that temporary quarters would be opened in the E. J. W. Hearty plant and that business would be resumed Monday. A. O. Nelson of Portland will arrive Monday to decide upon details of securing new permanent quarters. Hams and bacon were stolen during the excitement and two arrests made.

Rebuilding plans of the Growers' Exchange and Bardwell Fruit company were undecided, as were those of the Rogue River Lumber company. It is understood that the Growers' Exchange and Bardwell were both negotiating for a lease on the C. and E. plant at Eleventh and South Fir streets. Minor damage was sustained by the Pacific Fruit company and the warehouse adjoining the Growers' Exchange, recently purchased by the Bardwell company.

Eighth Street Opening Talked
As a sidelight of the loss, talk was circulated for the opening of Eighth street across the Southern Pacific tracks. The Growers' Exchange plant occupied a portion of the right of way and had long been one of the obstacles to the opening.

Insurance Adjustments are due to arrive Sunday and Monday for appraisals of the losses. Until then it will not be known the amount of the insurance policies on the destroyed structures. Many of the insurance policies, along with crop and account records, were in safes in the buildings and it may require the services of a locksmith to open them. All are thought to have withstood the heat and fire.

Loss by reason of the fire did not deviate from the first estimate of between \$150,000 and \$250,000, listed as follows:
Growers' Exchange; loss \$25,000 including building, material and lug boxes; fully covered by insurance.
Rogue River Lumber company; loss \$40,000, lumber, office building and building material; partially covered by insurance.
Swift & Co.; loss \$30,000, building and contents; fully insured.
Bardwell Fruit company; loss \$25,000, building, fruit equipment and packing material; partially insured.
Partial losses Suffered
Partial losses were sustained by the Pacific Fruit company, damage to plant including concrete fire wall, \$8000; damage by flames to sides and roof, Bardwell plant No. 2, \$23,500.
Incidental losses were sustained by the Western Union and Postal Telegraph.

MASSIE DEFENDANTS WITH ACE DEFENSE COUNSEL



Clarence Darrow (center), veteran Chicago barrister, is shown with the four persons in whose defense he is acting in the trial at Honolulu for the slaying of Joseph Kahahawai. Left to right: E. J. Lord, seaman; Mrs. Grace Fortescue, Darrow, Lieut. Thomas H. Massie and Albert O. Jones, seaman.

FIRES IN EUGENE ALSO STRIKE AT INDUSTRIAL AREA

EUGENE, Ore., April 23.—(AP)—The simultaneous outbreak of two separate fires in Medford's industrial section today resulted in re-doubled effort on the part of Fire Chief W. Nausbaum of Eugene to determine the origin of four fires which were started at the same time in Eugene's factory area Thursday night. Prompt action by Eugene's fire department confined the damage here to about \$10,000.

Chief Nausbaum said yesterday there was little question but that the work was done by firebugs motivated either by a "thrill" complex or by anarchistic convictions.

It was regarded as significant that in the two cities the fires started in the industrial centers.

KLAMATH FALLS, Ore., April 23.—(AP)—A two-story frame building on Main street was swept by fire early Friday morning, causing damage of about \$75,000 as estimated by Fire Chief E. A. Taylor. A restaurant, jewelry store and real estate office were badly damaged by the fire, which is believed to have started in the restaurant kitchen.

CANDIDATES HAVE ONE CHANCE ONLY

Reports that two or three candidates for county offices, in the event of defeat in the May primary, contemplate "running independent in the fall," have been scattered throughout the county the past week. The Oregon election laws automatically eliminate a loser in May from running independent, or anything else. A non-participant in the nominating primaries of either party may run independent if he secures petitions signed by a high percentage of the registered voters. Even though a candidate during the course of his campaign announces that he is an independent candidate, his name cannot be placed on the general election ballot.

The various candidates for county are busy upon the floor of the valley and on the high mountains, with little interest being manifested save by the entrants, prospective deputies and supporters. The rank and file are still dormant, with no wholesale discussion of the virtues of the aspirants. The vociferous vote is in full cry, but the silent vote is silent and holds the edge as usual.

MOUNTAIN REGION ENJOYS SNOW

DENVER, April 23.—(AP)—Winter from its position in the lap of spring, today bombarded the Rocky mountain region with snow flakes. Benefit accruing the farmers and stockmen from the belated snow storm was beyond computation. Mild temperatures accompanied the fall in most places and the melting flakes soaked the ground.

The snowfall was general over the Rocky mountain area and precipitation in some form was the rule from the Mississippi river westward.

AVIATRIX FREED IN LOVER'S DEATH

MIAMI, Fla., April 23.—(AP)—Exonerated of having knowledge or part in the death of Helen Clark, whose work in writing her memoirs led to a murder case and her death, Mrs. Jessie M. Keith-Miller, Australian aviator, was released from prison late today.

FEHL IS 'CALLED' IN ATTACKS UPON COUNTY OFFICIALS

There is going about in Jackson county a certain candidate, who formerly confined his vile remarks against Medford citizens, who were entrusted with its business affairs. He is now seeking to become county judge, using the same methods of gaining his hearer's ears.

He is making all kinds of mis-statements to serve his political needs in his campaign.

He says the O. & C. funds have been squandered, when he knows the records show that in 1927 the county debt was reduced more than \$61,000 in the retirement of bonds and warrants; that \$312,495 was turned into the school and road funds and \$250,000 retained for the state's claim, and afterward transferred to the court house fund, later reduced by \$10,000, which was transferred to the school fund deficit.

He states the funds will be all gone when the court house is completed when he knows that there still remains a fund of \$309,982.50 of O. & C. money in the treasurer's hands and partially invested in liberty, state and Jackson county bonds, enough to retire all but 699,000 of the bonds outstanding and due on or before 1932.

All bonds that were purchased or cancelled were secured at the then prevailing market price, to net 3 1/2 per cent, which is 1 1/2 per cent more than we were getting from the banks on daily deposits. You must remember we are paying 5 per cent on outstanding bonds and there is no danger of losing the funds during the period before they become due.

He states the county received \$92,000 of O. & C. money lately. He knows this was included in the 1931 estimates; that only \$57,700 went to the county, and the rest to school and road funds. The \$57,700 will be used to take up 1931 warrants for cancellation.

The budget for general and market roads, including receipts for 1931, amounted to \$220,973.44, which was expended in an amount of one-half as the taxes were paid. In addition 11 road districts showed enough faith in the county court and its road organization to make special levies of more than \$90,000 in each district, except No. 3, which was presided over by W. H. Gore, at its meeting, November 1930.

BIRDS HOAXED BY FLAMING SUNRISE

Many Medford folk, who joined the pajamino parade to the fire in the packing district yesterday morning, were fired yesterday afternoon, and so were their feathered friends. For Robin Redbreast, noted for his regularity in marking dawn's arrival with a chorus of chirps, got up too soon, according to reports from the suburbs. The great flames, which lighted up the heavens, fooled the trusting birds, and at a 6 o'clock their chirping could be heard in many sections announcing the sunrise, which came later.

BANDIT SECURES \$2000 IN CASH

PORTLAND, April 23.—(AP)—Striking holdup into the office of Willard F. Hawley in the United States National bank building here late yesterday, an unidentified robber held Hawley at the point of a pistol, forced him to write a check for \$2000, waited while Hawley's office girl cashed the check, and escaped with the money.

Hawley told police the man had appeared in his office twice before to urge him to investigate the possibility of developing a gold mine on land Hawley owned until recently. Hawley said he does not know the man's name.

VEIL OF SECRECY HIDING LINDBERGH SEARCH FOR BABY

HOPWELL, N. J., April 23.—(AP)—Behind the veil of secrecy long since cast about the case, efforts to effect the return of kidnaped Charles Augustus Lindbergh, Jr., continued today.

John Hughes Curtis, Norfolk, Va., shipbuilder who has worked for weeks to bring the child back to his Soudan mountain home here, disappeared for parts unknown. He had returned but a few hours earlier from an extended absence, the nature of which he declined to divulge.

One of his two associates, the Very Rev. H. Dobson-Peacock, disclosed he had been absent for several hours on an airplane flight early today. Dean Dobson-Peacock returned with Mr. Curtis last night. He said he made the flight accompanied only by a pilot and they returned "in time for breakfast."

A naval plane in which he was believed to have flown, was absent from the Norfolk naval air station from 3:30 to 7 a. m.

In Washington Senator Hiram Bingham, (R., Conn.) declared the fact that Al Capone twice has offered to find the Lindbergh baby if released from custody, lends support to a belief the kidnaping "has been done by friends of Capone for this very purpose."

BUICK CARS PROVE LURE FOR THIEVES

G. A. Trask of 1025 Court street, reported to city police Saturday night that his 1925 model Buick coupe was stolen from the streets here while he was attending a show. The Oregon license number is 54,980.

A call to the city police from Grants Pass said that Dr. J. L. Helms, who resides on Murphy road near there, reported the theft of his 1927 model blue Buick sedan. Oregon license number 177-965.

INJURED BOY HOME AFTER TREATMENT

Bob Ettlinger, local junior high school youth and son of Mr. and Mrs. L. S. Ettlinger, who sustained painful injuries late Friday afternoon when struck by a heavy shot while practicing in athletic events at the school, was reported much improved today, where he was taken for treatment, yesterday.

Garbo to Retire Unwed With Million in Purse

HOLLYWOOD, Calif., April 23.—(AP)—Hollywood's most mysterious figure, Greta Garbo, who came from her native Sweden to reach the heights as a film star and then lead a hermit-like existence, found herself projected today in two events that brought more than passing attention to her activities in the film colony.

BUSINESSMEN TO PRESS FOR CURB ON TAX SPENDING

U. S. Chamber of Commerce Will Launch Campaign for Economy—Public Sentiment Will Be Aroused

By CECIL R. DICKSON
Associated Press Staff Writer
WASHINGTON, April 23.—(AP)—A weary and much-harassed economy committee whipped the far-reaching \$200,000,000 omnibus retrenchment bill into final shape today for introduction into the house on Monday.

The bi-partisan group planned to work over the week end to prepare for an expected heated battle when consideration is begun Wednesday.

As drafted the bill contains the proposed consolidation of the war and navy departments and the McDuffie federal wage cutting plan, to both of which the administration is opposed. It also contains President Hoover's requested authority to reorganize the government.

C. of C. to Take Hand
While house factions set themselves for reimpeding conflict. Plans of the Chamber of Commerce of the United States to launch a national drive to marshal public sentiment for reduced public expenditures in federal, state and local governments were made known. The campaign will be inaugurated by American business leaders at the 20th annual meeting of the National Chamber of Commerce at San Francisco, May 17-20.

A statement issued through national headquarters here said: "With a staggering national tax bill, estimated at \$14,000,000,000 annually, delegates to the approaching meeting of the chamber will consider specific means by which business organizations in all parts of the country can present a united front in support of less wasteful public spendings."

STATE CONTENTS MASSIE SANE ON DAY OF SLAYING

By William H. Ewing
Associated Press Staff Correspondent
HONOLULU, April 23.—(AP)—Against the defense contention that Lieut. Thomas H. Massie was mentally deranged when he fired the shot that killed Joseph Kahahawai, the prosecution in the lynching case fought its way into the record today with testimony of two alienists that the navy officer was sane at the time.

Denied the privilege of examining Massie because of objections by Clarence Darrow, leared of the defense, Dr. Paul Bowers, Los Angeles psychiatrist, expressed his opinion in the stand after studying the record in the case and after several defense objections had been overruled.

Dr. Bowers expressed the belief that the whole affair had been premeditated by Massie and the other defendants. Mrs. Granville Fortescue, his mother-in-law, Albert O. Jones and E. J. Lord, as it turned out.

The prosecution called Miss Mapuana Peters, stenographer for the city and county attorney, who had taken down statements when the defendants were arrested.

Miss Peters testified Massie had said he had "no statement whatever to make" when asked if he would answer questions.

"He was tense, as we all were," she said, "but he seemed to know what he was talking about."

Massie had testified his mind went blank when he stood before Kahahawai with a pistol and heard the native confess attacking his wife, Mrs. Thalia Massie, daughter of Mrs. Fortescue.

BIG SHOT EARS TELL OF VARIATIONS IN SENATE PROBE

Bragg and Smith, Long Sought for Questioning On Wall Street Trading Surprise Comm. Hearing

By NATHAN ROBERTSON
Associated Press Staff Writer
WASHINGTON, April 23.—(AP)—The object for days of an unavailing senate search two of Wall Street's big bear traders—Thomas E. Bragg and Bernard E. Smith—calmly walked into a committee room today and proceeded to tell a story packed with startling surprises for their eager inquirers.

John J. Raskob, chairman of the Democratic National committee, Fred J. Fisher, W. C. Durant and W. F. Kenny, they testified, had been associated with them in a gigantic \$32,000,000 pool on Anaconda copper in 1929. They lost heavily.

May Call Raskob
While photographers' flash lights flared, and senators leaned forward to catch every word and newspapermen bustled about the two traders described their operations in the market. William Gray, counsel for the committee, announced that, if the committee approved, Raskob and others mentioned by the two would be called upon for testimony.

Bragg, a man of unimposing stature and sharply chiseled features, was the first to testify. Senator Couzens of Michigan, drew from him the story of the Anaconda pool. Lost \$100,000 in Anaconda.

"I have no business," Bragg testified, "I am a speculator." He added that he had played the "bull" side of the market up until 1929, and in September of that year went short.

He said he put about \$500,000 into the Anaconda pool and lost about \$400,000. He denied, under persistent questioning, that the pool was formed to manipulate the stock.

When Smith took the stand he was asked if he was known as a "big short operator."

"Yes, sir," he replied.
"You have been known as a big bear trader?"
"No one has called me a raider to my face and I don't know what is meant by raider," he retorted. He agreed without any resentment, however, he had heard he had that reputation.

He denied any knowledge of pools operating with the aid of a specialist who knew the pending orders of the stock in question.

"Anybody who would do that would pick a pocket," Glass interjected.

TRANSIENT BOY IN SPRINT WITH LAW

Following a chase which led city, county and state officers through the streets of Medford, Jimmy Baker, 19, of Seattle was lodged in the county jail about 6 o'clock last night when his sprint was stopped by Jailer Oscar W. Dunford's car. Young Baker had taken several articles of food from the local P. W. Takit store.

Clerks in the store and officers followed Baker both on foot and in autos until he was knocked to the street by Dunford's car.

The loot, according to the report, included a three-pound can of jam, a can of peanut butter and a can of pork and beans. Baker carried the articles in a black cloth sock pinned to the inside of his coat.

He told officers following his arrest that he was en route to San Francisco, and had not had food for some time. Baker said he lived with a sister in Seattle, his parents being dead.

Attractive Girl Secretary State Runs Louisiana

BATON ROUGE La., April 23.—(AP)—The state of Louisiana was run by a woman today for the first time in its history—and a young woman at that—and never knew the difference.

Attractive Miss Alice Lee Groe-Jean, 25-year-old secretary of state, took charge of government affairs as acting chief executive for the duration of Governor Alvin O. King's 10-day absence at the governors' conference in Richmond, Va., and handled all business that came to her desk as if she had been used to it all her life.

MASSACHUSETTS NEXT ARENA FOR SMITH, ROOSEVELT

WASHINGTON, April 23.—(AP)—Forces behind Franklin D. Roosevelt and Alfred E. Smith will clash Tuesday in Massachusetts and Pennsylvania in primary battles that may decide whether the dominant Roosevelt candidacy can be checked sufficiently to block his nomination.

The week just over saw a small number of delegates selected by both parties. Of the 480 Democratic delegates chosen to date, Roosevelt now has 255 pledged and claimed for him, with Senator J. Hamilton Lewis of Illinois far back in second place with 58.

President Hoover increased his total slightly and now has all but 22 of the 445 Republican delegates selected so far either pledged or claimed by his managers. Former Senator Joseph I. France of Maryland, his only avowed opponent, disputes 67 of his claimed total of 248.

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ASSESSOR'S DATA SHOWS BUILDING HERE ON UPTURN

Assessment data collected by the assessor's office in the city shows that within the corporate limits, since last March, 75 new buildings have been erected. Assessor J. B. Coleman estimates the value of the structures between \$150,000 and \$175,000. These do not include the homes erected throughout the county in the past year. In the light of the times and the talk, this building record is regarded as a cheering sign.

This spring the rural sections have shown considerable building activity. The country people are taking advantage of the low cost of material to enlarge the kitchen, re-roof the house and build garages and new barns. Many new homes are being built in the county.

In 1927 and 1928, when this city enjoyed a building boom and lumber and material prices were at their highest point, close to 800 homes were built.

DOUGLAS DEMS REGISTER GAIN

ROSEBURG, Ore., April 23.—(AP)—Registration of Douglas county voters shows a gain of 3386, according to figures announced today by Roy Agee, county clerk. A gain of from 10,154 to 13,540 was reported, with two small precincts yet to be included.

FEHL CASE NOTES TO SETTLE POINT IN DEFENSE PLEA

Judge Orders Transcription to Determine Exact Words Used in Instructing Jury in Libel Case

Stenographic reports of the instructions of the court in the trial of Roy Parr, game warden, Ashland, against the Pacific Record-Herald, and Earl H. Fehl, its editor, were ordered transcribed by Circuit Judge H. D. Norton, to settle a technical point in the defense plea for a new trial. A \$15,000 verdict was returned against the weekly and Fehl, by a jury last March.

The moot point of law is: did the court instruct the jury on the status of Parr as a game warden, in a libel suit, and if the court did, was it withdrawn under the Oregon law? A public official in a damage suit has one status as an official, and another as a private citizen.

The defense holds the instructions were so given and not withdrawn; and the plaintiff holds they were never given.

Court adjourned until Monday morning, due to a scheduled session in Grants Pass, Saturday. An early number

DAREDEVIL PILOTS READY FOR SPEED BOAT TEST TODAY

Fifty-seven speed boat drivers from all sections of the northwest and California will face the starter in the various events of the outboard regatta at Emigrant dam today at 2 p. m. The races will be held, rain or shine, and the weather man having kindly forecast clearing skies for the late morning and early afternoon, a record crowd is expected. In case of blustery weather spectators may view the entire course of four buoys from their parked cars which will be arranged in lanes on the natural sloping amphitheater of the dam.

With over \$500 in prize money at stake and almost every driver of note on the coast participating in the races this afternoon promise to be an event long remembered by southern Oregon sport fans.

Many of the boats began arriving yesterday morning and by last evening, when a boat parade, headed by the high school band was conducted through the business district, over 32 drivers had registered.

Many drivers have come six or seven hundred miles to compete. Among the drivers who registered last evening were Helcher of Spokane; Spreckles, Harland and Epps of Seattle; McCarthy of Boise, Idaho; the Walbur brothers of Sacramento; Schuler of Lincoln; Russell and Engley of Marysville, Cal., and Hurley and Fierstein of Albany. The Flying Finns, widely known for their daring driving, will arrive early this morning from Astoria.

Local drivers, who have more than held their own in past meets on the coast, will be pushed to the limit to keep a part of the prize money in this section of the country. Four outfits from Klamath Falls will join forces with the local drivers in the battle to keep the southern Oregon record clear.

Many of the earlier arrivals gave their tiny crafts a tuneup at the dam yesterday afternoon and it

WILL ROGERS SAYS:

HOLLYWOOD, Cal., April 23.—Country's been full of jokes at the expense of the radio announcers, but have you caught any of these political spearkers that are desecrating the political ether? Why you actually want to kiss the announcer when he comes on after one of these.

Took three years of solid depression to get the truth out of dear old Charley Schwab. Thirty-eight aeroplanes with mail and passengers come and go daily from Los Angeles airport. Congress is just like us individuals, they are finding it tough to dig up the money they spent last year that they didn't have.

Will Rogers
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