

The Weather
Forecast: Fair tonight and Tuesday.
Not much change in temperature.

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People who pay for their newspapers
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BEER COMING WITHIN FEW DAYS

Comment on the Day's News

By FRANK JENKINS
SOUTHERN California is shaken by what the early dispatches describe as the worst earthquake in a century, and probably the worst in California's history.

CATASTROPHES, you see, are estimated in terms of loss of human life and damage to property owned by human beings. An earthquake out in the middle of an uninhabited desert wouldn't mean much, one way or another.

FORTUNATELY—very fortunately indeed—the fires that followed the earthquake did not get beyond control. In San Francisco's tremendous disaster in 1906, it was the fire that did the greater part of the damage.

San Franciscans refer to 1906 as the year of the "great fire," rather than as the year of the earthquake.

THE sympathy of the entire nation goes out to Southern California in this hour of its suffering. Here in Southern Oregon, where our relationships with California are peculiarly close, our sympathy is especially warm.

LOSS of human life, of course, comes first in interest, and it has been heavy. As these words are written, the total is not known, but it is pitifully large.

Damage to property, it is estimated in early and not very reliable reports, will run "into the millions, at the very least, and probably into the tens of millions."

HERE is a thought that at this moment seems mercenary; yet it occurs:

There has been tremendous damage to property—chiefly buildings. These damaged buildings must be repaired, and the destroyed ones must be rebuilt—for it is unthinkable that brave and great Southern California will not proceed immediately with the restoration of her beautiful cities.

The task of rebuilding will require lumber in large quantities, and lumber is Oregon's principal manufactured product.

SUPPLYING this lumber will provide employment for many needy workers who now have no employment.

It is an odd thing, yet true, that human suffering and misfortune in one place sometimes help to alleviate human suffering and misfortune in another place.

This life we live has many odd angles.

ANY newspaper man will tell you this: News values are RELATIVE.

That is to say, what would be big news one day will be comparatively unimportant news on another day.

News that looks big one day will be pushed out of the picture by BIGGER news the next day.

A WEEK or so ago, the Oregon legislature was big news, and we were all keenly interested in its doings.

Then along came the closing of the banks all over the country and we forgot all about the legislature. It adjourned on Friday, after having done a pretty good job, considering the difficult task it faced, and the story of its adjournment was told in the somewhat goofy old nigger who butted his head against a wall "because it felt so good when he quit" was applying the same principle.

MOST of the news in recent weeks has been unpleasant news, and each succeeding scarehead has been a little more unpleasant than the preceding one.

Foot optimists, such as this writer, like to find something to feel better about. So, for the benefit of such, let us say that these succeeding unpleasant events that have been Saturday's papers, which also con-

SURPRISE MOVE MADE TO YIELD LARGE REVENUE

Approval Within Few Days Is Prospect in Congress—\$150,000,000 Return to Help in Balancing Budget

WASHINGTON, March 13.—(AP)—Senator Robinson, the Democratic leader, informed President Roosevelt late today that "we have the votes to pass both the economy and beer bills." Robinson expressed the opinion the senate would support the 3.2 per cent beer measure, and that not more than two days would be required for passage.

WASHINGTON, Mar. 13.—(AP)—Democratic members of the house ways and means committee agreed today to write a bill legalizing beer of 3.2 percent alcoholic content by weight and named a subcommittee to complete a draft before night if possible.

WASHINGTON, March 13.—(AP)—In a surprise move of two sentences, President Roosevelt asked congress today to "act" and other beverage laws immediately.

Democratic leaders of both senate and house let him know at once that they would follow his recommendation. Vice-President Garner referred it to the senate finance committee. Speaker Rainey turned it over to the house ways and means committee.

Means Big Revenue. The prospect was that within a few days, both branches would approve the bill.

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Continued Earthquakes Rock Southern California

LOCAL BANKERS AWAIT OFFICIAL OPENING ORDER

Prospect for Wednesday Resumption Is Consensus—Scope of Operations Unknown Until Arrival Word

NEW YORK, March 13.—(AP)—Preparation for early resumption of trading in the New York stock exchange were seen in Wall street today as the exchange ordered its whole office forces to arrange clearance by tomorrow of all existing contracts where delivery has been suspended.

There was every indication today that local banks would be open for business Wednesday, bankers stated while awaiting instructions from Portland, which had not yet arrived late this afternoon.

With no word from the north, Medford bankers were unable to give out any definite information regarding what the next two days will bring. They were expecting advice not later than tomorrow morning.

Under just what plans they will operate following the opening, local institution heads were also unable to say. Until advice is received from headquarters, they will continue operations under the restrictions established last week, serving the public as far as possible without carrying on regular business.

"All we know about it up to date" (Continued on Page Five)

ACTION FILLS AIR SINCE INAUGURAL AT WHITE HOUSE

Roosevelt Likened To Famous Kinsman In Emergency—Knock-out Blow Job Seekers Gives Laugh.

WASHINGTON, March 13.—(AP)—Although everyone seems outwardly calm, and the new crowd is riding surprisingly easy in the saddle, there is action in the air at the White House. President Roosevelt is already being likened to his famous kinsman, Theodore Roosevelt, who shot from the hip, "Bang! Bang!"

With the panic at its peak, with Walsh dead in the capital, funeral services awaiting the close of the inaugural, flags flying at half-mast, and with Cermak dying, the administration had a sorrowful beginning until F. D. cleared the atmosphere with his drastic order closing the banks.

The next biggest surprise was the neat solar-plexus blow which F. D. gave to office seekers. This was also strongly reminiscent of the old T. R.

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Legal Holidays Will End Today Is Expectation

SALEM, Mar. 13.—(AP)—The executive office here announced today's legal holiday, closing banks and courts, was expected to be the last one proclaimed by the governor.

PORTLAND, Mar. 13.—(AP)—Gov. Meier today issued a proclamation extending the banking holiday to cover Monday. Courts throughout the state were to remain closed.

WINNER OF THIRD PLACE TO ENJOY THRILLING JAUNT

In recognition for the excellent showing made by Oleta Rogers, the little "Flower Girl" in the Merchants-Tribune popularity contest, recently conducted in this city, an airplane trip to San Francisco has been arranged through the co-operation and courtesy of the United Air Lines. While in San Francisco she will be

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Conservator For Harriman Bank

NEW YORK, Mar. 13.—(AP)—The Harriman National bank did not open for business today when other Federal reserve members resumed operations and at the bank it was stated a conservator was present to take charge of the bank's affairs.

BANKS BODYGUARD TAKEN IN ROUNDUP BALLOT SUSPECTS

C. J. Conner Taken Near Gold Hill Is Fifteenth Taken in Custody—Was Leader in G. G. C. Outfit

C. J. (Jean) Conner, "parliamentarian of the Good Government congress," reputed "L. A. Banks" guard, and one of the "Green Spring Mountain Boys" was arrested by state police Sunday afternoon in connection with the brazen but bungled theft of official ballots from a court house vault on the night of Monday, February 20. Conner was the fifteenth man to be detained in connection with flouting of constituted authority.

Conner was found in the Gold Hill area, where he was engaged in placer mining, and told authorities he had been out of touch with the world, and did not know of the ballot burning charges and arrests. He left this city two weeks ago, he said.

Was Active Worker. Conner was an active worker in the "Good Government congress." At the organizing meeting, he displayed an intimate knowledge of "Roberts Rules of Order."

Authorities intimated five or six more arrests are scheduled. Except that they have an "airtight case," and that "tracks were left like an elephant going through the snow," they refuse to divulge the nature or extent of the evidence collected.

Signs were plentiful that the federal agencies are taking more than a passing interest in the case, and have been for some time. They have been investigating the bonds signers, as related to unpaid federal income tax, it is indicated.

It was reliably reported this morning that one of the bondsmen who is (Continued on Page Eight)

Bank Opening Day Does Not Indicate Strength Status

WASHINGTON, March 13.—(AP)—President Roosevelt remains anxious to impress it upon depositors that even though their banks do not open today there is nothing to fear.

After explaining the progressive plan for the reopenings—banks in federal reserve cities today, in cities with "recognized" clearing houses tomorrow, and in the rest of the country Wednesday—he said last night:

"Let me make it clear to you that if your bank does not open the first day, you are by no means justified in believing that it will not open. A bank that opens on one of the subsequent days is in exactly the same status as the bank that opens tomorrow."

LEGION WILLING TO TAKE 25 P. C. CUT IN BENEFITS

WASHINGTON, Mar. 13.—(AP)—The American Legion's national legislative committee in a statement late today said the Legion was willing to accept a 25 per cent "reduction in World war veterans' benefits."

The statement, issued by Ray Murphy of Ida Grove, Iowa, chairman of the committee, said:

"The need for economy in governmental expenditures is apparent, and is fully recognized by the American Legion.

"The administration is pledged by its party platform to a 25 per cent reduction in such expenditures.

"In the presence of existing conditions and the need for such economy, the American Legion, unwilling that the basic structure of World war veterans' relief be destroyed, is willing to make its full contribution to sound national credit, and to the administration's efforts to rehabilitate such credit, by supporting a 25 per cent reduction in World war veterans' benefits."

BEER IN OREGON WOULD BE LEGAL

SALEM, March 13.—(AP)—Should the national congress authorize 3.5 per cent beer, the legal status of such beverage would be legal in Oregon regardless of existing state laws.

Oregon now has a law which makes unlawful the possession of wort or mash for manufacture of intoxicating beverages, but should the Volstead Act be modified to define 3.5 per cent beer as non-intoxicating, this state law would then not apply to mash or wort for manufacture of beer of that alcoholic content.

Manufacture of 3.5 per cent beer in Oregon would be subject to federal regulation should congress pass the bill.

CHAIN STORE TAX IS HELD ILLEGAL

WASHINGTON, Mar. 13.—(AP)—The Florida chain store tax was declared invalid today by the supreme court in a case brought by Louis K. Liggett company and others.

Justice Roberts delivered the opinion. The supreme court has upheld taxes on chain stores in several states and Roberts said the Florida tax would have been also upheld had it not provided distinctions as to counties.

The tremor this morning was felt with varying intensity in all of the devastated areas but the only report of damage came from Long Beach, where about 53 were killed in the original earthquake. A section of the coping of a large department store fell into the street at Broadway and Pine in the heart of the central business district of the beach city. No one was hurt.

38TH TREMOR OF SERIES RECORDED NEAR NOON TODAY

Third Day Since Start of Upheaval Sets Life Toll at 119—Crews Busy Removing Dangerous Walls

LOS ANGELES, Cal., March 13.—(AP)—The 38th distinct quake of the southern California series was felt here at 11:30 a. m., today. It apparently was not strong enough to do much additional damage.

LONG BEACH, Cal., Mar. 13.—(AP)—Colonel Charles W. Decker, city health officer of Los Angeles and medical coordinator for the quake stricken area, today issued an announcement condemning false radio reports.

The official statement said: "The general situation as regards safety of the civilian population is such that relatives and friends throughout the world of those in the stricken earthquake areas should have no fears.

"There is no epidemic. There is no danger of such a thing.

"Water, sanitation, hospitalization and all forms of relief are safely provided, and adequately administered under orderly control.

"The ugly, unfounded rumors spread by quavering radio announcements, starting soon after the first earthquake shock Friday night in the broadcast of terrorizing messages of tidal waves, vast death lists, famines, pestilence and horrors that could be conjured only in a terror-stricken and uninformed mind, all were without foundation.

"There is no cause for alarm. "Any alarmist reports should be discontinued.

"My sanitary engineers, through the entire district, report that the domestic water supply has been chlorinated and is safe."

LOS ANGELES, Cal., Mar. 13.—(AP)—Red Cross officials today appealed to the nation not to become hysterical as a result of inability to furnish immediate reports of injured. A check by the Associated Press of morgues revealed but 54 bodies.

Relief agencies listed more than 2,000 missing, but due to the fact that thousands fled the city after the first shock, the list was not considered out of the ordinary under the circumstances.

A complete list of the injured was expected to be released by nightfall. Hospitals reported that of the injured only a small percentage would likely succumb to injuries.

Work of clearing the debris went forward rapidly today in outlying districts. Deputy Coroner Arthur Donlin estimated the list of those killed outright will be approximately 600.

LOS ANGELES, March 13.—(AP)—Dawn of the third day since the catastrophic earthquakes of Friday brought another tremor which sent thousands of southern Californians out of bed at 5:18 o'clock this morning and caused some small damage in Long Beach, scene of most destruction.

Telephones in police and newspaper offices rang frequently for the first few moments after the latest disturbance, bringing anxious queries.

119th Victim Counted. There were no further casualties reported, although a short time before the shock the coroner's office here reported the death of the one hundred and nineteenth victim, Henry Ufen, of Los Angeles.

Ufen died in the general hospital from injuries received on Friday night when a deluge of bricks from a downtown building here hurled him into the street and beneath the wheels of an automobile. His was the fourth death reported within Los Angeles.

The tremor this morning was felt with varying intensity in all of the devastated areas but the only report of damage came from Long Beach, where about 53 were killed in the original earthquake. A section of the coping of a large department store fell into the street at Broadway and Pine in the heart of the central business district of the beach city. No one was hurt.

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Searchers Scour Ruins for Victims of Earthquake



Associated Press telephoto taken at dawn in Compton, Cal., where seven rat lives were lost in earth tremors of the previous evening and just before the next sunrise.



Two pictures taken at the scene show (left) a demolished hotel in Compton, Cal., from which seven persons escaped as it was torn apart by earthquakes. Right: Searchers working desperately in recovering the dead from the stockwell building in Compton, shaken down by a series of earthquakes which rocked Southern California. (Associated Press Photos)

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A CORRECTION
By mistake, the price of Oled was listed in the Saturday ad in Friday's Mail Tribune at 8c per lb. This price should have been 9c. The price of lettuce should have been 30c per head instead of 20c. This transposition of prices was an error.