

The Weather
Forecast: Showers tonight and Friday; temperature somewhat below normal.
Highest yesterday 53
Lowest this morning 45

MEDFORD MAIL TRIBUNE

MEDFORD, OREGON, THURSDAY, MAY 4, 1933.

Paid-Up Circulation
People who pay for their newspapers are the best prospects for the advertisers. A. B. C. circulation is paid up circulation. This newspaper is A. B. C.

Twenty-eighth Year

No. 37.

FLEWING TELLS BANKS THREATS

Roosevelt's Railroad Revival Plan Placed in Hands of Congress

Comment on the Day's News

By FRANK JENKINS.

NO. 2 RED WHEAT sold in Chicago yesterday for immediate delivery for 77 1/2 cents per bushel. The price on April 1 was around 31 cents. On the first of April, the price was around 55 cents. It is estimated that some 200 million bushels of wheat remain in the hands of farmers.

CORN sold yesterday in Chicago for 38 1/2 cents per bushel. The price on April 1 was around 31 cents. According to the best figures available, there are around a billion and a quarter bushels of corn remaining in farmers' hands.

OATS sold yesterday in Chicago for 26 cents per bushel. The price on April 1 was around 20 cents. It is estimated that a little less than a half billion bushels of oats remain in the hands of farmers.

WITHIN the past couple of days, actual sales of wool have been made in Oregon at 17 cents. The price on April 1 was around 10 cents and a year ago it was around seven cents.

WHATEVER the cause, inflation or otherwise, the outlook for the farmer is materially more promising now than it was a month ago. If the outlook for the farmer is better, the outlook for business in general is better, for improvement in the farmer's buying power will stimulate business of all kinds.

That has a special meaning for us here in the lumber state of Oregon, for the farmer is the best customer the lumberman has.

UP in the Willamette valley the other day, hops sold at 40 cents a pound, with many growers refusing to sell at this figure and holding out for 42.

That is quite a change from a year or so ago, when hops were practically a drug on the market.

THE HOP MARKET, of course, is responding to a special and particular stimulus. The return of beet is creating a market for hops at a time when supply is extremely low, due to reduction of acreage in recent years, as a result of starvation prices.

No one knows where the hop market will go.

FEW HOPS are grown in Southern Oregon. But the Willamette valley is a part of the state of Oregon, and whatever helps the Willamette valley will help the state as a whole.

Picking this year's hop crop will provide a lot of employment, which is something to be thankful for.

HERE is something that may surprise you: California has more aircraft than ANY OTHER state in the Union, the total number of planes in the state being 985, according to figures just released by the aeronautics branch of the department of commerce.

New York is second with 948 and Pennsylvania third with 537.

IN NUMBER of licensed pilots, as well as in number of planes, California leads all the states, her total number being 3581, or nearly four pilots per plane.

CLOSE COMPANION OF KILLER TAKES STAND FOR STATE

Appearance of Man Who Was With Agitating Editor at Time Murder Created Stir at Eugene Trial

EUGENE, Ore., May 4.—(AP)—A horrible picture of sudden death was painted by Officer James O'Brien of the state police as he described in grim detail the killing of his friend, Constable George F. Prescott in Medford March 16.

Called to the witness stand by the state in the trial of Llewellyn A. Banks and his wife, O'Brien told of accompanying Prescott to the Banks home on the morning he was slain.

We went up on the porch to serve a warrant on Banks, I knocked on the door and Mrs. Banks opened it. 'What is it?' she asked. 'I have a warrant for Mr. Banks,' Prescott told her. Mrs. Banks started to close the door and Prescott put his foot on the threshold.

'Just a minute,' he said. 'I'll read it.' Just then I looked through the window and saw Banks leveling his rifle. Banks called 'look out!' I tried to pull Prescott down out of the way, but there was an explosion in my face. The bullet struck Prescott's hand before entering his body. Splinters of bone and flesh hit my eyes. Prescott's teeth fell out of his mouth.

EUGENE, Ore., May 4.—(AP)—A. E. Fleming, Jacksonville orchardist, who was in the Banks home at the time of the Prescott killing, took the stand in the Banks murder trial Thursday and told a graphic story of the events which immediately preceded the Medford tragedy.

He was brought from his cell, where he has been held incommunicado by the state, as a material witness, and his appearance created the biggest stir of excitement in a morning crowded with surprises and the exchange of biting repartee between state and defense counsel.

Is Key Witness
Fleming was the second witness of the morning and the fourth called by the state. He has been heralded as the biggest gun in the prosecution's arsenal. It is on his testimony the state hopes to convict Mr. and Mrs. Llewellyn A. Banks for the premeditated murder of Constable George F. Prescott. Dr. Swendenberg followed Verne Shangle, Medford photographer, who identified pictures presented in evidence by the prosecution.

'I am being framed on the ballot charges,' Fleming quoted Banks as saying. 'I have written letters warning them (the officers) not to come. They will never take me except over dead bodies, and even then I will be carried out, feet first.'

Didn't See Shooting
Fleming did not see the shooting, according to his testimony, as Banks had warned him to leave when the officers were heard at the door. He did see the top of Prescott's head over the window, however, and said he could identify the officer as he had known Prescott many years.

As Fleming started out through the back of the house he heard Banks say: 'Get out' or 'Look out,' and almost simultaneously he heard the sound of a gun. Fleming said he 'kept going' and was arrested by an officer as he went out the back door.

The first surprise of the morning came when Frank Loneragan of the defense staff moved that 'all evidence presented by the state be excluded as the district attorney's office of Lane county was not represented on the prosecution counsel and therefore the entire procedure was illegal.'

CALL NATION-WIDE FARMERS' STRIKE STARTING MAY 13

National Farmers' Holiday Association Votes Action—Demands On Congress Will Be Resubmitted, Plan

DES MOINES, Iowa, May 4.—(AP)—The National Farmers' Holiday Association today voted unanimously to call a nation-wide strike May 13 on all farm products.

The vote came upon a resolution from a committee headed by John A. Scott of Craryville, N. Y.

The resolution called for (1) the declaration of a farm marketing holiday, effective May 13; (2) resubmission of the association's legislative demands to congress including the Prater bill, Patman bonus bill and Miller bill; (3) adoption of the strike resolution as presented yesterday by A. C. Townley of St. Paul, Minn., and the appointment or election of a committee of 15 or more to outline the plan for labor organizations.

WASHINGTON, May 4.—(AP)—George Peek of Moline, Ill., has virtually been decided upon as chief administrator of the sweeping farm measure now near final passage by congress.

Peek, a farm equipment manufacturer and long a student of agricultural problems, was one of those who participated in the White House conference last night on the application of the bill designed to raise the price of farm commodities.

STATE WILL CALL MANY WITNESSES IN TRYING BANKS

By ARTHUR PERRY.

EUGENE, May 3.—Suspended-Sheriff Gordon L. Schermmerhorn and Dr. P. G. Swendenberg of Ashland added Wednesday to the list of witnesses for the defense in the trial of L. A. Banks and his wife, Edith Robertine Banks, charged with first degree murder, for the slaying of Constable George F. Prescott. Dr. Swendenberg was associated with Banks in orchard and the Black Channel mine deals, and was his physician.

The nature of his forthcoming testimony has not been revealed, but it is believed to be along medical lines. Suspended-Sheriff Schermmerhorn visited the Banks home shortly after the murder and was with state and city police during the first examinations of the scene.

Two Medford photographers—Verne Shangle and B. R. Harwood—have been subpoenaed to produce photographs of the scene of the slaying exterior and interior. The photos will show where Banks stood when he fired the fatal shot, the door, and Mrs. Banks' position near the door. Shangle is listed as a state witness, Harwood as a defense witness.

Mrs. J. C. Barnes, well-known Medford woman, F. M. Rodman, and Miss Charlotte De Ford of Tillamook, Ore., have also been called as state witnesses. Mrs. Barnes and Rodman live near the Banks home, and from their windows and porch watched the arrival of Constable Prescott and Sheriff.

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RICHARD GEARY DIES, PORTLAND

PORTLAND, May 4.—(AP)—Richard Everett Geary, 49, well-known western mining engineer, died in a hospital here today. He had been ill for several months.

NEW CLUE SPURS SEARCH FOR KIDNAPERS OF GIRL



A land and sea hunt was immediately started when it was learned 10-year-old Margaret McMath, shown in these Associated Press photographs with her mother, Mrs. Nell C. McMath, had been abducted from school in Harwichport, Mass. She was dismissed from the classroom after a telephone message purporting to be from her father had been received. The kidnapped girl is the granddaughter of Francis C. McMath, wealthy Detroit industrialist.

HARWICHPORT, Mass., May 4.—(AP)—A report that a negro had been seen with a white girl in his automobile in Mashpee, an Indian settlement about 20 miles from here, today caused the hurried ordering to that town of 30 state troopers engaged in tracking the kidnapers of 10-year-old Margaret McMath.

William Lee, business associate of Nell C. McMath, who has acted as liaison for the father of the child who was kidnapped from her school by a negro in an automobile Tuesday, said he expected to have an announcement of importance to make "in a little while."

In the belief that organized gangsters from a large city might have been responsible the family named Aaron Davis, New York advertising man, as a contact for any negotiations that might be necessary in that city.

An appeal to the kidnapers of their daughter was made today by Mr. and Mrs. Nell C. McMath. The appeal, in the mother's handwriting, said: "If it is necessary to take the child in an automobile, it would be wise to have a supply of chewing gum, as she becomes car sick. Margaret likes meat, is fond of milk, vegetables and fruit. She does not like turnips or spinach."

"Her mother and father both ask her to be a good girl and do just what she is told to do."

"We decided to go sailing yesterday afternoon," said Miss Lombard. "We got a small boat from the Jaimanitas club, manned by a lovely old Cuban, Majin Alvarez Turo. Three miles off Jaimanitas a sudden, strong wind capsized the boat. Miss Harding fell into the water."

"The sailor cried, 'Don't be afraid; stay in the boat.' We clung on. He pulled Miss Harding in. After five or ten minutes the Cuban said he would try to make land and bring help."

"He had not gone far when he disappeared. After three or four hours we sighted a motor launch in which Capt. Leslie Waggett and George Anderson were."

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ANN HARDING IN HORROR SCENE AS BOAT CAPSIZES

HAVANA, Cuba, May 4.—(AP)—Ann Harding, blonde star of film romance, was shaken and broken-hearted today by a scene of horror enacted before her eyes.

STOCKS BOIL UP IN HEAVY BUYING; RAILS LEAD WAY

Roosevelt Message and Better Business Reflected in Wall Street Mart—Wheat Moving to Higher Levels

NEW YORK, May 4.—(AP)—Stocks boiled up \$1 to more than \$4 a share in an active market this afternoon. Sales exceeded 4,500,000 shares.

Rail issues were particularly strong, both in advance of and following President Roosevelt's message to congress and the introduction of a bill embodying his recommendations.

With the rest of stocks went an advance of a cent or more a bushel in wheat at Chicago.

Steel shares also displayed marked strength, aided by word the Pennsylvania railroad was planning to buy between 20,000 and 25,000 tons of rail, involving expenditure of about \$10,000,000.

Although markets again had inflationary aspects, several favorable items of business news were reported. April automobile production was estimated as the largest for any month.

(Continued on Page Four)

AGED MAN ROBBED OF \$4500 HIDDEN IN BED CLOTHING

ROSBURG, Ore., May 4.—(AP)—J. H. Morrison, 77, a resident of Myrtle Creek, was last night beaten and robbed by a burglar who secured \$4,500 which the elderly man had hidden in his bed clothing.

Mr. Morrison withdrew the money yesterday from the Myrtle Creek bank. He had hidden the currency in the covers of his bed.

Shortly after he and his wife had retired to their separate rooms about 9 p. m., Morrison informed officers, he was awakened by a man who apparently came through the front door of the home and flashed a light on the sleeper. As Morrison awakened he was struck several blows over the head with the clubbed flashlight. He was stunned and helpless, but was not unconscious, and told officers that his assailant ripped the covers off the bed until he found the packet of currency.

Officers declare that the burglar was apparently familiar with the arrangements of the home and the habits of its occupants, and knew of the presence of the money. The crime is being investigated today by Sheriff Percy Webb and state police officers.

Oregon Weather.
Showers tonight and Friday; temperature somewhat below normal; fresh west winds offshore, becoming northwest.

BASEBALL

First game: National R. H. E.
Chicago 1 8 2
New York 2 6 0
Tinning, Richmond and Hartnett; Taylor, Fitzsimmons and Mancuso.

Cincinnati R. H. E.
Boston 4 12 0
Batteries: Johnson and Hemslay; Mangum and Hogan.

Second game: R. H. E.
Chicago 4 6 2
New York 5 8 2
Bush, Nelson and Hartnett; Farnelle, Hubbell and Mancuso.

American R. H. E.
Philadelphia 1 5 2
Chicago 2 6 0
Cain, Freitas and Cochrane; Jones and Grube.

Washington R. H. E.
Cleveland 5 9 1
Crowder, Thomas and Sewell; Harder and Spencer.

New York R. H. E.
Detroit 3 8 0
Gomez and Dickey; Bridges, Gornell and Desautels; Hayworth.

POSTER CONTEST IN COTTON WEEK

Preparations are being made by the retail merchants' committee of the Chamber of Commerce to participate in National Cotton week, May 15 to 20 inclusive, and complete announcement of the local plans will be made next Sunday.

As a means of creating interest in the local cotton event a poster contest has been arranged for through the courtesy of Miss Louise Hollenbeck of the high school and Mrs. Arthur Schoen of the junior high.

Students of both schools who desire to enter the contest will submit posters to the Chamber of Commerce by Thursday, May 11, and a committee of retail merchants will judge them in order to determine the winners. Prizes offered are \$300 first, \$200 second and \$100 third. The posters will be judged for originality, neatness and design and it is expected that many novel ideas will be suggested.

SENATE PASSES R. F. C. RELIEF FOR INSURANCE
WASHINGTON, May 4.—(AP)—The senate today passed and sent to the house the Fletcher bill to permit the reconstruction corporation to increase its borrowing power by \$50,000,000 to purchase or lend on preferred stock of insurance companies. Loans to any corporation paying salaries in excess of \$17,500 were barred.

Tragedy at Banks Home Reviewed by Prosecutor In Opening Declaration

Defense Points to Stormy Career in Move To Show Slaying Result of Strain; Wife Depressed in Court

EUGENE, May 4.—The state of Oregon, through its assistant attorney-general, Ralph E. Moody, in the opening statement in the trial of L. A. Banks and his wife, Edith R. Banks, charged with first degree murder for the slaying of Constable George F. Prescott, last March 16, pictured the former editor, orchardist and agitator, as a "murderer who laid in wait for the coming of Constable Prescott, fired through a narrow opening in the door, opened by his wife, and slew him. It was deliberate and premeditated. It was the culmination of a series of cleverly dramatized plots."

"The defendant, after the commission of the crime, admitted it, in press interviews, seemed proud of it, and said he would do it again." The prosecutor, near the close of his 44-minute address, pictured the Banks home on the murder morning.

For the defense, Attorney Joseph R. Hammerly of Portland said in part: "Defendant Banks had been under a severe mental strain for months. He had packed his hunting paraphernalia for a hunting trip. He wanted to get away from the Jackson county turmoil. For ten days before the unfortunate climax, De-

CO-ORDINATOR FOR REORGANIZATION IS MAIN FEATURE

Appointee Would Require Action by Carriers to Avoid Duplication, Prevent Waste, Aid Refinance

WASHINGTON, May 4.—(AP)—President Roosevelt sent to congress today his emergency proposal for appointment of "a federal coordinator" to guide railroads through a reorganization.

Congressional advocates of the legislation had it ready at the capitol, and planned to expedite it through committee to the senate and house for debate and passage.

The President also asked for immediate repeal of the recapture of profits clause in the interstate commerce commission act and for federal regulation of railway holding companies. He said he would submit later a "comprehensive plan for permanent legislation."

He outlined the duties of the coordinator, "to encourage, promote or require action on the part of carriers, in order to avoid duplication of service, prevent waste, and encourage financial reorganizations." Copies of the bill were not available at the capitol, a final draft having just been sent to the printing office.

ELKS TO WARBLE OLD BEER SONG

Hath music charm enough to bring back those "good old days when—?" At least it will be tried out tonight at the Elks "Dutch" feed, according to Leon Haskins, past exalted ruler, in charge of the program for the evening.

A chart of the old "Schnitzelbank" song has been located and an attempt will be made to revive the song and the good fellowship that goes with it. The Elks band will provide the music and all that is lacking is a leader. It has been suggested that if a better one cannot be found Ole Alenderfer will be asked to fill the bill.

Elks who can recall the "Good Old Days" will not miss this feed.

WAR DEBTS BARRED FROM CONFERENCE

LONDON, May 4.—(AP)—Prime Minister Ramsay MacDonald told the house of commons today that war debts have been barred from the program of the world economic conference and that Britain is asking for special "safeguards" in connection with the American proposal for a tariff treaty.

NEW YORK, May 3.—Well, let's see what scandal the evening papers have here that will bear repeating.

The house of representatives is going to limit debate on inflation to five hours. I wish to goodness there was a way to limit individuals that try to explain it to you in five hours.

We thought technocracy was a tough bird to get the low-down on, but it's only a first reader compared to hearing a guy explain "inflation." I am going down to Washington tomorrow and hear the congressmen bite into it. There is one thing about it, it's made every man's intelligence equal.

Yours,
Will Rogers
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