

The Weather

Forecast: Unsettled with showers to-night; Saturday fair with rising temperature.

MEDFORD MAIL TRIBUNE

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People who pay for their newspapers are the best prospects for the advertiser.

Twenty-eighth Year

No. 38.

BIRDSEYE FARMER SHOTS HIS RIVAL

Hot Exchange Marks Quiz of Policeman O'Brien in Banks Trial

Comment on the Day's News

By FRANK JENKINS. COMMODITY prices are rising. If you follow the market pages at all, you know that without being told, the quoted figures tell the story.

Why do we want to know that? Well, it's something like this: Rising prices that are based on inflation amount in reality to kidding ourselves.

Among the commodities in which we are interested here on the Pacific Coast, there are some, at least, whose rise in price appears to be due to excess of demand over supply.

For years, the hop market has been depressed. Prices have been disastrously low, and acreage has been steadily reduced.

Then, suddenly, legal beer appears, and there is a big increase in the demand for hops—this in the face of a greatly reduced supply.

Wheat prices have been rising rapidly—and again, of course, inflation prospects have probably had something to do with the rise.

World crop conditions are poor. The visible supply of wheat is diminishing. Demand is catching up with supply, and more buyers than sellers are coming into the market.

With the flush production season just about upon us, butter prices have been strengthening rather than weakening.

Explanation, to be sure, may have something to do with it, but according to the best figures available butterfat production is off about 15 per cent here on the Coast.

When the Alaska fishing fleets were outfitting at San Francisco and Seattle recently, their purchases of butter created quite a flurry in the market and for several days there was considerable scratching around to find butter enough to fill the orders.

Why is butter production off? Shortage and higher prices of feed appear to be the answer.

Along that line, a creameryman told this writer an interesting tale yesterday. He was up in the Puget Sound country recently, and saw dairymen coming in with their trucks and hauling off hay a few bales at a time—just enough to keep their cows going.

They were paying for this hay, in the small quantities in which they were buying it, at the rate of \$20 a ton. At this high price, they weren't feeding very heavily.

Scanty feeding holds milk production down.

Hay, here on the Pacific Coast, is high this spring, and it appears now that the supply will not be heavy this fall.

West of the mountains, which has been cut badly. East of the mountains, there has been rather severe

FRED WOLF HELD AS SLAYER; SAYS HOME BROKEN UP

Rural Triangle Climaxed by Tragedy As Children Wait Mother's Return From Milking Cow Near Home

William Sheldon, 42, is dead with a bullet through his heart, and Fred Wolf, 36, is lodged in the county jail as the climax of a three-cornered love affair on Birdseye creek, near Riviera, south of Gold Hill.

Sheldon, according to Wolf, who killed the alleged home-wrecker about 7:30 o'clock last night, had been paying too much attention to Mrs. Wolf, pretty and 26, and had caused Mrs. Wolf to talk of "packing up her things and leaving, if she had money enough."

Two children, Lavina May, four, and Leonard Everett, three, were in the Wolf home at the time of the shooting, waiting for their mother to come back with the milk.

Wolf shot Sheldon on the trail leading from the Wolf house to the barn, and then, after sending word to state police in Medford that he had killed the home-wrecker, he sat down near his cabin to await the arrival of officers, who placed him in jail here, after taking a complete statement about the affair.

The affair has been going on for some time, according to Wolf's alleged confession, but he had not noticed it until the other day, officers said.

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Wolf will be bound over to the grand jury on a charge of murder, officers said.

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KIDNAPED GIRL IS RETURNED UNHARMED TO PARENTS ARMS

M' MATH HEIRESS RELEASED AFTER 4 DAYS' ABSENCE

HARWICHPORT, Mass., May 5.—(AP)—Margaret McMath, 10-year-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Neil C. Tuesday, was returned to her parents McMath, kidnaped from her school this afternoon.

The girl appeared on a coast guard boat with her father and Brigadier General Daniel Needham, Massachusetts commissioner of public safety, when it pulled into Wynchmere harbor.

On the coast guard boat, No. 5259, were General Needham, State Detective Mahoney and Ferrara and District Attorney William O. Croasley of Fall River.

The entire party, aboard the coast guard boat, left for the coast guard base at Woods Hole.

WASHINGTON, May 5.—(AP)—The Washington Star said today it had learned from authoritative sources that Margaret McMath had been returned to her father at 2 o'clock this morning.

The paper said it understood that \$50,000 ransom was paid to the kidnapers.

It was said the girl had been kept aboard a boat of the Massachusetts coast under an agreement by the parents not to divulge the transaction to the police for 48 hours.

The official whisper says the experiment is for scientific purposes only. That is probably true.

The plain result will be to make one station independent of all chains if the tests work out.

Experts say the spot was ideally chosen. Cincinnati is a radio sounding board. WLW is the only eastern station which regularly reaches the Pacific coast, even with low power.

The gossip going around is that the government is interested in a giant inland station for war purposes or some other purpose of state. Those rumors take too much for granted. We are not near a war or any pur-

ULTIMATUM BY FARMERS' GROUP

PREMIER FAILS TO WIN TARIFF POINT

PORTLAND REFUSES TO SAVE DAYLIGHT

Banks and Wife on Trial



Llewellyn A. Banks, 62, former Medford, Ore., publisher and his wife, Edith Banks, as they appeared in court at Eugene to stand trial for the death of Constable George Prescott who was fatally shot when he attempted to serve a warrant on Banks. (Associated Press Photo)

Fehl Attempted Framing Of Banks Is Testimony By Fleming During Trial

Threat to Slay Arresting Officers Related By Close Friend of Agitator as Details of Murder Bared

EUGENE, May 4.—E. A. Fleming, 67, well-known Jacksonville orchardist, at the home of L. A. Banks at the time Banks fired the shot that slew Constable George J. Prescott, on March 16 last, and Sergeant-Detective James O'Brien, companion of the slain official, on his last tragic official mission, gave sensational testimony Thursday, at the trial of the former editor and orchardist, and his wife, Edith Robertine Banks, charged with first degree murder.

Fleming enlivened the somber proceedings with his laconic replies to questions. O'Brien identified the death weapon—a high-power big game rifle—and the blood-stained benchwarrant, and a note Mrs. Banks sent to officers, by Tommy Williams. Fleming told of threats made by Banks a few minutes before the slaying.

O'Brien told of looking through a window and seeing Banks, calmly reloading his rifle after Prescott had fallen, mortally stricken, on the front porch of the Banks home. He identified also four fragments of bullets removed at an autopsy in his presence, from the body of the slain official.

Both were two of the major witnesses for the state, and links in vital corroborative evidence to come.

Fleming testified that he came to Banks' home on the morning of the murder. In the auto of Earl H. Fehl, one of the eight men who have entered pleas of guilty to ballot theft, Fleming came to confer about calling a meeting of the "Good Government Congress" to collect funds for the defense of the men arrested on the charge. Banks and Fleming exchanged greetings. Mrs. Banks was present, Fleming testified. The two men seated themselves. Mrs. Banks was busy nearby.

Frameup Suspected. Soon thereafter Banks said: "Fehl and Coleman held a long conference yesterday. They planned a political swap, and will make me

LONDON, May 5.—(AP)—Premier MacDonald, in two long cabinet sessions today, failed to swing his ministers to support the American proposal for a world tariff trade effective immediately.

PORTLAND REFUSES TO SAVE DAYLIGHT. PORTLAND, Ore., May 5.—(AP)—There will be no monkeying with the clocks in Portland in an attempt to economize on daylight. The city council yesterday defeated a daylight saving proposal by a vote of three to two.

HEAVY TOLL IN SOUTHLAND AS TORNADOES RIP

ANDERSON, S. C., May 5.—(AP)—Four persons were killed and upwards of two score injured today when a tornado struck Belton, textile community 10 miles north of here.

BIRMINGHAM, Ala., May 5.—(AP)—Twenty persons were killed and more than 200 injured by a tornado that swept three west central Alabama communities today.

Helena, a mining village of 700 population, bore the brunt of the storm, with 13 dead and nearly 100 injured.

The other communities struck were Demopolis, Centerville, Brent and Adamsville, Union Grove and Coal-

FEHL IN DENIAL PLANNED FRAME FOR L. A. BANKS

County Judge Earl H. Fehl flatly denied the statement made by E. A. Fleming, Jacksonville orchardist and Banks follower, who testified on the witness stand in Eugene yesterday that Banks had said, on the morning before he shot Officer George Prescott, that "Fehl and Coleman are trying to frame me on the ballot theft, and were cloaked two hours yesterday afternoon."

"It isn't true," Fehl said. "Coleman and I did not plan to frame Banks." "I should say I wouldn't frame Banks," Fehl continued. "Coleman and I did not have a conference on the afternoon before Prescott was killed."

Fehl refused to comment further, except to make a statement about "newspapers printing the truth."

Judge W. B. Coleman, with whom Banks claimed Fehl conspired to "frame him" on the ballot theft, laughed at the story as "ridiculous."

"I had a talk with Fehl some time before Banks killed Prescott," Coleman said, "but we didn't mention Banks' name and we didn't mention ballots. Our talk was about other matters entirely, and whoever carried that story to Banks was crazy, if it was ever carried to him. We were in Fehl's private office, however, and I told Fehl at that time that I'd gladly give five dollars, if 50 other friends of his would, to carry his name to the supreme court to determine whether or not he got justice in circuit court here."

"No," Coleman said, "Fehl and I didn't frame Banks."

PHILADELPHIA, Pa., May 5.—(AP)—Pepper Martin fell into his hero ways of the 1931 world series today by connecting for four straight hits and scoring four runs in the St. Louis A-to-B victory over the Phillies. Martin and Chuck Klein, the Phillies' slugger outfielder, got home runs.

BASEBALL

Table with baseball scores: Chicago 1 8 0, Boston 2 8 0, Root and Hartnett, Betts and Horgan, Spohrer, Pittsburgh 4 8 0, Brooklyn 2 7 1, Swift and Grace, Mungo, Shaute, Benge and Outen, Platinch.

PLANS TO ASSIST FARM, COMMERCE ARE GIVEN C. OF C.

WASHINGTON, May 5.—(AP)—Two cabinet officers described to the Chamber of Commerce of the United States today their plans for assisting agriculture and commerce.

Henry A. Wallace, secretary of agriculture, and Daniel C. Roper, secretary of commerce, asked the co-operation of the business leaders in working out schemes they believe will aid in the country's recovery from the depression.

Roper proposed a "president's council on business" to advise with the government on economic conditions.

Wallace asked that agriculture and industry "travel in double-harness, as a team with the load equally divided between them."

Recalling the many proposals made recently for reviving the council of national defense or the war industries board of the Wilson administration, the commerce secretary proposed the president's council as an alternative.

At the same time he outlined his plans for reorganizing the commerce department, the move now consisting sharp curtailment of the bureau of foreign and domestic commerce. Roper also said his plans call for the setting up in the department of a great bureau of transportation for regulation of all transportation agencies and probably communications.

Would Be Mouthpiece. The business council, as outlined by Roper, would consist of not more than 21 representatives of American commercial life "properly distributed

SHASTA KING MINE SELLS FOR \$1000

GEARY FUNERAL IN KLAMATH SATURDAY

SECURITY CURB BILL IS ASSURED

SALEM, Ore., May 5.—(AP)—The second successive week without fatalities resulting from industrial accidents was reported by the state accident commission today. During the past seven days a total of 398 accidents have been reported.

DEFENSE CENTERS HEAVY FIRE UPON PAL OF PRESCOTT

Irish Tempers Flare As Long-organ for Accused Pair Insinuates Guns Arranged in Agitator-Editor's Home

EUGENE, Ore., May 5.—(AP)—"We did!" On these two words, said to have been uttered by Mrs. Edith R. Banks in answer to the question, "Who killed Prescott?" the state hopes to convict the wife of the Medford co-publisher, along with her husband, for the slaying of the Jackson county constable.

As a hushed audience leaned forward this afternoon, Tommy Williams, oil truck driver, dramatically told of his conversation with Mrs. Banks as she stood beside the body of the fallen officer.

Had Note for Police. Mrs. Banks had handed Williams a note to be given to the state police. The note read: "Come and get George Prescott and you will be all right. Then proceed in order.—Mrs. Banks."

"I had been driving past the house in my truck when Mrs. Banks waved for me to come over. I hesitated. Her arm was sticking out through the door and in her hand was what looked like a letter," said Williams.

"I approached but did not go up on the porch. She asked me again and then a third time. Finally I went up on the porch. She handed me the note, which was on a card. I read it.

Pointed to Body. "I said, 'Where is he?' (referring to Prescott). "She said, 'There' and pointed to the body.

"I said, 'Who killed him?' "She said, 'We did!' "I took the note to the state police."

This was the opening shot fired in the state's case against Mrs. Banks, who this far has figured casually in the state's evidence against the couple. Williams testified just before the court adjourned for an hour as a gesture of respect to Win. S. Levens, chief prosecutor, who died this week.

The jury was instructed to disregard Mrs. Banks' note and conversation as far as it concerned Mr. Banks, but the evidence was admitted in the state's case against the woman.

Peri Criticized. Williams had followed Frank Peri, Jackson county coroner and H. W.

Seemed good to get in here today and see old friends. Mr. Vice President turned over his office to me to hold conferences in. He is the same Garner he was even before he was speaker.

Had a long chat with Speaker Rainey. Saw congress pass the inflation bill, the biggest bill ever to pass any legislature in the history of the world. Invited right into our new treasurer's office, Mr. Woodin, while the federal reserve board was in session. He says "maybe you can give us a laugh, we can't get anybody to give us any money." They seemed cheerful and they are the ones has to dig it up. Then over to Lew Douglas, the Arizona cow-puncher, head of the budget, who says "You are just in time; all I need to balance the books today is six billion."

What a tough job that guy's got, but he is able. Lunch with Senator Joe Robinson of Arkansas and Senator Connolly of Texas and not a one of all these men knew what inflation was.

Yours, Will Rogers