

The Weather

Forecast: Partly cloudy Sunday; not much change in temperature; fog in the morning. Highest yesterday 46. Lowest yesterday 36.

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Twenty-eighth Year

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NORTHWEST FLOOD PERIL WANES



By PAUL MALLON (Copyright, 1933, by Paul Mallon)

WASHINGTON, Dec. 23.—Prof. Warren's gold price gyroscope has been trying for two months now to lift commodity prices off the ground.

There are definite indications that Prof. Warren's backer, President Roosevelt, is secretly beginning to grow just a little impatient.

Any suggestion of a change in policy may be officially denied for the time being, so Warren can have a full opportunity to show what he can do.

The policy was inaugurated by Mr. Roosevelt on October 23. He started out then to attain the 1925 commodity price level, through the Warren device.

How far he has gone is best shown by the published commodity price indices of Prof. Irving Fisher for each week since. It follows:

Table with 4 columns: Week ending, Commodity (1925=100), Agricultural (1910=100), Non-agricultural (1910=100). Rows for Oct 21, 28, Nov 4, 11, 18, 25, Dec 2, 9, 16.

You can see that the gold policy has brought the general commodity price index from 71.5 to 72, leaving it still 28 points under the 1925 price level.

The Warren economists figured at the beginning it would be more effective on agricultural products, because they are mostly exportable.

The non-agricultural products hardly provide a good test of Warren theories. They have been under pressure from the NRA.

The administration economists have a way of figuring it out in a more favorable light. They can select the prices of a certain few things which have gone up sharply in the last two months and make a table from them showing possibly a 15 per cent increase in prices.

The Fisher index affords a fairer barometer. Indeed it gives the administration an edge because the majority of products in it are exportable and therefore more submissive to the Warren theory.

It is not perfect. No indices are. But it is the standard one on that subject, and the best.

Properties. What seems to have happened to the Warren theory is just what usually happens to experimental theories when given a practical application.

They encounter unanticipated pressures from unforeseen quarters. The law of nature interposes objections which could not be reckoned in advance.

However, Mr. Roosevelt might keep on with it temporarily, merely because of the political results.

COOLER WEATHER NETS RESPIRE IN DRENCHED AREAS

13 Dead, 5000 Homeless in Washington — Traffic Is Paralyzed — Idaho Towns Menaced; Mixed Weather

PORTLAND, Ore., Dec. 23.—(AP)—Clear, cold weather had brought considerable relief to Oregon tonight from what threatened to be one of the most serious flood conditions in its history.

The town of Tualatin was flooded by the swollen Tualatin river. Rowboats were used through the main streets, where automobiles were abandoned in the swirling water.

At Portland several hundred city and civil works administration employees were busy removing slides that blocked streets and clearing up mud, rocks and debris.

SEATTLE, Dec. 23.—(AP)—Advising Saint Nick to trade his reindeer for a seaplane, the Pacific northwest toiled tonight at rehabilitation work in the wake of a disastrous flood, hoping to restore crippled communications by Christmas.

Most sections of the country reported conditions definitely better because colder weather stopped the steady rain, but at Kelso and Longview, Wash., workers snaggaged their dikes against three swollen rivers, and barely held their own.

The floods left 13 dead, many injured, damage running into the millions and most traffic paralyzed.

Hundreds of Christmas vacationers were marooned all over the state. No transcontinental trains left Seattle, and hourly airplane service was maintained to Portland.

(By the Associated Press) Santa Claus must be prepared for every trick in the weather man's repertoire tonight.

A blizzard blew down his path from the North Pole to the Montana gateway yesterday, and zero temperatures put the appropriate Christmas color on Santa's nose like a cherry.

Cold weather was on its way to the northern Pacific coast, where floods and storms have made 5,000 homeless and taken 13 lives. Hip boots must be in Santa's pack for his travels in Idaho, Washington and Oregon.

Down around the gulf coast the fur (Continued on Page Three)

RUMOR VENUS IS ELECTRIC LIGHT

PORT MEYERS, Fla., Dec. 23.—(AP)—The city of Fort Meyers would like to have something or other done about the rumor that the planet Venus is just a big electric light hung from a balloon in honor of Thomas A. Edison, who had a winter home and laboratories here.

Folks in Florida and in other states persist in spreading the rumor about the evening star which is very bright in this section now, and newspapers and the chamber of commerce have been flooded with inquiries about the "Edison light," how it is suspended in midair and when it is taken down.

Entirely because of the persistent rumor and the necessity of repeated denial, Fort Meyers public schools have petitioned the United States observatory to rename Venus the Edison star.

Northwest Flood Situation Review

Western Montana—Train schedules disrupted and travelers delayed.

Northern Idaho. Wallace, Mullin, Gardner, Burke, Kellogg—Floods from cloudbursts continue to pour down mountains.

Lowland—Several blocks of residential district flooded when dike breaks.

Eastern Washington. Spokane—Rail service interrupted; lowlands flooded by Hangman creek.

Walla Walla—No floodwaters in city, but surrounding lowlands inundated.

Central Washington. Yakima—Virtually isolated. Bridges over Naches and Yakima rivers swept away.

Ellensburg—All roads except inland empire highway closed. Many holiday travelers marooned.

Wenatchee—Water levels going down in all rivers and creeks except Columbia, which was still rising slowly.

Cle Elum—Traffic blocked by slides and raging Yakima river.

Southwest Washington. Longview-Kelso—Worst situation in state. Rivers seven feet over flood stage; dikes weakened.

Castle Rock—Inundated; 50 to 60 homes under water.

Aberdeen-Hoquiam—Conditions better, floods receding.

Vancouver-Lewis river falling. Woodland—Still serious.

Puget Sound. Tacoma—Rivers receding; conditions better.

Auburn, Kent, Benton—Flooded. Rescue work progressing.

Everett—Surrounding lowlands inundated, but situation better.

Port Angeles—Several industrial plants closed because of floods.

La Conner—Under water.

Bellingham—Rivers receding.

British Columbia—Conditions improved after heavy damage.

\$17,000 APPROVED FOR CHANGES AT MEDFORD AIRPORT

PORTLAND, Ore., Dec. 23.—(AP)—Approval of airport improvement work in Salem, Albany and Medford, to cost more than \$17,000 and give employment to 28 men for six weeks, was given today by Lieutenant Basil B. Smith, department of commerce aeronautics representative on the staff of the Oregon supervisor of civil works.

Grading and drainage facilities on the Salem airport will cost about \$10,000, and additional development plans were being studied for that field today.

Two new runways will be constructed at Albany airport at an estimated expenditure of \$5,500, employing 44 men for six weeks. Provisions for drainage will be made there, too.

The Medford work, to cost \$17,000 and give employment to 28 men for six weeks, will consist of field surfacing, drainage, extension and a new runway.

It is planned to get the work at the three points underway immediately. Projects for other fields were being considered today.

BANKS APPEALS TO HIGH COURT

SALISBURY, Dec. 23.—(AP)—The Oregon supreme court met Thursday, December 23, will hear arguments on the application for a certificate of probable cause for an appeal in the case of L. A. Banks, sentenced to life imprisonment for murder.

Judge G. F. Skipworth, who tried the murder case at Eugene, refused to sign the certificate of probable cause, without which an appeal for Banks would be impossible.

FEDERAL LIQUOR CONTROL BOARD MEETS



The men who have been selected by President Roosevelt to rule the liquor business until congress passes permanent legislation are shown as they assembled in Washington.

MORE PRAYER AND LESS TALK WORLD NEED, SAYS POPE

VATICAN CITY, Dec. 23.—(AP)—Pope Pius today assailed a German program for the sterilization of the unfit and exhorted those who seek the peace and welfare of the world "to pray and persevere in their prayers."

In his account of the joys and sorrows of the past year, he described as "inconsistent" the proposal of the German government to deny parenthood to thousands of persons suffering incurable ailments.

He listed as one of the joys and successes so far of the Holy year and as one of the sorrows a world situation characterized by "conflicts and contentions" and bound up "with uncertainties and dangers."

His holiness, gave his annual Christmas address to the richly-robed cardinals and the Roman prelates who gathered in the choir hall to wish him "multos annos"—many years of life.

"All those," he said, "who wish for the welfare, peace, and concord of the world and the general good of the whole Christian family, but who are in the same situation as we are, namely, obliged to judge events by that which is done or better said, which is not done for all those my word is this."

"They must, firstly, pray, secondly, pray, and thirdly, continue to pray."

There are other things, the pope said, "that we feel in our heart, but cannot say," and explained that the church's attitude on the German sterilization program was clearly set forth in a papal decree of 1931 and in the encyclical, "Casti connubii."

"Mankind until now," he asserted, "has talked too much and too uselessly" and other courses, save prayer, derived from efforts at negotiation and even generosity "seem to us to be really unfounded."

"Prayers, prayers, prayers," he needed in world affairs, he went on, "money, money, money is needed to wage war."

MAINE WIFE HAS ROUGH YULETIDE

SNOWVILLE, Me., Dec. 23.—(AP)—Rescued from a well as her home burned to ashes, Mrs. Gertrude Brown, 30, was in a critical condition in a hospital here tonight. Her husband, James A. Brown, accused of beating his wife twice, throwing her in the well with a rope tied about her ankle and burning their home, was lodged in the Waldo county jail, charged with assault and battery.

Authorities said they had learned no motive for the attack. Neighbors attracted by the flames at the Brown home rescued the woman from the well. They said she was unclenched when they pulled her out, having lost her limbs in the fight from her blazing bedroom.

STEEL, BUILDING AND TRADE SHOWS BRIGHTER ASPECT

YOUNGSTOWN, O., Dec. 23.—(AP)—The close of the year in the Youngstown area finds steel mill operations at a higher point than in any year since 1929. Steel production next week will be at about 40 per cent of capacity, with finishing mills at an even higher rate.

NEW YORK, Dec. 23.—(AP)—Moody's index figures for freight loadings, electric power production, and steel output today indicated considerably improved business activity during the past week. The figure was 63.7 compared with 59.3 a year ago.

BOSTON, Dec. 23.—(AP)—Business in New England so far this year has been 10 to 12 per cent higher than at the end of 1932. W. I. Carter, chairman of the industrial committee of the New England council, reported today.

NEW YORK, Dec. 23.—(AP)—Real-estate building contracts in the first half of December in 37 states east of the Rock mountains were reported today at 5 per cent above last year. The F. W. Dodge corporation reported the total building amounted to \$13,620,000.

CHICAGO, Dec. 23.—(AP)—Chicagoans spent \$1,290,416 to mail out Christmas packages this week. Postmaster Ernest J. Keaton computed today. It made the holiday mail 10 per cent greater in volume than last year and swelled postoffice revenues by 23.5 per cent.

DEATH BROADCAST BY RADIO LATEST HELLISH DEVICE

LONDON, Dec. 24.—(Sunday)—A new "life-death" ray, said to be capable of projecting bacteria emanations which will destroy human beings, animals and crops, was described today in a special article in the Sunday dispatch.

The article said the new scientific device could be used as well for neutralizing plague conditions and fostering healthier animal and plant life.

Professor O. A. Newell, head of the research department of the national health league, the newspaper said, had disclosed some of the characteristics of the ray.

It was described as a wireless device made to imitate deadly rays which have been found in nature.

"Emulsions of abnormal bacteria" are taken from patients suffering from various diseases. These bacteria send out rays so strong that in some cases they swing the needle of a galvanometer at ranges up to 48 feet.

ALLEN GIRL SUES FATHER AND SON IN ESTATE FIGHT

Kidnaping and Threats Charged by Mary Allen Towle to Gain Inheritance Control—Asks Huge Sum

LOS ANGELES, Dec. 23.—(AP)—A suit for \$225,000 damages, charging her father and her brother with kidnaping, threats and intimidation, was filed here today by Mrs. Mary Allen Towle.

The defendants are Albert C. Allen, senior and junior, of Medford, Oregon. Mrs. Towle is one of the contestants in the legal fight over the estate of the strange wealthy reclusive, the late Margaret Keith, whose will named the junior Allen as sole heir.

She alleges that her father and brother by threats and intimidation, took her share in the estate of her mother, the late Mrs. Lillian Keith Allen-Woods, who was Mrs. Keith's sister.

She sets forth that her mother first married Albert C. Allen, senior, and divorced him in 1915 and later marrying P. H. Woods. She died May 31, 1931.

On the day of her mother's death, Mrs. Towle charges, her father and brother by threats, force and intimidation, took her against her will to Medford, Oregon, and induced her to sign a power of attorney which gave her control of her inheritance from her mother. She charges they deprived her of \$25,000 worth of bonds and properties worth \$100,000.

She asks in addition the reimbursement for suit property, damages of \$100,000 because of "humiliation and embarrassment."

"They threatened to have me placed in an insane asylum unless I signed those papers," she alleges. She alleged she was held in Oregon against her will for more than thirty days.

World News At a Glance

(By the Associated Press) Domestic

WASHINGTON—President Roosevelt will speak to the country again next Thursday night at anniversary of Woodrow Wilson's birth.

BUMMIST, N. J.—Woman superintendent of home for blind babies resigns after charges of harsh disciplinary measures.

WASHINGTON—United States chamber of commerce assails tax recommendations.

PHILADELPHIA—Lewing J. Rowland, millionaire philanthropist, fails second extortion plot in year.

WASHINGTON—Rear Admiral King says reduction of navy's aviation activities creates "serious situation."

93 Mothers Honored In Duce's Plan For More Stork Visits

ROME, Dec. 23.—(AP)—Mussolini played host to Italy's 93 most heroic mothers today as the whole country paused in its Christmas preparations to glorify the progenitors of large families.

Nurses cared for their children, while the mothers, whose combined brood numbers 1310, received Duce's praise and heard him expound his conviction that only with an increasing population can the nation assure its future grandeur.

They were received on the eve of the kingdom's celebration of mothers' and infants' day, which, with the fascist campaign to boost the birthrate, has become one of Italy's most important holidays.

KLAMATH ATTACKS LIQUOR CONTROL; ASKS INJUNCTION

Mayor Mahoney Files Suit Setting Forth Six Reasons As Basis for Action Late Saturday at Salem

SALISBURY, Ore., Dec. 23.—(AP)—The city of Klamath Falls, as had been predicted for the last fortnight, late today filed its formal charges against the Knox liquor control act in circuit court here. The city's complaint, brought to Salem by Mayor Willis Mahoney of Klamath Falls and Elton Watkins, special counsel for that city and a Portland attorney, asks a permanent injunction against the state liquor commission, restraining that body from operating under the Knox act, which Governor Meier signed December 14.

A variety of reasons are set forth in the complaint as an alleged basis for restraining the act. The Knox measure is held:

1. To violate the 14th amendment to the federal constitution by depriving the people of their liberty and property without due legal process.

2. To violate the federal constitution which gives congress exclusive power to regulate commerce between the states.

3. To violate section two, article XI, of the state constitution, the so-called home rule amendment.

4. To repeal, illegally, all conflicting municipal enactments.

5. To increase the taxation burden to all people in the state and to the city of Klamath Falls.

6. To violate the state constitution, inasmuch as the Knox bill is held to be a revenue raising measure and thus not permitted to include the emergency clause.

Mahoney and Watkins asked the court to set next Thursday, December 28, at 10 a. m., as the time to hear the injunction petition. Whether Judge Lewelling can hear the case then has not been determined.

Both Mahoney and Watkins said the case would be carried to the state supreme court, no matter which way it was decided. They said the suit would be welcomed by all sides to the Knox bill controversy since it would determine the legal status of the measure.

(Attorney Elton Watkins represented then Sheriff Gordon Schermern in the ballot recount proceedings here last spring against him.)

BETHLEHEM STAR TO GLEAM AGAIN OVER HOLY LAND

Pilgrims Gather to Pay Reverent Homage at Christmas Time — Patriarch Leads Annual Observance

BETHLEHEM, Dec. 24.—(Sunday)—The pealing of bells and the bustle of arriving pilgrims early today heralded the holy land's Christmas observance that will reach their climax at midnight.

Despite the strained racial and political atmosphere and the decline in the number of visitors because of the depression the spirit and piety of the worshippers gathering in this cradle of Christianity remained unaltered.

Hundreds of pilgrims, American and European visitors among them, assembled in reverent remembrance of the birth nearly 2,000 years ago of the Christ child.

For centuries the many centuries of change and destruction, and the strife in this land even at this time, the holy city still holds the imagination of mankind and no power has yet been created that can break the spell which binds the world to it.

Early this morning the Latin patriarch went out in procession from Jerusalem to the Roman Catholic convent situated on the north side of the church of the Holy Nativity, there to spend the day in meditation and prayer.

Tonight he will go into the church of the convent, which communicates with the church of the Holy Nativity, for vesper at 9 o'clock. The service will continue until shortly before midnight.

Promptly at midnight a large star, representing the traditional Star of Bethlehem, will be lighted above the altar in this centuries-old edifice of stone and wooden rafters and at the same time a curtain will be drawn away to reveal the effigy of the holy infant. High mass will begin then.

Shortly afterward, the patriarch, followed by his clergy and notables, will participate in a procession with the holy babe to the Grotto where, in the spot of the manger marked by a star, the effigy will be laid reverently.

The Grotto, a hollow chamber under the main altar of the Church of the Holy Nativity, is said to mark the traditional stable where Christ was born.

The spot is the object of adoration by the Greek Orthodox, Roman Catholics, Armenians, Protestants, Copts, and others, and there are very strict rules as to the number of lamps each nation is allowed to have.

Another annual ceremony is the special service on the Young Men's Christian association site in the Field of the Shepherds, near Bethlehem, where Christians, with Jews and Moslems as onlookers, will gather tonight to sing carols after partaking of bread and meat at the entrance of the shepherd's cave.

WILL ROGERS SAYS: BEVERLY HILLS, Cal., Dec. 23.—California has a new ruling on the sale of liquor in hotels.

The latest one is you buy it in the lobby of the hotel at the news stand, then take it in the dining room and drink it.

"Give me a quart of gin, the morning Times, a pint of French varmouth and American Mercury, some Angostura bitters, Physical Culture Magazine and a box of Bayer's aspirin."

See where they captured an American spy in France. He must have been working on his own, for we already know all we want to know about 'em.

Yours, Will Rogers