

# Medford Merchants Will Hold City-Wide Dollar Sale Tomorrow

**The Weather**  
 Forecast: Rain tonight and Saturday; cooler tonight.  
 Temperature:  
 Highest yesterday 44  
 Lowest this morning 49

# MEDFORD MAIL TRIBUNE

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Twenty-eighth Year

MEDFORD, OREGON, FRIDAY, MARCH 2, 1934.

No. 292.

# ROOSEVELT ASKS TARIFF POWER



**News Behind The News**  
 By PAUL MALLON.  
 (Copyright, 1934, by Paul Mallon)  
 WASHINGTON, D. C., March 2.—Mr. Roosevelt is developing into a No. 1 trial balloonist.

Such adroitness as he has shown recently in political aviation has been missing from the White House since Teddy left it. Teddy devised the method of putting up unofficial balloons to find out which way the public wind was blowing. He did it so shrewdly no one could connect him with it. When he found out how the public felt, he then decided officially what to do.

That is exactly what Mr. Roosevelt did on the communications issue.

The president sent to congress some weeks ago a report from his communications investigating commission.

It offered three courses of procedure in connection with radio, telephone and telegraph systems: (a) No change; (b) stronger government regulation; and (c) government ownership.

He made no official comment, but unofficially passed around the word that he favored the second course, stronger government regulation. He let that idea blow around in the winds of public opinion for several weeks. Strong opposition developed. All the widows and orphans who own A. T. & T. stock were protesting letters to their congressmen. It became evident that Mr. Roosevelt would not be able to put his communications idea over at this session of congress.

So he changed his idea. He sent an official message to congress recommending simple legislation consolidating existing communications control.

It looks as if he backed down completely, but he did not. If he can get congress to set up the new commission now, he will recommend next year that powers for federal regulation be amplified along the line he desires. He will get what he can now without a fight and wait for the rest.

Such tactics may not fit in with the popular inclination to glorify White House idols, but are essential to strategic success the way government is conducted in Washington.

The trouble with that line of strategy is that it keeps presidential followers up in the air and makes some newspaper predictions look sour.

For instance, Representative Rayburn had a strong communications control bill drawn along the line the president was originally thinking. He had to tear it up and write a new one when the official program was submitted.

A magazine writer came to town recently to dig up material for an article on General Johnson. He asked a newsmen to take him around to see Johnson. He did not want an ordinary interview. He wanted to see Johnson at his best and asked the newsmen how to go about it.

They cooked up a scheme whereby the magazine writer would tell Johnson that the NRA was "hokey," that it was not working, etc., and see how he reacted.

The magazine writer was delighted with the idea. He lit into the NRA, expecting Johnson to hear him through.

The general interrupted after the second sentence with a terrific explosion. "Neanderthaler," "trodden," and "dead cats" burst from his lips faster than the magazine writer could take them down. He shook his finger in the writer's face, saying "You babies!"

It was probably the best interview Johnson ever gave.

Another yarn about Johnson is the one concerning the NRA railroad letter.

Railway executives received a letter from the NRA signed by Johnson, stating they should come under a code. It has always been the intention of the administration to handle the roads separately outside the code system, so the executives were alarmed.

Newsmen were tipped about the letter and went to Johnson. He sharply denied he had written it and went Neanderthal again.

The explanation offered on the inside is that some underlying wrote the letter and signed Johnson's name.

The administration has no intention of taking the railroads under a code.

Certain of Professor Tagwell's enemies have been whispering around that he is on his way back to private life, because Mr. Roosevelt is sending him to Porto Rico on the farm problem.

The truth seems to be that Professor Tagwell promoted the trip as a little winter vacation. He took a similar summer vacation last year, traveling through the national parks.

If he is in disfavor with the White House, there are no indications of it.

(Continued on Page Two)

## BENEFIT FOR U. S. AGRICULTURE AND INDUSTRY IS AIM

Issue Expected to Rouse Congress Opposition — Philippine Independence Is Also Objective President

WASHINGTON, March 2.—(AP)—President Roosevelt asked congress today to authorize him to bargain with foreign nations on tariff concessions and to re-enact the Philippine independence bill.

In two pointed messages read to the house the chief foreign issues already certain of rousing opposition and possibly threatening prolongation of the session past the time wanted by the Democratic leadership.

**Senate Reaction Waits**

Senate reaction had to wait, that branch being in recess so it could not today receive the presidential requests for power "to enter into executive commercial agreements with foreign nations; and in pursuance thereof, within carefully guarded limits to modify existing duties and import restrictions in such a way as will benefit American agriculture and industry."

He mentioned no limit for the tariff concessions, but the administration will put it at 50 per cent of the existing levels.

On the Philippine bill, the president asked that the Hawes-Cutting law—which recently expired—be re-authorized for consideration by the Philippine people. He would have it amended, however, to assure immediate relinquishment of American military bases upon the realization of independence and to provide for discussions about how the naval bases should be treated.

**Friendship Will Live**

"After the attainment of actual independence by the Philippines," wrote Mr. Roosevelt, "friendship and trust will live."

Preparation of these presidential messages coincided with plans to initiate legislation against the practice before government departments of lawyers who have political power.

Argument over granting executive power to shift tariffs, in the attempt to quicken international trade, had to wait its day in the house, still dragging along there was debate on the agriculture supply bill.

Both branches pursued their study of the stock exchange control bill, Philadelphia investment dealers protesting the proposed ban against brokers dealing in securities in their own interests.

**CWA Curtailing Continues**

Curtailment of the CWA enrollments proceeded apace, some states wanting to get on the new relief plan even more quickly than had been intended. By the end of the month, it was said, the CWA forces will be down to 1,505,000.

Criticism of NRA continued to accumulate as the public hearings were wound up preparatory to the meeting of code authorities Monday, which will be addressed by the president.

The "Marine Workers Industrial Union" through H. Jones, complained that the legislation was being prepared to strengthen the national labor board in "an effort to break the only weapon the laboring class ever had, the strike."

## PRINTING OFFICE OR "POSTOFFICE"?



Charges have been filed with the California civil service commission asserting women employees of the state printing office had to kiss their superiors in order to hold their jobs. The charges have brought a demand for the resignation of James F. Lyon (top), copy editor, white Al Crossan (lower left) was accused as one of the kissers. Mrs. Minnie Haley (lower right) was one of the women to file charges. The men declared their osculatory exercises were "brotherly" kisses. (Associated Press Photo).

## RASPUTIN LIBEL SUIT BRINGS OUT NEW SENSATIONS

British Parliament Member Invited to Join Murder Party Is Testimony—Defense Winds Up Its Case

By RUBETTE T. JOHNS  
 Associated Press Foreign Staff  
 LONDON, March 2.—(AP)—The defense wound up its case in the "Rasputin libel suit" today in a blaze of new sensations—including the revelation for the first time by a member of the British parliament that he had been invited to join the party which poisoned, clubbed and shot to death Rasputin, the Russian imperial court's "mad monk."

It remained for commander Oliver Locker-Lampson to supply the dramatic climax to the day's testimony in the \$2,000,000 libel suit of Princess Irene Youssouloff against producers of the film "Rasputin and the Empress."

The testimony already presented gave intimate details of the gruesome murder which took place in the cellar of the St. Petersburg palace.

**Invited Join Murder Party**

Locker-Lampson, a member of parliament for 25 years, distinguished for his services during the war—said he had been asked to join the "murder party" and had taken part in an unsuccessful scheme to save the Russian royal family from a violent end during the days of the red revolution.

Sensation followed sensation after Locker-Lampson mounted the witness stand, giving his testimony. Sir William Jovett, defense attorney, said:

(Continued on Page Three)

## PARANOIA PLAIN IN MISS KEITH'S LIFE IS CLAIM

Attorney for Kin Contesting Will of Rich Spinster, Says Woman Wholly Incompetent—Case Near End

LOS ANGELES, Cal., March 2.—(AP)—Charging that Miss Margaret Keith was so completely insane as to be wholly incompetent, Attorney Baldwin Robertson today appealed to the jury weighing the evidence in the contest over the will of the woman to return a verdict invalidating the will.

Miss Keith, wealthy spinster, ended her life in her Beverly Hills mansion last April after leaving her estate to a nephew, Albert Allen, Jr., Medford, Ore., rancher. A sister of Miss Keith, Mrs. Etta Keith Eskridge, of Los Angeles; a brother, David Keith, of Salt Lake City; and a niece, Mrs. Mary Allen Towle, of Los Angeles, filed suit to break the will.

Attorney Robertson, in his argument to the jury, held that every act relating to Miss Keith's mode of living and doing business reflected paranoia.

After four months' trial, lawyers' arguments started yesterday and the case was expected to be in the hands of the jury late today.

"No normal person," said contestants' attorney, Baldwin Robertson, "would carry out all of her contacts with the outside world with letters and notes—dozens of them in a single day—or would have built a magnificent home in Palms Verde, as she did, without once seeing it before it was completed."

As counsel for two of the principal contestants, Mrs. Etta Keith Eskridge and David Keith, sister and brother of the eccentric spinster, Robertson also attacked the credibility of witnesses for the other side. He said testimony of other witnesses had not supported that of Roland Rich Woolley that Miss Keith had a scar on her chin which caused her to seclude herself from the public gaze for years before she killed herself in her Beverly Hills mansion last April.

## On Trial Again



Dr. Alice Wynkekoop is shown as she appeared at the opening of her second trial in Chicago for the operating table slaying of her daughter-in-law. (Associated Press Photo)

Dr. Wynkekoop testified today in a voice choked with emotion that she had found dead on her operating table her daughter-in-law, Rheta, whom she is charged with slaying. "You saw her face, doctor," said W. W. Smith, defense attorney, "and what did you note?"

"I noted a peculiar color," "And what did that color indicate to you?"

"Death," Dr. Wynkekoop whispered in reply.

Her older son, Walker Wynkekoop, who had taken his turn on the witness stand to defend his 83-year-old mother from the charge of murdering the wife of his younger brother, Earle, leaned forward, listening intently, tears dimming his eyes. His sister, Dr. Catherine, bowed her head.

"Describe how you found her," "The jury, fascinated, listened intently.

"I saw her—her body—covered with a blanket."

Her voice became calm, expressionless. Her sentences were punctuated with long pauses.

"Her head was mostly exposed—few drops of blood were on the floor—she was lying in an apparently stiff position. There was a gun at the head."

"Q. Did you look at her face? A. Yes, but her back was toward me. I had to walk around her to see her face."

"Q. But you saw her face?"

"Q. And then she broke down, as she described how the peculiar color of the young wife's face told her, a physician, that Rheta was dead."

"Q. And then what did you do, doctor?"

She gasped her replies.

"As soon as I could—I was in a dazed condition—could hardly breathe—I started upstairs. I thought once I started, make it, but I told myself I must go on. I got up somehow. Got to the top of the stairs. Found a chair—set down. Then called Catherine—"

Her moving lips would not form words. Her thin frame shook with repressed sobs.

"Q. What next? A. I just sat. But I was so weak I could hardly sit. I seemed hardly a part of life."

## DR. WYNEKOOP ON STAND DESCRIBES FINDING OF BODY

Knew Daughter-in-Law Was Dead by Color of Face — Frail Witness Breaks Down in Telling Details

Dr. Alice Wynkekoop, CRIMINAL COURTS BUILDING, CHICAGO, March 2.—(AP)—Dr. Alice Lindsay Wynkekoop testified today in a voice choked with emotion that she had found dead on her operating table her daughter-in-law, Rheta, whom she is charged with slaying. "You saw her face, doctor," said W. W. Smith, defense attorney, "and what did you note?"

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## AMNESIA SLAYER GETS LIFE TERM AT OWN REQUEST

ROSEBURG, Ore., March 2.—(AP)—Pleading guilty to a formal charge of second degree murder, Rollin C. Johnson, was this morning sentenced in the circuit court to life imprisonment in the Oregon state penitentiary, thereby closing one of the more unusual cases in the crime records of Douglas county. Accused by a district attorney's information of the slaying, February 7, of David Marshall Williams, elderly Rice Valley farmer, his nearest neighbor and close friend, Johnson agreed before the court to the waiver of grand jury investigation and asked for immediate sentence.

The alleged slayer, who has been under observation for the past week by mental experts, freely conferred with officers regarding his case. It is reported, District Attorney Guy Gordon stated that Johnson had asked that he be kept in restraint, declaring that he was satisfied in his own mind that he had killed Williams while suffering from a lapse of conscious mental control, although he maintained that he had no knowledge of the actual circumstances of the slaying.

He signed a written waiver of grand jury examination before Judge James T. Brand, who imposed a life sentence following the acceptance of a plea of guilty.

Johnson several days ago placed in the hands of the officers a statement in his own handwriting in which, they report, he declared he was satisfied in his own mind that he killed Williams and that he was also responsible for the slaying at San Jacinto, California, in 1931, of his father-in-law, P. J. Zimmerman. He based his belief, the officers stated, upon the fact that following both killings he was in an intensely nervous condition and particularly following the Williams case had a horror and fear of the spot where the tragedy occurred.

## Portland Liquor Laws Tightened

PORTLAND, March 2.—(AP)—A city ordinance paralleling the state liquor law was on Portland's statute books today, and the city's 400 policemen were under instructions to enforce it rigidly, under threat of discharge if they fail.

The ordinance was passed by the council Thursday upon recommendation of Mayor Carson, on the theory it will make enforcement of the state law in Portland more certain.

## LUMBER BUSINESS SHOWS INCREASE

WASHINGTON, March 2.—(AP)—The National Lumber Manufacturers' association today reported that lumber orders at 1,391 mills for the week ending February 24 increased 10,731,000 feet over new business for the previous week. Orders for the week ending February 24 totaled 180,668,000 feet and for the previous six-day period 169,935,000 feet.

Production for the week dropped to 175,833,000 feet from the previous week's total of 180,975,000 feet while shipments increased to 169,501,000 feet from 168,254,000 feet.

**WILL ROGERS says:**  
 NEW YORK, March 1.—Landing in Newark from Washington today, the pilot put us in the back end of the plane so it would keep her tail down when the wheels hit the deep snow. Give you an idea how many thousand men clearing the streets in New York. They have misplaced 51,000 and can't find 'em.

Seven below zero in Washington yesterday and snow a foot deep. Lobbyists standing frozen to death outside of congressmen's homes. A lobbyist has nothing to keep him warm but his brief case.

The hotels of Washington should erect a monument to General Hugh Johnson. They been coming on pilgrimages by the thousands since last July to make a code, change a code or pass a code. Washington, D. C., (Dam Code.)

Yours,  
 Will Rogers

## CLOTH NEEDED AT WELFARE DEPOT

The Welfare Exchange is still in need of many things to supply the demands of the county, it was announced today by Mrs. A. L. Armstrong, who asked that cotton or woolen cloth, or any scraps suitable for quilt blocks, wherever found in excess of the family's needs be brought to the Exchange in the city hall. Anyone who has clothing of any sort or quilt pieces to give, is also asked to telephone Mrs. Armstrong if unable to deliver them. Her number is 1945-W, and she will receive calls around 6 o'clock each day. Whenever notified of articles available, she will send someone to gather them up.

## MORE DIE FROM FEASTING UPON POISON FUNGUS

SAN LUIS OBISPO, Cal., March 2.—(AP)—The fungus feast of death at Arroyo Grande Monday had taken the lives of 15 of the 24 men who partook of the repast of rejoicing.

The atrocious death was that this morning of Roy Gelsola, 31.

The victims, 22 Filipinos and their two white employees, became ill Tuesday after a feast, which was inspired by the sudden appearance of an enormous amount of fungi following heavy rains of the week-end in the Arroyo Grande valley, known to agriculturists as one of the worst in soil qualities in the world.

Six of the Filipinos died Wednesday, eight more succumbed Thursday, and one today. The two white men, Walter and Jack Huber, may survive. Autopsies performed on the dead disclosed that all had died from the poisoning locked in toadstools. Coroner L. S. Richardson said.

## PEAR AND APRICOT CONTROL PLAN FOR COAST DISCUSSED

DEL MONTE, Cal., March 2.—(AP)—A control plan which its sponsors hope will protect the prices and output of the \$40,000,000 apricot and pear crops on the Pacific coast was being discussed here today by canner executives attending their annual pre-operation conference.

As a result of action expected to be taken by the executives, the first control plan for the two crops may be launched this year. Should the plan go through, it was pointed out, it will mean substantial profits to growers throughout the coast who for many years have been raising the crops at great losses.

The problem faced by California growers was presented to the canner executives today by Bryce Mace and L. D. Mallory, representing the agricultural adjustment administration.

Both officials favored the control plan on the two crops as a necessary step to aid farmers in the state.

The control plan would present an over-scrutinized crops through a limited-planting tonnage. It would also result in establishing a fair price that would give farmers and owners a reasonable profit.

It was also indicated at the meeting that canner executives will favor continuation of the peach control plan which was said to have operated on a successful basis last year.

## Vamping Venus Of Films Gets Rapid Divorce

LOS ANGELES, Cal., March 2.—(AP)—The blonde vamping Venus of the silver screen, Thelma Todd, was divorced today from Pasquale De Cicco, theatrical agent.

Two weeks ago today she packed up and left their apartment. One week ago today she filed suit for divorce. Today the decree was awarded by the superior court.

Miss Todd, little Massachusetts schoolmarm who won a beauty contest not so many years ago, leaped into the film spotlight in the "Vamping Venus." "Broad-minded" and other cinema roles of which domestic trouble was a motif.

## SCHOOLS COST LESS THAN JAILS, IS HINT

CORVALLIS, March 2.—(AP)—Education is being its third important that people realize that it is cheaper to keep the youth of the land in schools than in penal institutions. Mrs. Sadie Orr Dunbar of Postland told more than 300 homemakers at the annual banquet of the Home Interests Conference of Oregon State college last night.

Mrs. Dunbar, executive secretary of the Oregon Tuberculosis association, quoted figures on the number of "drop-out" schools in the country and the corresponding influx of youth to prisons and similar institutions.

## CWA WAGES TO MEET COMMUNITY LEVELS

PORTLAND, Ore., March 2.—(AP)—State CWA headquarters announced today that, effective at once, wages paid employees on all CWA work will be the prevailing rate of wage paid in each community for the kind of work performed. In no case, however, will be in excess of 20 cents an hour.

On all Multnomah county CWA work, common labor has received 50 cents an hour and skilled labor from 75 cents to \$1.20 an hour.

## B LEAGUE TEAMS PLAY FOR TITLE

Two games, scheduled to determine the best of two of Jackson county's leading basketball teams, Central Point and Sams Valley will be played tonight and tomorrow.

The teams will meet at Sams Valley tonight at 7:30 o'clock and tomorrow night at 8 o'clock.

The Central Point team which has won 15 straight games of the Jackson county B league and Sams Valley in the northern division. The winner in the two games will challenge the winner in the A league, which will be Medford or Ashland, for a game.

## CRATERS TO FETE VISITING GOLFERS

Welcoming a caravan of Eureka residents, scheduled to arrive tomorrow afternoon, a special meeting of the Craters club was called today by Big Eruption Johnny Reed for tomorrow evening at the Hotel Medford. The Eurekaans will include a picked team of golfers who will play a Medford team on the Rogue Valley Links Sunday.

The Crater eruption will include some special entertainment for the visitors who will also be told more about Oregon's Diamond Jubilee celebration in Medford next June.

## KIDNAP SUSPECT GUSSES ACCUSER

ALBANY, N. Y., March 2.—(AP)—Lieut. John J. O'Connell pointed an accusing finger at Manney Strelwale today and told a jury "that man right there" was one of his kidnapers. O'Connell, 24, after relating the details of the kidnaping and captivity, said a man came into the room and said "You'll need a go-between."

"Can you identify the man?" a prosecutor asked.

"Yes, that man right there," was O'Connell's reply.

As the questioning continued, Strelwale suddenly cried: "You are a liar."

Deputies jumped from their seats and Daniel H. Prior tried to quiet his client.

"I saw your life you... and you know it," Strelwale shouted.

"Officers move up and keep the defendant quiet," Judge Earl H. Gallup ordered.

## AIR MAIL RENEWAL IS EXPECTED SOON

OAKLAND, Cal., March 2.—(AP)—The army may resume air mail service on the Pacific coast from Los Angeles to Seattle in the near future, although no definite orders have been received, the army headquarters said here today.

## LILLIAN GREASER TAKEN BY DEATH

Lillian Greaser, aged 54, passed away in a local hospital this morning. She was born at Garland, Kansas, and had been a resident of Jacksonville for the last 20 years.

She leaves her husband, Frank A. Greaser, of near Medford and one son, Benjamin, also of Medford. Also one sister, Mrs. Ocean Sherman.

Funeral services will be conducted at the Conger chapel by Rev. W. R. Baird at 2:30 Saturday. Interment in Mountain View cemetery at Ashland.

## 26 OLD AGE PENSION WARRANTS OUT SOON

County warrants for 26 old age pensions for the month of February have been prepared by the county clerk's office and will be mailed within the week. It is the first old age pension payment.

The county court, as an old age pension commission, is considering other application grants. A number of applications have been referred for the reason the applicants have incomes sufficient for their care as the law requires a willingness to care for them.