

**The Weather**  
 For week: Sunday fair. Little change in temperature.  
 Temperature — 53  
 Highest yesterday — 58  
 Lowest yesterday — 28

# MEDFORD MAIL TRIBUNE

WINNER  
**Pulitzer Award**  
 FOR 1934

Twenty-ninth Year MEDFORD, OREGON, SUNDAY, DECEMBER 9, No. 222.

## SEEK PARDON FOR SLAYER BANKS



### News Behind The News

By PAUL MALLON  
 (Copyright, 1934, by Paul Mallon)  
 WASHINGTON, Dec. 8.—The smartest business thinkers here believe the next ninety days will tell the tale.  
 Most of the important cards, now unknown or uncertain, will be out on the Washington table by then. Everyone will know officially a host of President Roosevelt's plans, his budget, his expenditures, his money policy. The NRA reorganization scheme then will have been worked out. The effect of securities commission regulation will be apparent. You also will know what congress is going to do about money, and other things.  
 If these things create a favorable general impression, you will see the existing tight situation loosen up considerably.  
 The insiders who know what is coming believe a very favorable situation is reasonably to be expected. Not all the news will be good, but most of it will. At least those who are privately preparing it intend to make it good.

The inner feeling now seems to be rather general that President Roosevelt must have a more substantial recovery and have it soon. All the reform in the world will not do any lasting good unless it is accompanied by more hopeful business conditions. He really needs the substantial recovery now to protect the reforms he has made. There is, for instance, no other safe way out of the government spending situation.  
 You can sense this unspoken feeling plainly in all the government bureaus, from the White House on down. Of course, wishing for recovery and getting it are two different things, but the change in government approach is at least the first half of the battle.

The securities commission is putting its final touch on its regulation for permanent registration of stocks now on the market. These will be published within two weeks. You will find that they probably are practical, or at least are intended to be. Those who are close to the commission believe the financial crowd will cooperate.  
 The commission has been dodging headlines since it first met, but it has done a bigger job than any other government agency in a similar length of time, possibly aside from the NRA. The more rights to the stock meetings would be worth plenty. There have been strong differences of opinion, but all decisions, except one, have been unanimous. It really has turned out to be the best commission in town.

Some of the liberals have tried to blow up the securities commission differences over the fact public and let it go at that. The minority (Peoria and Healy) prepared minority opinions which may be out by the time you read this.  
 The question was the same one involved in that famous case when the bartender asked the saloon proprietor if Casey's credit was good for another drink. As Casey had the drink, his credit was good. The power company took the drink ten years ago.

There has been a lot of phrasing backstage lately about the Brooklyn-Manhattan Transit bond case. Don't be surprised when you read one of these days that the bankers have applied for registration of that issue, which they originally framed as the big test case against securities regulation.  
 It will be a major victory for the commission if that happens. It will mean that the bankers have backed down in their shrewd campaign to challenge regulation.  
 What the commission paid for a surrender like that probably never will be known. The least it must have offered is approval of the issue. Also a few subtle sledgemen may have been used on the heads of the bankers.

Treasury Brain Trustee Viner has dug himself into a hideout and is now writing his final report on tax and banking reform, summarizing the work of the treasury brain trust last summer. The little assumption is

### GOVERNOR SILENT ON EFFORTS FOR PRISON RELEASE

Brother-in-Law Backs Move for Freedom — Action Causes Sensation—Local Citizens Wire and Write Protests to Salem.

PORTLAND, Ore., Dec. 8.—(AP)—Governor Julius L. Meier tonight had nothing to say on reported efforts of friends to win a pardon or parole for Llewellyn Banks, former Medford orchardist, serving a life sentence for the slaying of a Medford police officer.

"There is no comment to make," Governor Meier asserted.  
 SALEM, Ore., Dec. 8.—(Sp.)—For three weeks, Charles P. Moran, wealthy newspaper man of Cleveland, Ohio, and brother-in-law of L. A. Banks, has been in this city bringing every possible pressure to bear upon Governor Meier to grant Banks a "Christmas" pardon, before he goes out of office on January 1st. This effort will probably reach a crisis the first of the week, when it is expected petitions both favoring and opposing such action will be presented to the governor.

According to the highest authority, Moran has in some way secured the support of several men in the state of considerable political influence and close to Governor Meier, in this effort to secure the unconditional pardon of the man who killed Constable George Prescott of Medford in cold blood, for which crime he was convicted and sentenced to serve a life term in the state penitentiary. Not only is it generally acknowledged that Banks was given a fair trial, his guilt and maliciously murderous intent proved beyond all reasonable doubt, but the verdict and fairness of the trial were sustained in every particular by the state supreme court, after an exhaustive review of the case.

Although Moran has been working on the case for some time, his purposes were not generally known, until yesterday, for his movements were made in the greatest secrecy. When the fact became known it created a major sensation in local judicial and legal circles.  
 The attorney general's office, which handled the prosecution of Banks for the state, is now fully cognizant of the gravity of the situation and is expected to present such a strong case against Banks, and such unprecedented action, that Governor Meier, who aided materially in the clearing up of the Jackson county "civil war," which Banks fomented, will turn a deaf ear to the plea for the murderer's pardon, after serving less than two years of a life term.

Local Protests Filed  
 Scores of letters and telegrams were forwarded Saturday afternoon by residents of this city and county to Governor Julius L. Meier, protesting the proposed pardon plea of L. A. Banks, serving a life sentence in state prison for conviction of the slaying of Constable George A. Prescott in this city.  
 Reports reaching this city said Banks would present his plea Monday, and that Charles P. Moran of Cleveland, Ohio, brother-in-law of Banks, had been seeking freedom for his kin.

It is also known that former "Good Government" congress leader here, within the past two weeks, have addressed letters to the governor urging a pardon for Banks.  
 News that Banks, who has served slightly more than 15 months in state prison, was seeking executive clemency was a distinct surprise to this city and county. He entered prison August 9, 1933.  
 Banks was convicted of second degree murder by a Lane county jury after a trial that lasted three weeks, starting May 2, 1933. Constable Prescott was shot and killed as he stood at the door of the Banks home on West Main street shortly after 10 o'clock on the morning of March 15, 1933. Constable Prescott was attempting to serve a warrant upon Banks, who slew him as his wife opened the front door in response to a knock. Death was instantaneous.

The murder came as a climax of a series of tumultuous events in which Banks and E. H. Fehl, serving four years, played a leading part, through their newspapers and the "Good Government" Congress. The city and county were in a state of civic turmoil for months preceding the murder, as a result of agitation the pair fomented.  
 Citizens were urged to write or telegraph the governor today any protest they felt against granting of clemency.

REWARD, Alaska, Dec. 8.—(AP)—Flood waters, due to the unusually moderate weather, were reported to be dropping.  
 The Alaska railroad right of way is safe, though the train due this morning from the interior was postponed in arrival 15 hours late. The township Yukon postponed her Friday night sailing to await the additional train passengers.

### Hermit of Lower Rogue



Hugo Mayer, 32, strange recluse of the wild country of southwestern Oregon, who faces a murder charge for the slaying of Robert Fantz, a neighboring mountaineer, for nearly 30 years a legendary figure in the Curry county mountains. Mayer dressed in skins of animals he trapped for a living. Police say he believed Fantz was plotting his death. He is in jail at Grants Pass.—Associated Press photo.

2 BILLIONS NEED TO END OUTRIGHT DOLE WITH JOBS  
 GALAPAGOS 'EVE' TO QUIT NUDITY AND RETURN HOME  
 WASHINGTON, Dec. 8.—(AP)—The minimum cost of providing work relief jobs next year for the 4,500,000 employable persons now on the relief rolls was calculated today at \$2,100,000,000.  
 Relief officials agreed outright doles to families who have members able to work could be ended by such an outlay of federal, state and local funds.  
 They left considerable doubt, however, as to whether they intended to put this budget into effect. Some of the work projects reported under consideration by President Roosevelt would require expenditures above the minimum rate on which the estimate was based. An increase in the size of allowances to relief families—advised by many leaders of the federal emergency relief administration—also would upset the calculation.  
 Another cause of continuing uncertainty regarding the appropriation actually to be asked for 1935 relief was the latest public word of Harry L. Hopkins, the relief administrator. He stressed the possibility of moving 1,000,000 destitute families to farming and industrial villages and giving them a fresh start in life with government loans.  
 Capt. Hancock said that he will convey Frau Dore, who still is a bit hysterical over the death of her mate, Dr. Ritter, November 21, across the equatorial waters of the Pacific to Guayaquil, Ecuador. There, through Capt. Hancock's kindness, she will purchase the first clothes she has bought in more than six years, and get a ticket back to Germany.

NO TRACE OF LOST PACIFIC FLYERS  
 HONOLULU, Dec. 8.—(AP)—Fighting winds that buffeted their planes and whipped the sea in turbulence, military aviators today searched hidden inlets as well as continuing offshore flights during the fifth unsuccessful day's search for Lieutenant Charles T. P. Elm and two companions, lost in the Pacific since Tuesday.  
 Little hope of rescuing the flyers was held by sea and air forces which have operated with precision and thoroughness bringing great credit to the training. But the search went doggedly on.  
 Six small boys, ranging in age from 12 to 15 years were taken to the police headquarters Saturday afternoon, where they were reprimanded by Chief Clatus McCredie for petty shoplifting at Montgomery Ward's.  
 The boys, two of whom gave their addresses as Ashland, and four from this city, were turned over to police by the management of the store, who approved the arrest as it was leaving the building.  
 As it was the first offense of each, Chief McCredie put the names of the offenders on the records and turned them over to their parents.

SMALL BOYS HELD FOR SHOPLIFTING

Gax Tank Blast Kills  
 COVE, Ore., Dec. 8.—(AP)—An explosion in a gasoline drum he had just emptied killed O. M. Gardner, about 50, at his grocery store here last night. The fumes remaining in the drum were ignited when some spilled gasoline caught fire accidentally. The lid of the drum struck Gardner on the head.

### LA DIEU PAROLED; PETITIONS FIGHT RELEASE OF FEHL

Ask Former County Judge Be Barred From Return to Jackson County, if Freed — Other Ballot Theft Prisoners Seek Freedom Court Orders Removal

J. Arthur La Dieu, 32, was discharged Saturday morning from the state penitentiary at Salem, where he served slightly more than 15 months of a four-year sentence for conviction of ballot robbery. La Dieu was scheduled to return to this city late last night, and join relatives. La Dieu was granted a parole at the November parole board session, effective today.

Simultaneous with the release of La Dieu, petitions were circulated in this city and county protesting against the parole of Earl H. Fehl, also serving four years for vote-stealing. Fehl's application for parole was scheduled to be presented to the state parole board Saturday. The petitions, directed to the governor, ask if Fehl should be granted a parole he be barred from returning to Jackson county. The petitions were widely signed.

La Dieu is the first of the so-called major leaders in the ballot robbery of February 19, 1933, to be freed from prison. He was also the first to be tried and convicted. Testimony at his trial showed he, with two others, carried the stolen ballots in an auto to Rogue River, where they were burned in the home of one of the conspirators.

La Dieu, an employee of L. A. Banks, serving a life term for murder, was active in the agitation his employer fostered.  
 In prison, La Dieu was a model prisoner, and was assigned to an important clerical position. An effort was made last summer to secure his freedom, but it was rejected. Friends of La Dieu claim he was "the victim of a false sense of loyalty, and poor advice."  
 The application of Walter J. Jones of Rogue River, another of the ballot theft leaders, for parole is also due for early consideration by the state parole board. Jones was listed as "the signal man" of the burglary. He is now 63 years of age. His plea for parole is based upon illness in his family.

The release of Gordon L. Schermerhorn, former sheriff, in the penitentiary under a three-year sentence, with official promise of freedom after serving six months, is due about January 1, friends say.  
 No announcement was made of any action taken at yesterday's meeting of the parole board at Salem.

### URSCHEL KIDNAP SUSPECTS FACING OKLAHOMA TRIAL

PORTLAND, Ore., Dec. 8.—(AP)—Closely guarded by federal agents who took elaborate precautions against mishap, two men and two women were taken tonight on a swift journey to Oklahoma, there to face accusations that link them with the kidnaping last year of Charles F. Driscoll.  
 The prisoners were Alvin H. Scott, Edward Feldman, Clara Feldman, his mother, and Margaret Hurlienne.  
 Department of justice agents would reveal nothing of the departure plans beyond the single statement they would leave tonight.

The transfer of the Urschel conspiracy suspects to another jurisdiction followed by about 24 hours the discovery of \$30,000 in ransom notes in a cache on the banks of the Lewis river in Washington.  
 The two men and the women were first linked with the case when early last month Scott was critically injured in an automobile accident and \$1500 in \$20 ransom bills was found in his clothing. A search of the house near Medford in which he, Mrs. Hurlienne and his five children lived, revealed another ransom cache. Federal agents who arrested Mrs. Feldman and her son in Dunsmuir, Cal., said another part of the ransom was found there.

On Thursday, United States Commissioner Frazer approved the removal of Scott and Mrs. Hurlienne to Oklahoma City, where conspiracy charges have been filed. Yesterday, at about the same time investigators announced the finding of the \$30,000.

Hillberry at Salem  
 SALEM, Ore., Dec. 8.—(AP)—Branies, wines and fruit concentrates will be manufactured at Salem if plans of organizers of the Columbia Distillers, Inc., for which articles of incorporation were filed here today, are carried out.

### WAR CLOUDS GATHER OVER EUROPE



Expulsion of thousands of Hungarians by Yugo-slavia and the crossing of the border by a contingent of Serbian soldiers precipitated a serious situation in Europe. The invasion and banishment were a series of incidents following the assassination of King Alexander of Yugo-slavia. This Associated Press map shows the center of the latest unrest.

### GOVERNMENT RAID FRANCE UPHOLDS ON NARCOTIC RING IN MAJOR CITIES

Hundreds Jailed, Rich Store of Drugs Seized—Babe in Arms Is Addict—Children Enticed in Cleveland  
 WASHINGTON, Dec. 8.—(AP)—The government smashed a series of raids upon the country's dope peddlers and addicts today and promised further blows in a concentrated nationwide drive against illicit narcotics.  
 Federal narcotic agents in every major city executed a series of raids upon dens and dealers that tonight netted more than 400 under arrest and the number still growing. Thousands of dollars' worth of contraband narcotics were seized and scores of automobiles used by the purveyors of the drugs were confiscated.

Relaxed after a strenuous day, in which he personally supervised a raid on a Baltimore hotel that uncovered a mail order house for drugs, Harry J. Anslinger, narcotics commissioner, surveyed the results of the campaign. "It was a good day's work," he said. "But we hope to do even better next time. Of course, it is too much to say that we have broken down the drug industry, but we've certainly put a crimp in it."  
 In Seattle a man and his wife were arrested and their ten-day-old baby, addicted to morphine by pre-natal absorption of the drug, was sent to a hospital for reduction treatment.  
 Ruppel explained that the child could not live if suddenly deprived of the narcotic, which is to be administered in progressively smaller quantities until its use may be stopped.

In Cleveland, a ring was turned up which officials said had been attempting to entice school children into drug addiction for the sake of increasing their market for narcotics. Brooklyn saw the arrest of three on charges of conspiracy to violate the postal laws, in connection with the Baltimore "mail order" enterprise.  
 The closest thing to a casualty that was reported in connection with the day's raids was the case of Agent McCullough, bitten by a dog at Dallas, Tex.  
 Anslinger and Ruppel were impressed by the number of those arrested who were former convicts and if some cases out on parole.

Paris—The United States watched the Balkan situation but, the state department said, will keep hands off.  
 Addis Ababa—Ethiopia charged Italian forces, instead of Ethiopians, took the initiative in the conflict at Dwalul December 5, which yesterday drew strong protest from Italy.  
 Rome—Government spokesmen scouted the Abyssinian version of the Italian incident, saying Rome's information differed.  
 Buenos Aires—Paraguay's new offensive took her soldiers to within 50 miles of the major Bolivian army base at Villamontes, and left them just across the Pilcomayo river from the Bolivian territory proper.

London—Continuance of tri-power or naval limitation conversations, it was agreed, will depend on Japan's willingness to make new proposals and abandon her demand for parity at something Tokyo previously has said she will never do.

Indian Fighter Passes  
 SANTA MONICA, Cal., Dec. 8.—(AP)—Horace Buford Mulkey, 85, first national president of the Veterans of Indian Wars, died at his home here Thursday night.

Plane Fatality  
 COLUMBIA, Mo., Dec. 8.—(AP)—Lou Bowen, a pilot for the Braniff Airlines, was killed near here early today when his plane crashed on a low altitude. His plane carried no passengers.

MOONEY, 52, SURE FREEDOM IS NEAR  
 SAN QUENTIN, Cal., Dec. 8.—(AP)—Tom Mooney received callers today—friends and relatives who predicted that this, his fifty-second birthday, will be his last in San Quentin prison.  
 Mooney himself, serving a life sentence for the San Francisco preparation day bombing in 1916, was declared by his sister, Miss Ann Mooney, to be confident that freedom was near at hand.  
 Miss Mooney said that her brother's latest hopes were pinned on the United States supreme court, which has issued a show-cases order in connection with his application for a hearing on a writ of habeas corpus.

CINCINNATI, Dec. 8.—(AP)—Archbishop John T. McNicholas of Cincinnati, head of the legion of devotion today exhorted the estimated 32,000 communicants of the Holy Mass to join tomorrow in its boycott of salaried movies.  
 A founder of the legion, the archbishop issued his call in the name of the Episcopal committee on motion pictures appointed by the Catholic bishops of the United States.

SPOKANE, Wash., Dec. 8.—(AP)—Sales of acquired farm land have established new records each of the last three months with the federal land bank. President Ward K. Newcomb announced today.  
 The bank, serving Washington, Oregon, Idaho and Montana, has sold \$1,073,503 worth of land the last quarter compared with \$329,132 for the same period of 1933.

### 14 WOOD ALCOHOL ADDICTS DIE IN PORTLAND HORROR

Death Wave Sweeps North End Habitues — Police Find Bottles, Seek Seller of Poison Potion — Fear Death Toll Will Mount

PORTLAND, Ore., Dec. 8.—(AP)—Three more men died here tonight, bringing to 14 the number of victims as a wave of death decimated drinkers of denatured alcohol.

In the death epidemic, which began Friday night and continued today with increasing severity, half a dozen were in critical condition and under observation and treatment at the hospital.  
 Police searched north end rooming houses and squalid hotels looking for more victims, and also procured many samples of denatured alcohol to see if some unusual lethal ingredient could be found in the potion which many addicts habitually drink after processing.

On some of the victims, bottles were found bearing "poison" signs and skull and cross-bones. On other victims, the bottles were unlabeled, police said.  
 Friday afternoon police arrested four men, each fifth bottles of denatured alcohol. Death speedily overtook two of them.  
 Ben Votruba, who died shortly after being taken into custody, was known to police as the "canned heat king." Municipal court attaches recalled the "heat king" had been before the court more than 50 times. He will come no more.

"We are picking them up like flies," said an emergency hospital attendant this morning as the death toll mounted.  
 The coroner said post-mortem examinations would not be made until tomorrow. There was a possibility, he said, that of the 14 dead one may have died from natural causes.  
 The sale of denatured alcohol is legal here only if it is not sold for drinking. Most of the confirmed users are adept in handling it to rid it of the added ingredients that make the spirits obnoxious and unpalatable.

But no amount of treatment, apparently, could undo the damage. The alcohol, the deadly poison that lurked in the bottles sold along the waterfront last night.  
 Beside several bottles police found the treacherous bottles that had dealt death. Each properly bore the red label of poison and the death's head. City officials feared many more may have died from the poisonous drink and that the bodies may be found later in the lonely, squalid rooms of the many cheap hotels.  
 The drinkers of denatured alcohol and of the tinned alcoholic heating preparations have long been a source of trouble to police. Even now, with high-content whiskey and gin obtainable cheaply at state liquor stores, addicts of the poisonous distillates abound in the north end.

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**WILL ROGERS says:**  
 BEVERLY HILLS, Cal., Dec. 7.—The investigation season opened earlier than usual this season. The ammunition investigating committee had an awful exciting session. That committee has got a job for life. The ammunition concerns sell it faster than the committee can investigate it.  
 No national will buy anything to eat or anything to wear from you, but if you got a gun they will buy it and more than likely shoot it back at you.  
 Looks to me like if every national made their own ammunition it would relieve their unemployment. Well there ain't no use arguing about it. Nothing is going to be stopped anywhere that there is any money in.

*Will Rogers.*  
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