

The Weather
Forecast: Cloudy tonight and
Friday; not much change in
temperature.
Temperature:
Highest yesterday 58
Lowest this morning 39
Precipitation last 24 hrs. .1

A Difficult Task
It would be rather a difficult
task to get your message before
the people if it were not for
the Classified page of this
newspaper. This page is for
you. Use it often.

Thirty-Third Year MEDFORD, OREGON, THURSDAY, MAY 5, 1938. No. 38.

MOTHER BARES ADDITIONAL MURDERS

The Capital Parade

By Joseph Alsop
and
Robert Kintner

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North American News-
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LA FOLLETTE DECIDED ON
THIRD PARTY LONG AGO
EXTENSIVE PLANS MADE
BEFORE ANNOUNCEMENT
BROTHERS WELL-BALANCED
PAIR POLITICALLY
PHIL'S NATURAL FLAIR
BACKED BY PRACTICAL BOB

WASHINGTON, May 5.—The moment when the La Follettes decided to lead an aggressive third party movement was in late November; the place was Bob La Follette's pleasant home in Washington. And the decision was made at one of the family councils of war which have been a La Follette tradition ever since old Bob carried his political course at the dinner table, with his wife and his small children, to help.

Governor Phil had been on a Caribbean cruise. On his way back he stopped, as he always does when he is near Washington, to confer with Senator Bob. When they are apart, the two men are in daily touch by telephone, but they like best to put their heads together in one room.

The discussion was long; many factors entered into it. The president's waning leadership, the tie-up of his legislative program in the special session, the successful opposition of the Democratic conservatives to the New Deal—all these were touched upon. Touched upon also was the new depression, which was recognized as real by both Senator Bob and Governor Phil.

At length, the two men made up their minds. They would make no announcement; that could wait. But they would make all necessary preparations, and spy out the lie of the land. Immediately thereafter, Governor Phil began a series of small, informal meetings, at which he carefully tested sentiment for a real third party among progressive leaders. Meanwhile, both men and their inner circle of friends and advisers were busy with such chores as designing their curious cross and circle emblem and looking up the state laws affecting their venture. This spring they were ready. The announcement was made.

Politically, the La Follettes are a well-balanced pair. Phil is all public presence and platform manner. He has his father's dash and fire, the

(Continued on Page Three)

SAN DIEGO BREADLESS WHILE BAKERS STRIKE

SAN DIEGO, Calif., May 5.—(AP)—A city-wide strike against the San Diego baking industry went into effect today, with between 300 and 400 employees involved.

No bread was being baked or delivered by the eight local wholesale bakeries, Edward Cormack, secretary of the Bakers' Club, said.

Cormack said that collective bargaining negotiations between the teamsters' union (AFL) and the bakers stalled over the question of the closed shop. The drivers voted to strike last night, and "inside employees" went out today in sympathy, he said.

SIDE GLANCES

by
TRIBUNE REPORTERS

A note in this pillar of playfulness restoring to Wanda Doran not only her own Persian cat but another one besides.

Peace Justice Bill Coleman banding Mrs. Jerry Jerome one of his campaign cards, not knowing she was the wife of his opponent.

Allice Smith Payne complaining about the Rogue valley weather, she missing the fog, dust, oil field explosions, floods and earthquakes of her own Long Beach, Cal.

A. D. Lewis, Jr., springing a \$100 bill on Carver Homer Young to pay a 50-cent M.T. account, Homer not having the proper change.

Heinie Fluhrer saying it was too bad his dog Kip was still incompetent from a battle with an automobile or he would enter him against all comers in the Catfish derby water fight.

PRISONED WOMAN IMPLICATES SON IN THREE DEATHS

List of Unsolved Slayings Dating Back to 1918 May Be Cleared by Admissions of Aged Mary Smith

Ruse Employed

WENATCHEE, May 5.—(AP)—The amazing story of how he elicited a confession from 73-year-old Mrs. Mary Ellen Smith at the state penitentiary that cleared up the ten-year-old James Bassett murder and three other northwest slayings was told here today by Sergeant Joe McCauley of the state patrol.

McCauley said he posed as a lawyer and "purged the soul" of Mrs. Smith after State Patrol Chief William Cole had received information from prison authorities that Mrs. Smith had religion and wanted to talk to a clergyman.

He said he talked with Mrs. Smith more than two hours.

"She not only told me all about the murder of Bassett but she told me an almost unbelievable story of three other brutal murders which had taken place in the northwest in the last three years."

SEATTLE, May 5.—(AP)—The same grim pattern—"they went for a ride and were never seen again"—runs through the case histories of persons who vanished after dealings with Decato Earl Mayer and his mother, Mrs. Mary Eleanor Smith, 72.

Mrs. Smith was reported in Walla Walla last night as having implicated her son in three unsolved slayings besides the Bassett case—the untimely demise of Mrs. Ernest La Casse of Butte, Mont., in 1918, Ole Larson, of Anaconda, Mont., in 1921, and "a man named Randall."

Suspected in Utah

In addition, a crime dossier on the mother and son, compiled several years ago by the late Capt. Charles Tennant of the Seattle detective force, showed Mayer and his mother suspected in a Utah disappearance case.

Take the case of Mrs. La Casse Joseph H. Griffin, Seattle attorney who was active in the case at the time, tells about it.

"Mayer was going under the name of Skidmore and had made the acquaintance of Mrs. La Casse, wife of a Butte rooming house proprietor."

"Skidmore" took Mrs. La Casse for a ride in his automobile and she was never seen again. Bloodstains were found on the wall of a cabin he occupied near Anaconda, in Deer Lodge county, "Skidmore" was arrested in possession of her fur coat, jewelry and keys to her safety deposit box. He said she had given them to him.

Body Never Found

"Her body was never found, and, after a preliminary hearing, they had to let 'Skidmore' go. Mayer's mother also was held for a time in the case."

Then there's the case of Ole Larson, Holliis B. Fultz, fact detective story writer of Olympia, who did much research on the Massett case, tells what he learned from Captain Tennant's records.

Mrs. Smith, then known as Mrs. Mary French, was an acquaintance of Larson. Larson had considerable money in a Butte bank.

Federal Agent D. H. Dickson was trailing an automobile thief ring and the trail led to C. C. Skidmore, (Mayer). Dickson said the ring had disposed of approximately 300 cars in Canada.

Friend Disappears

During the investigation it was learned Larson, Mrs. French and Mayer had been together some time, until Larson disappeared.

Mayer appeared later at a Salt Lake City bank with a draft on Larson's account at Butte. The draft was acknowledged by the name Larson. Mayer was identified as the man who made the deposit.

Investigation of the disappearance of Larson was dropped when the body could not be found.

Little is known as yet about the "man named Randall" who Mrs. Smith confessed was lured in an Idaho stone quarry.

Fultz refers to his records, tells

(Continued on Page Two.)

Beekman Prize To Monmouth Student

PORTLAND, May 5.—(AP)—Jess L. Inlow, 17-year-old Monmouth high school student, won the \$60 first prize today in the Beekman essay contest conducted by the Oregon Historical society this year on the subject of the voyage of Capt. James Cook to the northwest.

Second place of \$30 went to Barbara Jean Clark, Hood River, third place of \$20 to Patricia Lyman, Toledo, and fourth place of \$10 to Leslie Sullivan, Fairview.

COPCO QUARTER PROFIT SHOWS SLIGHT DECLINE

SAN FRANCISCO, May 5.—(AP)—California Oregon Power company reported \$29,227,297 net profit for the year ended March, 1938, compared with \$1,102,411 in the preceding year. Gross revenues rose to \$4,642,110 for \$4,515,890.

Killed at Crossing

CHICAGO, May 5.—(AP)—A man identified from cards in his possession as Clarence Waldrep, 45, Portland, Ore., was killed by an automobile yesterday when he attempted to cross an intersection.

A Husband Is Swapped



The first half of a reported husband-trading deal was completed in Reno, Nev., after divorcees were granted to Mrs. Hedvig Markley (left) of El Cerrito, Calif., and Mrs. Rose Ann Stoneman (right) of Oakland, Calif., who shared the same apartment during their six weeks' sojourn. Mrs. Stoneman was married to Robert Markley, the ex-husband of Mrs. Markley. Markley would neither confirm nor deny she planned to wed Stoneman.

INQUIRY IS ORDERED IN BURNING OF LINER AT LE HAVRE YARDS

LE HAVRE, France, May 5.—(AP)—Minister of Merchant Marine Louis de Chappedelaine ordered an immediate inquiry into a fire which today ruined the nine-year-old French liner La Fayette in drydock here.

One version of the origin of the blaze was that a blow torch being used by an engineer in the hold ignited a tank of oil.

Last night the council, acting before a gallery crowded with citizens unanimously hostile to the parking plan, instructed Mayor Clifton Richmond to wire the O. D. Jenkins company of Chicago, asking that a shipment of meters, ordered on a trial basis, be held up and explaining the situation that had developed here.

Councilmen were of the opinion that the meter arrangements with the company could be cancelled in spite of the contract signed last week.

MOBILIZATION ACT INVOKED BY JAPS

TOKYO, May 5.—(AP)—The Japanese government today invoked 11 articles of the so-called "mobi" national mobilization law, giving the government unlimited power to draft Japan's manpower and economic resources in a war emergency.

The invocation was a concession to army leaders, who demanded use of the measure to intensify the campaign in China.

The Imperial ordinance promulgating the law was printed in the official gazette completing the last legal formality. It applies to Japan proper, Korea and Formosa.

Premier Prince Fumimaro Konoye won passage of the law in the March sitting of parliament, but had promised it would not be used in the present; conflict unless the military situation became serious enough to warrant.

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ITALIANS PARADE NAVAL MIGHT IN HITLER'S HONOR

Magnificent Demonstration Staged at Naples for Visiting Dictator — Continue Talk of Colonies

NAPLES, May 5.—(AP)—Thundering guns and churning propellers broke the calm of the Naples coast today as Italy's navy went into a magnificent demonstration of its prowess in honor of Reichsfuehrer Hitler.

A bright sun shone on the famous Neapolitan shoreline. Smoking Vesuvius in the background framed the blue sea, crowded with 200 fighting ships, over which hovered squadrons of seaplanes.

In the center of the fleet that moved out of the gulf, each warship attended by a mallette craft, was the 22,000-ton battleship, Cavour, carrying Hitler, Premier Mussolini, King Vittorio Emanuele, Cavour, and other royal guests.

The vast naval panorama was the first of four great spectacles intended to show Hitler Italy's capacity for war during the week he is a royal guest.

The other three spectacles planned in honor of Italy's nazivater leader were a gigantic military parade later in the week in Rome, a sham battle at Santa Marinella showing troops in action, and a great aerial demonstration over Fubara.

Despite these demonstrations, however, the question of how close Italy and Germany might come to a military alliance was not clarified by spokesmen of either side.

Both denied such a pact would be concluded, although the general staffs of both countries have cooperated closely for many months.

The business end of Hitler's visit thus far had touched only on colonies and conversations between the two leaders, it was said, with Hitler doing most of the talking as he explained his desire for restoration of war-lost possessions.

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NLRB SIDESTEPS COURT TEST WITH FORD MOTOR CO.

Court Permits Labor Relations Board to Withdraw Request for Enforcement Order Against Company

COVINGTON, Ky., May 5.—(AP)—The U. S. circuit court granted today the national labor relations board's petition to withdraw its request for an enforcement order against the Ford Motor company.

The company, attempting to make a new test of the Wagner act's constitutionality, had sought to avert withdrawal of the request, through which the labor board had aimed to put into effect its order of last September ordering the reinstatement of 29 workers and demanding the company cease alleged anti-union coercion.

The labor board asked for the withdrawal in the light of a supreme court decision last week in a department of agriculture case.

The court likewise granted today the board's request to withdraw a record of proceedings in the case, which originated last June upon a complaint entered by the United Automobile Workers of America.

Judges Ken Hicks, C. C. Simons and Florence E. Allen concurred in the decision.

Philip G. Phillips, regional director of the NLRB at Cincinnati, described the decision as "a complete victory" for the board.

"We have a record of winning 10 out of 10 supreme court cases," Phillips said.

Judge Allen, in a memorandum accompanying the decision, said: "I see no argument whatever against it and many considerations of great weight in favor of granting the motion."

A few hours previously, Frederick H. Wood, chief Ford counsel, asked the court to require the NLRB to provide a certified copy of all records in the case.

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Banker Urges Bosses and Labor to Work Together

WASHINGTON, May 5.—(AP)—Lewis E. Pierson, chairman of the board of the Irving Trust company, New York, today called on management and labor to work together on things of "common interest."

Pierson's plea came as informal approval was being given by many delegates attending the annual meeting of the United States Chamber of Commerce to the American Federation of Labor overtures for a business-labor pact.

Pierson, a past president of the Chamber of Commerce of the United States, was a delegate to the annual meeting.

In a statement issued independently of the chamber proceedings, he said, management and labor are natural allies, not enemies, and the well-being of one depends upon the well-being of the other.

"Private industry thrives and creates more jobs, only when capital and labor work together harmoniously for the production of goods and services for the advancement of the American standard of living," Pierson said.

"I believe that the time has now come when management and labor should work together on these things of common interest which fairly protect their respective interests, promote industrial peace and stimulate employment on which the enduring prosperity of the nation depends."

"The need for industrial peace was never greater than in this time of economic distress, when it is recognized on all sides that national prosperity can be reestablished on a firm and lasting basis only through the revival of private industry."

"Labor disturbances, regardless of the merits in any particular dispute have been a major factor in creating the present business situation, in which management and labor, and every segment of the population have alike suffered."

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