The Weather
Forecast: Partly cloudy tonight and Saturday with morning fog, little change in temperature.
Temperature
Highest yesterday 51
Lowest this morning 25

MEDFORD MAIL TRIBUNE

PULITZER AWARD 1934

Full Associated Press — ...ll United Press

Thirty-Third Year — MEDFORD, OREGON, FRIDAY, DECEMBER 16, 1938. — No. 230.

Time to Think
How quickly the weeks roll by. Today is Friday—time to think about that Classified Adv. for the Sunday morning edition. Ads in before 3:30 Saturday P. M. will be properly classified. Closing time 5 P. M.

...LIBRARY

INDICTED DRUG FIRM HEAD KILLS SELF

The Capital Parade

By Joseph Alsop and Robert Kintner

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WALLACE SEEN SEEKING HOPKINS, ICKES AMITY
• • •
OVERTURES MADE BY AIDES OF AGRICULTURE CHIEF
• • •
BELIEVED PREPARATION FOR FARM PROGRAM ROW
• • •
RIFT TRACED TO IOWA PRIMARY CAMPAIGN

WASHINGTON, Dec. 16.—Secretary of Agriculture Henry A. Wallace is currently trying to woo back his ancient enemies within the New Deal. One or two of his confidential subordinates have already made frank overtures to the lieutenants of Works Progress Administrator Harry L. Hopkins and Secretary of the Interior Harold L. Ickes. Harry Hopkins has even been asked to lunch at the agriculture department. If Wallace has his way, the battles of Iowa and the soil conservation service will be forgotten, and almost universal peace will reign.

The spectacle is at once instructive and faintly comic. It illustrates the strangely haphazard inter-relations of the president's chief aides. It underlines the ludicrous aspects of the bureaucracy.

But, like so many Wallace moves, this one is dictated by hard common sense. Soon an unholy row about the farm program will engulf Wallace and his department. Wallace will need all the help he can get in congress. No one is better qualified to give it than the dispensers of public pap, Harry Hopkins with his projects, and Harold Ickes with his public works. Wallace will also need the full moral backing of the New Deal. No one can more certainly assure him of it than Hopkins and Ickes, the most conspicuous leaders of the New Deal group.

The Wallace agents take a soft and sensible tone. "The farm program can't be divorced from the New Deal," they say. "The administration needs the farmers. Now that we're in trouble, let's all stand together." But the battles of Iowa and the soil conservation service are hard to forget.

Since the famous Iowa primary, from which the secretary of agriculture held so notably aloof, the New Dealers have been bitterly angry with Wallace. Wallace himself has cherished some resentment, for the strongest pressure was put on him to back the White House man, Representative Otha D. Wearin, against Senator Guy M. Gillette. Even the president himself was mobilized. Yet

(Continued on Page Eight)

ROOSEVELT, GARNER TO GET HEADS TOGETHER

WASHINGTON, Dec. 16.—(AP)—President Roosevelt expects to consider domestic problems in a talk with Vice-president Garner tomorrow.

The chief executive said at his press conference Garner was coming to lunch tomorrow and would sit in on a meeting of a new executive committee in charge of arrangements for the preservation of President Roosevelt's papers.

After the meeting, Mr. Roosevelt said, he and Garner will have a conference.

SIDE GLANCES

by TRIBUNE REPORTERS

Roland Beach proudly decorating his car with his new license plates, the number being 21, he being lucky in the state drawing.

Elaine Brophy looking very co-ed-ish when arriving here from collitch for a holiday visit with mama and pape.

Bob Ottoman no sooner hiting town for a nice rest from Oregon State studies than papa Mill put him to work.

Mayne Coleman going into fits of laughter when recalling a funny incident about a friend having to do some Yuletide shopping.

The junior Fred Heath laughing about a joke he originated a month ago, he deciding he is awfully clever that way.

ACTION FOLLOWS DISCLOSURES OF POLICE RECORD

Former Criminals Become Prime Movers in Vast Corporation Is Revelation — Suicides in Mansion

NEW YORK, Dec. 16. — (AP) — Philip Musica, the amazing schemer and ex-convict who changed his name to F. Donald Coster and became president of McKesson and Robbins, Inc., killed himself with a pistol shot in his Fairfield, Conn., home today only a few hours after his real identity was disclosed.

His suicide followed the sensational revelations that he and at least one other brother under the name of George Vernard, had hidden their past police records sufficiently well to become prime moving forces in the corporation which last year had listed assets of $87,000,000 and $140,000,000 in business.

Third Man In Doubt

The actual identity of a third man, George T. Dietrich, assistant treasurer of the firm, was still in slight doubt, but federal authorities held it likely he, too, was a brother of Coster-Musica.

Dietrich, Coster-Musica and Vernard-Musica were charged with violation of the securities act of 1934 because they allegedly filed false information on the firm with the New York stock exchange.

Coster-Musica shot himself through the head a short time after his rearrest and the arrest of Dietrich and Vernard were ordered by the federal authorities here.

A fourth man, Robert Dietrich, another employe of the firm, was being brought here from Connecticut for questioning. He was reported to have told authorities in New Haven he was the fourth Musica brother, and George Dietrich was a Musica brother also.

Coster-Musica's suicide climaxed a week of dizzy developments, starting when it was discovered the crude drugs department of McKesson and Robbins, under his direct supervision, had apparently built up fictitious assets of $18,000,000.

Beat Police

The man who lived down a criminal past of 25 years ago to become head of the great drug firm turned a pistol on himself as Chief of Police Arthur Bennett was arriving at the Costers' big country home to take him into custody.

"As nearly as I can learn he put a revolver to his head and pulled the trigger," Bennett said.

Developments today showed Vernard was Musica's younger brother, Arthur, and federal authorities held it likely Dietrich was a second brother who dropped from sight after the crash of the Musica finances years ago. They also were checking the possibility Mrs. Coster might also have had another name in her younger years.

The Costers were childless.

Bennett said he first received a call from the Coster home that Coster had shot himself and an ambulance was needed.

He hurried away but had been gone hardly more than a few minutes before the telephone in Fairchild police headquarters rang again.

Stephen Lasko, an assistant, answered.

"It was Bennett," Lasko said. "He told me, 'Coster's dead. He put a revolver to his head and pulled the trigger'."

Yacht Main Interest

Acting U. S. Atty. Gregory F. Noonan disclosed today there was a fourth brother, Robert, who will be arrested in the case. Robert, an employe of McKesson and Robbins, was on his way to New York from New Haven.

Coster-Musica had lived in Fairfield for about 10 years, but had taken little part in the town's community affairs. His life, fellow residents said, centered chiefly on his 123-foot yacht, Carolita.

Classed as a palatial pleasure craft it had a crew of 10. At present it is tied up in a Stratford, Conn., shipyard. Friends of the corporation head, who apparently had no idea the man who was their host was one of the most amazing schemers the generation has produced, enjoyed his expansive hospitality.

The Coster-Musica home was an 18-room, remodeled colonial house, finished in brown stucco. It has stables and kennels nearby on the four and a half acre tract. Coster-Musica was no horseman and the stables were unoccupied, but he had a few dogs. The house's assessed value was $30,000.

In Good Repute

The people who knew Coster-Musica in New York and in Fairfield said he was a man of impeachable reputation, a rather good-looking immaculately groomed man of middle age with white hair and white mustache. His manner was quiet; there was no hint he had come from Italy at the age of 6, the son of an immigrant neapolitan barber of

(Continued on Page Three.)

IN WHO'S WHO

NEW YORK, Dec. 16.—(AP)—Two lives:

Philip Musica

Born—Naples, Italy, 1877, son of a barber;

Emigrated to America, when 6;

Reared on New York's squalid East Side;

Convicted of fraud in 1909, then pardoned by President Taft; convicted of grand larceny in 1913 and received a suspended sentence;

Charged with subornation of perjury in 1920 but dismissed.

F. Donald Coster

(As it appears in Who's Who)

Born—Washington, D. C., May 12, 1884, son of Frank Donald and Marie (Girard) C.;

Degrees — Ph.D., University of Heidelberg, 1909, M. D., 1911;

Married—Carol Jenkins Schleffin of Jamaica, L. I., N. Y., May, 1921;

Professions and Businesses — Practicing physician, New York City, 1912-14; Pres., Girard & Co., Inc. (Successor to Girard Chemical Co.), 1914-26; Pres. McKesson & Robbins, drug mfgrs., since 1926, also pres., McKesson & Robbins, Ltd., Dir., Bridgeport City Trust Co., Fairfield (Conn.) Trust Co.;

Religion—Methodist;

Clubs—New York Yacht, Bankers, Lotus, Advertising (New York); University; Black Rock Yacht (Bridgeport); Brooklawn Country;

Home—Fairfield, Conn.;

Office — McKesson & Robbins, Inc., Bridgeport, Conn.

RECONSTRUCTION OF PACIFIC HIGHWAY IS URGED FOR OREGON

EUGENE, Dec. 16.—(AP)—A $20,000,000 reconstructed Pacific highway through Oregon was visualized last night at a reorganization meeting of the Oregon Pacific Highway association.

The conference, called through the efforts of the Eugene Chamber of Commerce, elected Howard Merriam, Goshen, president, and scheduled another conference here for January 15.

A. C. Marsters, Roseburg, was elected vice-president; Paul B. Rynning, Medford, secretary; C. H. Demaray, Grants Pass, treasurer; H. E. Aakin, Cottage Grove, executive councilman.

Delegates from most of the larger communities along Highway No. 99 attended. Marsters advocated funds to reconstruct main arterial roads through the state, north and south, on both sides of the Cascades.

Harold Say, state highway commission publicity manager, pledged cooperation of his organization. He said that during 1937 the average out-of-state car left more than $102 in Oregon, making the tourist "take" around $20,000,000. He revealed that one-half the people that visit Oregon had previously read of the state in national magazines and metropolitan newspapers.

The association set its year's budget at $5000 and planned to obtain a salaried manager. Chambers of commerce of affected communities will be asked to raise the money.

BAPTISE WOLF MOTHER IN BATHTUB AT JAIL

SEATTLE, Dec. 16.—(AP)—Mrs. Mary Eleanor Smith, 73, facing life imprisonment for participation in the slaying of James Eugene Bassett, Annapolis, Mo., made ready today to return to the state prison at Walla Walla after her baptism yesterday in the Pentecostal Assembly of God.

Mrs. Smith and two fellow prison inmates who came here to testify as defense witnesses, Florence Snell and Ethel Wills, were baptized by immersion in the county jail bathtub by the Rev. F. C. Crocker.

Radio Highlights

By Associated Press
(Time is Eastern Standard)

NEW YORK, Dec. 16.—(AP)—Two broadcasts are on the schedule for Rep. Martin Dies Saturday.

In addition to the talk previously announced for the National Grange program on WJZ-NBC at 12:30 p. m., the chairman of the congressional committee investigating un-American activities has been listed for a half-hour talk on WABC-CBS at 9.

Saturday, from Tunis, Africa, via WABC-CBS, at 6:15 p. m., A. L. Easterman, British newspaperman, in a discussion of the French-Italian situation.

A "mail early for Christmas" broadcast, with Postmaster General Farley participating, has been set for 11 a. m. Saturday via WJZ-NBC.

Tonight: Heavyweight fight, WJZ-NBC, 10, Tommy Farr vs. Lou Nova.

WEAF-NBC—7:45, Rep. Celler on "Business Revival Will Follow Tax Revision."

WABC-CBS—10:45, J. Edgar Hoover on "Activities of G-Men."

WJZ-NBC—11:05, Pan-American Congress.

MEDFORD IS PUT ON NATIONAL VIEW BY GIFT BOX IDEA

Courage of Rosenberg Brothers in Pioneering Comice Pear Christmas Packages Benefits Entire Valley

American pioneers are not a thing of the past. They still live, blazing new trails, carving out new careers, developing new ideas.

In Medford live two pioneers, the Rosenberg brothers, Harry and David, owners of the Bear Creek orchards. Five years ago they conceived what has since been called the west coast's most outstanding merchandising idea. They pioneered in Christmas gift boxes of rare, flavorful, luscious Comice pears, the fruit that for centuries had graced the royal tables of France but was virtually unknown in the United States outside the upper register homes in New York City. Through their pioneering, David and Harry have taken the Rogue River valley Comice pear out of the dog house and placed it in the drawing room.

Today Christmas gift boxes of Comice pears are rolling out of Medford in carload lots. They are going to every state in the union, to Canada, to Honolulu. They are conveying news of the Rogue River valley to every part of the country, providing employment here for hundreds of local men and women and, what is probably most important, bringing fair returns to growers who but a few years ago were almost hopelessly submerged in despair over repeated production losses.

Undaunted by Depression

Harry and David conceived the Christmas gift package idea five years ago. That, the reader may recall, was 1933, the year the depression reached its terrifying bottom. Pears then, as Harry expresses it, were figuratively and almost literally in the dog house. Growers were wringing their hands in despair. But the Rosenberg Brothers did not despair. Instead they rolled up their sleeves, took a long-pull gamble and went to work.

They appealed to leading business and industrial executives to give Comice pears as a novel, an exotic Christmas present. There was some response but the country was in the doldrums and it was difficult to build up a volume business. Undaunted, Harry and David persevered. The next year they began advertising in a small way on a national scale. The response increased and what was more encouraging those who had ordered gift packages the previous year repeated and in some instances increased their orders.

Still faced with the possibility of ultimate failure, Harry and David stuck to their idea. "We knew that the fruit was incomparably good, that the merchandising idea was sound; so we went ahead and sank a small fortune in our idea before profits started trickling back," Harry says now. The brothers worked out

(Continued on Page Nine.)

WOMAN RESCUED IN G. PASS FIRE

GRANTS PASS, Dec. 16.—(AP)—Mrs. G. Larry Manuel, wife of the Grants Pass Chamber of Commerce secretary, was rescued from a second-story window ledge shortly after midnight as a fire entirely consumed their home.

Lon Duggan, a neighbor, roused by barking of the Manuel dog, rescued Mrs. Manuel with the aid of a ladder.

Mr. Manuel returned from a Pacific Highway association meeting in Eugene a few minutes later to find the house destroyed.

Insurance totaled $6,500.

EXTRA POSTOFFICE SERVICE SATURDAY

The public was reminded today that the Medford postoffice will observe regular week-day hours tomorrow instead of closing at noon as is usual on Saturday. The office will be open from 8 a. m. to 6 p. m. to expediate mailing of Christmas parcels and correspondence.

City carriers will make two complete deliveries tomorrow instead of one as is customary on Saturday, Postmaster Frank DeSouza said.

All Christmas mail for the east should be dispatched not later than tomorrow, the public was counseled.

Son 37 Years Old Sees His Father For First Time

FAIRBANKS, Alaska, Dec. 16.—(AP)—A father and son, the latter 37 years old, were together here today, meeting the first time.

They are Herbert F. Murton, a pioneer who came north during the gold rush and remained, and the Rev. E. Thomas Murton, Crescent City, Calif., an evangelist of the Church of the Nazarene.

The father, known familiarly here by friends as "Tangle," recalled he was married at Portland, Ore., and after he came north to the Klondike his wife moved to Arizona and their son was born.

He kept in touch with them by correspondence through the years and his recent serious illness was an occasion for the son to come north.

LAST OF 5 CONVICTS PAYS WITH LIFE FOR MURDER OF WARDEN

SAN QUENTIN, Cal., Dec. 16.—(AP)—The state's new fumes of death today enveloped the last of five convicts condemned for the murder of Warden Clarence Larkin of Folsom prison.

Gasping out his final breath in the lethal gas chamber was Ed Davis, 38, a "lifer" under habitual criminal statute, formerly "the fox" of banditry in southwestern states, and defiant to the last.

Shortly before being led into the glassed-in octagonal, with spectators but a few feet away from the fatal sulphuric acid and cyanide "eggs," Davis laboriously scrawled out a note handed to guards, saying "No regrets for old Ed. . . . All considered, my conscience is now resting easy."

"I certainly knew on the 19th of September last year (when Warden Larkin, a guard and two convicts were killed in an abortive escape attempt) that I was going to where I could do something for my wife and son, or to hell one, and today I am sure glad I felt that way," Davis wrote.

"I myself am well paid for; many times more than will ever show and I do know there are dam few people all bad and no good. For myself I never have and not now ask mercy either from God or man . . ."

BLAME BLINDING RAIN FOR THREE DEATHS IN LOS ANGELES REGION

LOS ANGELES, Dec. 16.—(AP)—Blinding rain was blamed today for the deaths of three men, bringing southern California's toll during the storm to five.

Three men were killed in electric train and traffic accidents last night. The first death attributed to the storm was that of Y. Higashi, who was swept off the deck of a purse seiner. Another fisherman, T. Furayaki, was killed when the mast of a sardine boat struck him.

Traffic victims were William Belknap 69, Durate, hit by a Pacific Electric train; George C. Richardson, 69, Willowbrook, killed when another electric train hit a car in which he was riding, and a man tentatively identified as Ware Caldwell, 54, Memphis, Tenn., struck by a hit-run driver.

The storm, which brought great benefits to crops as well as much damage in brush fire denuded areas, has given Los Angeles 2.23 inches of rain and larger amounts, up to more than five inches, in other areas.

SAN DIEGO, Cal., Dec. 16.—(AP)—A total of 2.43 inches of rain fell here in the 24 hours ending at 8 p. m., today.

No flood damage was reported.

CAR STOLEN HERE IS FOUND IN LONG BEACH

State police received information from Long Beach, Cal., authorities this afternoon that the 1937 Chevrolet sedan owned by Jack Clark of 702 Sherman street, stolen from here December 8, had been recovered in that city.

Two men were in possession of the machine when it was recovered, state police said the Long Beach report asserted. The men were stopped upon information from here describing the vehicle.

GREELEY, Colo., Dec. 16.—(AP)—A demand Secretary of Agriculture Wallace take immediate steps "to give domestic sugar beet farmers relief from intolerable conditions" was made by the National Beet Growers association in a resolution today.

U. S. ASKS CUTTING OF INTERNATIONAL BARRIERS TO TRADE

Quick Acceptance Expected at Lima Conference — Hull Expects Agreement On Defense Declaration

By ANDRUE BERDING

LIMA, Peru, Dec. 16.—(AP)—The United States, after obtaining the unanimous consent of the other 20 American Republics, today presented to the Pan-American conference a sweeping resolution calling for reduction of barriers to international trade. The resolution is expected to receive speedy formal conference acceptance.

The United States obtained this show of unanimity at a time when Argentine suspicion of Washington's future foreign policy appeared likely to become a strong factor in conference developments.

The trade resolution declared against "excessive barriers . . . whether in the form of unreasonably high tariffs; quotas, licenses, exchange controls and other types of quantitative restriction; methods of administering commercial, exchange and monetary policies which impair the maintenance of commercial opportunity between all foreign suppliers."

Hull Sees Agreement

Secretary of State Cordell Hull, head of the United States delegation, was reported to be convinced all delegations can agree on a "dynamic draft of a declaration" on continental solidarity and defense.

He was said to feel the delegations would have no trouble in writing such a statement merely by putting together sentences out of speeches by himself and others before the conference.

Hull seemed pleased unanimous consent could be gained for the economics resolution, which he was said to consider of great importance in view of current conditions. He was said to regard the resolution as a step that might have a tendency to halt what he considered an increasingly chaotic movement in Europe.

Discussing the Argentine declaration, members of the Argentine delegation insist the United States should be considered a potential aggressor, and they want a resolution to provide for defense against incursion by any nation.

Attack Possibility Eyed

Consideration of a cooperative defense plan so far has been concerned mainly with the possibility of attack from nations outside the Americas, and delegates have said they had in mind the dictator, authoritarian regimes of Europe.

The Argentines said they feared a change of administration in Washington might bring an end to or alteration of the present good neighbor policy. There was little indication of suport for this thesis by other delegations.

One among their delegation said the United States was opposing a Mexican-Argentine resolution against collection of government debts by force, and contended this was an indication the United States might one day decide to take forceful action against a Latin-American nation.

The Argentine delegation also was firmly resolved no formal defense pact should be adopted by the convention. The United States has shown a willingness to forego its own wishes for a pact.

Secretary Hull's delegation indicated it would be content with a strong resolution, if it included a frank declaration against aggression from nations outside the Americas.

SENTENCE M'DONALD FOR SHOOTING WOMAN

LOS ANGELES, Dec. 16.—(AP)—Charles E. McDonald was sentenced to San Quentin prison for from one to ten years today for the shooting of Mrs. Emita Krueger, wife of the noted symphony conductor, Karl Krueger.

A new trial was denied.

By court order, McDonald will be allowed to see his 26 months old daughter, Emita, before he goes to prison.

North Pole Flier Killed In Smashup

MOSCOW, U.S.S.R., Dec. 16.—(AP) Valeri Chekaloff, a member of the Soviet Russian crew of three who flew over the North Pole from Moscow to Vancouver, Wash., in 1937, died in the crash of a plane he was testing yesterday.

A radio broadcast which did not give details announced the death.

Chekaloff, 34, was chief pilot of the trans-polar flight which ended at Vancouver, July 13, 1937. The aviators covered 5400 miles in 63 hours.

People in the Day's News

F. Donald Coster (left) indicted president of the McKesson and Robbins Drug corporation, who committed suicide today following revelations of a former criminal career under the name of Philip Musica. Posing with Coster in the latter's Fairfield, Conn., home, are George S. Dietrich (right) assistant treasurer of the drug concern, and Samuel Reich, attorney for the two accused.—(A. P. Photo.)

In the middle of the trial of her ex-husband, Martin Snyder, for the attempted murder of her accompanist, Myrl Alderman, Singer Ruth Eating and Alderman eloped by chartered plane from Los Angeles to Las Vegas, Nev., and were married. The pair are shown as they arrived back at Los Angeles airport. (AP Photo.)

Mikhail Gorin (left), and Hafis Salich (right), native Russians, are shown handcuffed together after their arraignment before the U. S. Commissioner in Los Angeles on charges of transmitting naval documents to soviet Russia. Bail was set at $25,000 each. (AP Photo.)

Fire In Tenement

NEW YORK, Dec. 16.—(AP)—Firemen carried a score of panic-stricken women and children to safety from a burning five-story tenement on East 19th street today, using extension ladders.

The prairie dog is a rodent.

No Sabotage

OKANOGAN, Wash., Dec. 16.—(AP)—A superior court jury acquitted James Trimmer and Herbert Rouse today on charges of sabotage in connection with a strike at the Brice-Coleman Lumber company in 1935-1937. The men were accused of placing dynamite in logs.