

# EXECUTIONS IN DEATH CHAMBER EQUALS RECORD

Salem, Ore.—(U.P.)—Four executions have been, or will be performed by the state of Oregon during a five-week period, a record equalled only once before in the state's history.

On December 8 Richard Harry Layton, 37-year-old former policeman, died in the state penitentiary lethal gas chamber.

On January 5, 22-year-old Robert E. Lee Folkes, a former Negro dining car waiter, is scheduled to die for the celebrated "Lower 13" murder in which Martha Virginia James, wife of a naval officer, was killed with a butcher knife in the lower berth of a west coast limited train.

A double execution is set for January 15, when Henry William Merten and Walter Lorne Wilson will enter the lethal gas chamber the same day. They stand convicted of a roadhouse holdup-murder.

But the largest mass legal slaying ever held in the state was on December 13, 1912, or "Bloody Friday" as the old-timers here call it. Four men were hanged on that day following a prison break in which a guard was killed.

The state has conducted executions only since 1903, before which it was a part of the duties of the county sheriffs. Oregon's gas chamber has been used since 1939, when it was installed a few hours before an execution. Seven men, including Layton, have died in it.

# Newborn Babe Found Outside Hospital



Really surprised parents are Mr. and Mrs. Harry Zelman of Cleveland, O., shown above admiring their newest arrival—a daughter born in a mad dash for the hospital and found crying and kicking in the snow in front of the building. The baby, it seems, was born just as mother stepped from auto to enter hospital and, in the excitement, was unnoticed until a startled pedestrian rushed to report that the youngster was lying in the snow.

steer run; bulk fed steers and yearlings \$13.75 to \$16.75; top \$17.50 on yearlings; good beef cows to \$14.50 and better; cutters \$2.50 down; heavy sausage bulls to \$13.25 and beef bulls to \$14.50; vealers \$15.50 down.

Sheep, 8,000. Bidding steady on good and choice fed wool western lambs at \$15.25 to \$15.35.

# Portland Produce

Portland, Jan. 3.—(U.P.)—Wholesale market prices:—Buying prices from producers: Broilers up to 2 pounds, 28 1/2c; fryers, 2 to 3 1/2 pounds, 29 1/2c; roasters, over 3 1/2 pounds, 29 1/2c; Leghorns, 29 1/2c; Leghorns, 26c; roasters and stags, 15 1/2c pound.

# Chicago Wheat

Chicago, Jan. 3.—(U.P.)—Wheat: Open High Low Close May \$1.80 1/2 \$1.60 1/2 \$1.60 1/2 \$1.60 1/2 July 1.58 1/2 1.59 1/2 1.59 1/2 1.59 1/2 Sept. 1.57 1/2 1.58 1/2 1.57 1/2 1.58 1/2

# S. F. DAIRY PRICES

San Francisco, Jan. 3.—(U.P.)—Dairy market: Butter—89 score 43c, 92 score 42 1/2c, 90 score 42 1/4c, 89 score 41 3/4c.

# Wall Street

New York, Jan. 3.—(U.P.)—Highest grade industrial shares led the stock market to new highs since September 4, 1937, today on the heaviest trading since last July 5.

# FIND STOLEN AUTO PARKED IN ALLEY

An Oldsmobile car owned by Catherine Tison which was stolen late Monday night from the driveway of her residence at 207 South Ivy street, was found this morning by the police in an alley behind Safeway store number 1, 130 North Bartlett street, a police report stated.

A wrecked Ford car bearing Oregon license 385-847 was found near Court and McAndrews road Tuesday night, according to a police report. A witness told police that the car had struck a parked trailer causing little damage to that vehicle but smashing the front end of the Ford. Driver of the vehicle was not known, according to the police, but they asserted no injuries were suffered apparently.

# Gold Hill

Gold Hill, Jan. 3.—First Sgt. Joseph L. Shoemaker and wife visited recently for two days with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Ed Shoemaker of Gold Hill. Sgt. Shoemaker is now stationed at Camp Jackson, S. C., and expects to go overseas soon.

Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Large of Burrey, Calif., and Mr. and Mrs. Laurence Dye and sons were week-end visitors at the home of Mr. and Mrs. George Large. Mr. and Mrs. Large also entertained at Christmas dinner, guests being Mr. and Mrs. Ed Shoemaker and Loyie, Mr. and Mrs. William Large, Mr. and Mrs. Dye and sons, and Mr. and Mrs. George Large and sons.

# Brownsboro

Brownsboro, Dec. 3.—Mr. and Mrs. Lester Messal of Lake Creek had as Christmas dinner guests Mrs. Messal's three sisters, Clara Bergman and son, Donald, of Medford; Bertha Holst of Sams Valley and Corda Haddock of Spokane, Wash., whom Mrs. Messal had not seen for twenty years.

Roy Renfro, son of Mr. and Mrs. John Renfro, has enlisted in the navy and is stationed in San Diego, Calif. Guests at the J. E. Trammell home for Christmas were Mr. and Mrs. Ellis of Central Point, friends from California.

The Glass families enjoyed Christmas at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Jess Glass' daughter and son-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Paul Jones of Medford. Miss Lois Wright of Portland spent Christmas with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. H. W. Wright. The family were dinner guests of Mr. Wright's brother, Mr. and Mrs. Orval Wright of Medford.

# LUMBER BARON ILL

Kansas City, Mo., Jan. 3.—(U.P.) Eugene Byron Bell, 57, one of the last survivors of a family that pioneered in the nation's lumbering industry, was in a critical condition here today. Bell, the son of Victor B. Bell, co-founder of the Long-Bell company whose timber holdings included vast expanses in the Pacific northwest, was suffering from a cerebral hemorrhage, physicians at General hospital reported.

# Dog Retrieved



"Rummy Girl," a 10-year-old Boston bulldog, ordered killed in will of her mistress, Mrs. Mayne K. Haines, got a stay of execution when Sacramento, Calif., court questioned legality of imposing death on the animal.

# Bobbett Graduates In Naval Training

Great Lakes, Ill.—Among those graduating from an intensive course of machinist mate training at recent service schools exercises here was James R. Bobbett, 24, husband of Mrs. Olive L. Bobbett, 713 W. 13th street, Medford, Ore.

Bobbett was selected for specialized training on the basis of his recruit training aptitude test scores. Graduates from the 20 specialized courses taught here at the service schools are sent to sea, to shore stations, or to advanced schools for further duty.

# PERSONAL ASSESSMENT FORMS BEING RETURNED

The first of 3850 personal assessment blanks sent out last week by the county assessor's office, have been returned by mail. The blanks are filled out by the taxpayers, and must be returned to the assessor before March 1.

Sheriff Syd I. Brown reports the tax collections this year have been the best in years, with many citizens paying up back taxes and taxes in full for the current year.

# MEDFORD IS SECOND IN TRAFFIC SAFETY

Medford stood second in the state on the least number of traffic accidents in 1944 up through the month of November, according to a report by the secretary of state's office in Salem.

Astoria was top on the list. The report included all cities in the state with populations of 10,000 or more.

# SAN PEDRO RECORD

Washington, Jan. 3.—(U.P.)—The fishermen of San Pedro, Calif., hauled in more fish in 1944 than those of any other fishing port in the nation, the department of interior's office of coordinator of fisheries reported.

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# L. A. LIVING HIGHER

Los Angeles, Jan. 3.—(U.P.)—Yes, Mr. America, it does cost more to live in Los Angeles.

OPA officials today disclosed that living costs here jumped 2.2 per cent in the past six months compared to the national average of 4 of 1 per cent.

# DEANNA DIVORCED

Hollywood, Jan. 3.—(U.P.)—Singing Film Star Deanna Durbin, who complained that her husband criticized her film and radio portrayals, today won a final decree of divorce from Vaughn Paul.

# REFRIGERATORS

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today. San Pedro is credited with a catch of 550,000,000 pounds, the largest single species being pilchards, the west coast's variety of sardine.

**BANK CALL**  
Washington Jan. 3.—(U.P.)—Comptroller of the Currency Preston Delano issued a call for the condition of all national banks as of December 30, 1944.



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40 South Central Across from Criterion Theatre Phone 2069... Medford

# Livestock

Portland, Ore., Jan. 3.—(U.P.)—Livestock: Cattle, 200; calves, 35. Active, steady. Good fed steers quotable \$14.25 to \$16.25. Common-medium heifers \$9 to \$12.50; few \$13. Canner-cutter cows \$5 to \$7. Fat dairy cows \$7.50 to \$9. Common-medium beef cows \$8 to \$11.50. Good vealers \$12.50 to \$14; choice quotable to \$14.50.

# South San Francisco, Jan. 3.—(U.P.)

—(USDA)—Livestock: Cattle, 170. Active, fully steady to strong. Good slaughter steers and heifers absent. Few packages 1,000-1,100-lb. range cows \$12.25 with a light sort out at \$11 to \$11.50. Weighty dairy bred cows \$9.50 to \$11; cutters \$7.50 to \$8.50; canners mostly \$5 to \$7. Bulls steady to strong, range kinds \$11.50 to \$12; medium sausage bulls \$10 to \$10.50. Calves, receipts none. Nominal. Choice vealers quoted \$14 to \$14.50.

# Chicago, Jan. 3.—(U.P.)—(WFA)

—(USDA)—Livestock: Hog, 17,000. Bulk and choice 190 lbs. and over \$14.55 to \$14.85; top \$14.75. 150-180 lb. \$14 to \$14.50. Cows mostly \$14; ceiling. Complete clearance early. Cattle, 15,000; calves, 1,000. Largely

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