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"An Empire Awakening"

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LET US MAKE 1926  
THE BANNER YEAR  
FOR THIS SECTION

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KLAMATH FALLS, OREGON, WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 30, 1925

PRICE FIVE CENTS

## FLOOD WATERS IN EUROPE SWEEP LOWLAND AREAS

### 200 Estimated Dead as Melting Mountain Snows Raise River Levels

### CAPITAL IS MENACED

#### Paris to Feel Effect of the Flooded Seine About Jan. 6, Belief Now

PARIS, Dec. 30.—(AP)—Floods in central Europe are increasing their ravages. Every hour brings news of additional rivers overflowing their banks.

Transylvania, western Rumania and eastern Hungary are being disastrously affected. The governments of Rumania and Hungary are hurriedly adopting measures to cope with the situation. All available sappers, as well as other troops, are being rushed to affected areas, and a call has been made for volunteer helpers.

Pillaging has begun and the Rumanian government has proclaimed martial law so that thieves may be summarily dealt with. It is impossible from reports thus far received to estimate more than approximately the loss of life but it is undoubtedly exceeding 200. The material loss is extremely heavy.

Belgrade is now threatened by the water from the melting snow in the Carpathians which is swelling the Danube. The water is beginning to invade lower parts of the (Continued on Page Five)

## SALEM CONVICTS TURN INVENTORS

PORTLAND, Ore., Dec. 30.—(AP)—Earl F. Lathrop and Howard B. Reese, now doing time in the state penitentiary for forgery, have turned inventors, according to a letter they sent to Circuit Judge Rossman.

Writing under a typewritten letterhead, "Lathrop and Reese, Inc.," the two men said they had perfected a form of bank check that could not be forged or altered. They stated in the letter that they committed their crimes for the purpose of obtaining experience that would assist them in their invention, and that now they had reached the desired goal they were through with crime for good.

Lathrop, alias Ernest Gordon, is serving a five year sentence, and Reese, alias T. H. Smith, is serving one year.

### GETS AIR MAIL AWARD

WASHINGTON, Dec. 30.—(AP)—The Seattle-San Francisco-Los Angeles air mail route was awarded today to Vern C. Gorst of North Bend, Oregon. Two other bids submitted did not come within the regulations.

## Seek Mysterious "Senator" In New York Death Mystery

NEW YORK, Dec. 30. (AP)—Police today are seeking a mysterious Senator A. B. Lewis, who was to have been the victim of a \$100,000 poison plot.

The plot was revealed when Harry W. Cowan killed Miss Edith Burton, a stenographer, with whom he was infatuated, and seriously wounded himself Monday night. "Senator Lewis," who checked out of the hotel Astor the night of the shooting, is wanted for questioning. He is described as 73 years old and persistent suitor of Miss Burton, who was 28.

He registered at the hotel as "Senator A. B. Lewis, of Carson City, Nevada." A warning letter to Lewis was found in Cowan's rooms. It was written before Cowan became engaged at the girl and killed her.

The letter told Lewis that Miss Burton planned to marry him to get control of his \$100,000. If he did not die soon, she would administer a slow poison and the money would be used in part to get Cowan out of financial trouble, Cowan wrote. Cowan was wanted for absconding with \$12,000 from the hotel Latham two years ago.

The mother of the dead girl denied that her daughter was engaged to "Senator Lewis" who was a "benevolent old gentleman who joined us at dinner frequently." Mrs. Burton said her daughter did not intend to marry Cowan, whom she described as a "Gentleman and friend of the family."

Cowan, however, described Miss Burton as a common law wife.

## Grocery Prices Higher Than Year Ago, Report Indicates

### Meats Show Gradual Increase While Vegetables Take Heaviest Wallop at Family Purse; Potatoes Out of Sight

CHICAGO, Dec. 30. (AP)—The housewife at the close of 1925 finds most of the items on her grocery shopping list are more expensive than they were a year ago. Of 23 articles in the meat, vegetable and fruit line, wholesale prices of 12 are higher, nine are lower and two are unchanged from a year ago today.

The following quotations are those of the Chicago stock yards on meat, the department of agriculture on butter, fruits and vegetables, the Minneapolis price on flour and the Chicago produce exchanges on poultry and produce.

Starting at the top of the menu, celery is about half last year's price \$1.50 to \$1.75 a crate this year, \$2.25 to \$2.75 a crate last year, flour is now and was a year ago \$9.90 a barrel.

For the meats, beef is a bit lower, while pork, ham and bacon are very much higher. A rib roast and a round steak are about the same price at last year, 26 cents on ribs and 15 cents on round steak, while sirloins and pot roast are each two cents lower now, sirloins dropping from 30 to 28 cents. Ham is now 29 1/2¢ for a standard brand, five cents higher than a year ago. Bacon is 38 1/2¢ a pound for a standard brand, eight cents higher than a year ago. If you have poultry for the meat course, the pocketbook is called on for considerably more than last year. Turkeys are 35 cents a pound and 30 cents a year ago. A hen to roast 26 1/2 cents now and 16 to 25¢ a year ago. A duck or a goose is about the same as last year.

Butter is 45 cents now and 42 cents a year ago.

Vegetables are taking the heaviest wallop at the family purse, especially the Irish potatoes. They are now \$4.25 to \$4.50 a hundred pound sack, and were \$1.15 to \$1.25 last year. Sweet potatoes are a little lower now \$2.25 to \$2.55 a bushel compared with \$2.50 to \$2.75 a year ago. Carrots, string beans and cabbage are all a little higher, while cauliflower is a little lower. Onions are just the same. Cabbage is now \$40 to \$45 a ton, while the price a year ago was \$30 to \$35.

Salad lettuce is now \$3.50 to \$4 a crate compared with \$3.25 to \$3.50 last year. If you have a fruit salad, oranges, Florida and California are noticeably lower and so too are apples. The eggs, if you use them here, are much lower now than last year, 42 cents now for frisks, which a year ago brought 50 to 57 cents.

### PURCHASE HOTEL

ROSEBURG, Ore., Dec. 30. (AP)—T. B. Swearingen and J. F. Jones today completed negotiations for the purchase of the Grand Hotel in this city.

## JULIUS MUELLER DIES IN CONTACT WITH LIVE WIRE

### Head of Baldwin Radio Department Killed at Ranch Near Merrill

### FALLS FROM HIGH POLE

#### Efforts at Resuscitation fail; Two Witnesses to Fatal Happening Found

Julius Mueller, 32, head of the radio department of the Baldwin Hardware company, was killed late yesterday afternoon when he came in contact with a power line carrying 4000 volts while installing a radio aerial at the Luther Haskins home near Merrill.

There were two direct witnesses to the accident, while a woman who saw Mueller fall gave the alarm. He was working on a high ladder and is believed to have been fastening the aerial to the pole when he slipped and as an effort to recover his balance grasped the power line.

Mueller was unconscious when he struck the ground and breathed only a short time.

Power company employes and doctors worked frantically until nearly 8:00 o'clock before conceding defeat.

Mueller, in charge of the radio department of the Baldwin Hardware company for a year and a half, had won for himself scores of friends here. He was active in civic work, Scout Master of Troop No. 1 and an active member of the Chamber of Commerce.

He is survived by his mother, Mary Mueller of Sutter, California, a brother, William Mueller, of Klamath Falls, and a brother in Sutter, California, Carl Mueller.

### Tragic Feature

A tragic feature of the young man's death was his intended marriage early in the spring to a childhood sweetheart living at his former home in Marysville, Calif. Plans for the marriage had been completed and Mr. Mueller had been looking forward to the happy event.

Among his possessions was found a life insurance policy which would have expired next Saturday. He also had an accident insurance policy made out early in 1924, but it is not known whether or not it had been continued through this year.

The two small children of Mr. Haskins were witnesses to the tragedy, it developed today. They said they saw Mr. Mueller slip and start to fall as he was fixing the aerial, and in order to save himself, he had grabbed for a wire, which proved to be a high voltage carrier.

Word had not yet been received from his mother and other relatives in California late this afternoon, so it is not known yet whether burial will be here or in Marysville.

## Turkish War Council Has Secret Meet

### Move Follows Britain's Steal of Oil Lands

CONSTANTINOPLE, Dec. 30.—(AP)—The Turkish war council went into secret session at Ankara yesterday afternoon to devise plans in conformity with the new Russo-Turkish treaty and regarding the decision of the council of the league of nations putting the Mosul region of Iraq under British mandate.

General Djevad Pasha, former military commander of Constantinople, and who organized the Turkish forces on the Mosul front, participated in the council.

LONDON, Dec. 30.—(AP)—A dispatch to the Daily Mail from Constantinople says a new Turkish supreme army council was inaugurated Monday by President Mustafa Kemal Pasha. Mustafa declared it was essential to prepare for the defense of the country and to study ways for increasing the army's fighting value.

## State Teachers Decide To Branch Out Into Politics

### Association, in Face of Protests, Will Ally Itself With State Grange in Furtherance of State Income Tax Law

PORTLAND, Dec. 30. (AP)—Oregon State Teachers' association plunged deeper into politics at the meeting of its representative council yesterday afternoon, than in any preceeding year, the outstanding action being its declaration of its conversion to the state income tax theory and its decision to ally itself with the grange in an effort to put through an income tax program. Under the plan proposed 50 per cent of the proceeds of the income tax would be devoted to education.

Dr. Homer Rainey of the University of Oregon was prominent in opposition of the program recommended by the legislative committee, and C. C. Chapman of the Oregon Voter, invited to speak, suggested that before plunging into a program that involves extended political operations, the organization should make more detailed investigation of the political situation and the possible results of such campaign.

Chapman's speech provoked sharp protests, in which A. C. Hampton, superintendent of Astoria schools, and R. R. Turner, formerly superintendent in Dallas schools—both appointees of Governor Pierce on the text book commission—took an active part.

Supporters of the income tax program, led by Hampton, declared after Chapman's speech that the teachers should not allow some one to come in from the outside and tell them how to handle their affairs or dictate where they should stand on matters that interest them primarily.

Rainey who took much the same position as Chapman, declared: "It will take great study to discover what the effect of such a program will be and this body should not go on record as favoring the program until it knows the effects it would bring."

The vote was fairly close on the recommendation, but the income tax faction prevailed.

Mrs. Susanne Homes Carter, county superintendent of Jackson county, was elected vice president of the association to succeed Dr. Landers, president of Monmouth state normal school, who will automatically succeed to the office of President.

C. A. Rice, acting superintendent of schools of Portland, and J. O. McLaughlin of Corvallis, were elected to succeed themselves as members of the executive committee.

## Portland Robber Dies of Wounds

PORTLAND, Ore., Dec. 30.—(AP)—Ray Trask, confessed robber, who was shot by a policeman last Monday when he refused to leave his hiding place under a porch of a local rooming house, died early today of his wounds. Before his death Trask signed a statement confessing the robbery of more than a score of stores in the city. He declared he was assisted in the robberies by Ned Bahamondy, who was captured by the police Monday night and is being held in default of \$5,000 bail.

## Blazing Meteor Startles Residents Of New England

NEW YORK, Dec. 30. (AP)—A blazing meteorite or "fire ball" which flashed out of the east across New York and New England yesterday leaving in its wake a trail of reports that an unheard comet had paid the earth a visit is believed to have fallen near Ottawa, Canada.

Ralph Delury, Canadian government astronomer, said he would attempt to locate it today.

Reports that a comet was abroad in the heavens were spread by thousand who saw the flaming trail left in the murky early evening sky and mistook it for a comet's tail. Scientists along the route asserted it was only a meteor or perhaps a "fire ball" whose appearances are frequent. It was scarcely more luminous than the stars when it appeared over New York City about 5:30 p. m. Soon reports came that it had flashed over northern and central New York state, leaving behind a wisp of undulating pinkish "smoke" in the sky.

Astonished inquiries traced its course over New Haven, Conn., Providence, R. I., and Boston, where it was said the meteor was visible three minutes and its "tail" of sparks eight minutes after it disappeared. The final report from Ottawa said it was thought to have fallen in the Kingsmere hills near here.

## THREE OFFICERS ARE HURT WHEN STILL EXPLODES

### Sheriff McKinney and Two Deputies of Baker County Are Victims

### LOSE ALL THEIR HAIR

#### Trio Knocked Unconscious by Monster Moonshine Outfit on Farm

BAKER, Ore., Dec. 30.—(AP)—Sheriff Henry McKinney and two deputies, Frank Littlefield of Baker and Arthur Romageaux of Huntington, were seriously injured in the explosion of a still they were raiding in the hills near Snake river, six miles below Huntington, late last night. Romageaux is in a Baker hospital today and McKinney and Littlefield are confined in their homes here. All are expected to recover.

The officers raided the Will Baird farm late Tuesday, finding what they declared to be the biggest still ever taken in Baker county, with twelve 60-gallon barrels of maab. No one was found at the still, which was in a dugout on the hillside. Wishing to destroy the outfit the officers saturated it with coal oil. Littlefield then lighted a match.

Knocked Several Feet A terrific explosion three all three men several yards and knocked Sheriff McKinney unconscious for a moment. When he recovered his senses his clothing was on fire and his hand was burned. He staggered to his feet, fell, rose again, put out the fire in his clothing. The other two staggered to their feet, badly burned.

The officers drove to Huntington where Dr. McCall rendered first aid, and then drove to Baker, arriving at 4 a. m. Sheriff McKinney's eyes were both swollen shut after he reached Baker.

Farmer Arrested Will Baird, owner of the property on which the still was located, was arrested in Huntington and brought to the county jail here. He denies any knowledge of the still. The three officers are all burned about the head and face. McKinney and Littlefield lost all their hair. Their hands are severely burned. The men were standing several feet from the dugout at the time of the explosion. Two other men with the officers were further away and not injured.

## Horses Lose Out on American Farms

WASHINGTON, Dec. 30.—(AP)—The extent to which machinery continues to supplant the horse on American farms was revealed today in census bureau figures showing that the number of horses on farms decreased 16 per cent during the last five years, or from 19,767,161 in 1920 to 16,635,759 in 1925. The number of mules, however, increased more than 5 per cent, or from 5,442,391, to 5,710,608.

## BANDITS STAGE DARING ROBBERY

KANSAS CITY, Mo., Dec. 30. (AP)—Four bandits obtained about \$17,000 in silver and currency this morning in a daring holdup of the Argyle State Bank in the downtown business district. Scores of persons were passing the bank at the time. The bandits were believed to have mingled in the crowd and escaped in a motor car.