

HUNDREDS DIE AS ST. FRANCIS DAM BREAKS

FEAR FELT FOR TOWNS IN PATH OF BIG FLOOD

St. Francis Dam Disaster May Spread to Lower Section of Valley

ATTEMPT TO REACH COMMUNITIES FAILS

Survivors from Terrible Experience Relate Close Escapes from Onrushing Waters of Southern California; Once Beautiful Valley Desolate and Mud-covered.

OXNARD, Calif., March 13, (AP)—Grave fears were expressed by officials of Oxnard for two towns, Piru and Fillmore, which were directly in the path of the flood pouring out of San Francisco canyon today, and with which it has been impossible to establish communication.

Piru particularly was declared to have been in an extremely dangerous position. It is situated on lowland squarely opposite the path down which the advancing wall of water rushed this morning, 75 feet high and half a mile wide.

Attempts to reach either Piru or Fillmore were unsuccessful but were being renewed in the hope of getting through the mud, sand and water by which they are isolated.

Police officers spotted three bodies floating down the river past Saticum, eight miles above here.

Oxnard was warned at 2 o'clock this morning that the water was coming and 1500 automobiles were employed to move the inhabitants bodily to high ground. However, the danger passed two hours later without Oxnard being stricken.

NEW HALL, Calif., March 13, (AP)—C. H. Hunick, 80, related in the emergency hospital here (Continued on page 5)

CONTRACT LET FOR EQUIPMENT OF UNION HIGH

Contract for equipping the cafeteria of the Klamath Union high school—in the last stages of completion—was let by the Union high school board last night to the Dohrmann Hotel Supply company. The successful bid was approximately \$8,000.

Other bids were submitted by the California Oregon Power company, M. S. Sells and company of Portland and the Piper, Sheet and Metal Works of Portland.

Poor Pa



"I was so sick yesterday I was afraid to be left alone, but Ma just had to go see that bride's clothes."

Mystery Flight Spanning Atlantic Ocean Under Way

CITY FAVORS SET OF PLANS FOR HOSPITAL

If the county court expresses the same unanimous approval of plans for the city and county isolation hospital as did the city council last night, work will begin on the public project immediately.

A set of plans drawn by Charles N. Caseboom, Underwood building, local architect, call for the construction of a one-story masonry building which the architect guarantees will entail the expenditure of not over \$9,000, including his fee of six per cent.

The council will submit the plans to the county court for investigation and if that body approves, construction on the building will be undertaken in the near future.

According to the plan, the building will be constructed on the county poor farm, south of Klamath Falls.

The Caseboom plans provide for a building 63 feet by 47.5 feet in which will be two wards, each eight by 28, four rooms, nine by twelve feet, an office, dining room, kitchen, pantry.

Councilman Peltz suggested that doors be constructed allowing an exit to the outside from each ward, in case of fire.

LAY PLANS FOR RAILROAD FETE

For the purpose of getting plans under way for the formal celebration of the entrance of The Great Northern into Klamath Falls, a general committee of the chamber of commerce was named by the board of directors at the noon luncheon today. This action was taken when it was found impossible to get a chairman to serve, business men asked to take the position expressing the belief the undertaking would take up too much time of any one person.

The committee named today includes: Jackson Kimball, Bruce Dennis, John C. Boyle, E. B. Hall, Merle S. West, J. P. Duke, E. M. Bubb, W. C. Dalton, J. A. Gordon, C. Christopherson, Elmer Balsiger, Mayor T. B. Walters, A. M. Collier, C. H. Underwood and Charles Riley.

A called meeting of this committee will be held within the next few days when a general chairman from this list of men will be named.

This meeting will be called before the arrival of W. R. Mills, head of the advertising department of the Great Northern who is coming to Klamath Falls from St. Paul to assist in outlining plans for the most appropriate type of celebration to be staged in this city. Mr. Mills is coming at the request of C. Christopherson of the Great Northern to assist the general committee.

Pitiful Scenes Follow In Wake of Disaster

NEW HALL, Calif., Mar. 13, (A. P.)—San Francisco canyon, yesterday one of the most beautiful in this section of the country, today is buried under a layer of yellowish sand, ranging from a few feet to 30 feet in depth.

Citrus groves and small ranches with those who lived on them have been engulfed and interred or carried down the raging water course towards the sea at Ventura.

HAYS TOLD MELLON OF BOND DEAL

Secretary of Treasury Admits of Knowing of Sinclair's Gift

OFFICIAL DECLINED TO TAKE LARGE SUM

Said He Was So Busy He had Not Followed Various and Sensational Investigations Into the Teapot Oil Scandals; Purpose Was to Help Out Party Finances.

WASHINGTON, March 13, (AP)—Secretary Mellon, called before the senate's teapot dome committee today, testified that Will H. Hays, republican campaign manager in 1920, had attempted to have him accept \$50,000 in liberty bonds and give a like subscription to the party because Hays did not want large donations, such as that of Harry P. Sinclair to show on the records.

W. JAMES BUYS ROSKAMP HOME

H. E. Roskamp, contractor and builder, and Walter James a locomotive engineer on the Southern Pacific, made a deal Monday whereby Mr. James becomes owner of Mr. Roskamp's former home at 924 Esplanade. In the transaction Mr. Roskamp took in trade as part payment on the home a choice residence lot at the corner of Sixth and Jefferson streets.

BODIES TORN BY ST. FRANCIS FLOOD

MOORE PARK, Calif., March 13, (AP)—Six bodies of those who perished in the St. Francis dam break flood had been brought to this inland town today. Five more were enroute from a ranch between here and Fillmore where they washed up.

Most of the bodies had been torn and gashed by the raging torrent. They were brought in from the Bardsdale district, about five miles from here.

LA TRAFFIC HALTED

LA GRANDE, March 13, (AP)—Rock and dirt, loosened by rains, swept over the tracks of the O. W. R. R. and N. company branch line to Joseph, Ore., a depth of 25 feet, halting rail traffic until Wednesday night or Thursday morning. A crew of 125 men expect to have the debris cleared from the right of way.

Silent Flyer Hops Off This Morning; Bound for New York

LONDON, March 13, (AP)—Off on a daring attempt to conquer the Atlantic, Captain Walter Hinchliffe, one of England's brilliant airmen, sped from Cranwell airbase at 8:45 o'clock this morning in his American built plane, "The Adventure."

The mystery that attached to the take off which was made with the utmost secrecy, was further complicated by the presence of a mysterious passenger that may possibly have been the Honorable Elsie MacKay, daughter of Lord Incheape.

Although first reports said that Captain Gordon Sinclair, a reserve pilot was in the plane, there was no positive confirmation of his presence.

Inquiries at Miss MacKay's home this evening, however, failed to elicit any information concerning her whereabouts.

LONDON, March 13, (AP)—Captain Walter Hinchliffe's agent in London said this afternoon that Captain Hinchliffe who left Cranwell this morning on a mystery flight with sufficient fuel to carry him 3,000 miles, intended to attempt to fly the Atlantic. He was accompanied by Captain Jordan Sinclair.

Meanwhile no word had been received at 4 o'clock this afternoon on the airman's whereabouts since his hop off at 8:40 o'clock this morning.

LONDON, March 13, (AP)—Mrs. Hinchliffe informed the Associated Press late today that she (Continued on page three)

Consulting Sewer Engineer Not Needed, Taxpayer Claims

(This is the second communication bearing upon the sewer construction for which bonds were voted recently. The public is invited to discuss this topic through these columns and give views on what should be done. The people have voted the money and those who have the responsibility of spending that money will want any suggestions of merit. Please sign all communications so that the newspaper will know the authorship, even though it is desired that the author's name be not used in print.—Editor)

(To the Editor)—Now that \$300,000 has been voted for sewer bonds, the taxpayers are interested to see that the city gets a dollar's worth for every dollar spent.

The first big disbursement is to be for engineering. There is talk that 18 to 25 thousand dollars is to be spent in this direction, much of it to outside talent for "consultation" and "plans and specifications."

We doubt if the taxpayers will approve the expenditure of such a large sum for this purpose. The city has a competent city engineer, a man, it is understood, who, while assistant state highway engineer, supervised the expenditure of several millions for state roads. Surely, after this (Continued on page 8)

SPUD GROWERS HOLD MEETING

Age old saying though it was, nevertheless it proved to be the nucleus of one of the most constructive meetings of the Klamath Potato Growers association held since its inception. The motto was "an ounce of prevention is worth more than a pound of cure."

Working along this line County Agent C. A. Henderson and Assistant County Agent Wray Lawrence stressed prevention of disease by potato treatment and by growing a healthy crop rather than wait for inevitable serious infestation.

Mr. Henderson talked at length of disease control, the dangers of serious disease, and the necessity of absolute cooperation of potato growers when such a situation struck a potato growing community.

Mr. Lawrence stressed fertilization of potatoes giving an expert account of the feasibility of different methods and practice of fertilizing.

Earl C. Reynolds, secretary of the Klamath county chamber of commerce, reported that there was over \$400 in the treasury of the association. The meeting was held in the Central Community club hall. Eighty-eight attended.

AUCTIONEER ORDINANCE IS REJECTED

Ordinance Seeking to Curb Bad Business Practice Beaten

HEATED DISCUSSION HELD ON PROPOSAL

Councilmen Hold Interesting Session; Barbers Seek Regulation; Sidewalk Proposal Receives Sympathetic Attention; Regular Business is Transacted.

After one of the most heated arguments heard around the council table in months, the council by a vote of three to two, turned down the proposed city legislation which would have imposed heavy license fees on transient merchants and would have regulated auctions and forced sales.

Councilmen Francis Olds and J. E. Van Camp voted for the ordinance. The "Noes of Councilmen Paul Lambert, Harry Peltz and Elmer Balsiger killed it for the time being.

Balsiger, fuming in the corner (Continued on page 5)

HOTEL SURVEY WILL BE MADE

Responding to an invitation to come to Klamath Falls and make a survey relative to a master hotel for this city, L. D. Barr, western representative of the Hockenbury system, stated over the long distance wire today that he would arrive in three weeks and give the survey his personal attention, remaining, if necessary, throughout the campaign of raising the needed funds provided his survey justified the building of such a hotel.

Alameda, Calif., now at work in Alameda, Calif., handling a campaign for a \$150,000 addition to the Alameda community hotel which he built seven months ago. At that time people of Alameda thought their needs had been met when a hotel costing \$262,000, less the ground cost, was erected under the Hockenbury plan. They now find that the business of the hotel has reached a point where it is necessary to add an addition costing \$150,000 and it is that work that Mr. Barr is now engaged in and which will be completed in about three weeks.

G. N. Chief Engineer Inspects Basin Work

To acquaint themselves in every particular with the various units of construction of the Great Northern railroad in connection with the Klamath extension, J. R. W. Davis, St. Paul, chief engineer of the railroad, Colonel F. Mears, St. Paul, assistant chief engineer and John Hess, Seattle, general roadmaster for the western division of the railroad, arrived in Klamath Falls yesterday afternoon and departed early this morning for Bend.

The officials were taken over every project in Klamath Falls—the railroad yards on the west side of Lake Ewauna; the latest spur line which leads up the west bank of Lake Ewauna to the South Riverdale properties;

SEATTLE GIRL CONVERTED TO HINDU FAITH

NASHIK, India, Mar. 13, (AP)—In this ancient holy city, an American girl today was converted from Christianity to Hinduism so that she might wed a former native ruler.

Miss Nancy Ann Miller of Seattle, Wash., went through the conversion ceremony this morning. Saturday she will become the third wife of Takuji Rao, former Maharajah of Indore.

Appearing very sad as though the strange ceremonies imposed a considerable strain upon her, the American girl played the central part in Hindu religious rites, performed in semi-privacy on the banks of river Godavery. The Hindu priest who officiated placed a mark upon her brow and Miss Miller then performed the ceremony of Pupa, or Hindu worship, before a sacred fire of coals known as Agni. Then she bathed in Godavery waters. The American girl was dressed in Indian attire and wore a richly embroidered sari, or loose flowing robe.

DAMAGE ACTION NEARING CLOSE

With the plaintiff's case rested, the \$15,450 damage case brought by Mrs. Marie Phillipson against Dr. Warren Hunt, owner of the "Klamath Valley hospital," moved steadily on toward a close this afternoon.

Mrs. Phillipson is suing for damages, claiming permanent injuries of the left leg and foot from a hot water bottle that had been placed in her bed while she was still under the effects of an anesthetic in the hospital. The woman claims that a nurse, an agent of the hospital, a nurse, was responsible for the alleged careless act, and that Dr. Hunt as owner of the hospital is responsible for the severe burn and its results sustained by Mrs. Phillipson.

Two witnesses for the defense (Continued on page 8)

- ◆ BUILDING IN KLAMATH FALLS SHOWS INCREASE
- ◆ With winter virtually behind, building in Klamath Falls spurred forward last week to reach a figure that compares favorably with the biggest building weeks of 1925 and 1926. According to an announcement by Police Judge Lem L. Gaghagen seven permits aggregating a total proposed building investment of \$51,550 were approved by Building Inspector A. L. Rice during the past seven days. The largest single permit was for the construction of a \$30,000 addition to the Wilbard hotel.

HUGE WALL OF WATER POURS INTO FARM LAND

Death Estimate From Catastrophe Varies From 200 to 500

LIVES SNUFFED OUT DURING DARKNESS

Impounded Waters of St. Francis Dam Were Part of Los Angeles Water System; Beautiful Little Valley of Farmers Suddenly Swept by Death-Dealing Flood.

LOS ANGELES, March 13, (AP)—The St. Francis dam of the city of Los Angeles water system, located in San Francisco canyon approximately 45 miles north of here, collapsed shortly after midnight, pouring a wall of water into the lowlands.

Los Angeles water and power bureau officials received a report that 150 men, employees of the bureau, in camp at Kemp, had all perished except one man.

LOS ANGELES, March 13, (AP)—William Bright, in charge of the sheriff's squad in police and rescue work in the St. Francis dam estimated early today that between 200 and 500 persons lost their lives when the dam went out shortly after midnight. Bright after a hurried survey of the situation declared his belief that few, if any of the ranchers, power workmen and power sub-station employees in San Francisco canyon the site of the dam, had escaped. The total number of persons living in the upper canyon he placed at 500.

At 5:30 a. m., three bodies, all unidentified, had been recovered. Red Cross workers were on the (Continued on page 5)

POSSESSION OF VENISON CAUSE OF \$250 FINE

ROSEBURG, March 13, (AP)—Waine Martindale, 222 West Emerson street, Portland, and E. M. Tilton, 8035, 66th ave., S. E., Portland, were arrested here this morning and fined \$250 for possession of venison out of season. The two young men, according to the information given by Sheriff Webb, stated that they had been looking for homestead land in the Camas mountain region and had killed two deer for their own use and were on their way back to Portland when arrested.

Aunt Het



"I've got to have stronger hinges put on her ride door. It's the one Pa slams while I'm finishin' up an argument."