

THE KLAMATH NEWS

United News and United Press Telegraph Services

KLAMATH FALLS, ORE., FRIDAY, DECEMBER 18, 1925



Price Five Cents

Sections
Pages

No. 30. (Every Morning Except Monday)

OLD SANTA PICKS HIS HEADQUARTERS

S. Claus, the benevolent, obese old gentleman who looks after little boys and girls at Christmas time, has found a headquarters in Klamath Falls.

It is to be at J. T. Perkins' toy land, 1609 Main street.

With a view to assisting Santa Claus, Mr. Perkins has agreed to furnish toys to all needy children at cost. And that is not all that Mr. Perkins has done that unfortunate children may be happy Christmas morning. His request for no publicity, however, must be honored.

Saturday The News stages its four-bit day. The News asks you not to forget that, maybe, you may make some child happy.

BRAMWELL FREE GRAFT CHARGES

State Board Exonerates Banking Supt. of All Accusations

SALEM, Dec. 17.—The state banking board Thursday afternoon by unanimous vote exonerated Frank Bramwell, state superintendent of banks, from the implied charges of improper conduct, coercion and graft in the conduct of his department.

The action of the board followed an all-day session of the board, at which Bramwell presented a number of witnesses and a mass of correspondence in refutation of the implications which arose at a meeting here Friday, while W. B. Haines, president of the Portland National bank, was pressing his claims for recognition as a reserve agent for state banks. Haines, in addressing the board at that time introduced in support of his charge that Bramwell had discriminated against his institution in refusing to grant the reserve agency per-

LEAGUE COUNCIL ASKS AMERICA TO JOIN CONFERENCE

Place Great Value On the Cooperation of U. S. On Limitations

WASHINGTON, Dec. 17.—(United News)—The league of nations council attaches "the greatest possible value to the co-operation of the United States" in the league's proposed disarmament conference, not only in the conference itself, but in the preparatory work, the invitation to the United States declares.

The invitation, which was made public by the state department here Thursday night, outlines the agenda of the conference in a general way, emphasizes the necessity of co-operation by all nations, and expresses a hope that the United States will co-operate.

"As a result of the long and continuous study which it has devoted to this question, the council is unanimously of the opinion that owing to the political, economic and technical complexity of the problem, which it raises, the question of disarmament can hardly be approached with any certain hope of complete solution unless it is considered in its entirety and with the co-operation of all nations," the formal invitation states.

The council believes that the time has come for studying the practical possibilities of reduction and limitation of armaments under the guidance and responsibility of the governments, and expresses the hope that at the moment when all the nations of the world are conscious of a common need, it will be able to count on the full and direct co-operation of the government of the United States for a work which so closely concerns the peace of the world."

NO NEW CABINET

BERLIN, Dec. 17.—Efforts to form a new German cabinet have been postponed until after Christmas, President Hindenburg announced, following the failure of former Minister of Interior Koch to form a cabinet.

SIX INDICTMENTS BY LOCAL GRAND JURY ARE SECRET

Nothing Positive To Be Let Out

BENCH WARRANTS OUT

Grand Jury Released Until Monday, Feb. 24, 1926 By Judge Leavitt

In all probability, William Cole, prohibition agent now said to be in Portland, was indicted for assault while armed with a dangerous weapon, recently, on Leslie Congo, of Klamath Falls, and, later, Frank Pecholt, proprietor of the Country club, when the Klamath county grand jury, following a special session, yesterday afternoon returned one true bill, and one not true bill, and six secret indictments.

Congo, some months ago, was shot by Cole after an automobile chase, during which, according to the officer, Congo threw some jugs from his machine. Pecholt, according to persons purporting to be eye-witnesses, was slugged on the night of November 28.

Cole, admitting that he shot "at Congo's car," denies heatedly that he struck Pecholt and insists, along with Officers McBride and McMills, that the man apparently was struck by a passing automobile.

Although nothing positive may be said regarding the secret indictments, it is known that Walter Sibley and William Welshans, residents of a cabin near the scene of the Pecholt injury, professed a willingness to go before the grand jury and explain they believed Pecholt to have been struck by a weapon in the hands of an unidentified man.

Denied by Cole
On the other hand, Cole says he would have no hesitancy in admitting he had struck Pecholt, had such been the case. "Any statement to that effect is absolutely untrue, however, and I'm going to see that it is proved so," Cole said.

Bench warrants for the six persons mentioned in the six indictments (Continued On Page Two)

RENO FIREBUG AFTER DANCERS

Sets Fire to Dance Halls In What Is Believed Fight With Evil

RENO, Nev., Dec. 17.—(United News)—A strange creature whose hatred of pleasure and amusement has flared out in a series of incendiary attacks on dance halls, is believed at large in Reno.

Within the last few weeks three dancing places have been razed by mysterious fires. The last of them, Hart's newly constructed hall, was in ashes Thursday. A short time ago Huffaker's pavilion was burned, and a month ago the Varsity, a dance hall, managed by University of Nevada students, was reduced to ruins.

There are reports about the city of a vindictive firebug who operates in the dead of night. Unexplained blazes have been confined to the halls where Reno dancers congregate, and this fact leads police to believe that the one who has started them is conducting what he imagines is a campaign of righteousness against the forces of evil.

Native Son Dogs Get Call of Wild

SAN RAFAEL, Calif., Dec. 17.—An armed posse has been called out to exterminate 20 dogs which have answered "the call of the wild." The animals are roaming the sides of Mount Tamalpais, a menace to game and daily are bringing their depredations closer to this community.

Warden E. Selmer said Thursday that the pack might attack men walking through the woods unless some action were taken soon to kill them.

FIERY COLONEL FORFEITS RANK

Mitchell Put on Shelf for Five Years By Military Courtmartial

WASHINGTON, Dec. 17.—(United News)—Colonel William Mitchell has been suspended for five years by the military court martial which tried him for his attacks on administration of aviation by the army and navy departments.

The decision was reached Thursday night, after the court martial had been out two hours and twenty-five minutes, following a dramatic refusal by Colonel Mitchell to go any farther with his defense.

In reading sentence, the court said it took into consideration "the brilliant war record of the accused."

Major General Robert L. Howze, president of the court martial, said Mitchell must pay for his unprecedented criticism of the war and navy departments with forfeiture of all rank, command and pay for a period of five years.

The sentence must yet be passed upon by a court of review, as well as by Secretary of War Davis, and the president of the United States.

Mitchell received his sentence with a smile. As soon as court adjourned he advanced and shook hands with the officers who had found him guilty and passed sentence.

The colonel and Mrs. Mitchell walked out of the building in company with the members of the court. At the entrance they all stopped to pose before a battery of cameras.

Colonel Mitchell refused to comment other than to say that the case is not closed yet.

"This verdict and the sentence must be passed upon by President Coolidge," he explained. "Until then it is not effective, and it would hardly be in good taste for me to say anything about it."

CHAMBER FIGHTS OFFICE REMOVAL

State Highway Department Criticised for Move Against Klamath

The Klamath county chamber of commerce, with headquarters here, does not favor discontinuance of the local unit of the state highway department.

It said so, emphatically, in a letter yesterday addressed to Roy Klein, state highway engineer, who had announced that, in the future, local work would be directed from division headquarters at The Dalles.

Why—asked the local chamber—were not local residents, as taxpayers, consulted by the state highway department concerning the proposed change? Klamath county, as well as Lake county, it was added, are in a process of rapid development, and highway work is of the utmost importance.

With the supervising officers a long distance from Klamath county, it was pointed out, the proper watchfulness could not be maintained. The chamber expects to do all in its power to return to, or near, Klamath Falls, the offices of the men in charge of road work.

Always, the chamber contended, there are problems in this vicinity, due to the fact that there is so much of the macadamized roads here and, as a result, road men are needed for maintenance work.

Hope was expressed yesterday that the local chamber may convince the state department to change its official mind.

C. C. Kelley, division engineer, who was in charge locally, was released as a result of the action of Mr. Klein.

Klein declared that his proposal, announced Tuesday, was made with a view to economizing.

AWARDED DAMAGES

PORTLAND, Dec. 17.—Ralph Johnson, longshoreman was awarded damages of \$4,500 today in his suit against eight employing companies by a jury which found that a conspiracy existed to deny him employment.

Evidence was introduced to show that Johnson was "blacklisted" because of trouble with one of the foremen, and that he could thereafter obtain no work at his customary employment.

BUSINESS HOUSES FAST RECOVERING FROM GERM PANIC

So Called Epidemic Hits Business

CONDITIONS IMPROVED

Less Cases of Meningitis Than First Reported 3 Now In County

Alarmists, ever willing to cry "wolf!" even if no more than a jackrabbit has attracted their attention, recently have caused Klamath Falls merchants thousands of dollars.

Merchants said yesterday that, because of the so-called spinal meningitis epidemic here, their sales have fallen off materially. In view of the fact that the scare has apparently disappeared, however, they were optimistic regarding their business during the next few days.

One restaurateur said yesterday his business had fallen off \$50 a day. A dry-goods merchant explaining that his sales, since the meningitis reports have been current, have fallen far below those which he had anticipated.

Indications yesterday, however, were that frightened residents of the city have calmed down, and Christmas shopping again was on.

Ought Not Close
Dr. G. S. Newsom, director of the county health unit, has consistently maintained that the city ought not to be closed, and that business should be continued as usual. He was backed in his stand by the state board of health, which advised against any such move.

The city council, at its last session, also refused to act on the suggestions of those who would clamp the lid on the city, and decided that, in no sense of the phrase does an emergency exist.

It was discovered yesterday that one case, which had been diagnosed as the dread disease, was something else entirely. Furthermore, Dr. Newsom announced last night that there were no new cases reported yesterday and that conditions, generally, are much improved.

"In my opinion, persons will be far better off if they go about their work as usual, always provided they take such simple precautionary measures as spraying their noses and throats," Dr. Newsom said.

At the present time there are but three cases of meningitis reported in the county. Each of these, as far as has been reported to the county health office, is doing as well as could be expected.

WHITE RABBITS TOO PROMINENT

Wallowa Bunnies Take On Winter Coat Long Before Snows

PROMISE, Ore., Dec. 17.—Jack-rabbits in Wallowa county don't know where to lay the blame. Maybe it's with the weather man; maybe it's the fashion columns in the newspapers.

But whatever it is to blame, the rabbits without process of evolution, have been made the goats.

Six weeks ago, the rabbits, after consulting the new winter fashions, adopted the newest thing in late fall suitings, and appeared in winter whites. Snow, however, failed to keep up with the mode, and for several weeks the white jack on the bare, brown ground has been as conspicuous as a hair in the salad dressing. With hunters numerous, this unwelcome prominence is reducing the expectancy of life among Wallowa county jackrabbits to an alarming degree.

FLOODS IN COOS

COQUILLE, Ore., Dec. 17.—The long period of ideal weather enjoyed in southwestern Oregon was broken Thursday by the first real storm of the season. High winds prevailed and rain fell in torrents. It is predicted that all the lowlands of the Coquille valley will be flooded within 36 hours.

CHEST FUND BOXES PLACED DOWNTOWN

Chest fund boxes have been placed in a number of local stores, it was announced last night, with a view to securing funds for unfortunate children.

The stores include: Moe's, Underwood's drug store, the Mecca pool hall, the Star drug store, the pastime, the Waldorf, the Eagle poolroom, the K. K. K. store, the Golden Rule store, and the local branch of the United cigar stores.

The committee in charge of the work that local kids' Christmas may be happier, is very optimistic.

STATE MATCHES CO. ROAD BUDGET

Klamath Gets \$32,544 from State of Oregon for Main Highways

Because the Klamath county court saw fit to allow in its 1926 budget a sufficient amount of money for its market roads during the coming year, it is to receive from the state of Oregon \$32,544.

The fact became known yesterday when the local unit of the state highway department was advised by J. H. Scott, market road engineer of the state department, at Salem, that soon a sum would be available provided the county would—or had—matched the amount.

There was a scurrying to the office of the county clerk to determine, from the budget report, whether such an amount of money had been allowed.

It was found that the county court, tentatively, had provided \$35,000 for construction work, and \$5,000 for maintenance.

The county was saved. It had not lost the \$32,544.

In addition to that fund, the county will receive from the license tax, \$10,646.81, according to William Lee, county assessor.

TAX REDUCTION MEASURE TO BE APPROVED FRIDAY

Bill for \$325,000,000 Cut Goes Through Without Amendments

WASHINGTON, Dec. 17.—(United News)—The new \$325,000,000 tax reduction bill, still the same in every essential as when it began its journey through the house four days ago, will receive the final approval of the house Friday, a day earlier than expected.

But a few sections still remained to be considered when the house adjourned Thursday night. Leaders agreed to meet an hour earlier than usual Friday, at 11 o'clock, in order to pass it before the day is over.

The bill continued its perfect record Thursday, every amendment offered being beaten down. The strongest threat yet made came during the day from champions of repeal or sharp reductions in automobile taxes. The bill provides for reductions of present taxes on passenger automobiles, parts, and accessories from five to three per cent and for repeal of the tax on trucks.

Borah Turns Down Diplomatic Dinner

WASHINGTON, Dec. 17.—Senator Borah, chairman of the foreign relations committee, declined an invitation to attend the white house diplomatic dinner, given Thursday night. Mrs. Borah's illness was given as the reason.

Almost invariably the head of the senate foreign relations committee occupies a conspicuous place at this annual state function for the diplomatic corps.

The only other guests aside from diplomats were the Secretary of State and Mrs. Kellogg and Representative Porter of Pennsylvania, chairman of the house foreign affairs.

LUMBERMEN WILL PROTEST ANOTHER \$20,000 CRUISE

Claim Price Allowed Was Too Liberal

1925 CRUISE FAILURE

Timbermen Will Mix With County Court Over Re-Cruise Plan

Charging that the Klamath county court already has spent \$20,000 needlessly in pine timber cruising, and protesting that it ought not again to allow such a sum to be used in estimating the amount of standing timber in Klamath, lumbermen are prepared to appear before the county court at its budget hearing Monday and offer strenuous objections, it was learned yesterday.

It was charged that, during 1925, \$20,000 was expended by the county. It was further said that the 20 cents per acre for 100,000 acres was too much money to be paid for the work. Further, it was pointed out that, according to the court's figures, a discrepancy of no more than three and one-half per cent had been found in the amount of standing pine.

Twenty-seven hundred dollars, which the county might have acquired because of the reported additional standing timber, was not even received.

That was because the county board of equalization had determined not to let the figures go on the tax rolls.

Big Scrap Monday
Monday promises to be a chaotic day in county court. The timbermen, it is understood, are prepared to fight for what they believe to be their rights, and the county court, unquestionably, will offer counter verbal blows.

One prominent citizen of Klamath Falls declared yesterday that, in the opinion of the lumbermen, the county court has paid considerably more for its cruising than is customary and this, it is believed, will be brought out at the session.

The move of the county court to cruise the pine of Klamath resulted, it was said, after it had been charged by various persons that the timbermen were not taxed as heavily as they should be. The accusation is denied by the timbermen, who say they have contributed all that they should.

Fire Company in Quick Run, Saves Jas. Foster Home

Quick work on the part of the Klamath Falls fire department, led by Chief Keith Ambrose, yesterday saved a residence valued at \$7,000.

About \$50 damage was done before the flames were arrested.

The home was that of James Foster, at 725 Eldorado. It was caused by a spark which flew from the chimney and set afire the shingles on the roof.

How's Your Battery?

A new suit of clothes is to a man's pep and go-get-it spirit the same as a new battery is to your car's self starter—it makes your engine turn over.

A new suit for Christmas will make your sociability so much more enjoyable.



In the Center of the Shopping District.

NO WARNING FOR BANKS ONLY CRASH

Examiner Now in Charge

MAUD EVIDENCE

Door to Suffer In Up of Their Savings

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Suffer Loss in Area Around Tientsin

Dec. 17.—Two thousand were killed or wounded in a battle area in the Tientsin to the Daily

lies between Peking Troops still loyal to governor Chang Tso

portion of Feng's army in the region of

is reported to be en-

ROUGH DRY

your family bundle: use starch where it

Phone 656