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The Indianapolis Times

HOME

Mostly cloudy tonight and Friday, probably rain or snow; not much change in temperature, lowest tonight 25 to 30.

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INDIANAPOLIS, THURSDAY, MARCH 15, 1928

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TWO CENTS Outside Marion County 3 Cents

EIGHT PROBERS TO FIX CAUSE OF DAM BREAK

City, County Officials to Sift Reports of Flood Disaster.

ESTIMATE TOLL AT 275

Tractors, Dynamite Being Used in Hunt for Bodies Believed Buried.

By United Press
LOS ANGELES, March 15.—Eight separate official investigations started today to determine the cause and fix responsibility for the St. Francis dam disaster.

Coroner O. L. Reardon of Ventura County, called inquests at Oxnard, Moor Park, Fillmore and Santa Paula.

These inquests and investigations undertaken by Jess Stevens, Los Angeles city attorney, and Asa Keyes, Los Angeles County district attorney, will determine the legal aspect of the case.

Stevens' chief interest as head of the city's legal staff lies in the liability in which the city may be involved. He interpreted the situation as binding the city for damages only in case there is established negligence or carelessness in building or operating the dam.

By United Press
SANTA PAULA, Cal., March 15.—The hunt for bodies of victims of the St. Francis dam disaster was resumed today in the Santa Clara River basin with dynamite, tractors and all kinds of farming implements.

Additional hundreds of searchers slowly cut their way through debris and piles of mud and sand left by the flood that swept the valley after the dam broke.

The unofficial list of dead and missing stood at between 250 and 275, with 300 or more still missing and many of them believed buried under debris or swept out to sea.

Efforts of searchers were centered today at a point near Saticoy, where the river bed widened and the flood spent itself. Eleven bodies were found there. Many other bodies are believed buried in this "death cache" where tons of clay and sand were deposited.

Find Eleven Mutilated Bodies
The eleven bodies recovered were badly mutilated and lay huddled in a basin-like grave. It is believed that many of the 300 to 400 reported missing will be found in this sector.

The search for the dead went on, reconstruction efforts gained new headway as telephone, railway and highway workers sought to re-establish broken communication.

Pestilence—the inevitable visitor of flood-swept cities—brought new fear today to the stricken Santa Clara river valley.

Move to Stop Disease
While searchers continued their disconsolate hunt in crevices, debris and mud for more bodies, health authorities moved swiftly to avert the spread of disease over the wasted region.

Weather conditions were such that pestilence, once started, soon would gain tremendous headway, health authorities said.

Water in the region was tested by authorities, and preparations were made to inoculate all flood survivors for typhoid.

Goes to Trial



City Councilman Boynton J. Moore, who went on trial on bribery charge in Criminal Court today, is first of six councilmen to face trial on indictments of the alleged attempt of John L. Duvall to stave off impeachment by buying council votes last fall.

500 TO DISCUSS MANAGER PLAN

State Parley Is Scheduled in City Friday.

Five hundred persons from Indianapolis and twenty-six State towns will attend a city manager conference at the Claypool, Friday.

The conference is sponsored by the Indianapolis City Manager League to answer questions asked regarding the manager plan, since it was adopted by Indianapolis.

Speakers will include: Dr. Leonard D. White, University of Chicago professor of political science; Mrs. H. R. Misner, Michigan City, and L. W. Clapp, Wichita, Kan., banker.

Charles P. Taft, II, Cincinnati, prosecuting attorney; Claude H. Anderson, executive secretary of the local league, and Winfield Miller, State city manager law officer.

Invites 531 Congressmen to Fly With Him.

WASHINGTON, March 15.—Col. Charles A. Lindbergh is to invite the 435 members of the House and ninety-six members of the Senate to take flights with him.

Lindbergh will address a letter to Vice President Dawes and Speaker Longworth of the House this afternoon asking that his invitation be formally presented to both Houses.

Lindbergh went to the Capitol unexpectedly today and held a long conference in Dawes' private room.

He also conferred with Longworth in the latter's office. Commerce Air Secretary MacCracken and Naval Air Secretary Warner accompanied him.

'SPANK IF YOU WISH'

Girl Returns Home After Mother Is Fined for Whipping.

KANSAS CITY, Kan., March 15.—There's no place like home to Lorene Jones, a penitent.

Lorene, 16, a week ago swore out a warrant for the arrest of her mother, Mrs. Christine Woodside, because the latter whipped her with a coat hanger. Lorene left home after the whipping. The mother was fined \$100 in police court.

Lorene returned home last night, ready to take, she said, what punishment her mother saw fit to give her. Mother and daughter embraced.

BANKRUPTCY SUIT UP

Cadle Voluntary Action Heard by Wilde.

MOORE GOES TO TRIAL ON BRIBE CHARGE

Little Progress Is Made at Opening Session in Jury Selection.

DEFENSE LOSES POINT

Councilman Fails to Get Hearing on Municipal Officer Statute.

After only one talesman had been challenged, for cause, by the defense this morning, questioning of the prospective jurors continued on its final round this afternoon in the bribery case of Councilman Boynton J. Moore.

The case is being heard before Special Judge Paul G. Davis in Criminal Court.

When it first got under way this morning, an attempt was made by Defense Attorney Ira M. Holmes to have the matter prosecuted under the statute governing municipal officers, rather than the general bribery law.

This was overruled by the court, who pointed out that it was up to the State to decide under what statute the case should be prosecuted.

The State chose the general bribery charges.

Big Difference in Penalties
Under the municipal officer law the maximum penalty would have been a \$1,000 fine, while under the general statute a two to fourteen years prison sentence is possible, should the defendant be found guilty.

Today was Holmes' first appearance in the case. The juror dismissed was Frank M. Heges, who said he operated a printing establishment at 229 E. Ohio St., near the city hall, and had formed an opinion regarding the guilt of the defendant.

All but four of the jurors remaining in the box when court opened this afternoon were members of the regular jury panel. Those not belonging to the regular panel were George R. Tilton, of 2630 College Ave., called to fill Heges' place; Homer Day, of 425 N. La Salle St.; E. S. Blessing, of 138 N. Illinois St.; and John C. Wetnig, R. R. 1.

Eight Regulars Left
Regular panel members in the jury box included Charles E. Bragg, R. R. A.; Fred C. Buesching, Cumberland; Rex P. Armstrong, R. R. C.; Orville Baker, 315 S. Taft St.; Samuel H. Colbert, Negro, R. R. A.; Fred C. Borneman, Lawrence, Ind.; James H. Barber, Mars Hill, and Walter Boepcher, of 1142 W. Thirty-Second St.

All had passed the preliminary questioning.

Among the crowd of spectators in the courtroom at the opening session were William H. (Bill) Armistage, one-time political "boss," and Charles Clark, one-time reformer of grand jury engaged in political corruption probing, and later employed by the Duvall administration at city hall.

It was understood that the defense will call about thirty witnesses, mostly for testimony in support of Moore's character.

The indictment on which Moore went to trial charges that he solicited and accepted \$100 from John H. Collins, then city purchasing agent, shortly before the city council session in which impeachment of Mayor John L. Duvall was threatened.

Duvall, Collins and Miss Pearl Nichols, former secretary to the mayor, are expected to be the principal State's witnesses. Several others will be called.

Davis, who is presiding, was selected Monday of this week, after four lists of three judges each had been submitted by Criminal Judge James A. Collins.

Detectives Coming for Bigamist
Detectives are expected today from Cleveland to take Cecil Metz, there for trial on bigamy charge. Metz was arrested here Wednesday. Metz is also wanted in Cincinnati, on charge of wife and child desertion, it is said.

Man Picks Up Child on Street and Drives Away.

LEIGH, Neb., March 15.—An unknown man kidnapped 5-year-old Gwendolyn Tharis on the streets of Leigh at 8:30 a. m. today and drove east on the main highway with her in an automobile.

Stewart Arraigned
'Not Guilty,' Oil Man Pleads in Contempt Case.

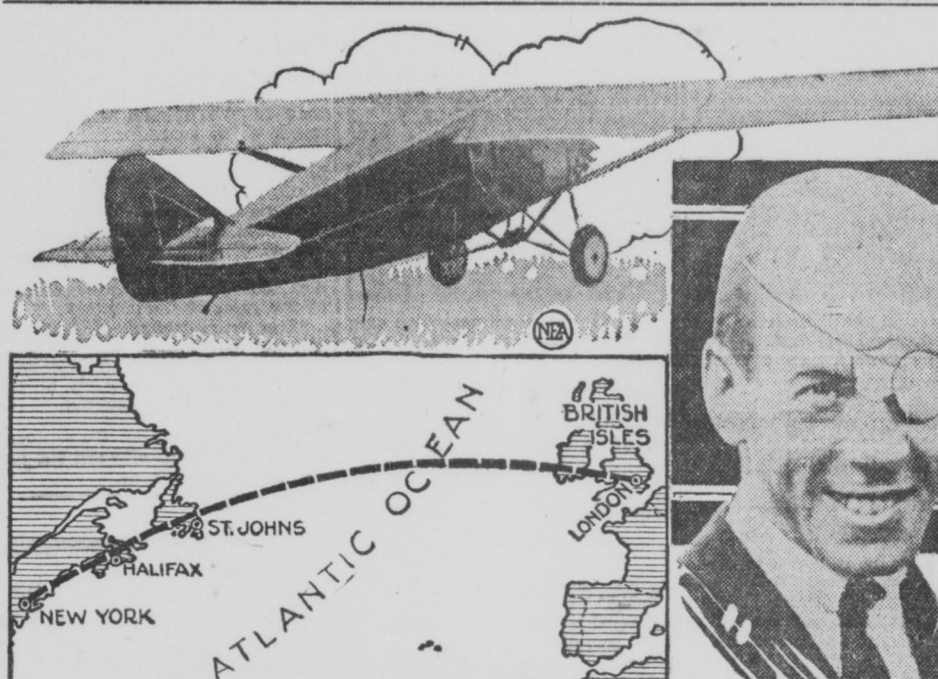
WASHINGTON, March 15.—Robert W. Stewart pleaded not guilty today to charges of contempt of the Senate.

Stewart, chairman of the Standard Oil Company of Indiana, appeared before Chief Justice Walter L. McCoy of the District of Columbia Supreme Court to answer to the four counts of an indictment voted three weeks ago.

The indictment charged violation of the law empowering the Senate to obtain testimony under oath in connection with legislation.

It was voted on request of the Senate as a result of Stewart's refusal to tell the Teapot Dome committee all he knew about the disposal of Liberty bond profits of the Continental Trading Company.

Hope Faint That Fliers Still Live



Hope has been given up for Capt. W. G. R. Hinchliffe and his companion, Elsie Mackay, daughter of a wealthy British ship owner, attempting the westward crossing of the Atlantic. Hinchliffe and a duplicate of his plane, with a map of the route he was to follow to America, are shown above.

COURT BATTLE FORECAST ON BUILDING OF SCHOOLS

Plane and 'Husky' Team Speed Food to Village

SAULT STE. MARIE, Mich., March 15.—A team of seven picked "huskies" mushed south today through a driving blizzard, carrying food and medicines to the 600 residents of Detour, Mich., snowbound for nearly three weeks.

The dogs, driven by Dr. John F. Steadman, conveyed a sled laden with 100 pounds of food, tobacco and medicine. Dr. Steadman, with one companion, left here last night, but was halted by the storm until dawn at Keldon, twenty-miles south.

At the same time an Army transport plane was winging toward northern Michigan from Mt. Clemens, carrying food to the snow-bound village.

The plane was expected to reach the Oscoda army base by mid-afternoon for refueling. Then it will come to Sault Ste. Marie, where it will be equipped with skis and loaded with provisions.

A snow motor, carrying 1,000 pounds of provisions, left late yesterday in charge of Clarence Paquin, newspaper man, but had not been heard from since it passed Keldon, and it was believed it had been forced to halt by the blizzard.

The relief expeditions, if successful, will carry the first food that has entered Detour for more than two weeks.

INCOME TAXES DUE BY NIGHT

Internal revenue offices on the third floor of the Federal building will remain open until midnight tonight to accommodate income taxpayers, George L. Foote, acting collector of internal revenue, announced today.

Foote added that reports and checks bearing a postmark earlier than midnight will be accepted.

Federal building corridors were filled today with long lines of last minute taxpayers.

Foote said today indications are the total receipts by tonight will be nearly as great as for the same period last year, when approximately \$8,000,000 was collected.

Some loss this year is anticipated because two heavy income taxpayers who paid here last year will pay at Chicago.

More than \$1,500,000 was collected Wednesday.

KIDNAPS LITTLE CHILD

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WRECKAGE OFF MAINE COAST MAY REVEAL FATE OF FLIER

AND GIRL IN BRITISH PLANE

Coast Guards Are Told of Yellow Floatsam Near Old Orchard.

OVERDUE FOR 24 HOURS

Chance That Machine May Be Safe in Remote Spot Only Hope Now.

BIDDEFORD POOL, Maine, March 15.—Coast guards at the Fletcher's Neck Station here said they had been informed that yellow wreckage was floating about five miles off Old Orchard Beach.

According to the coast guards, the wreckage had been sighted by fishermen who reported to the station. Boats were immediately sent out to search for the floatsam.

The Stinson-Detroler plane Endeavour in which Capt. Walter Hinchliffe and Miss Elsie Mackay attempted a trans-Atlantic flight was black and gold.

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Secretly Blocks Rescue

NEW YORK, March 15.—The secrecy under which Capt. Walter Hinchliffe, one-eyed flier, and the Hon. Elsie Mackay, pretty, titled British heiress, attempted to fly the Atlantic Ocean from England to the United States, today defeated the calculations of those who might have gone to their rescue.

The aviators at the numerous flying fields around New York expressed doubt that any relief planes would be sent out to search for the Endeavour because so little was known of Hinchliffe's proposed route.

Officials at Mitchell field have abandoned hope for the flight's success.

The Endeavour now is more than twenty-four hours overdue over the American continent, had it taken the northern route coming in by way of Newfoundland.

At Curtis Field it was pointed out that previous Atlantic flights had started with all the benefits of publicity. Ships along the route were notified and tentative schedules of the flights were drawn up in advance.

Many Unfounded Rumors
The Hinchliffe plans, however, were kept secret, presumably at the request of Miss Mackay, who did not want her family to worry. For that reason any ships which may have been along the route of the Endeavour were not on the look-out for the plane.

Many rumors that the airplane Endeavour—in which the Hon. Elsie Mackay and Captain Walter Hinchliffe were flying—had landed. But down found none of these rumors confirmed and belief grew that the plane had ended its flight somewhere in the vicinities of the north Atlantic.

Reports Prove False
An airplane was heard passing over the Boston airport about 9:30 p. m. and hope grew that the flight had been successful. But hour after hour passed and there was no word to substantiate the belief that the motor roar was that of Hinchliffe's plane.

During the night there was a report that an airplane had landed near Menlo Park, N. J.

This is near the Hadley field air-mail station and the report was believed to have started shortly after the night air mail plane from Cleveland landed there. No other planes landed there during the night.

The one remaining chance today was that the plane had landed safely, but that the two fliers had been unable to communicate with the outside. In this event it might be days before their safety was known.

It seemed more likely, however, that the Endeavour had followed the course of the other planes that had started on westward trans-Atlantic flights, and would never again be heard from.

REED ASKS NEW TRIAL
Love Bomber Claims Demonstrations Influenced Jury.

OTTAWA, Ill., March 15.—Courtroom demonstrations, not evidence, influenced the jury to convict Hiram Reed for the dynamiting of Pleasant Valley schoolhouse, a petition for new trial, filed by Reed's attorneys, charged.

Reed, son of a wealthy farmer, was found guilty of bombing a schoolhouse and almost causing the death of his former sweetheart, Iola Bradford.

LEVINE'S PLANE DOWN
Dense Fog Forces Landing of Machine on Georgia Island.

ST. SIMONS ISLAND, Ga., March 15.—Charles A. Levine's Bellanca monoplane, Columbia, was forced down here today while en route from Jacksonville to New York.

Dense fog, according to Pilot Wilmer Stultz, necessitated the landing. Miss Mabel Boll was the third occupant of the plane.

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