

# WORLD HAPPENINGS OF CURRENT WEEK

Brief Resume Most Important Daily News Items.

COMPILED FOR YOU

Events of Noted People, Governments and Pacific Northwest, and Other Things Worth Knowing

Six hundred houses were burned Wednesday in a fire which swept Zoshigaya, a suburb of Tokio. Twenty persons were injured. Three thousand are homeless.

Successful experiments were made Monday in carrying on conversation by radio between air mail pilots in flight and the Omaha air mail station. It is announced.

Fifty persons have been killed in a landslide in the neighborhood of Amalfi, 23 miles southeast of Naples, according to a dispatch from Amalfi to the Giornale d'Italia at Rome.

President Coolidge's sons, John and Calvin, Jr., have applied for enrollment in the citizens' training camp to be held at Camp Devens next August, it was learned Wednesday.

Ed Lockhart, last of a trio of notorious Oklahoma outlaws, was killed Wednesday near Sperry, Okla., as he attempted to flee from a farmhouse where he had been trapped by a posse.

The rank and file of the United Mine Workers of America ratified the new wage scale agreement, assuring peace in the bituminous industry for three years by an overwhelming vote, it was announced in Indianapolis Tuesday afternoon. The vote was 164,858 to 26,253.

The Austrian and Hungarian governments have approved in "principle" an agreement proposed by the United States for the creation of mixed commissions to settle claims with the United States arising out of the world war.

Directors of the American Beet Sugar company Tuesday declared four quarterly dividends of \$1 each on the common stock. This was the first dividend action since January 31, 1921, when 2 per cent was paid. Officials explained that the company's earnings in the fiscal year ending March 31 had justified the action.

Bishop Manning of the Protestant Episcopal diocese of New York Wednesday informed Rev. William Norman Guthrie, rector of St. Mark's in the Bowery, that his church would remain "without episcopal visitation or ministrations" for its rector's refusal to discontinue eurythmic dancing in connection with services at the church.

Grover Cleveland Bergdall, the American draft evader, left Eberbach, Baden Tuesday morning for an unannounced destination. As he carried considerable luggage, it was generally assumed he was quitting Germany. He made other preparations prior to his departure which seemingly indicated that he did not contemplate returning to Baden.

Four mail bandits, in the first big postal robbery in or near Chicago in two years, slugged a postoffice messenger in Harvey, Ill., a suburb, early Wednesday and escaped with two pouches of registered mail known to have contained at least \$135,000 in currency. The bandits were heavily armed with revolvers and sawed-off shotguns.

A volcano on Babuyan island, situated between the Philippines and Japan, was in eruption early this month and it is feared inhabitants have perished, stated advices Wednesday to consular officials in Manila. Although records here indicate the island was not inhabited, officials believe a number of fishermen recently established headquarters there.

That the Washington state eight-hour law for women applied to all women employed in any mercantile or mechanical establishment, laundry, hotel or restaurant, "irrespective of the class of work she may be doing," is the opinion rendered by Attorney-General Dunbar to the department of labor and industries. The query especially referred to stenographers.

French archeologists working in Syria have discovered at Salveh, in the Euphrates region, a Greek city, founded just after the death of Alexander the Great, 2344 years ago, and abandoned in 273 A. D., when the desert sands covered it. Among the objects found are parchments, one of which, written in 189 B. C., is said to be the oldest Greek manuscript extant.

## SCHOOL LAW IS HELD VOID

Injunction Against Enforcement Given By Federal Judges.

Portland, Or.—Governor Pierce, Attorney-General Van Winkle and District Attorney Myers were restrained from enforcing the Oregon compulsory school law and the law was declared unconstitutional and invalid in a decision handed down by federal judges Monday.

The law was declared to violate the 14th amendment of the federal constitution and to deprive the school corporations and parents of children of their natural and inherent rights. The court said it might well have been called "an act to prevent parochial and private schools from teaching the grammar grades."

Before a packed courtroom, C. E. Wolverton, federal district judge, read the decision which he had written for the court. Sitting with him on the bench was W. B. Gilbert, circuit judge. District Judge Bean, who also heard the arguments in the case, was not present, as he was holding court at Pendleton.

The crowd in the courtroom was tense all through the reading of the decision. Many leaned forward, eager to grasp every word. Judge Wolverton spoke quietly and carefully, but distinctly, as he went through the many pages of the decision. Judge Gilbert sat beside him in silence and then left the bench after the decision was announced.

As the court declared the law might have been entitled an act to prevent the teaching of the grammar grades by parochial schools many in the audience were plainly pleased and smiled. At each point where the court held against the contentions of the state officers smiles ran around a large section of the audience, while other sections appeared to be in deep study.

Prominent Catholics, priests and other clergymen were in the audience that jammed all of the available space in the courtroom and that filled the aisles and even up around the clerk's bench at the very feet of the judges. There were school officials there—public, private and parochial. There were others who were known to favor the law that the court declared invalid, but in spite of the fact that the decision was going against them they leaned forward eagerly and listened intently to every word.

No actual injunction will be issued against the state officers. It is expected that the officers will accept the decision of the court as final until another court passes upon the questions, if an appeal should be taken. Unless there is some attempt on the part of the state officers to enforce the law despite the decision, the court will not issue one. Should such an attempt be made, which, of course, would be beyond the realm of possibility, the injunction would be issued.

Governor Pierce, it was reported from Salem, refused to comment on the decision, but it was indicated that the case would be carried to the supreme court for final decision.

It had also been announced here before the decision was handed down that whatever the result an appeal would be taken to the supreme court of the United States to have the matter determined finally. Wallace McCamant, as attorney for the Scottish Rite bodies and for the state officers, said "I have nothing to say" when asked what would be the next step, and P. S. Malcom, a member of the lodge committee, said conferences would have to be held before it would be determined whether the Scottish Rite would take the case up to the highest court in the land.

The court held that the Hill Military academy and the Society of the Sisters of the Holy Names of Jesus and Mary, which brought the suits testing the law, had an absolute right to teach in the grammar grades and the parents an absolute right to employ them to teach their children.

### Anti-Fat Serum Found.

Paris.—A serum to make persons thin with a few simple and painless injections is believed to have been discovered by two French scientists, M. Carnot and M. Terrig. They submitted results of exhaustive experiments upon animals to the French Biological society Sunday. The serum, whose principal ingredient is plain liver, when injected into animals produced a remarkable loss of weight in the shortest time. The inventors hope to abolish fatness in men and women next.

### De La Huerta Is Safe.

New Orleans.—Adolfo de la Huerta, Mexican rebel leader, now is in the state of Chiapas, Mexico, according to a statement by A. E. Hedgeswich, rebel agent here, who said he received a wireless message late Monday in a code which could have been sent only by De la Huerta. Hedgeswich said De la Huerta, was forced to pass through "a certain danger zone" and that because of this all mention of his whereabouts had been suppressed.

## MID-WEST VISITED BY FIERCE STORM

Twenty Dead, 100 Injured in Dozen States.

## FLOODS HAMPER EAST

Two West Virginia Towns Under Water; Bridges Swept Away—Property Damage Large.

Chicago, Ill.—March prepared to roar out of the middle west like the proverbial Hon following general storms Saturday extending from the Ohio to the Mississippi valleys which cost upward of a score of lives, more than 100 injuries and property damage estimated at hundreds of thousands of dollars.

Dead in the wake of the storm included eight killed in a tornado at Shawnee, Okla., four known dead in southern Missouri as the result of a wind storm and reports that four others had perished, a boy killed by lightning in Kansas, two flood casualties at Pittsburg, three men reported killed when a railroad bridge at Cumberland, Md., collapsed after being inundated by flood waters and four trainmen reported killed when a freight train went through a bridge weakened by high water near Newark, Ohio.

The storm in various sections assumed the proportions of a tornado, and elsewhere manifested itself by driving snow and hail. High winds with falling temperatures marked its progress.

Damage was widespread wherever the storm struck. In southeastern Missouri livestock valued at thousands of dollars was killed, while three little towns in Kentucky were reported totally destroyed by wind. Damage to crops was feared in some sections of South Dakota and Minnesota because of the low temperatures. With the flood stage expected throughout the upper Ohio valley indications were that property damage there might be heavy.

Pittsburg, Pa.—Floods in Pennsylvania, West Virginia and Maryland caused by warm rains and melting snows had devastated a wide area Sunday night, taken a toll of 13 lives and property.

After having flooded an area of 175 miles extending from its headwaters at Gorman, Md., to Harpers Ferry, W. Va., with the greatest damage done at Cumberland, Md., the Potomac river was rapidly returning to its channel. In the western Pennsylvania district the Monongahela and Allegheny rivers, meeting here to form the Ohio, swept over the lower sections of their valleys, and the Youghioheny river, coming down the Allegheny mountains, flooded a section extending from Connelville, to McKeesport, a distance of 40 miles.

The Ohio river here reached a stage of 29.2 feet, seven feet above the flood stage, but was receding Sunday night at the rate of one-tenth of a foot an hour.

The cities along the Ohio river, however, were preparing for flood waters. An entire family of five was drowned at Kitzmiller, Md., three children lost their lives at Melcroft, Pa., and another child was drowned at Johnstown, Pa., while a father and mother were drowned rescuing their children at Pittsburgh.

Other flood casualties occurred at Connelville and Newcastle. Railroad traffic throughout the flooded area was demoralized when bridges were destroyed and many miles of track washed away.

### Boy Scalped by Lion.

Los Angeles.—Shubert Helgren, eight years old, was scalped and otherwise seriously injured here Saturday by a lion in a small itinerant circus.

The little fellow, circus attendants said, went too close to the king of the jungle's cage. The animal reached through the bars and clawed him before he could escape.

Receiving hospital doctors said the boy would recover.

### Auto Sales Take Slump.

Chicago.—Total February sales of new automobiles and motorcycles for the entire country aggregated \$136,750,000, a decrease of 40.3 per cent compared with the previous month and an increase of 16.2 per cent compared with a year ago. The seventh federal reserve bank announced the figures Saturday night.

## STATE NEWS IN BRIEF.

North Powder.—The recent bond issue voted by the North Powder district was sold to the Farmers State bank here, the highest bidder. The bonds bear interest at 5 per cent and will mature in 20 years.

Haines.—Plans are maturing here for the formation of an association of lettuce growers to be patterned after the locals of the farmers' union. The principal object will be to promote co-operative marketing of lettuce and celery grown here.

Roseburg.—C. H. Hendricks of Riddle paid a fine of \$50 in the local justice court Saturday when he pleaded guilty to feeding venison to the men in his logging camp. A sack containing a large quantity of deer meat was found in the camp by Deputy Warden Walker.

Roseburg.—The Douglas County Broccoli Protective association of the United States is the name to be given a new organization being formed by broccoli producers of the Umpqua valley to protect themselves in future against inferior seed.

Pendleton.—Market roads having an aggregate mileage of 36 miles were designated Saturday by the county court for the 1924 programme in Umatilla county. Special road districts received preference, since special levies of 10 mills were levied to aid in constructing the roads they want.

Salem.—The Oregon Growers' Co-operative association has reported the sale of 1000 boxes of prunes for domestic consumption in the eastern markets at 9½ cents. The prunes were classified as 30s.

Eugene.—The root knot nematode, said to be one of the worst crop pests in existence, is gaining a foothold in the Willamette valley, according to C. E. Stewart, county fruit inspector, who has taken the matter up with the Lane county court, asking that steps be taken to prevent its spread.

Salem.—In anticipation of the issuance of a proclamation within the next few days setting aside the period April 21 to 27 as forest protection week, F. A. Elliott, state forester, has announced that he had appointed a committee of prominent Oregon men to arrange an appropriate programme.

Salem.—James Linn, upon his return from Chicago, reported the sale of 350 bales of Oregon hops from the 1921, 1922 and 1923 crops. It was said that the sale was at a price slightly lower than demanded here a month ago. Mr. Linn is one of the prominent growers of the Willamette valley.

Salem.—There were three fatalities in Oregon due to industrial accidents during the week ending March 27, according to a report prepared here by the state industrial accident commission. The victims were: William Hayman, Knappa, logger; Sam Strizic, Reedsport, rockman; and James Albert Dunn, Baker, hooker.

Salem.—Approximately \$250,000 collected by the state tax commission under the state income tax law enacted at the last session of the legislature has been turned over to the state treasurer. This was announced Saturday by Earl Fisher, state tax commissioner, who is in charge of the administration of the state income tax act.

Salem.—I. H. VanWinkle, attorney-general, has sent to the secretary of state a legal opinion in which he held that a state treasurer is to be elected in Oregon this year. The opinion was sought by Secretary of State Koser, who, under the existing laws, must certify to all candidates at both the primary and general elections.

Port Orford.—Port Orford is laying plans for a white cedar carnival and pioneers' reunion to be held here in August of this year. The first day of the carnival will be devoted exclusively to the pioneers, of whom there are many, Curry county being one of the oldest counties in the state. Binger Hermann, ex-member of congress, will make the address of the day.

Dayton.—Voters of Dayton at a special election Friday authorized the issuance and sale of refunding bonds amounting to \$18,000 for the purpose of redeeming and retiring a similar amount of city water and street improvement bonds which mature this year and next. In addition they provided for a special tax levy to create a sinking fund to take care of principal and interest on the new bond issue.

Salem.—The North Coast Power company, operating at Hillsboro and Rainier, had operating income aggregating \$190,975.59 during 1923, according to the annual report of the corporation filed with the public service commission here. Operating revenues of the company totaled \$612,281.15, while operating expenses were \$378,009.13. The corporation's receipts for 1923 showed an increase of \$74,855.60 over 1922.

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