

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.

Population statistics for 1920 announced Monday by the census bureau included Everett, Wash., 27,514, an increase of 2800, or 11.3 per cent.

Several rich strikes of gold quartz have been made lately in Grant county, Oregon, the last being that made by Ralph Curl on Canyon mountain, about three miles east of Canyon City.

The first chamber of the Dutch parliament Saturday voted, 31 to 2, for the adherence of Holland to the league of nations. The second chamber cast an affirmative vote on February 19.

The third congressional district convention of the Non-partisan league, meeting at Norfolk, Neb., Monday night, decided not to endorse a candidate for the April 20 primary election.

The secretary of the interior was requested in a resolution adopted by the senate to report what steps had been taken to develop traffic and population along the government railway in Alaska.

The British ambassador at Washington will hereafter receive £20,000 yearly. His salary will be £2500 and entertainment allowance £17,500. Premier Lloyd George announced in the house of lords. Sir Auckland Geddes was recently appointed.

Vice-President Thomas R. Marshall declared at Phoenix, Ariz., that he was not to be considered a candidate for the democratic nomination for president. "In fact," he said, "I intend to retire from public office when my present term expires."

By refusal of the supreme court to review the case, federal court decisions holding that the transportation of women from one state to another in private automobiles for immoral purposes comes within the provisions of the white slave act will stand.

The prohibition amendment to the federal constitution was assailed in supreme court Monday by Rhode Island as revolutionary and defended by the government as legitimate addition to the nation's basic law over which the court held no jurisdiction. Throgs attended the session.

Wall street was thrown into a state of demoralization Monday and many hundreds of thousands of dollars were lost and won within a few minutes when news agencies which serve the district misstated the decision of the United States supreme court in the stock tax case and declared stock dividends were taxable.

Gold valued at \$1,250,000 is being shipped from England to this country, according to announcement made in New York by Kuhn, Loeb & Co. This is the first large shipment in several months. Gold coin worth \$2,000,000 also has been received from Canada at the sub-treasury. A large amount was received from the same source last week.

Announcement that they will seek a writ of mandate in the state supreme court directing the state railroad commission to pass on high apartment and hotel rates here was made by officials of the San Francisco Tenants' Protective association. This action was to be in addition to actions to be filed in the superior courts against alleged extortionate acts of certain landlords.

Reflecting the seriousness of the fuel-oil situation, the geological survey announced Tuesday that the demand for crude oil in January was about 4,750,000 barrels greater than in December. This demand, the announcement said, will require a continued increase in domestic production and in Mexican imports, together with heavy drafts on stocks on hand which now are none too large.

Immediate and extensive enlargement of naval docking and basing facilities on the Pacific and legislation to provide a naval reserve force of at least 200,000 were advocated Monday before the house naval committee by Secretary Daniels. The secretary asked authority to start construction of a new naval base on San Francisco bay below Mare Island and urged that \$10,000,000 be made available at once. He first estimated the cost at \$75,000,000, but later said it might be done for \$40,000,000.

U. S. O. K.'S "STEEL TRUST"

Supreme Court Upholds Combine 4 to 3—Minority Opposes Step.

Washington, D. C.—In a four-to-three decision Monday the supreme court refused to dissolve the United States Steel corporation and its subsidiaries comprising the so-called "steel trust."

The government's long-fought suit for dissolution of the iron and steel trade combination for alleged violation of the Sherman anti-trust law was dismissed, with absolution for the corporation from all charges.

Placing the high court's "O. K." on the steel corporation were Chief Justice White and Associate Justice McKenna, who announced the majority opinion, Holmes and Vandeventer. Justice Day gave the dissenting opinion, joined by Justices Pitney and Clarke.

Justices McReynolds and Brandeis took no part, the former having been attorney-general during the litigation and the latter having expressed opinions on it before appointment to the bench.

Primarily the decree officially brands the corporation as a "good" combination with its legality established.

Further, the court held that preponderance in industry of corporate combinations is not alone sufficient cause for their dissolution.

The court also gave a new and far-reaching judicial interpretation or application of the Sherman law, analogous of its famous "rule of reason" in the Standard Oil and tobacco "trust" cases by declaring public interest must be considered in applying the law.

The public interest, it was held, would not be served and might be injured by dissolving the steel concern.

Dissolution of the corporation and its principal subsidiaries was urged in the dissenting opinion. The minority declared that the anti-trust law was violated; that there has been "open, notorious and continued violation" of its provisions and that approval of illegally born combinations "would practically annul the Sherman law by judicial decree."

Agreeing that mere size of a corporation, providing its genesis is legal, is not inhibited, the minority vigorously disapproved the new Sherman law ruling, requiring judicial consideration of the public interest. Such a conclusion, they declared, "necessarily results in a practical nullification of the act itself."

The decision was a complete victory for the corporation and its 180 subsidiaries, said to compose the world's greatest industrial combination, with assets of more than \$2,000,000,000. It also dismissed proceedings against a score of individual millionaire defendants, including Chairman Elbert H. Gary of the steel corporation, Charles M. Schwab, John D. Rockefeller, the late J. P. Morgan, Andrew Carnegie, Henry C. Frick and others. Against these the government had asked injunctions against illegal acts.

New Jersey for 3.5 Beer.

Trenton, N. J.—The New Jersey senate late Monday night passed, 12 to 9, the compromise beer bill providing for manufacturing, selling and transporting of beverages containing not more than 3½ per cent alcohol by volume. The bill would not become effective until after peace has been officially proclaimed.

The measure went through the senate after reference had been made to the state senate in 1863 condemning President Lincoln for his emancipation of the slaves after it had been stated New Jersey would become a traitor to a great cause; and after the Anti-Saloon league had been exoriated for its lobbying in antagonism to the move to have a beer law in the state so that the attorney-general could fight for state rights on the question before the United States supreme court.

Treaty Fight to Go Into Campaign.

Washington, D. C.—Convinced that for the present their labors to break the peace treaty deadlock are a waste of time, senate leaders moved Monday to get the treaty out of the way of pressing legislation and to let issues raised by the ratification fight go into the political campaign. Under the plan, compromise negotiations on the reservation to article 10 are to be dropped, re-adoption of the republican reservation programme of last session is to be completed as a formality, and then a final vote is to be taken to put the treaty into the campaign.

Gompers Voices Protest.

Miami, Fla.—Samuel Gompers, who was here Monday with other officials of the executive council of the American Federation of Labor, said that while organized labor was much opposed to the railroad bill as drafted no further action would be taken in regard to it.

"I speak for them all," he said, "when I say that the action of the president in signing the bill is to be regretted."

U. S. ABOUT TO LIFT SOVIET TRADE BAN

Resumption of Business Virtually Decided Upon.

AWAIT ALLIES REPORT

Action, However, Will Not Involve Either Recognition of Soviet or Trade With Administration.

Washington, D. C.—Virtual decision has been reached by the American government, it is said, to permit resumption of trade relations with soviet Russia as soon as the allied governments has outlined a definite policy.

The first step by the allies toward dealing commercially with Russia, since the decision on January 17 to permit trade with the Russian cooperative societies was the announcement last week of the appointment of a commission to be sent there to study the situation and report to the league of nations council.

Whether the United States will act upon the invitation of the allies to send a representative is uncertain, but in any event, it is believed this government will act as soon as the commission has reported, probably early in the spring.

Action by this government, it is said, will be limited merely to an official statement of approval of trade with individuals by American firms and it will not involve either recognition of the soviet government or approval of trade directly with the soviet administration.

In some quarters it is asserted that the government doubts very seriously the successful consummation of schemes for the exploitation of Russia independently of the soviet government and that sanction of trade with individuals in Russia will be extended more as an experiment than through any confidence that such a privilege in practice may prove feasible.

Recent reports indicated that Italy and Great Britain favored plans for trade with Russia, but that France had not given her approval.

ADRIATIC PROJECT APPROVED IN PART

Washington, D. C.—President Wilson accepts with reservations the proposal of the British and French premiers that Italy and Jugo-Slavia undertake a settlement of the Adriatic question. He says that if Italy and Jugo-Slavia prefer to abandon the so-called buffer state containing an overwhelming majority of Jugo-Slavs and desire to limit the proposed free state to the corpus separatum of Fiume, placing the sovereignty in the league of nations without either Italian or Jugo-Slav control, the United States is willing to leave the determination of the common frontier to Italy and Jugo-Slavia.

The president says he "cannot possibly join" the premiers' suggestion that the memorandum settlement of December 9 be withdrawn; declares that "Albanian questions should not be included in the proposed joint discussions," and reiterates that the United States cannot approve of the execution of the terms of the treaty of London.

Finally, he expressed the "earnest hope that the allied governments will not find it necessary to decide on a course which the American government, in accordance with its reiterated statement will be unable to follow."

The president's note to the premiers was dispatched Thursday and is now being considered by the allied supreme council at London. Meantime, direct negotiations between Jugo-Slavia and Italy are proceeding.

Mr. Wilson begins his communication by noting "with satisfaction" the "unaltered desire" of the premiers to reach "an equitable solution in conformity alike with the principles of the peace conference and of the legitimate, though conflicting, aspirations of the Italian and Jugo-Slav peoples."

Japan Will Withdraw.

Tokio.—The cabinet has approved the withdrawal of the Japanese troops from Siberia in April, after the repatriation of the Czechoslovak contingents is completed. It is expected the Czechs will all be on their way home by March 20. The peace offer of the Russian soviet government to Japan is reported to include as one of its terms a stipulation to forego bolshevik propaganda in the Japanese empire.

BOATING IN STREETS WHEN THE SEINE OVERFLOWS



The Seine has been indulging in its annual overflow, and in the outlying sections of Paris all sorts of boats have been pressed into service, as is shown in this photograph.

Famous Corps Ends Its Work

Northwest Mounted Police Loses Identity as Civilization Lessens Its Need.

BODY HAS STIRRING HISTORY

Ranged Far Into Arctic Wastes to Punish Crime, Maintain Order and Extend Relief—Won the Confidence of the Indian.

Ottawa.—That famous corps, the Royal Northwest Mounted Police, has ceased to exist. It is now merged with the Canadian mounted police.

For half a century "the scarlet and gold" of the riders of the plains had been the symbol of law and order in a territory as vast as the United States west of the Mississippi. From Hudson bay to the Rockies, from the international boundary to and beyond the arctic circle they carried security to the law-abiding and terror to the law-breaking. On the vast prairies, in mountains and forest, through the ice-bound reaches of the arctic coast they made "the long patrol," protecting the settler, succoring the weak and administering justice with a relentless hand to white and red, to British and alien.

The march of civilization has brought into this vast territory prosperous settlers, where the Royal Northwest Mounted Police found the Indian of the sun dance and scalp knife, the excitable Metis (the French half-breed of the plains), and the outlaw who sought this "no man's land" to escape justice and continue in crime. The Indian and Metis are now peaceful farmers, the ranch has been replaced by the farm, and railways now cover the country as thick as the Indian trails of the seventies. Only in the far north is any of the original work of the police left. Here in the Great Barrens, along the desolate shores of Hudson bay and the Arctic ocean, through the Rockies to Dawson will "the scarlet and gold" do the long patrol. The famous corps has done its work and has lost its identity in the new national force. The uniform has been preserved; the romance and esprit de corps have gone.

Origin of the Corps.

For nearly two centuries the Hudson Bay company had ruled that vast territory between Hudson bay and the Rockies, when in 1870 the Dominion of Canada acquired possession. The great company had been a guardian to the warlike Blackfeet, Assinibolnes and Cree Indians and kept in a fashion law and order. The hardy Scotch factors had in many instances married into the tribes and their influence was powerful and firm. Then came the change in control. It became "no man's land" with the great company without authority and the dominion government without any machinery to enforce its edicts.

It was a dangerous period. The United States government was seeking to curb the fierce Sioux. They, in turn, were making overtures to the Canadian Indians to join them. The whisky runner was unchecked in his debauchery of the Indian. It was at this period that the Royal Northwest Mounted Police came into existence, and since then have been the most potent influence in preserving order in this vast territory. Three companies were mobilized at Winnipeg, or, as it was then known, "Fort Garry." Three other companies came through the United States and joined them, and in all 500 men restored and preserved order in a territory as large as Europe, without a railway and peopled with nearly 100,000 Indians and with tribal wars and embittered against the whites by the depletion of the buffalo herds, the almost sole source of their existence.

It was then that the famous "scarlet and gold" uniform was adopted. To the Indian the "red" coat symbolized the power of "the great white mother," and Colonel Robertson-Ross, organizer of the force, suggested this uniform in his report.

"During my inspection in the northwest I ascertained that some prejudice

Would Close English Churches Six Months

London.—Rev. W. E. H. Morris, vicar of All Saints' church, Southport, thinks that "it might not be a bad thing for England if the church were to close down for six months."

"This country," he said, "has been brought up in the lap of ecclesiastical luxury and is God-pet-bred. There are few of us in this country that are not over-churches. Religion is so easily to be obtained that we do not appreciate it. It is too cheap."

tainly would be a new chief of the Sioux. When, finally after years of constant watching, Walsh prevailed on the Sioux to surrender to the United States authorities, Sitting Bull gave Walsh his war bonnet in recognition of the "bravest man he had ever met." Even during the rebellion in 1885 the great tribes remained true to the police and only a few joined with the Metis under Louis Riel. It was the respect that the Indians had for the "scarlet and gold" that saved western Canada at that period from gravest disaster.

Deeds of Individual Bravery.

It was not alone in keeping the Indians in check that the police showed bravery and tact. Col. Sam Steele, who commanded the Strathcona Horse in South Africa, rose from a sick bed, faced and arrested the ringleaders of several hundred infuriated armed railway strikers in the Rockies.

But it was in the long patrol of the terrible North that the best traditions of the force have been preserved. They plunged into these unknown wastes, hundreds of miles, sometimes alone, sometimes in pairs, facing an arctic winter to rescue the unfortunate or capture the wrongdoer. Deeds were done that, if in other fields, would have won the highest decorations. Many won through, but others sleep in that Northland waste, martyrs to duty. On the Fort Resolution and Dawson patrol, in 1911, Inspector Fitzgerald and three companions lost their lives. Fitzgerald falling to arrive at his destination, Dempster was ordered to find Fitzgerald with instructions: "Bear in mind, nothing is to stand in your way until you get in touch with this party." Dempster started into the wilds of the terrible arctic winter and, hundreds of miles from the post of civilization, found Fitzgerald's companions lying together, with hands crossed and faces covered. Fitzgerald had cared for his comrades until they died, and even after death. Then he pushed on, but was found with diary and mail bag under his body, protecting it to the last. In his pocket was found his will, written with a charcoal stick, leaving everything to his mother and concluding: "God bless you all, F. J. Fitzgerald, R. N. W. M. P."

Won the Indian.

In dealing with the Indian tribes the Royal Northwest Mounted police did invaluable service. They won not only the confidence of Indians in Canada, but also of the fierce Sioux who sought refuge in Canada after the Custer massacre. They made treaties and kept them.

When Pie-a-Pot, a warlike Cree chief, came south with his band and held up the construction of the Canadian Pacific, a sergeant and constable of the police arrived, entered the hostile camp, arrested the old chief surrounded by his braves, and landed him in jail. He was a good Indian afterwards, keeping his treaty during the half-breed outbreak in 1885.

The most famous international case was that of Sitting Bull, the noted Sioux chief, who in 1876 had wiped out the command of the brilliant, impetuous Custer. Chiefs White Eagle, Little Knife, Black Moon, and finally the notorious Sitting Bull, crossed the line. Including their families nearly 4,000 fierce Sioux were in Canadian territory, and to see that they did not use Canada as a base against the United States or inflame our own Indians there were in that area only 200 police. Inspector Walsh rode alone into Sitting Bull's camp and read the riot act to him. Surrounded by his braves the fierce Sioux threatened the inspector, who placed his revolver at the Chief's head and told him plainly that if there was trouble there might be a new inspector in the police but there certainly would not.

But all do not win through, as shown by this last message found on one of the force caught in a terrible blizzard: "Lost, horse dead; am trying to push ahead. Have done my best." There never was a more deserving motto for any force than the last words of this lying member of the scarlet and gold. "Have done my best."

And so it has been in the arctic wilderness or on the blizzard-swept prairie, whether serving the empire in the Strathcons in South Africa, or in the Garry Horse on Flanders' fields, the riders of the plains have always done their best. Harvard graduate or Canadian farmer, Texas cowboy or French-Canadian voyager, the English aristocrat or the Scotch breed of the prairie, the scarlet and gold held them all, and always they did their best. Fifty years they have been the guardians of the wilds. The wilds have disappeared, and so does this grand old corps, leaving as a heritage the best traditions in service and loyalty.