

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.

The California state board of health announces that there are approximately 10,000 cases of influenza in the state.

Immoral motion-picture films would be barred from interstate commerce under a bill reported Saturday by the house judiciary committee.

Field Marshal Haig (Earl of Bemerseyde) will retire February 1, when the post of commander-in-chief will be abolished, says the Daily Mail.

The Polish cabinet has signed a mobilization order, says a Warsaw report. The measure was taken, according to the advices, because of the bolshevik advance.

As a result of the activity of German consuls in Mexico there has been arranged a steamship line between Germany and Mexican ports which will begin regular service at once.

Six thousand Russian troops have been killed in the typhoid epidemic, according to a special dispatch from Reval. The situation in that territory is grave owing to the lack of medical supplies.

Hilario Medina, sub-secretary of foreign relations of Mexico, will be sent to Washington as charge d'affaires, Gonzalo G. de la Mata, local Mexican consul, announced at San Antonio, Tex., Friday.

The senate passed and sent to the house a bill authorizing the shipping board to adjust the claims of wooden shipbuilders growing out of the cancellation of contracts. The board has estimated that the measure will affect about \$15,000,000 in claims.

In compliance with a request of the prefect of Barcelona, the directing committee of the employers' association of Catalonia decided last night to end the lockout of employees on Monday. The employers, however, decline to accept responsibility for eventualities.

The River Shannon has overflowed its banks and many villages, notably Athlone, have been abandoned, the inhabitants taking refuge on higher ground. The entire districts in Connaught and Leinster bordering on the river present the appearance of a vast lake.

A decrease in the cost of living in the next few months was predicted Saturday by Arthur Williams, federal food administrator at New York. He based his belief on the spirit of economy prevailing among the people as a whole, decreased exports and increased production.

Julius F. Barnes, president of the United States grain corporation, who intimated in a speech two weeks ago that Herbert Hoover, ex-food administrator, might be "drafted" for the presidency, announced in a statement this week that "there is no authority or sanction for any organization work in the form of Hoover clubs or any other similar organized effort."

A mass meeting in protest against the extradition by the allies of Germans wanted for trial was held in Berlin Sunday by patriotic societies in the Circus Busch. A large crowd attended. Margaret Behm, conservative member of the assembly, one of the speakers, was interrupted by cries of "Revenge, revenge!" "Not yet, not yet!" she replied. "Be patient!"

The steamer Colonia is on her way from Plymouth, England, to Santos, Brazil, with 2609 miles of cable which will be used for the extension of the All-American cable system from Buenos Aires, Argentina, to Santos and Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, John L. Merrill, president of the cable company, announced Sunday. It is expected that the cable will be ready for operation before the end of the year.

STATE NEWS IN BRIEF.

Eugene.—A sale of 68,000,000 feet of timber in the Santiam national forest east of Albany has been made during the last few days by the forest service to the Merrill Lumber and Shingle company, according to an announcement by F. E. Ames, assistant district forester, in charge of all timber sales in this district.

Eugene.—Active construction work on the Booth-Kelly Lumber company's system of logging railways above Wendling is under way. The line is being extended across the summit of the ridge to the McKenzie side of the mountains, tapping a tract of timber that has never been touched and said to be some of the finest in the county.

Medford.—S. J. Skewis and S. S. Bullis have purchased the old Applegate Lumber company on the Portland & Eugene road near Medford and will start operations at once under the name of the Southern Oregon Lumber company. The company plans to saw 20,000,000 feet of lumber a year, according to statements of the proprietors.

Salem.—Plans have been made by F. A. Elliott, state forester, to send either O. C. Scott, assistant state forester, or H. J. Eberly, also employed in the state forester's office, to the forest patrol school which opens at March field, Riverside, Cal., on February 20. Training men for patrol work in accompanying airplane pilots is the purpose of the course of instruction to be offered.

Marshfield.—The collegiate board of education awarded contracts for the construction of the new high school building separately, the structure going to A. E. Sykes of Portland for \$49,433, and the plumbing and heating to C. L. Willey & Son of Coquille, for \$8942. Both contracts are contingent upon the electors of the city voting an additional \$11,000 bonds at a special election on February 14.

Albany.—The Albany Lumber company has sold its sawmill here to J. P. Van Orsdel and associates, through a transaction just completed. The mill will be enlarged and additional machinery will be installed. The capacity of the plant will be increased materially. Mr. Van Orsdel has been manager of the plant of the Coast Range Lumber company at Mabel.

Toledo.—F. W. Kehrli, bull association specialist of the United States department of agriculture, will arrive in Toledo soon to take up with the county agent the plans for organizing a Jersey bull association in the county. Considerable preliminary work has already been done on the project under the guidance of Claus Christiansen. Tentative arrangements have already been made for the formation of association blocks at Orton, Siletz, Little Beaver, Olalla and Upper Yaquina.

Klamath Falls.—Rabies, stamped out after a severe outbreak three years ago, is again appearing among coyotes in Klamath county. Analysis by the state board of health has shown the rabies germ existent in the heads of two animals killed within the last two months and J. Frank Adams, a prominent stockraiser of the Merrill district, reports the death of four head of cattle since November, all showing distinct symptoms of the disease.

Moro.—Some 20 Grass Valley farmers have formed a club, with L. A. Olds as president, for the purpose of keeping comprehensive farm records from which they will be able to get at the cost of producing wheat in their section, as well as make a more careful study of other farm operations. As a group each gets the benefit of the experience of all the others, besides the help of the county agent can be secured any time they meet. The account books are furnished by the Citizens' bank. Moro farmers are planning to form a similar club next week.

Klamath Falls.—Arrangements are being made by the livestock committee of the Klamath county farm bureau for importation of a carload of registered Shorthorn cattle for sale at public auction about March 1. This is the first step in the farm bureau's plan to establish an annual pure-bred breeders' sale. While pure-bred breeding is still in its infancy in this county, there is some stock on hand, and the distribution of a carload of registered animals will give the industry a big impetus, in the opinion of L. A. West, committee chairman.

RAILROAD BILL TO U. S. \$700,000,000

Government Control Shows
Constant Deficit.

COAL STRIKE BLAMED

Decrease in Deficit Would Have Resulted if Rate Increase Had Come Earlier, Is View.

Washington, D. C.—Operation of the railroads, Pullman lines, express companies and waterways, unified under federal control, has cost the nation approximately \$700,000,000, according to official calculation, since they were taken over two years ago.

Figures made public by the railroad administration Saturday night revealed a net loss of \$594,200,000 from railroad operation alone in the two years. Statistics, gathered from official sources as to operating costs of the Pullman lines and waterways and express companies while operated by the government show the addition of \$100,000,000 to the transportation cost.

Heavy losses of November and December are charged to the coal strike, in a statement by the railroad administration. A deficit of \$111,500,000 was shown for those two months after the two months' proportion of the annual rental was paid. December revenues were said to be about \$12,700,000 above actual operating expenses, while the revenues for November, according to interstate commerce commission figures, exceeded actual operating expenses by approximately \$19,000,000. The monthly share of the annual rental has been computed generally at \$75,000,000.

Much of the loss during 1919 should be charged to the first six months of the year, according to the official explanation.

The statement shows that of a loss of \$349,200,000 for the 12 months, \$228,700,000 came during the first six months when there was "a prolonged slump in freight business following the signing of the armistice." It adds that "if the rate increase which went into effect in June, 1918, had become effective the previous January, the loss for the two years would probably not have exceeded \$104,000,000."

Preliminary reports upon which the compilation of revenue results was based, indicates "a serious dislocation of freight traffic," during November and December. This could not be estimated closely, officials said. Passenger traffic for the last two months of the year showed an increase, however. An increase also was shown for the 11 months ended with November, as compared with the corresponding period of 1918.

Planet Signal Prize Up.

Paris.—The academy of sciences evidently considers communication between the earth and the planets as among the possibilities, for it has undertaken to act as judge for a prize of 100,000 francs to be given for the best means of making a sign to any heavenly body and the receipt of a reply. It has been the custom of the academy always to refuse to handle prizes for any feat which it considers a mere waste of time. In presenting the prize for competition the academy makes the provision that "the planet Mars is included as being sufficiently near."

Princesses Find Sledding Hard.

Geneva.—Several Hungarian princesses, refugees in Switzerland, finding themselves poor through the low exchange rate, are seeking positions as governesses and companions. But the people generally hesitate to employ them, fearing they will instill extravagant ideas in the children. A number of princely and aristocratic Hungarian families here are awaiting funds to emigrate to America, where they hope to find wealth and happiness.

Kalamazoo, Mich.—Mrs. Sarah Tabor was bound over to circuit court Saturday on the charge of murdering her daughter, Maud, and of burying her body in the cellar of the Tabor home at Lawton. No bail was fixed for the prisoner, who is 80 years of age.

RED CROSS QUILTS SIBERIA

First Transport Will Return Workers to United States.

Vladivostok.—All American women and many Red Cross workers are to be evacuated from Siberia on the first available transport, it is announced by the Red Cross headquarters here.

Three trains bringing Red Cross workers from outlying points are on their way here. Included in the 300 persons aboard the trains are 100 women.

Volunteers are being recruited among the men's Red Cross personnel here to remain at Vladivostok and supervise distribution among the civilian refugees of about \$3,000,000 worth of supplies and also to care for about 900 children sent here from Petrograd. These children were forwarded from European Russia by committees, by their parents, or by peasants' co-operative societies on account of the scarcity of food there. The Americans have cared for them ever since they arrived, many months ago.

A list of American Red Cross workers captured by the bolsheviks at Klinckinskaya station was received here today. It is as follows:

Dr. W. H. Kingston, Oklahoma; Dr. J. N. Medill, Jarosa, Colo.; Pharmacists W. O. Lowe, 262 West Seventy-seventh street, New York City, and E. H. Charette, Stockton, Cal.

News of the capture of the Red Cross men, and of seven American railway engineers was received in consular advices reaching here Monday. These did not give the date of the capture, nor did they make it clear whether the Americans had been captured by supporters of a local uprising against Admiral Kolchak or by bolsheviks advancing from Omsk.

SENATE FAVORS MILITARY TRAINING

Washington, D. C.—By a vote of 9 to 5, the senate military committee Monday approved provisions providing for compulsory military training for boys between 18 and 21 years, inclusive, and ordered a favorable report upon the army reorganization bill.

The compulsory military training provision, fixes the training at four months.

As agreed upon, the bill is virtually the same as reported by the subcommittee, but is radically different from the reorganization bill submitted by the war department. Besides establishing compulsory military training, the bill provides for establishment for one army to be divided into a citizen army composed of men who have received compulsory training, a standing army of 230,000 enlisted men and 18,000 officers and national guard.

Provision is made that the citizen army cannot be called except in case of declaration of war. To accommodate the reserve force reservation is made for an annual reduction of 5 per cent in the enlisted strength of the regular army and 2 per cent in the number of officers for the first five years. This will mean, Chairman Wadsworth explained, that after five years the regular army will be reduced by 70,000 men and 1800 officers, which will greatly decrease the cost of maintaining the military establishment.

The bill also would place all youths who have undergone the four months' training on the reserve list to be subject to two weeks' training annually. Under an amendment dependents of such youths during training would receive an allowance the same as now provided under the war risk insurance act.

Establishment of the office of under-secretary of war, who would be charged with the solution of the great industrial and business problems involved in the procurement of military supplies, is provided.

The bill, Senator Wadsworth said, would reduce military expenditures by approximately one-half. Estimates for the war department and the army for this year, he said, are placed at \$1,100,000,000.

The U. S. S. Brooklyn will arrive at San Francisco from Honolulu about January 29, headquarters of the Twelfth naval district announced. The Brooklyn is to be assigned as flagship of destroyer squadrons.

BOY SCOUTS



(Conducted by National Council of the Boy Scouts of America.)

BELGIAN PRINCE TO SCOUTS

King Albert of the Belgians has two sons who are Boy Scouts. The king and queen, with Crown Prince Leopold, recently toured this country.

Scout Leopold has sent this letter voicing the brotherhood of scouting to his American comrades:

"You have been kind enough to ask me to send you a statement on what the Belgian Boy Scouts have done during the war.

"During the first days of the invasion our boys did their utmost to assist both the civil and military authorities, acting as messengers. But, as you are aware, Belgium was soon almost entirely occupied by the enemy and, from that moment, the Boy Scouts, in spite of their desire to serve their country, were reduced to inactivity.

"Ever since the liberation of Belgian territory they have again resumed their work with the greatest enthusiasm.

"I am pleased to have an opportunity of conveying to you the expression of their brotherly feelings towards the Boy Scouts of America, and to express to you my best wishes for the prosperity of your great organization.

"Yours faithfully,
"LEOPOLD DE BELGIQUE."

SECRETARY GLASS FOR SCOUTS.

Former Secretary of the Treasury Carter H. Glass in addressing a gathering of boy scouts in Washington said:

"I regard it as a distinctly great compliment to be asked to come here to greet young Americans, to greet that association with which my predecessor, Mr. McAdoo, was so prominently and usefully identified.

"While I do not know a great deal about the boy scouts, I do know one thing—that it is an institution which is antagonistic to nothing that is good and hostile to everything that is bad, and it is an honor for any man, whatever his distinction in life, to come and greet an association of that sort.

"If the Boy Scouts of America had done nothing more than they did in the five Liberty loan campaigns they would have earned distinction enough to entitle them to the respect and affection of all the American people, and as secretary of the treasury of the United States I want to give attestation to the great patriotism manifested by the boy scouts. I want to personally thank them for the splendid service they rendered their country and for the effective way in which they aided the treasury department."

MEETING THE SCOUTS' CHIEF.

One day as Dan Beard was going up the elevator in the high Flatiron building in New York city, at the rear of the car was a postal messenger boy with his arms filled with a score of bundles all of the same size.

Peering over the top of the ambuscade, he fixed his eyes steadily upon Mr. Beard. The national scout commissioner of the four hundred thousand and more Boy Scouts of America knew the signs well enough to realize that something was passing through the boy's mind. He asked the lad what he was thinking about.

The boy replied: "I was just thinking that you look like a friend of mine."

"What's your friend's name?" asked the man who is the friend of all boys.

"Dan Beard," said the messenger.

"I am Dan Beard," replied the commissioner, with a smile.

"Gosh!" was the only reply of the astonished boy, who dropped his bundles under the feet of the amused passengers and brought his right hand up to a stiff salute.

NO ONE'S DUTY IS THE SCOUT'S.

It was just the removal of a stray brick that fell from a truck into the middle of the street—a little thing, perhaps—but it was observed by some of the big men in York, Pa., and brought forth their heartiest commendation.

A wagon, heavily loaded, dropped the brick. Another wagon came along. The driver saw the obstacle, veered to one side, and narrowly escaped bumping into another vehicle. Then a pedestrian, crossing the street in a hurry, tripped over it, and the language he used would hardly win him leadership of a troop.

A scout happened by. He saw the object, ducked between the traffic, picked up the brick and carefully deposited it out of the way. A little thing? Perhaps! But you ought to hear what some of the onlookers said about this genuine "good turn."