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NO. 9.

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.

One hundred and fifteen bandits and 40 Maronites have been killed during an attack by bands of brigands on the village of Kawbaka, near Haabaya, Syria. The information comes from French sources.

Argentina will harvest one of the largest crops in history, it is indicated by the ministry of agriculture first report of the season on conditions of cereal and linseed fields. The report forecasts that the wheat crop will exceed that of last year.

Members of the Chicago Grand Opera company have been formally notified that the employment of paid applause makers is forbidden and that it can affect the singer's status in "only one way—prejudicial." Press agents were frowned upon.

As evidence of "the sincerity of the purpose of the Italian government," Count Volpi, head of the Italian debt commission, Saturday tendered the treasury a check for \$5,000,000 as the first installment on the recently negotiated war debt funding settlement. The payment was not due until next June.

The Occidental, a monthly publication, edited and published by the University of California students, was indefinitely suppressed Friday by university authorities because of an article in the current issue which interpreted as ridiculing the immaculate conception of Christ as set forth in the Bible.

Boston will not see "Desire Under the Elm," Eugene O'Neill's play that has been running in New York for many months, because Mayor Curley has insisted on a complete revision of its text. Rather than comply with the censorship requirements, the producers have decided to cancel the Boston engagement.

Buildings were shaken but no damage was reported, in what was believed to be an earthquake felt in Hartford, Conn. at 1:20 Monday A. M. There was a high wind blowing and rain was falling. The temperature was unseasonably high. Operators at the telegraph company reported a noise which some of them took to be thunder.

The joy that the Christmas tree brings to children far outweighs any damage that the cutting of these small trees does to the forests, the United States forest service stated Saturday in endorsing the tinsel-bearing of the Yuletide. As a matter of fact, the service pointed out, the annual harvest of Christmas trees is exceeded many times by those used in the manufacture of toothpicks.

Annie Emilie Hopkins, 22-year-old beauty contest winner, and one time musical comedy chorus girl, fell four stories to her death in an apartment house in Boston early Sunday as a merry party at which she was a guest was breaking up. She was found on the marble floor of the vestibule after she had toppled over a low banister along a dimly lighted stairway from the apartment of Joseph L. Sullivan, who had been her host.

Damascus is like a besieged city. Everybody except the military must be indoors by 8 o'clock at night and during the day there are so many soldiers in the narrow thoroughfares that one is almost continually bumping into rifles, picking one's way through barbed wire entanglements or stumbling across sandbag barricades. At the curfew hour the street cars cease running, the people disappear like magic and the most beautiful of the Syrian, cases becomes as dead, apparently, as the desert surrounding it.

The American Falls, Idaho reservoir will be the largest artificial body of water in the United States and the third largest in the world as a result of official authority that was transmitted Saturday to the regional office of the United States reclamation service at Denver to Engineer Banks in charge of construction at American Falls. The instructions are to build the dam to its full height and authority is given to Engineer Banks to proceed along that line. This information was transmitted to R. E. Shepherd of Jerome, who is in Boise.

VOTES TO CUT AUTO TAXES

Repeal of Various Other Levies Proposed by Committee.

Washington, D. C.—Substantial reductions in automobile taxes and repeal of many of the miscellaneous excise levies were tentatively agreed upon Monday by the house ways and means committee in its preparation of a tax reduction bill.

With only \$100,000,000 of the prospective \$300,000,000 treasury surplus left to apportion in reduction among these taxes, the committee struck a snag in attempting to comply with the numerous appeals for relief.

None of the tentative changes in rates agreed upon was announced by Chairman Green pending final disposition of all the rates in the group, but a reduction in the levy of automobile passenger cars from 5 to 3 per cent and repeal of the taxes on automobile trucks and accessories were understood to have been approved.

Tentative repeal of the following taxes also was reported. Cameras and lenses, photographic films and plates, jewelry, firearms (except pistols) and shells, art works, yachts and motor boats and some occupational taxes such as those applying on cotton and grain exchange brokers.

Reductions in the levies on alcohol and cigars also were favored in the temporary program. The former would be cut in half, from \$2.20 a proof gallon to \$1.10. The taxes on admissions and dues were not taken up.

Changes thus approved would account for more than the \$100,000,000 available for tax reductions in the excise group, if the \$300,000,000 limit set by the treasury and tentatively accepted by the committee, is to be rigidly observed.

On this point, however, considerable difference of opinion has developed and Chairman Green declared that he did not think the government would face a deficit next year if the total reduction should amount to \$350,000,000. Other committee members expressed the opinion that a reduction close to this figure would be decided upon.

Pussfoot Scares Plot.

Chicago.—William E. ("Pussfoot") Johnson, international temperance lecturer, says a European plot against the American prohibition law is forming to be launched at a gathering of next advocates at Washington, D. C., next January 15. Johnson's information was given out by Dr. Ernest H. Cherrington, secretary of the World League Against Alcoholism, one of the principal speakers at the Anti-Saloon league convention here.

Deaths Laid to Neglect.

Chicago.—Thousands of fatal automobile accidents result from neglect of automobiles, George Frank Lord of New York told the Society of Automotive Engineers and the National Automobile chamber of commerce at a service-engineering meeting here Monday.

"One of the most extravagant habits of American people is the carelessness with which they treat their automobiles."

Police Bar Charleston.

Oakland, Cal.—Chief of Police James T. Drew has issued an order barring the Charleston dance from public dancehalls in Oakland.

The order was issued on recommendation of Mrs. Anna Ryan, city dancehall supervisor, who claims that the Charleston, as danced in Oakland dancehalls, is indecent. Mrs. Ryan said, however, that the Charleston, if properly executed, is not indecent.

Chang Troops in Flight.

Tsingtao, China.—The troops of Marshal Chang Tso-Lin are in general retreat in consequence of the arrival at Hsuehchow of the forces of Yeh Wei-Chun, the governor of Honan province, who is an ally of General Wu Pei-Fu, head of the movement in the Yangtze region against Chang Tso-Lin.

The Honan troops are reported to be advancing rapidly and to be near Tsaiwan, where it is said there is panic.

Malady Ravages Ducks.

Astoria, Or.—Deputy Game Warden Smith of Seaside has warned duck hunters against eating any ducks which they are not certain were brought down by their guns, following the finding Saturday and Sunday of about 100 dead ducks along the Clatsop plains region. One flock of about 24 sprigs were found on a small area in the sand near Sunset beach. They were not marked and appeared to be in good condition.

Shots Miss Army Ship.

Portland, Me.—Coast guard boat CG-751 opened fire Monday on a suspected ram runner, which proved to be an army steamer loaded with two tons of explosive powder. Two one-pound shells passed close to the army craft before its signals were recognized.

UNCLE SAM LAYS TAX KNIFE AWAY

\$304,000,000 Is Limit, Says Chairman Green.

MEASURE READY SOON

Further Reductions Opposed for Several Reasons, but Fight on Floor Forecast.

Washington, D. C.—The limit in tax reduction for next year has been reached by the house ways and means committee in revision already approved for the new revenue bill, Chairman Green declared Sunday in announcing that the door was closed against further proposals for tax relief. The bill is to be drafted this week.

The \$304,000,000 cut in revenue next year estimated to result from revisions ordered by the committee in tax rates, he said, is all the treasury can stand.

The chairman's statement, it is believed not only to mean there will be no further alterations in the tax rate schedule by the committee, but also that the threatened fight in the house for greater reductions in the automobile tax than have been voted by the committee will be opposed vigorously.

Repeal of the automobile passenger car levy would cut another \$50,000,000 from the annual revenue.

Chairman Green said he expected the committee, which will meet again soon, to complete the drafting of the tax reduction bill this week, thus assuring early consideration by the house soon after congress convenes December 7.

As agreed upon by the committee the bill will provide for widespread reductions in all income tax rates, increased personal exemptions, repeal of many of the various miscellaneous levies, repeal of the gift tax and publicity of income tax returns, modification of the inheritance tax.

Chairman Green in his statement said he believed the treasury's estimate of the probable surplus for the next fiscal year, placed at \$290,000,000 by Secretary Mellon, was too "conservative."

"As a consequence," he said, "I have been asked why the reduction to be effected by the bill is not made larger. There are many who think it should be carried at least up to \$350,000,000, and some that would advance it to \$400,000,000 or even \$500,000,000, although in the latter case my understanding is it is intended to apply the payments received from European countries to ordinary expenses instead of using them to reduce the national debt."

"I am very decidedly of the opinion that the amount now carried by the bill should not be increased for several reasons: In the first place, I favor the continuance of the present policy with reference to the reduction of the national debt in order that if some new and great emergency should come upon us we would be prepared for it, and to save the amount which would otherwise be paid in interest. If a surplus develops under the proposed bill, it will, of course, be used to reduce the national debt."

America Found Wicked.

Delaware, O.—The United States is the most wicked nation in the world and has one-third of the world's wealth, of which the Methodists have a large share, but Methodist communicants gave only 75 cents per member for foreign missions last year. Dr. J. M. Yard, Shanghai, China, declared here Sunday in an address before delegates to the annual meeting of the board of foreign missions of the Methodist Episcopal church.

Editor Succeeds Ladd.

Bismark, N. D.—Gerald P. Nye, 33, publisher of the Griggs County Sentinel-Courier, at Cooperstown, N. D., Saturday was appointed by Governor Sorlie to fill the vacancy in the United States senate caused by the death of the late E. F. Ladd. The special election proclamation will stand, and Nye, if seated by the house, will serve only until the results of the special election become known, unless he is elected to fill the vacancy.

Harding's Cousin Lost.

New York.—Isabel Bennett, 15, second cousin of the late President Harding, was reported Sunday night missing since Friday from her Washington Heights home in this city. Fears that she had been kidnapped were expressed by her mother and stepfather, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Brent. She is the daughter of John B. Bennett, Cleveland, O., automobile dealer, first cousin of the late president. The Bennets were divorced several years ago.

STATE NEWS IN BRIEF.

Marshfield.—A 4-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Kittson of East Side obtained matches Friday morning and set his clothes on fire. He was so badly burned he died a few hours later at the Smedbery sanitarium.

Klamath Falls.—Ralph Morrow, 4, was in a local hospital Saturday suffering from a bullet wound sustained earlier in the day when a 22-caliber cartridge exploded when he struck it with a hammer. The bullet struck the boy in the right cheek.

Salem.—Material increases in the assessments of the Portland Electric Power company, the California-Oregon Power company and a number of other large corporations operating in the state of Oregon was urged by Governor Pierce in a statement issued here Saturday.

Mount Angel.—An attempted robbery of the Mount Angel creamery was frustrated Friday night when a burglar alarm attached to the cold storage room door sounded and frightened two men away. They were seen fleeing from the creamery in an automobile and a truck.

Cascade Locks.—Mrs. Vera Woodard, assistant postmistress in the local office, was attacked Saturday night by a rat as she stepped into a dark room and turned on the light. She was bitten on the leg. Her screams brought her pet Alredale to her rescue. The dog killed the rat.

Bend.—Although September was a banner month in building operations, October went it one better, a survey of the past month's record has disclosed. In October 55 building permits were issued, nearly two for each day, for a total value of \$55,417. The September record was 47 permits, totaling \$53,095.

Salem.—A bear is not a game animal and may be killed in counties other than Jackson, Josephine and Klamath at any time of the year. In Jackson, Josephine and Klamath counties the season for killing bear is closed unless written permission is requested by E. F. Averill, state game warden.

Gold Beach.—What was declared by County Game and Fish Warden Adams to be the first conviction for illegal fishing in Gold Beach occurred when a jury in Justice Starr's court Friday night brought in a verdict of guilty against Robert Miller, a well-known resident. The verdict asked extreme leniency.

Cascade Locks.—Chauncey Price, a merchant of Carson, Wash., and several associates have closed a deal with the Wind River Lumber company for operation of a new sawmill at camp 8 on Wind river. Several million feet of logs have been purchased from the Wind river company in the area swept by fire last summer.

Pendleton.—During the season of 1925, Pendleton's municipally owned camp grounds accommodated approximately 24,360 visitors, according to an estimate by Thomas Fitzgerald, city recorder. He based his estimate on the cash receipts received as payment of the fees charged by the city for use of the park's privileges.

Mill City.—Wednesday 1,200,000 chinook salmon eggs were shipped from the Breitenbush racks to the Santiam hatchery at Mehama. Approximately 5,000,000 eggs remain at Breitenbush. From the South Santiam racks 1,750,000 eggs have been sent to the Bonneville hatchery and 600,000 will be shipped in a few days to the Deschutes hatchery.

Monmouth.—The J. M. Meyers farm three miles south of Monmouth, consisting of 184 acres of farm land, has been sold to Theodore Meyers, a Florida capitalist, consideration being \$24,000. Mr. Meyers, who has a large stock farm in Iowa, plans to establish an other here, with the outlook for farming brighter several large sales are expected in this vicinity.

Baker.—A shipment of machinery for the Lucky Strike mine, located on Ruby creek about one mile south of the old Red Boy mine in Franite district, has arrived. The machinery consists of an air compressor and two small Diesel engines to be used in prospecting, with a 15-ton capacity mill that is in process of construction and which will be ready for operation shortly.

Quincy.—The high price of red clover seed, which has been fixed at 28 cents, falls to cheer the growers, owing to the fact that there is little seed in the country in spite of the very large acreage given up to it. In some cases in this vicinity the yield was about half, and in others insufficient seed appeared in the husks to pay for hulling it. Hundreds of acres of clover was burned in the field here after it was cut, placed in windrows and thrashing begun, when it was discovered that weed seed was the chief product.

King Tommy

By GEORGE A. BIRMINGHAM

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CHAPTER XVIII—Continued

"There'll be the devil of a fuss," said Norbys, "and anyway, I don't want to take an action against her. I don't believe I could even if I wanted to, on account of having got married myself before she did. So that's that; and there's no use worrying."

Troyte was talking fast to someone in the foreign office.

"It's all very fine," said Norbys to me. "Uncle Ned may say what he likes, but they won't like it. No ambassador would like being pulled out of his bed at this hour of the night and set on to chase a princess up and down the Himalaya mountains, as if she was a goat or a chamois or something of that kind. And what I all ways say is: If nobody wants a thing done, why do it? There are lots of unpleasant things every fellow has to do. Why chip in with unnecessary ones and make everyone uncomfortable?"

"Notify the legations at Sofia," said Troyte into the telephone. "And Prague and Bukarest, and Warsaw, and Budapest, and Belgrade."

"Just listen to him," said Norbys. "I'm glad I didn't go into the diplomatic service. They wanted me to. You remember that, Uncle Ned? But I was firm about that. 'Not my line at all,' I said. 'Hate complications and always did.' Now I see I was quite right. I simply couldn't stand being set on to persecute some poor girl who'd run off with the chauffeur. And I expect that's what's happened, say 'let it be a girl's want' to marry a chauffeur, let her, and be jolly thankful it's no worse."

Cable had edged over to the table at which Troyte was sitting at the telephone.

"Tell them," he said, "to engage places for us in the Warsaw express. We must go tomorrow."

"I suppose we must," said Troyte with a sigh.

"Of course we must," said Cable. "Heaven knows what muddle there'll be if we're not there. It's a complicated business and you and I are the only two people who understand the whole of it. Tell them to book two sleepers for us."

"I say," said Norbys. "I say, Uncle Ned, are you really going off to this what-you-call-'em place to see the princess?"

Troyte took no notice of this, so I answered for him.

"He must," I said. "As minister for Balkan affairs, it's his duty to have his hand on the helm when the ship is in the rapids."

Norbys turned to his wife, who had been sitting quietly and very comfortably where Troyte left her.

"I say, Vi, old thing, what about it?" She understood him at once, though I confessed that I did not.

for that sort of thing. Well, you know, if the worst comes to the worst and they still want a king, I'll be there."

Cable, who had been drumming impatiently with his fingers on the table, moved over suddenly and looked at Norbys. I do not know whether he actually thought that it might still be possible to make Norbys king of Lystria. If the thing were possible, it would certainly be a way out of a nasty situation. Even the Balkan war might be averted.

"I always said," said Norbys, "that I'd no objection to being a king, so long as I didn't have to marry that princess. Well, that part of the program is off now. But if the Lystrians don't care for the chauffeur, why not pop me and Viola on to a couple of thrones? Not that we want to hoof out the princess. We don't. Only just if she happens to have done herself in by skipping off with the chauffeur. And that's the sort of thing it takes a girl a long time to get over—especially if she happens to be a princess—why, in that case what I say is: Why not us?"

Cable is an adventurer with no responsibility and little regard for convention. He may have seriously contemplated financing another revolution in Lystria and setting up Norbys as a king at the end of it. But Troyte is a serious statesman. He could not possibly have regarded Norbys' plan as worthy of consideration. Nevertheless, he agreed to take the young couple to Lystria. It was Viola who persuaded him.

She left her seat, went over to him in the prettiest possible manner, put one arm round his neck and set her



"Do take us," she said. "We want to go most awfully, and I ought to have a honeymoon, oughtn't I?"

Troyte picked up the telephone receiver again.

"Hullo," he said. "Yes, Foreign office. Lord Edmund Troyte speaking again. Did I say two sleepers on the Warsaw express? Well, four will be wanted. Engage four."

"Say five," I said. "I'd rather like to go, too."

Troyte took no notice of me. He laid down the receiver, crossed the room holding Viola's hand, and sat down.

"Why on earth do you want to go?" said Cable.

"Well," I said, "I'm thinking of applying for shares in the oil company of yours, so, of course, I'd like to look into things for myself. And Lord Norbys is my godson, so if you're going to make him a king, I ought to be there to help to crown him. God's parents have duties as well as rights. And, besides, I want to find out who that princess has run away with. I believe myself that my sister Emily's curate has got her, and that Janet Church has gone along with them to be bridesmaid."

disagreeable to me, for I am a man of sociable disposition with a very strongly formed habit of conversation. I could not blame Norbys and his wife for deserting us. They were on a honeymoon and it was natural enough that they should shut themselves up together in their own compartment. I did not see them, except at meals in the restaurant. Troyte and Cable ignored me. Cable resented my being with the party at all and kept Troyte to himself in another compartment on pretense of talking business. They could not talk business in any useful way because they did not know what had happened in Lystria. All they could do was to speculate, and I might have been useful to them there. In fact, my guess about Emily's curate was the only good guess any of them made.

Casimir, Count Istvan, who lives somewhere in that neighborhood, got into the train at Charlottenberg station, just outside Berlin. King Wladislaus joined us at the Friedrichstrasse station farther on. There is not enough room for four people to be comfortable in a wagon-lit's compartment, so Cable, who does not care what he spends, engaged an ordinary first-class compartment farther down the train. There the four, Troyte, Cable, Casimir and the king, settled down. I was not invited to join the party.

Neither the king nor Casimir could cross the frontier into Megalla, but they were willing to go as far as Breslau and tell all they knew about what had happened. Unfortunately, they did not know very much.

Casimir explained that he had all along believed Tommy to be the Lord Norbys. He had regarded the "Reverend Thomas A. Norbys'" passport as a clever trick intended to deceive Von Steinfeldt and the Germans while conveying to him the news that Lord Norbys had accepted in Berlin, plan, much more ingenious than anything Troyte or Cable had thought of. It did make Casimir certain that Lord Norbys had arrived. It would, apparently, have deceived Von Steinfeldt and his police if their suspicions had not been awakened by what happened in the Mascotte the night after Tommy's arrival. Von Steinfeldt heard all about that from one of his spy waiters.

The king also believed that Tommy was Lord Norbys; but he understood the passport differently. His view was that Norbys pretended to be a curate in order to clear himself of the charge of being entangled with Miss Temple. Here he expressed the greatest desire to see Viola, and it was with the utmost difficulty that Troyte kept him from wandering along the train to look for Norbys' compartment. He said that he had particularly admired the way in which Lord Norbys had kept up his pretense, even acting the part of a curate when there was no real need to do so.

Then came the question of who Rev. Thomas A. Norbys really was. The king did not know. Nor did Casimir. Casimir could tell exactly what was on the passport, and the king repeated all that Tommy had said about himself. But that got them no further. They had to send for me. Cable was unwilling to do so; but Troyte insisted. Cable remembered that I had said something about a curate.

When I heard the story told by the king and Casimir, I saw at once that my guess was very likely to be true. "My sister Emily lost a curate early last week," I said. "He was last heard of at the Adlon hotel in Berlin, where he stayed two nights and then disappeared. The dates—"

I discussed the dates and they fitted in with each other very well. I could not help looking at Cable with an expression of satisfaction. The man had been abominably rude to me since we left London and had snubbed me pitilessly. I did not actually say "I told you so." But I looked as if I thought I had.

"As you see," said Cable, "no curate would dare to marry the princess."

Like many successful business men, Cable underestimates the courage and ability of the clergy. In all probability he never speaks to a clergyman at all and only sees one once in two years or so clad in a surplice, at some wedding or funeral which he's obliged to attend. A curate in a surplice looks innocent and mild, not at all the kind of a man who would seize a vacant European throne. The same curate on the golf links is a very different person. Besides, Tommy was an exceptional curate. I told them what Emily and Canon Pyke had said about him.

(TO BE CONTINUED.)

Facts About Compass

The angle between the true north and the magnetic north is called the "magnetic variation," and has to be allowed for in navigation. Thus, when the star says "True as the compass to cause," it is talking nonsense because, although the star is fixed, the compass is not. Nevertheless, its variations are well known, so that the compass remains the seaman's most valuable possession.

CHAPTER XIX

I did not enjoy the first part of the journey to Lystria, for I was left almost entirely alone. That is always