

NEWS NOTES OF CURRENT WEEK

Resume of World's Important Events Told in Brief.

Peace rumors are causing lower wheat prices in Chicago markets.

Secretary Bryan has called on Zapata for reparation for an insult to the American flag.

The Belgian Relief commission is preparing to extend aid to 2,500,000 destitute French people.

An American submarine with a crew of 25 men is missing in Honolulu harbor, and it is feared all are lost.

A prominent Russian statesman says the world must, in the future, seek new methods of preserving peace.

Sir John French says the French troops, regaining confidence, are better man for man than the Germans.

Many American Red Cross nurses have made their wills and volunteered for service in the typhus-infected zone of Serbia.

German and Austrian families are leaving Italy, and one "inspired" newspaper declares the time is ripe for a decisive blow.

An inheritance tax of \$313,615 must be paid by Mrs. Annie L. Sears, widow of Richard W. Sears, according to a court order entered in Lake county, Illinois. Mrs. Sears was the sole legatee of the \$15,000,000 estate left by her husband, who died last September.

Three hundred striking longshoremen, strikebreakers and sympathizers engaged in a riot on the principal streets of Tacoma, Wash., about midnight Thursday. Several shots were fired, but no one was hit. Two men were cut with razors. Many were badly beaten. The police used their night sticks freely and arrested a score of men.

The Belgian towns of Malines, Termonde, Louvain and Liege never will be rebuilt on their present sites, if the undercurrent of discussion among prominent Belgians results in action when peace is made. These Belgians propose that new cities be built on sites adjoining the ruins, which are to be left as "monuments to the sufferings of Belgium."

Raymond Biege and Mabel Pullen, of Medford, Ore., the 17-year-old children who eloped more than a week ago, after a strenuous search were found at the home of the boy's grandmother in Central Point. The children had overlooked the formality of a marriage license, however, so, after consulting with County Judge Touville, they were married and left for California.

Nearly 30 per cent of the personal property of the late Field Marshal Earl Roberts, who died in France last November, was in Minnesota, according to a copy of the famous soldier's will received by Attorney General Smith, of that state. The total personality is given at \$375,697. The Minnesota property, railroad shares and iron holdings, valued at more than \$104,000 will net the state \$653 inheritance tax.

Turks are routed by the British when they made a second charge on the Suez canal.

A sharp campaign for members by the Portland Chamber of Commerce resulted in adding 1647 in one day.

Italy is fortifying the islands of the White Sea with heavy guns and it is said steamers are taking munitions of war there.

Fifty-six bodies have been recovered from the avalanche at the Britannia mine in British Columbia. No hope of recovering many others is entertained.

Many passengers and a crew of 65 were rescued from the sinking steamer Denver in mid-ocean, through the aid of the wireless.

Riots in Constantinople are reported untrite and the city is calm. The allied fleet is proceeding slowly up the Dardanelles to the Turkish seat of government.

The German emperor has ordered the removal to Berlin of valuable paintings and tapestries from his mountain castle known as the Letzkoenigsberg, on the Alsatian side of the Vosges mountains. French aviators recently flew over the imperial summer residence, which formerly belonged to a king of France.

Governor Spry of Utah has vetoed the Shields initiative and referendum bill. He gives as his reasons that the initiative is unnecessary at this time, as the people of the state may petition the legislature if they wish; that the expense of its operation will be disproportionate to the benefits to be derived and that the constitutionality of the measure is questionable.

The Prussian diet has given permission to English subjects residing in Germany to appear as plaintiffs in cases before the court.

Sir Thomas Lipton declares that the only hope of eliminating the plague in Serbia is by fire, such as was done in London many years ago.

"Seventeen Belgians, most of whom were young peasants, were shot at daybreak Wednesday in the Ghent barracks. They were found guilty by a German court-martial of espionage in the interest of the allies," says dispatch.

U. S. Warship to Carry Cash to Aid Sisal Crop

Washington, D. C. — An American warship will take to Yucatan money to finance the movement of Mexico's sisal hemp crop, needed to make twine for binding the enormous wheat crop made by farmers of the United States this year. The money — \$625,000 in currency, which manufacturers propose to advance to the hemp growers—is in bank vaults at Galveston, Tex., but until recently no safe means of getting it to Mexico had been found.

Secretary Daniels agreed to permit the use of a warship for the purpose, after hearing a statement by Edward C. Heidrich, Jr., of Peoria, Ill., representing the sisal purchasers, who outlined the difficulties that had been encountered. It is probable that a gunboat or destroyer now in Southern waters will be sent to Galveston to transport the money.

There are said to be some 250,000 bales of sisal ready for shipment at Progreso, the port, and Merida, the railway center, of Yucatan. Since the United States government prevented Carranza from blockading Progreso the chief obstacles in the way of moving this supply have been scarcity of labor and shipping facilities. Several ships are now awaiting cargoes, however, and the labor situation is improving, according to reports to the State department. Arrival of the American money is expected to result in immediate further improvement.

Discussing the Mexican situation generally, Secretary Bryan commented on conditions with a reiteration of the declaration that recognition of any fact had not been considered by this government. He spoke hopefully of the plans to insure transportation of sisal and announced receipt of an official expression of regret by the Zapata government for the murder of an American citizen, John B. McManus, in Mexico City.

Concerning conditions in the Mexican capital, the secretary said no serious complaint had been received by the department recently. Asked if matters had progressed far enough in the revolution-torn republic to effect any change in the policy of the United States, Mr. Bryan said that there was no change of policy.

Ex-Secretary Root Warns of Coming National Crisis

Philadelphia—Elihu Root, ex-United States senator from New York and ex-Secretary of war, was the guest of honor at a reception given here by the members of the Union League. The league's historic gold medal of honor, the first recipient of which was President Lincoln and which had been given on 16 occasions, was presented to Senator Root.

Senator Root, in outlining what he termed the mission of the Republican party "at this crisis of the nation's history," said:

"The party's duty is to restore confidence in business, wipe out the misunderstanding which has arisen between the farmers of the West and South and the capitalists of the East and North, fight to the last ditch against increased governmental regulation of business and prevent the power of the Federal bureaucracy from becoming stronger."

In the present lack of confidence, he declared, the nation is facing a crisis as great as that of the Civil war and "will inevitably go to ruin unless the business men of the country assert themselves, as they did when they elected McKinley in 1896 and in 1900."

Turks Are Routed by British Near Suez City

London—A statement was given out by the official press bureau here telling of a defeat inflicted on a Turkish force operating against the Egyptian town of Suez. The statement says:

"On the 22d at dawn one of our patrols discovered a party of the enemy near El Kubri Post, opposite Suez. Shots were exchanged.

"Aeroplanes estimated the number at about 1000, composed of infantry, artillery and a few cavalry.

"The guns at El Kubri opened fire and inflicted casualties, whereupon the enemy retired and formed a camp eight miles east of the Suez canal.

"Early on the morning of the 23d, a force under General Sir G. Younghusband attacked and routed the enemy, who is now in full retreat.

"A prisoner says this force came direct from Bir el Saba, having taken 12 days en route, and that General von Trauer and three other German officers were with it."

Airman Attacks Steamer.

Southampton—The British steamer Pandion, which arrived here recently from Rotterdam, reports that in the vicinity of the North Hinder Lightship, she was twice attacked by a German aeroplane. Seven bombs were dropped by the aircraft, some of which fell close to the Pandion, but the steamer escaped damage.

Owing to this incident the Zealand company, owners of the steamer, hereafter will not transport British, Belgian, French or Russian men of military age.

Texas Fruit Hard Hit.

Marshall, Tex.—With the thermometer as low as 22 degrees this week, fruitgrowers say the Harrison county fruit crop is ruined and the yield in the main Texas belt this year will be way below normal. A leading orchard company estimates the loss in this county alone will total more than \$1,000,000. Repeated failures have disheartened growers.

Bureau of Fisheries Finds New Field on Oregon Coast

Washington, D. C. — During the summer of 1914 the department of Commerce, through the bureau of fisheries, conducted an exploration of certain fishery grounds off the coast of Oregon to determine if halibut were present in sufficient quantities to support a fishery.

A halibut ground of some value was found off Newport, Ore., covering an area of approximately 250 square miles. The run of fish on this bank reaches its maximum in August and September, but apparently is of commercial importance as early as June, and probably some halibut could be taken in the latter part of April. As an immediate result of the findings,

fishermen made 21 trips to the ground, taking about 850,000 pounds of halibut, valued at about \$24,000. Trips yielding 40,000 pounds were made in four days or less. Irrespective of the abundance of fish, weather conditions, and the lack of harbors will inhibit fishing expecting from April to October.

Coos Bay is expected to produce halibut in limited numbers; and the entire coast of Oregon was found to abound in flounders, soles, rock cod and black cod—a valuable food supply when market conditions warrant its exploitation. The report of the investigation, with charts, will soon be issued and may be obtained on application to the bureau of fisheries, Washington, D. C.

Hood River Fruit Agency Will Not Quit Distributors

Hood River—While the growers of other Northwestern fruit districts are prone to regret that Hood River has seen fit to announce a probable withdrawal from the North Pacific Fruit Distributors, H. F. Davidson, a member of the board of directors of the Applegrowers' association, the local affiliation of the central agency, and president of the Fruit Distributors, who returned from a meeting of the board of trustees of the latter organization, says the central marketing concern will continue to exist.

This is welcome news to local marketmen, who declare that an ideal situation will exist, since organization will be preserved in other districts. "So far as I can observe," said Mr. Davidson, "there is no complaint among the Hood River growers against

the Distributors. No objection has been raised against the methods employed in marketing the fruit. So far as I can gather, the fact is that Hood River growers feel that with about 70 per cent of their tonnage consisting of a specialty, namely, Newtowns and Spitzenbergs, they will not need the benefits of a large and extensive selling machine to the extent that is necessary in other districts producing a large number of varieties and requiring distribution over a much wider area."

"The local organization will be strengthened," says Mr. Davidson, "since a few growers who have been shipping independently have expressed themselves as anxious to affiliate with the local agency, provided its entire efforts are expended in advancing the interests of Hood River."

State May Drop Suit Against Livestock Co.

Salem—While the members of the State Land board have decided that the suit filed by the state against the Pacific Livestock company to recover about 26,000 acres of land in Harney county should be dismissed, announcement was made that formal action would not be taken until Attorney General Brown had made an investigation of the litigation. The suit was started by ex-Attorney General Crawford, upon instruction of ex-Governor West. Circuit Judge Biggs recently overruled a demurrer to the complaint, and unless dismissed the suit will be tried soon upon its merits.

Lawyers for the company several days ago asked that the suit be dismissed upon the ground that it was barred by the statute of limitation. They also contended that the company was an innocent purchaser, the land having been held by several concerns prior to the present ownership.

It was charged that the land originally was obtained through the use of dummy entries. C. B. McConnell, of Burns, has filed on the water rights in the tract, and has aided the state in its legal fight. Asked by Mr. West, then governor, at one of the meetings, if he would relinquish his water claims if the state won the suit, Mr. McConnell said he would not, but that he would sell them for a low price.

Big Cannery To Go Up.

The Dalles—After several months devoted to inspecting the various fruit-growing sections of the Pacific Northwest, Libby, McNeil & Libby have decided to erect their new plant in The Dalles.

This was announced officially by representatives of the company. Construction will be started within a few days and will be rushed so that the plant will be ready to handle the cherry crop in this section in June.

A large force will be employed on the plant and 300 persons will be required in the factory. A steady market at home is assured for the fruit-raisers of this section. An entire block bounded by Second, Court and Washington streets and the Columbia river has been selected as the site for the plant, which will cost \$50,000.

Hundreds of tons of pears, cherries and apricots will be purchased every year, and it is probable that large quantities of berries and vegetables will be taken also.

New Plant To Be Built.

Roseburg—Work on the Roseburg Sand & Gravel company's plant near Shady Point will begin Monday, according to O. T. Larson, of Portland, who arrived here to supervise the construction work. The plant will cost approximately \$25,000. The gravel bars to be developed have, according to Mr. Larson, an almost inexhaustible supply of material, and with their development and the consequent reduction of the price of gravel he believes the officials of Douglas and other nearby counties will see the economy of more durable roads.

Sitting Hen Has Journey.

Hood River—Mrs. A. T. Boynton, who recently removed from near Tillamook to the community lying between this city and Mosier, has an old Rhode Island Red hen which arrived at her new home, sitting on a nestful of eggs after having stayed on them while on a train, in a room at Portland and on a boat. The hen had been set on 18 eggs two weeks before the family moved. The hen and eggs were placed in a nest in a basket and Mrs. Boynton carried them. Fourteen of the eggs hatched a few days ago.

PRZEMYSL SURRENDERS TO RUSSIAN BESIEGERS

Petrograd, via London — The garrison of Przemyśl, which capitulated to the Russian army Tuesday, surrendered without a fight.

The hoisting of the white flag over this fortress, which was said to be on the point of surrender on a number of occasions, caused little surprise, as it was generally known that it was in a terribly weakened condition, without food or ammunition, and its endurance was only a question of days.

War office advices report that nine Austrian generals were taken, more than 300 officers and 50,000 men.

The Russian general commanding the investing army has been decorated with St. George's cross.

A heavy snow storm failed to check the enthusiastic demonstrations in which the civil and military population united when the fall of Przemyśl was announced. The crowds, floundering in deep drifts which tied up street traffic, cheered the officers and soldiers who remained to participate in the celebration.

From the Kazan Cathedral, the strains of the national anthem swelled in volume as the crowd gathered, and from other points throughout the city mysteriously hidden behind the dense curtain of falling snow, music burst forth and added to the general spirit of enthusiasm.

The moral effect of the victory on Russia, it is expected, will be great, awakening hopes that this will be the turning point in the Galician and Carpathian campaign.

The ending of the long siege is considered here of great importance. It gives Russia control of virtually all of Eastern Galicia and releases for service elsewhere the Russian army which has been besieging the city.

Avalanche Buries Fifty Miners, Wives and Babies

Britannia Beach, B. C.—Fifty sleeping miners were killed and 20 injured when a landslide of snow and earth broke away from the upper workings of the mines here Sunday night and swept through the settlement, engulfing every building in its path.

Eighteen of the dead have been recovered. Rescue parties worked all day in the debris, while doctors and nurses who arrived in a special steamer from Vancouver cared for the injured.

Of the dead several are women and children living in homes in the path of the avalanche. The greatest number of deaths occurred in the bunkhouse and cookhouse, which were caught in the slide, carried a distance down the mountain and finally buried under the debris. The mine offices, store, rock-house and tramway terminal were also engulfed.

When everyone was in bed there was a report like a dynamite explosion, in fact, the survivors declare they first thought the magazine had blown up, and a mass of rock, snow and huge trees swept down from near the summit of the mountain, upon a ledge half way down, and carried off from this a bunkhouse, cookhouse and one or two of the houses occupied by the wives and families of the employees.

The entire mass of debris then shot downward and expended its force half a mile farther down near the Britannia creek, where some of the mine workings are situated.

One man was buried in the snow for several hours, only his hand appearing above the surface. He was rescued unhurt, although nearly frozen.

American capital is largely interested in the Britannia mines, which produce copper and silver in extensive quantities.

Whole Serbian Populace Seriously Plague Infected

London—"Just as it took fire to stop the great plague in London, so fires are needed to clear Serbia of typhus. Infected houses and the clothing of the people must be burned, as the disease is carried by vermin, which is omnipresent," said Sir Thomas Lipton in a statement to the Associated Press, in which he recounted the appalling conditions in Serbia, where he spent a considerable time in personal investigations.

"I met on the country roads the sick, too weak to crawl to a hospital. Bullock carts were gathering them up. Often a woman and children were leading bullocks, the husband and father in the cart raving with fever. Scarcely enough people remain unstricken to dig graves for the dead, which lie exposed in the cemeteries.

60-Day Term Years Late.

Chicago—Edward Gard, an ex-detentive, fought four years and lost 19 court decisions trying to avert a 60-day jail sentence for contempt of court. Tuesday he voluntarily began serving the sentence, which had been affirmed by the Supreme court of the United States.

Gard got into trouble by arresting a man who had just been freed on a writ of habeas corpus.

Railroad Head Sentenced.

Jerseyville, Ill.—Edgar M. Davis, president of the Alton, Jacksonville & Peoria Electric railroad, was sentenced Tuesday to an indeterminate term of one to 14 years in the Illinois state prison at Chester.

He had been convicted of appropriating \$49,000 from the property of his mother-in-law, for whom he was trustee.

F-4 IS LOCATED IN NEW PLACE

Lost Anchor of Battleship Has Deceived Rescuers.

Fragments of Superstructure Coming to Surface Verify Latest Discovery—Hope Gone.

Honolulu—After making the heart-rending discovery Sunday that rescuers had been working in the wrong spot, the United States submarine F-4 was definitely located outside the harbor.

Pieces of the superstructure of the vessel have been brought to the surface.

W. C. Parks, civil engineer, has started construction of an immense diving bell, a large cast iron pipe seven feet in height, fitted with heavy plate glass ports.

A hydro-aeroplane has been made ready for instant flight if required.

The dredge California will shift its moorings, and tugs will criss-cross in all directions. Should their drags catch on the F-4, a chain net will be woven around the submerged boat and the floating crane from Pearl Harbor will attempt a direct lift.

Despair supplanted hope earlier in the day when two divers discovered that chains from the dredge California, which had been fabled with something on the floor of the ocean outside Honolulu harbor since Friday, were not attached to the lost craft but to an old anchor.

All the resources at the command of naval officers here had been employed for two days and nights in an effort to raise this anchor which was supposed to be the F-4.

It is believed to have been lost by the battleship Oregon.

Streams of bubbles seen rising to the surface of the water and floating patches of oil had given encouragement to the belief that the dredge's chains had become lodged on the submarine, which disappeared Thursday when at target practice.

Efforts to raise the object that held the dredge's chains failed and crews of men worked untiringly to bring what was confidently believed to be the undersea craft into more shallow water. Naval officers, expressing the hope that life might remain in the bodies of some, at least, of the 21 men imprisoned in the F-4, sought to expedite operations in every way possible.

Electrified Wire Fence and Puddle Kill Three

Los Angeles—When Cornelius Valkhoff went out to his rabbit hutch Sunday to procure a hare for a birthday dinner he stepped into a water puddle as he touched the latch of the hutch gate and fell dead. An electric cable leading to a nearby crematory had broken during the night and turned its 2200 volt current into the wire fence surrounding the hutch. Mrs. Valkhoff saw her husband writhe and fall in a contorted heap, and rushed out to aid him. She stepped into the puddle as she touched his hand, and fell across his body dead.

Harris Skinner, who occupied half of the Valkhoff dwelling, was the next to invade the fatal short-circuit, bent on giving aid, and he too died.

The shrieks of the Valkhoff's children, who were uncomprehending witnesses of the tragedy, attracted A. T. Slaten, a policeman. Slaten entered the back yard just as the girls sped toward the deadly water puddle, and snatching their hair braids he jerked them back to safety. In doing so, however, he came into contact with the charged fence wire, and was thrown 20 feet.

Italy Awaiting More Favorable Opportunity

Rome—Italian intervention has been postponed again. Despite the failure of Prince von Buelow's negotiations to conclude a permanent agreement between Austria and Italy, there is positive evidence that this country will not enter the war until toward the end of April, and possibly not so early as that.

It must not be understood that there has been any change in Italy's attitude, except in putting off intervention until a date when it is expected the Dardanelles will have been forced and Constantinople occupied, possibly with the co-operation of Bulgaria, and when the Russians will have passed the Carpathians and invaded Hungary.

Big Coast Liner Delayed.

San Francisco—Due to the serious trouble with the turbines of the liner Great Northern, she will not steam from this port for Flavel, Or., as scheduled, next Wednesday, and it is possible that she will not resume her schedule until April 8, although there is hope of getting her away April 4.

The Great Northern, making remarkable time, had to turn back to port at noon Saturday when she was off Point Reyes, and a thorough examination developed that it will take some time to put the machinery in shape.

Three Cargoes Iron Ore Sunk.

Stockholm—The loss in the Baltic of three German cruisers, the Bavaria, the Germania, and the Koenigsberg, all laden with iron ore, is announced in the Social Democrat. The Bavaria went down March 15 with her entire crew. The cause of her sinking is not revealed. No details of the destruction of the other vessels are given.