

NEWS NOTES OF CURRENT WEEK

Resume of World's Important Events Told in Brief.

Both French and Belgians report gains against the Germans.

Italy has prevented the Germans from penetrating into Abyssinia.

Russia continues to report successes in the Carpathian mountain passes.

Special reports of bank examiners show a nation-wide business revival.

The British collier *Lena* is anchored outside the three-mile limit off San Diego harbor, Cal.

The knee joint of a mammoth estimated to be 250,000 years old was unearthed in Southern California.

French troops from Africa are resting at Alexandria, Egypt, ready to proceed to help the British expeditionary forces against Turkey.

The well known American wish for docks in Chinese ports is believed to be one of the main reasons for the demands being made upon China by Japan.

A thief cut the hair from the tails of 160 horses which were awaiting shipment in Spokane. He got about 80 pounds of hair, which brings 8 cents a pound.

A prisoner who had recently escaped from the chain gang in Los Angeles hired an auto truck and proceeded to a Presbyterian church in that city and stole a baby grand piano.

Persistent rumors that Germany is about to invade Holland are current in London. It is well known that Holland is ready to repel any such invasion to the best of her ability.

Two men and a woman have been arrested near Baker Or., charged with the holdup of a stage recently in which \$7000 worth of gold bullion was stolen. The bullion was found concealed in a badger hole.

Both the Villa and Carranza factions in Mexico are preparing to use aeroplanes in their warfare against each other. American aviators will man the machines, and steel darts as well as bombs will be used.

It is estimated that it will cost \$200,000 to repair the turbine engine of the Coast liner *Great Northern*, and it will be at least 30 days before she can resume her run between San Francisco and Portland.

An diplomatic report from Rome declares that Austria is seeking a separate peace from Germany, and the rumor stirs Italy greatly, as such a move would preclude any possibility of her gaining territorial accessions from Austria.

Under a treaty between the United States and Prussia, made in 1828, Germany has announced that she will pay in full for the sinking of the American ship *William P. Frye* by the German auxiliary cruiser *Prinz Eitel Friedrich*.

Railroads of the Middle West have called upon employment agents for 10,000 laborers, to be put to work by the end of April. The roads are preparing to put their roadbeds in the best of condition to care for the heavy tourist travel which is expected to the Coast during the summer.

"Drys" succeed in voting out 100 saloons in Illinois at the recent election.

Butte, Mont., ousts its entire Socialist set of officers and elects Democrats.

Twenty-seven Terre Haute, Ind., officials are convicted of election frauds.

Chicago elects an entire Republican ticket, including mayor, the first in many years.

The steam schooner *Speedwell* is stranded on the spit off the Oregon coast near Bandon.

An Italian senator declares that unless all nations disarm anarchy will prevail universally.

An Austro-German force capture 7500 Russians of a mountain line on the Hungarian border.

A Zeppelin balloon appeared over Dunkirk Wednesday night, coming from the direction of the sea. The dirigible apparently intended to bombard the shipping in the harbor, but being sighted by the torpedo boats retreated to the German lines.

The arrival at San Remo of the American ambassador, Thomas Nelson Page, occasioned the rumor that he had gone to Italy to meet foreign diplomats for the discussion of peace negotiations. The ambassador, however, denied that his presence was in any way connected with the international situation. He explained that he was seeking a few days' rest.

French government declares that the "ammunition crisis" is past and the allies, including Serbia and Belgium, will have all the shells they need.

The Willard-Johnson fight films are barred from the United States by a Federal statute, which expressly forbids interstate transportation of fight films.

At the government investigation of Pullman porters' salaries, it is shown that they receive \$27.50 per month, but the "tips" exacted from the traveling public amount to an average of \$75 per month.

Right of Embargo Not Admitted by United States

Washington, D. C.—The United States government has made public its note to Great Britain announcing that it could not "admit" either the right of the allies or their assertion for justification in placing an embargo on all commercial intercourse between Germany and neutral countries.

"To admit it," says the communication, "would be to assume an attitude of unneutrality toward the present enemies of Great Britain, which would be obviously inconsistent with the solemn obligations of this government in the present circumstances, and for Great Britain to make such a claim would be for her to abandon and set at naught the principles for which she has consistently and earnestly contended in other times and circumstances."

The note reviews at length the legal phases of a blockade of belligerent territory and virtual blockade of neutral coasts.

In conclusion the United States asserts its expectation that Great Britain "after having considered" the possibilities of "serious interruption of American trade under the Order-in-Council," will take steps to avoid them and in the event that they should unhappily occur, which under the rules of international law constitutes a violation of neutral rights.

The American communication interprets the circumstances under which Great Britain pretends to be justified in adopting retaliatory measures toward her enemies as "merely a reason for certain extraordinary activities" by her naval force "and not an excuse for or a prelude to any unlawful action."

WILLARD WINS WORLD'S CHAMPIONSHIP FROM BLACK

Havana—Jack Johnson, exiled from his own country, Monday lost his claim to fistic fame as the heavyweight champion of the world, the title being wrested from him by Jess Willard, the Kansas cowboy, the biggest man who ever entered the prize ring.

Monday's fight probably has no parallel in the history of ring battles. For 20 rounds Johnson punched and pounded Willard at will, but his blows grew perceptibly less powerful as the fight progressed, until at last he seemed unable or unwilling to go on.

Johnson stopped leading, and for three or four rounds the battle between the two huge men was little more than a series of plastic poses of white and black gladiator.

So it was until the 25th round, when Willard got one of his widely swinging windmill right-hand smashes to Johnson's head. This was the beginning of the end.

When the round closed Johnson sent word to his wife that he was all in, and told her to start for home. She was on the way out and was passing the ring in the 26th round when a stinging left to the body and a cyclonic right to the jaw caused Johnson to crumple on the floor of the ring, where he lay partly outside the ropes until the referee counted 10 and held up Willard's hand in token of his new-won laurels.

Pullman Car Porters' Pay Only \$27.50 Month

Chicago—The first government inquiry into wages and conditions and employment of sleeping car porters and conductors was made here Tuesday by the United States commission on industrial relations. L. S. Hungerford, general manager of the Pullman company, was on the stand most of the day and was questioned by Frank P. Walsh, chairman of the commission.

In the first 15 years of the sleeping porter's service, Hungerford said, he is paid \$27.50 a month. At the end of 15 years he, like other service employees, automatically received an advance of 5 per cent, which makes his pay \$28.87 a month. In the first 10 years of service he buys his own uniforms, but thereafter the company takes on this burden. A bonus system gives men with good records an extra month's pay for the year.

Mr. Walsh then brought up the subject of tips.

"Do you expect the public to pay the difference between these wages and a living wage?" he asked the witness.

"No sir, I don't think that was considered," the latter replied.

"You thought them satisfied with these salaries?"

"No, I wouldn't say that; we received no expressions of dissatisfaction regarding them," replied Mr. Hungerford.

Germans Sink Italian Ship.

Genoa, Italy—A German submarine has sunk the Italian steamer *Luigi Parodi*, which left Baltimore January 22 with a cargo of coal for Genoa, according to word received here Tuesday. The report has caused a profound impression here, and there are many expressions of resentment. Great excitement prevails and the authorities have taken strong measures to protect the German colony and German ships from reprisals. Nothing is known as to the fate of the crew of the *Luigi Parodi*, which was entirely of Genoese.

Suit Against T. R. Is Set.

Syracuse, N. Y.—By agreement of counsel for both sides, the trial of the \$50,000 libel suit brought by William Barnes, of Albany, against ex-President Roosevelt, has been set down for April 19. The action will have preference over all other cases on the calendar.

State Highway Fund Is Divided by Oregon Board

Apportionment State Road Fund.	
Douglas county	\$20,000
Hood River county	50,000
Columbia county	50,000
Clatsop county	50,000
Jackson county	50,000
Josephine county	5,000
Miscellaneous	20,000
Rex-Tigardville road	7,231
Total	\$337,231

Salem—At a meeting of the State Highway commission, apportionment of the state highway fund for the year, which, it is believed, with receipts from delinquent taxes, will approximate \$237,231, was made, seven counties receiving substantial funds.

The largest amounts, \$50,000 each, go to Columbia, Jackson and Hood River counties, the board adhering to its original policy of aiding counties that have bonded themselves to build roads. Of the \$50,000 awarded to Jackson county, \$10,000 was owed from last year and the balance was provided for in a law passed at the recent session of the legislature. The commission set aside \$20,000 for office expenses.

John H. Albert, of Salem, and S. Benson, of Portland, members of the advisory committee recently appointed, met with the board and participated in making the apportionments. It also was announced that the committee would advise with State Highway Engineer Cantine frequently regarding road work. The other member is Leslie Butler.

County Judge Clark, of Columbia county, and J. H. Johnson, representing the Consolidated Contract company, requested the board to have the engineer make estimates of the work done by the company in that county, so the County court could make certain payments. Under the law the payments cannot be made until the estimates are furnished. State Treasurer Kay called attention to the fact that H. L. Bowlby, ex-state highway engineer, had made the estimates, but had not furnished a copy to the county judge. Mr. Cantine was instructed to do this. Mr. Johnson said after the meeting that the estimates of Major Bowlby were not satisfactory to the company and would not be accepted. He declared that under them the company would lose about \$60,000, and that, if satisfactory arrangements could not be made with the county, litigation would result.

A delegation from Yamhill county, which asked for state aid, was informed by the board that it probably would be helped next year, but not this one, because of a lack of funds. The spokesmen said Tillamook and Yamhill counties each had raised \$15,000 for use on the Grand Ronde road and suggested that the state provide a similar sum.

The apportionment of the state fund suggested by Major Bowlby was as follows:

Clatsop county, \$40,000; Douglas county, \$27,000; Columbia county, \$60,000; Hood River county, \$60,000; Jackson county, \$40,000; miscellaneous, \$20,000.

New Line From Grants Pass to Ocean Assured

Completion of the California & Oregon Coast railroad from Grants Pass to Crescent City, Cal., at a cost approximating \$5,000,000, was assured this week when Twohy Bros., railroad contractors of Portland, arranged with the city officials of Grants Pass to finance the project and perform the work.

The people of Grants Pass already have bonded themselves for \$200,000 to pay for the first 10 miles of the work. This portion of the road, from Grants Pass to Wilderville, has been built. The remaining portion, from Wilderville to Crescent City, is approximately 81 miles long. It is estimated that the work can be completed this summer. Twohy Bros. are prepared to put a large force of men to work there within the next few weeks.

The road is bonded for \$5,000,000, and it is understood that Twohy Bros. have made adequate arrangement for disposing of the bonds, as a means of financing the project. It is reported that Canadian and European capitalists have agreed to take some of the securities, which, on account of the glowing reports regarding the territory to be served by the new road, are expected to sell at a high figure.

Columbia Fish Prices Set.

Astoria—The Columbia River salmon packers, both cannery and cold storage men, have set the prices to be paid for raw fish during the season which opens on May 1 at the following rates: Small or cannery Chinooks, 6 cents a pound; large or cold storage Chinooks, weighing 28 pounds or more, 7 cents a pound; marketable steelheads, 3 cents a pound; bluebacks, 4 cents a pound; shad, 1 cent a pound; sturgeon, 5 cents a pound.

The principal changes from last season's figures are a reduction of one-half cent in the price of large Chinooks and an advance in the dividing point between what are known as small and large Chinooks from 25 to 28 pounds. The reason assigned for these changes is that on account of the war the shipment of cold storage or pickled fish to Germany has been curtailed, and the market for that variety of the cured product is not encouraging. A similar reason is assigned for cutting the price for steelheads 2 cents a pound.

Applegrowers To Build.

Hood River—Having been unable to conclude arrangements with the Apple Growers' association for the lease of a portion of its warehouse space, the Fruit Growers' exchange, which has contracted with the Northwestern Fruit exchange to handle its fruit for another year, will erect a storage house in this city and will build a warehouse in the Odell community on the Mount Hood railway line. While members of the board of directors have considered the matter, plans as yet have not been acted on by the growers.

Cleanup Day for Dogs.

Baker—Baker will have a cleanup day for dogs, April 12, following the civic beauty cleanup two days earlier. Mayor Palmer says that there are at least 200 worthless canines on the streets and that the danger of rabies is great because of them. The plan is to have the official dog catcher capture every animal that has not a license tag or muzzle.

\$1 Wheat by Fall Is Hope.

Baker—With two large contracts for wheat in Umatilla county at a dollar a bushel reported, farmers in this vicinity are holding their grain at this price and expect to get it at harvest time. Some think it will go as high as last winter, while some are even more optimistic.

"We hope to complete arrangements and carry the work to a successful conclusion within a very short time," said James F. Twohy, a member of the firm.

The new road will be an important factor in the future development of Grants Pass and all the territory in the southwestern corner of the state. It will open up a rich section heretofore undeveloped and will give Grants Pass and the southern part of the state an easy outlet to the sea.

More significant than these facts, however, is the possibility that the new road will become a future link in through traffic between Portland and San Francisco. For this reason, it is believed that the road eventually will pass into the hands of the Southern Pacific company. Twohy Bros., it is understood, are acting for the Southern Pacific. They have done much work for the Southern Pacific in the past and are not apt to engage in railroad operation themselves.

When the road is completed to Grants Pass a link of only 75 miles between Crescent City and Trinidad, Cal., will remain to be built to give the Southern Pacific a new through line between Grants Pass and San Francisco.

Central Potato Depot Suggested by Bulletin

How co-operation might be worked out by the potato growers of a given district so as to eliminate what the compiler terms "the financial disaster in the marketing of their potatoes met by the vast majority of Oregon farmers for the past three years," is explained in the concluding paragraph of a 40-page potato bulletin just issued by the University of Oregon. The bulletin is called "Markets for Potatoes," makes a general survey of the potato situation, and may be had on application to the extension division at Eugene.

The paragraph in question is:

"It might be advisable to establish a central depot at a convenient shipping plant readily accessible to the growers of the district in which the association is formed. To this depot all the growers would ship all their potatoes, where they would be inspected and sorted. Only those of the very highest quality in every respect would be marketed for seed and for table use, and these carefully packed and sold under a name or brand that would establish their reputation. If this high quality was rigidly maintained and the reputation fully earned and justified (as has been done similarly for apples from certain districts) a premium price above the prevailing market could be demanded and depended upon."

Suit Over Water Argued.

Oregon City—The injunction suit of the Milwaukee Water company against the city of Milwaukee was argued before Circuit Judge Campbell and was taken under advisement by the court. However, Judge Campbell decided that the temporary injunction granted by County Judge Anderson no longer could prevent the laying of pipe from the Bull Run mains of the city of Portland to the Clackamas county town. The city has signed a contract with Portland for a supply of Bull Run water and is preparing to install mains.

Klamath Land to Open.

Klamath Falls—Several lots of land in townships 37 and 38 south, range 8 east, Klamath county, have just been released from withdrawal under the first form in connection with the Klamath irrigation project, and will become subject to homestead settlement under the public land laws of the United States. The aggregate acreage released by this order is about 100 acres.

NORTHWEST MARKET REPORTS.

Portland—Wheat—Bluestem, bid, \$1.28; forty-fold, \$1.26; club, \$1.27; red Russian, \$1.22; red five, \$1.22. Millfeed—Spot prices: Bran, \$26.50 ton; shorts, \$28.50; rolled barley, \$31 @32.

Corn—Whole, \$35 ton; cracked, \$36. Hay—Eastern Oregon timothy, \$14 @ 15; valley timothy, \$12 @ 12.50; grain hay, \$10@12; alfalfa, \$12.50@13.50.

Vegetables—Cucumbers, hothouse, \$1.50 dozen; peppers, 30@35c pound; artichokes, 75@85c dozen; tomatoes, \$5 crate; cabbage, 1@3c pound; celery, \$4.50 crate; cauliflower, 75c@1 dollar; head lettuce, \$2.25 crate; hot-house lettuce, 75c@1 dollar; spinach, 5@6c pound; rhubarb, 1@3c pound; asparagus, white, \$1.25@1.75 box; green, 9@10c pound; eggplant, 30c pound; peas, 11@12c pound.

Green fruits—Strawberries, \$4.50 crate, apples, 50c@1.50 box; cranberries, \$11@12 barrel.

Potatoes—Oregon, \$1.25@1.50 sack; Washington, \$1.25@1.50; new potatoes, 10c pounds; sweet potatoes, 3c pound.

Onions—Oregon, selling price, 75c sack, country points.

Carrots, \$1.50 sack; beets, \$1.50; parsnips, \$1.25; turnips, \$1.75.

Eggs—Fresh Oregon ranch, case count, 18@18c; candied, 19c dozen.

Poultry—Hens, 15@16c; broilers, 25@27c; fryers, 18@20c; turkeys, dressed, 22@23c; live, 16@19; ducks, 12@15c; geese, 8@9c.

Butter—Creamery, prints, extras, 29c pound in case lots; 4c more in less than case lots, cubes, 23@25c.

Hops—1914 crop, nominal; contracts, nominal.

Wool—Eastern Oregon, coarse, 22@25c; Eastern Oregon, fine, 18@20c; valley, 24@27c; mohair, new clip, 29 @31c pound.

Casaca bark—Old and new, 4c pound.

Cattle—Best steers, \$7.25@7.75; choice, \$7@7.25; medium, \$6.75@7; choice cows, \$6@6.70; medium, \$5@5.75; heifers, \$5@6.25; bulls, \$3.50@6; stags, \$5@6.50.

Hogs—Light, \$5.50@7.55; heavy, \$5.90@6.50.

Sheep—Wethers, \$7@8.25; ewes, \$6@7; lambs, \$7.50@9.25.

Seattle—Wheat, Bluestem, \$1.28; forty-fold, \$1.26; five, \$1.24; red Russian, \$1.20; barley, \$25 ton. Car receipts: Wheat, 18, oats, 8; barley, 2; hay, 15; flour, 10.

Tacoma—Apples—Cooking, 75@90c; Winesaps, \$1.25@1.35 a box; local, 85c.

Vegetables—Cabbage, Flat Dutch, 2c; carrots, \$1.50@1.65; beets, home grown, \$1.25 sack; potatoes, Yakima, \$32 ton; Idaho, \$28@30; sweets, \$3.50 cwt.; Early Rose seed, \$50; tomatoes, \$6 case; Onions, green, 20c dozen; Walla Walla, \$1.75 box; Oregon yellow Danvers, \$1.75; Yakima, \$1.50; garlic, 30c pound; radishes, local, 20c dozen bunches; parsley, 3c dozen bunches; lettuce, head, \$2.25 crate; spinach, 5c pound; cucumbers, \$2.25 dozen; celery, \$4 @ 4.50; rutabagas, \$1.85 sacks; cauliflower, \$2.25 crate; Oregon, \$3 crate; artichokes, 75c dozen; Brussels sprouts, 8c pound; rhubarb, local, 4c; asparagus, Walla Walla, \$1.55 a box; green peas, 12c pound.

Fresh Meats—Steers, 12 @ 12c; dressed, 12c; heifers, 12@12c; wethers, 14c; dressed hogs, 11c; trimmed sides, 15c; combinations, 15c; Diamond T. C., 16c; yearlings, 15c; ewes, 13c.

Poultry—Ducks, live, 10@12c; hens, dressed, 16 @ 18c; live, 10 @ 14c; springs, dressed, 22c; live, 14@16c; squabs, live, \$2.50 dozen; dressed, \$6; turkeys, live, 18c; dressed, 28@30c; geese, 20c.

Butter—Washington creamery, 19@30c pound; Oregon and California, 28c.

Eggs—Fresh ranch, 18@21c.

Spokane—Cattle—Prime steers, \$6 @ 7 cwt.; heifers, and cows \$5@6.

Sheep—Wethers, \$6 @ 7; ewes, \$5 @ 6; lambs, \$6@7.

Hogs—Heavy live hogs, \$6.25 cwt.; light, \$7.25.

Wheat—\$46 ton, delivered in city. Oats—\$35 ton, whole, \$36 rolled, delivered in city.

Bran—\$25 ton; shorts, \$32; bran and shorts, \$27.

Hay—Timothy, \$16 ton; \$15 ton in carloads; alfalfa, \$15 ton delivered in city; \$14 ton in carloads.

Corn—\$37 ton; cracked, \$38. Barley—Rolled, \$35 ton.

Contract for 1,900,000 Boxes.

North Yakima—Contracts for the furnishing of 1,900,000 fruit boxes, and more at the same prices if needed, for use by members of the Yakima Valley Fruit Growers' association this season were awarded Saturday to the Cascade Lumber company, of this city. The association declined to state the price, but Manager Huebner, of the company, said it was considerably lower than last year. Delivery of 1,000,000 apple boxes, 700,000 peach boxes and 200,000 pear boxes are called for.

Buy 200 Head of Cattle.

Walla Walla—Grant Copeland who is feeding 1200 cattle on his Hooper, Wash., ranch was here this week from Spokane arranging for the transportation of 200 head of cattle from the Hudson Bay country to the Hooper ranch. The cattle were bought from Thomas Copeland.

GERMAN WARSHIP REACHES AMERICA

Kronprinz Wilhelm Slips by Foe Into Newport News.

Sinks 14 Merchantmen in Eight Months' Cruise in Southern Atlantic Ocean.

Newport News, Va.—The German converted cruiser *Kronprinz Wilhelm*, the elusive raider of commerce in the South Atlantic, slipped into the port Monday and asked for fuel and provisions. Many times reported destroyed, the former North German Lloyd liner had evaded hostile warships for eight months while she sent 14 merchantmen to the bottom. Her officers said she was forced to steal her way past four allied cruisers off the Virginia capes to reach this refuge.

"We got in without being seen by the enemy and we can get out the same way," declared her commander, Lieutenant-Captain Paul Theilacker, formerly navigating officer of the German cruiser *Karlsruhe*.

When she dropped anchor, the *Kronprinz Wilhelm* had less than 25 tons of coal and scanty provisions for the crew of 500 men and 61 prisoners from British merchant ships sunk in the South Atlantic.

Of 14 ships that the 15,000-ton cruiser sank, nine were British, four French and one Norwegian.

The value of these ships and their cargoes, officers of the Wilhelm estimated at \$7,000,000.

When the *Kronprinz Wilhelm* arrived off Bimbi Shoals, early in the day, two United States submarines, the G-1 and D-2, met her. The appearance of the submarines caused considerable surprise among the crew, but there was no demonstration, as the little vessels convoyed the German raider to quarantine, where Dr. MacCafferty, United States quarantine officer, boarded her.

Commander Theilacker reported 66 of the crew and prisoners were ill with beri-beri and requested that they be taken to a hospital.

The *Kronprinz Wilhelm* followed in the wake of the interned *Prinz Eitel Friedrich*, which arrived here a month ago, after thrilling and effective operations for the German arm.

In her raid of the seas since she slipped out of New York harbor August 3 last as a German merchant and passenger steamer, the *Kronprinz Wilhelm* never touched land and took 960 prisoners from various vessels destroyed.

Most of these were sent to South American ports at different times on German ships, which met the raider in response to wireless calls.

Germany Sends Sharp Answer to America

Washington, D. C.—Count von Bernstorff, the German ambassador, made public Sunday the text of the note he recently presented to the State department, declaring that "if the American people desire to observe thorough neutrality they will find means to stop the exclusive exportation of arms to one side, or at least, to use this export trade as a means to uphold the legitimate trade with Germany, especially the trade in foodstuffs."

The memorandum was prepared at the German embassy, and while it does not call for a reply, the State department already has drafted one which will be delivered probably within a few days.

The ambassador, in his complaint, informs the United States that, contrary to the real spirit of neutrality, an enormous new industry of war material of every kind is being built up in this country, and that this is "supplying only Germany's enemies, a fact which is in no way modified by the purely theoretical willingness to furnish Germany as well, if it were possible."

Packing Plant Wrecked.

Kansas City—An explosion wrecked the seven-story cooling building of the Cudahy Packing company's plant here Sunday night.

The loss is estimated at \$750,000. Two men were employed in the building at the time were injured.

Investigation developed no trace of an explosive. Company officials asserted there was no gas in the building and that the cooling pipes contained no ammonia or other material that might explode.

Future Peace Discussed.

The Hague, via London—For three days there has been a private discussion of peace here by a conference consisting of about 30 delegates from the United States, Holland, Germany, Austria-Hungary, Sweden, Norway, England, Belgium and Switzerland. Only a short record of the work of the conference, which ended Saturday, has been issued, as follows: "The object of the meeting was not to suggest steps to bring the present war to an end, but to consider by what principles future peace would best be gained."

Mexicans Tax Americans.

San Antonio, Tex.—Taxes aggregating \$1,000,000 have been imposed on mineowners in the state of Oaxaca, Mexico, according to private advices reaching here from the city of Oaxaca, the state capital. Eighty-five per cent of the mineowners are foreigners and 60 per cent Americans.