

WORLD HAPPENINGS OF CURRENT WEEK

Brief Resume Most Important Daily News Items.

COMPILED FOR BUSY READERS

Events of Noted People, Governments and Pacific Northwest and Other Things Worth Knowing.

Many Belgians who were deported to Germany for manual labor purposes, are returning to their native country in pitiful conditions.

One young lady was killed and her sister seriously injured when a Portland interurban train struck their automobile at a crossing on the Estacada line Thursday.

E. L. McClure, of Portland, one of the promoters of the "Forty-five Efficiency Club," became frantic at the organization meeting at the library, and threatened violence with a pocket knife.

January 10 has been tentatively agreed upon by the Federal Farm Loan Board as the day for opening stock subscription books to the 12 farm loan banks. The books will be opened in each city where there is a farm loan bank.

All clocks in New South Wales were set ahead one hour January 10 to save daylight, according to a cablegram received by the Australian Trade commission in San Francisco. A daylight saving act has also been passed in the state of Victoria.

An estimate that 60,000 persons in Massachusetts are addicted to the drug habit was included in a report of a commission appointed by Governor McCall to investigate the drug evil. The habit, it was said, is not confined to any particular class of people.

Postal clerks and carriers, both urban and rural, would receive increases of from 5 to 10 per cent in their salaries by a bill agreed on by the house postal committee Friday. The increase would affect about 200,000 carriers and cost \$10,000,000 a year.

The assassination of M. Jollos, an influential member of the Russian Duma, is reported by the Overseas News agency. According to this report, M. Jollos disappeared mysteriously a short time ago, and it is believed he was the victim of a political murder.

Bent, white-haired, although only 50 years old, Herman Billik left Chicago Friday for Cleveland to begin life anew. Billik was freed after serving eight years in the state prison at Joliet following his conviction for murder on testimony which now is admitted to have been perjured.

Muskogee, Okla. — Eleven school children were killed, four probably fatally hurt, and eight seriously injured when a tornado wrecked the Vireton rural schoolhouse, 13 miles northwest of McAlester, shortly before noon Thursday. The one-room frame schoolhouse in which were 28 children was shattered by the tornado, every child except two being killed or injured, according to reports received by telephone. Runners dispatched from the scene of the disaster in Southeastern Oklahoma to Blocker, Okla., seven miles away, reported the disaster.

In reply to the proffer of Germany and her allies for a peace conference, the entente allies, in a collective note, declare that they "refuse to consider a proposal which is empty and insincere." The note was handed to the American ambassador, William Graves Sharp, Sunday, by Premier Briand, and was made public simultaneously in London and Paris.

London — The cutter Protector has been blown up. The number of men lost is not known. Vessels reported sunk include the British steamer Apsley Hall, 3882 tons; Danish steamer Danmark, 2050 tons; Russian steamer Tuskar, 3043 tons, and the Norwegian steamer Edda, 137 tons. Three of the crew of the Tuskar were drowned.

Acquitted of the charge of murder on December 18, Thomas Green has refused to leave the Camden, N. J., county jail until he succeeds in beating his cellmate a game of checkers. Both checker players are well on in years.

In spite of the high cost of living, more marriage licenses were issued at the marriage license bureau in New York City in 1916 than ever before, it was announced. The total for the year was 67,133 as compared with 59,646 in 1915.

At midnight Sunday the whole island of New Foundland went "dry," a prohibition act becoming effective. A long list of proprietary medicines has been placed under the ban.

Forty-six women were burned to death in a fire that destroyed St. Ferdinand de Halifax asylum, at St. Ferdinand de Halifax, Megantic county, Quebec, late Saturday night.

Three billion dollars is the value put on the 1916 output of American mines in estimates made to Secretary Lane by the geological survey. Copper alone increased about \$300,000,000.

CARRANZA REFUSES TO SIGN

Mexican-American Conference Fails; Pershing Likely to Retire.

Washington, D. C. — When the American members of the Mexican-American joint commission had finished consideration Tuesday of General Carranza's reply failing to comply with their demand that the protocol providing for withdrawal of the American troops from Mexico be ratified, there were indications that efforts to enter into an agreement with the de facto government through the commission would be abandoned.

For the first time an official admission was made that Carranza had refused to sign the protocol. The commissioners said they expected to draft their response to Carranza immediately.

Failure of the commission to give to Mexican-American relations a bright aspect was offset somewhat by official intimations that Henry P. Fletcher, confirmed as ambassador to Mexico almost a year ago, was about to start for his post, where American interests now are represented by a clerk. The report that General Pershing's expedition soon would be withdrawn, regardless of Carranza's attitude, also gained fresh impetus, and it was understood the administration had this move under serious consideration.

Mr. Fletcher conferred with President Wilson after Wednesday's cabinet meeting, and later referred inquiries as to whether he would go to Mexico to President Wilson and Secretary Lansing. No statement was forthcoming from the White House or the State department.

"Leaks" at Washington Admitted

But Investigation Withheld

Washington, D. C. — As a result of the sensation stirred up by Thomas W. Lawson, who offered to prove that millions had been made in Wall street as the result of "leaks" at Washington, it was admitted on the floor of the senate Tuesday that information concerning the "honor of the nation," had been betrayed by someone in the department. As to information of value in rigging the stock market, Senator Stone, who made the first disclosure, said he did not know.

Meanwhile Mr. Lawson, who was here, prepared, he said, to testify before a congress committee, was in consultation with Chairman Henry, of the house rules committee, but nothing came of it.

Mr. Henry announced afterward that the Boston financier had been unable to furnish any names or other definite information about the alleged "leak" in advance of President Wilson's peace note, and that so far as was concerned the matter would be dropped.

"Certainly on sensible person," said Mr. Henry's statement, would ask me to trouble the committee with a meeting to chase a mirage. And I must say that so far as this matter between Mr. Lawson and myself is concerned it is ended.

"In a thorough conference the alleged leak has been discussed by Mr. Lawson and myself. I have asked him for the names of those thought to be responsible for the so-called leak between the State department and Wall Street. He cannot give me a single name. He cannot even give me the names of those charged by him with cleaning up \$60,000,000 in connection with the leak and is not able to furnish me the name of even one of the suspects."

Railroad Brotherhoods Accuse

Managers of Permitting Delays

Cleveland — W. G. Lee, chief of the Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen, issued a statement here Tuesday charging that the railroads of the country are permitting delays to trains and overtime which would not ordinarily be permitted, in order to prove the enormous expense that would follow obedience to the Adamson law. The statement asked whether if the Supreme court declares that law either constitutional or invalid the brotherhoods should continue to await the eight-hour day.

Mr. Lee denied a report published Tuesday that a sealed statement putting the Adamson law situation up to the men had been sent out by the chiefs of the four brotherhoods. It was learned from an authoritative source that the general chairman of the four brotherhoods will hold a meeting in Chicago January 11 to consider the situation.

1. W. W. Arrive on Freight.
Bemidji, Minn. — Suffering intensely from the cold, 150 members of the Industrial Workers of the World arrived here Wednesday night on a freight train from International Falls, bound, they said, for the Twin Cities in search of work. Most of the men are striking lumberjacks from the far northern woods. Reports indicated that quiet prevails in all the camps. Sheriff Rittle and 50 deputies met the men when they left the train. They walked peacefully to the I. W. W. headquarters.

Liquor Men Make Plans.
Louisville — At the annual meeting here of the National Model License League, it was announced that the league had made plans to curtail and modify the retail liquor business in order to make it conform readily to public sentiment throughout the country. The plan, it was said, has been endorsed by the National Wholesale Liquor Dealers' Association of America and by a majority of the brewers of the United States.

They Hold Balance of Power in House of Representatives in Coming Congress



W. P. MARTIN, LA. PROGRESSIVE
MEYER LONDON, N. Y. SOCIALIST
IRA C. COPLEY, ILL. PROGRESSIVE
CHAS. H. RANDALL, CAL. PROHIBITIONIST
THOS. D. SCHALL, MINN. PROGRESSIVE

Here are five of the six independents in the House of Representatives, who will have the balance of power there when the President calls the new congress into session after March 4. Not only does the decision of the speaker depend on them, but the whole policy of the house in relation to the

Democratic administration. Mr. Randall, of Los Angeles, is a Prohibitionist; Mr. Copley, of Illinois, is a Progressive, as are Thomas D. Schall, of Minnesota, and W. P. Martin, of Louisiana. Meyer London, of New York, is a Socialist. Alvin T. Fuller, of Massachusetts, sets himself down as an Independent.

PAPER TRUST TO BE PROBED

Manufacturers to Face Prosecution if Evidence Proves Combine.

Washington, D. C. — Attorney General Gregory has taken over the field of the federal trade commission's inquiry into the print paper market, with a view to determining whether there is a paper trust and instituting civil and criminal proceedings against manufacturers or others who may have violated the anti-trust laws.

President Wilson is understood to be following the inquiry closely. A mass of complaints and testimony and a large number of secret reports from the commission's field force of investigators have been placed in the attorney general's hands.

For several weeks past department officials have been in frequent consultation with the trade commission on the situation and are understood to have under serious consideration the early institution of grand jury proceedings at which indictments charging violation of the commercial section of the law will be asked.

The formal taking over of the inquiry by the department was in response to a letter sent the attorney general by Secretary Bracken of the commission.

Beyond asserting that the investigation and any action the department might take would be hastened as much as possible, Mr. Gregory declined to comment on the situation.

It is understood, however, that department officials are prepared to institute speedily a dissolution suit against any manufacturers within federal jurisdiction who are believed to have conspired in restraint of trade or to effect a monopoly. At the same time it was made clear the evidence adduced by the commission would be thoroughly digested so that no injustice might be done manufacturers innocent of illegal practices.

In addition department officials are understood to be preparing to ask for criminal indictments should analysis

of the evidence warrant such action, and it is believed the criminal proceedings, if undertaken, would be pressed ahead of the civil proceedings.

Publishers charged at the hearing that the manufacturers had combined both to control prices and to restrict production. Some manufacturers had refused to sell to them because of their activity in exposing the manufacturers' methods. Others declared they had been threatened with such refusal by manufacturers.

Tangled Railroad Brotherhood Controversy Before Congress

Washington, D. C. — Activity in the tangled controversy between the railroads and their employes was resumed Monday in two different parts of the capitol, where, six months ago, the Adamson bill, designed to blaze the way to peace, was enacted into law.

While attorneys in the Supreme court are making their opening arguments on the constitutionality of the Adamson act, Representative Adamson, father of the law, has begun a fight in the house for prompt passage of his new blanket railway bill, intended to cover every phase of the situation, and will resume his efforts in behalf of continuing the life of the Newlands railway investigation committee.

The new Adamson bill introduced recently would provide an eight-hour day, make strikes illegal and permit the taking over of railway lines by the military on the orders of the President when public service demands such action.

Drastic though the bill is admitted to be, Mr. Adamson expresses confidence that it will be enacted into law. Save for the eight-hour day provision, the measure is understood to have the approval of the President.

The military commander of Moscow has closed that city to refugees, says the Overseas News Agency, which adds that the city is crowded with people from Roumania, Odessa and all parts of Southern Russia. Roumanian refugees, the agency says, will in the future be sent to Siberia.

Transport Loss Denied.

Berlin — "One of our submarines," says an official statement issued Sunday by the German admiralty, "torpedoed and sank, December 23, in the Mediterranean an enemy transport of more than 5000 tons. The vessel was accompanied by warships."

London — Commenting on the German report of the sinking of an enemy transport, the London Press Bureau says: "No transport, British or French, was sunk in the Mediterranean December 23."

Explosion Rocks Butte.

Butte, Mont. — For the second time within six weeks, a charge of dynamite was exploded in the local restricted district about midnight Sunday, when a Greek restaurant catering to the inmates of the district was the scene of a sharp explosion, which shook the center of the city.

Glass was broken for a distance of a block from the explosion, but nobody was injured and the property damage was confined to shattered glass.

Wreckage of Ship is Seen.

Washington, D. C. — Coast Guard headquarters here received a wireless message Saturday from the cutter Acushnet that she had passed through wreckage covering the sea for about five miles east of Nantucket lightship in the vicinity where wireless calls for help were sent out Christmas night from the steamer Maryland.

The wreckage could not be identified as the Maryland, for which the Acushnet had been searching several days.

COUNTY RECORDS ARE TAKEN

Stalwarts Forcibly Grab Documents in County Seat Fight.

Culver, Ore. — Seventy-five residents of Madras, headed by William S. U'Ren, of Portland, attorney for the people of Madras in the county seat fight with Culver, came to Culver Monday, piled the county records in automobiles and sleds and carted them over to Madras.

The action followed the decision of the Circuit court in favor of Madras in a case on which notice of appeal to the Supreme court has been filed by Culver.

Every county office except that of the Superintendent of schools, the Sheriff and District Attorney, was raided. Sheriff Black prevented Mr. U'Ren and his party from taking the safe and the current assessment rolls and furniture were loaded into the waiting vehicles and taken away.

James Wood, Sheriff-elect; county Clerk Johnson; Roscoe Gard, county commissioner; O. A. Pierce, banker; R. T. Olson, merchant; B. C. Boylen, county attorney-elect, and Mr. Roush, a merchant, were among the delegation from Madras.

Excitement ran high in Culver for a time while the records were being transferred. The visitors paid little attention to spectators, hurrying through the offices and taking all of the county property that could be removed. The records were hurriedly dumped into the waiting vehicles and the drivers hurried away before the surprised residents of Culver could interfere.

The presence of mind of the son of Mrs. Lillian Watts, county superintendent, saved the office of his mother from the visitors who abandoned an attempt to take her files when the boy refused to deliver over the keys of the office.

Sheriff Black was outwitted by the visitors after he had placed the current assessment roll in the safe and locked the doors of his office. Receipt books and the tax collection register were taken.

As there are only three keys to the office, and as each has been accounted for, the method by which the delegation from Madras gained entrance is a mystery here. Sheriff-elect Wood made an effort to assume the duties of the office, but retired when he discovered that the bond of the sheriff had first to be approved by the county court.

District Attorney Myers stopped the raiders in his office after several threats of personal violence had been made. He warned them not to touch any of the county property and a fight between the prosecutor and several of the raiders was averted by cooler heads in the crowd. The crowd gained entrance to the prosecutor's office also by a ruse.

The raid prevents the checking out of the retiring county officers by the firm of Crandall & Roberts, accountants, as all of the papers on which they were working were taken.

University of Oregon Wins

From U. of Pennsylvania Eleven

Pasadena, Cal. — Pennsylvania's vaunted football eleven was crushed and humiliated by the University of Oregon football heroes in their inter-sectional battle in Tournament Park New Year's day. The score was 14 to 0. Oddly, this is in duplication of Washington State's win over Brown University in this same city one year ago.

Monday's game was witnessed by the greatest crowd that ever saw a football game on the Pacific Coast. Approximately 27,000 were in the stands, say tournament officials.

While the engagement began rather listlessly, it developed into a thrilling spectacular battle well worthy of the day and the throng.

It was a battle that reflected the highest credit upon Pacific Coast football. Penn came west with proud boasts of a diversified open field and aerial attack that would startle the natives. Oregon was supposed to have nothing but some old stuff that was pulled when Pudge Heffelfinger and Walter Camp were singing their booby songs together. Instead Oregon showed football of a superior brand and walked off with the game.

Three Men Swept to Death.

Seattle, Wash. — One giant sea that thundered down upon the schooner Sumner as she was battling with a great westerly gale, swept Ivan Johansen, Ira Atwood and Ole Harum, Seattle fishermen, to their death off Cape Ommaney, on December 3, according to Captain M. J. Rolie, master of the craft.

The Sumner arrived in Seattle Wednesday night from the North, bringing the first details of the loss of the three men in a terrific storm on the Alaska halibut banks.

Legislators Lose Passes.

Nashville, Tenn. — The Louisville & Nashville and the Nashville, Chattanooga & St. Louis railroads announced Thursday that hereafter no free passes would be issued through legislators for constituents. Figures produced by investigators showed in one year more than 22,000 passes, valued at \$226,000, were issued by the two roads, most of them at the request of legislators of Tennessee and Kentucky.

GERMANS HONOR GERARD AT DINNER

American Ambassador is Guest at Noteworthy Banquet.

"OLIVE BRANCH IS BROUGHT"

Germany's Big Financial Heads, Ministers and ex-Ministers, Meet at Commerce and Trade Post.

Berlin — The dinner given Sunday night by the American Association of Commerce and Trade, of Berlin, in honor of James W. Gerard, American ambassador to Germany, who has returned to the German capital for a visit to the United States, developed into a demonstration of the good feeling entertained in the higher government circles and banking and business spheres toward the United States.

The guests included three ministers, at least two ex-ministers, the president of the Reichstag, the heads of Germany's big financial institutions and other leaders in German public life.

In all 175 guests, about equally divided between Americans and Germans, were present.

The usual toasts to Emperor William and President Wilson were outstanding. President Wolf, in the speakers of the evening, who was Vice Chancellor Hefferich, Director Von Gwinner and Mr. Gerard.

The ambassador mentioned the large contributions now being received in America for the relief of German orphans and for other humanitarian works of mercy.

Ambassador Gerard, who was honored by Arthur Von Gwinner, director of the Deutsche Bank, to the "dove of Noah's ark," is quoted by the Overseas News Agency as saying "never since the beginning of the world have relations between Germany and the United States been so cordial and that he had 'brought back the olive branch' from President Wilson."

Explosion in Garage Kills

Prominent Lumber Manufacturer

Portland — Elihu K. Jones, 69 years old, 1306 Macadam street, was killed and a son, Harvey W. Jones, and B. Wroth, a visitor at the Jones home were badly burned in an explosion of an acetylene tank in the garage at Jones home at 8 o'clock Sunday.

The cause of the accident is unknown. The three went into the garage to work on an automobile, a few moments there was a terrific explosion that was heard throughout part of the city.

The north and south sides of the garage were blown out by the force of the explosion, and the three were hurled 50 feet. The garage contained two automobiles, one in a damaged condition. The explosion blew up pieces of iron and steel against Jones residence, some feet away, such force that door panels were broken and windows were smashed.

Elihu K. Jones was the son of Elias Jones, venerable lumber manufacturer in Oregon, one of the best loggers and logging operators in the state, and a brother of John H. Jones of the Jones Lumber company, one of the pioneer enterprises of the state.

Outlaws Fight to Death.

Nowata, Okla. — Outlaws who pulled an attack by a posse of 200 men near here Sunday night, expected to be taken alive, but the who directed a new pursuit of the desperadoes said there would be "no quarter" when the outlaws are met.

Poses Monday found the gang in a wild ravine, many hiding places had been prepared but the men had fled. The posse held responsible for several robberies and numerous losses of property in the last three months. Poses Monday in the vicinity said at least 10 men were in the gang of outlaws.

Gold Reaches New York.

New York — Gold amounting to \$1,000,000, one of the largest shipments received in a single day since the recent movement from abroad, arrived Monday from London, Scotland. Twenty automobiles, each with armed guards, were used to transport the gold, which was packed in 800 boxes, from the station to the sub-treasury. A party of 35 clerks was kept busy to receive the shipment. It was observed, it was said, that the route of the gold.

Wilson Favors Dam.

Washington, D. C. — President Wilson approved the creation of Secretary Lane's appropriation of \$400,000 for the purpose of studying the feasibility of a dam on the Snake river in Idaho. The project is in the hands of the secretary of the