

NEWS NOTES OF CURRENT WEEK

Resume of World's Important Events Told in Brief.

Mexican rebels have completely routed the federal forces in Northern Mexico.

Many Mexican federal soldiers who refused to fight the rebels were shot down by their officers.

The government is contemplating the withdrawal from entry of lands believed to contain radium ore.

Bank robbers tunneled 150 feet and dug into the vault of the First National bank of Oroville, Cal., securing \$3500.

Methodists have asked the Portland school board to prohibit the teaching of dancing of any kind in the public schools.

It is stated by the department of agriculture that 1913 was the most prosperous year ever known for the American farmer.

It is reported that many Eastern cities are not at all anxious for the location of the reserve banks under the new currency law.

Missionaries report that it is difficult to direct the Oklahoma Indians in the ways they should go, on account of the latter's wealth.

A Kansas City firm is said to have been awarded the contract for building the new interstate bridge between Oregon and Washington.

Ex-President Taft is a director in a new society which has been formed for the purpose of lengthening human life by modern scientific means.

A St. Louis widower who earns \$10 per week offers his son, aged 8, and his daughter, aged 6, for sale, saying he is unable to make a living for them.

The resident commissioner of the Philippines in congress says the islanders are much more friendly towards Americans under Wilson's new policy.

Caddies engaged in a free-for-all fight for the privilege of carrying President Wilson's golf sticks, but the President laughingly separated them and told them each should take his turn.

Part of the equipment to be used by Sir Ernest H. Shackleton on his next expedition across the Antarctic continent will be sledges driven by aeroplane engines and an aeroplane with clipped wings to aid in propelling the sledges over the ice.

A woman has landed a big political plum in the shape of the Denver local office.

Oscar Bider, a Swiss aviator, crossed the Alps Christmas day in an aeroplane.

It is said that 200,000 Bulgarians are starving, and deaths among them reach 50 a day.

President Wilson is settled in his mid-winter vacation home at Pass Christian, Miss.

A man 60 years old lost his way in a blizzard raging over Southern Illinois and was frozen to death.

PORTLAND MARKETS

Wheat—Track prices: Club, 85c; bluestem, 95c@96c; forty-fold, 85c@86c; red Russian, 84c; valley, 85c.

Oats—No. 1 white, \$25.50@26 ton.

Barley—Feed, \$24.50 per ton; brewing, \$25.50; rolled, \$26.50@27.50.

Millfeed—Bran, \$20.50@21 per ton; shorts, \$22.50@23; middlings, \$29@30.

Hay—No. 1 Eastern Oregon timothy, \$16.50; mixed timothy, \$14; alfalfa, \$14; clover, \$9@10; valley grain hay, \$11@13.

Onions—Oregon, \$2.75@3 per sack; buying price, \$2.50 f. o. b. shipping points.

Vegetables—Cabbage, 1 1/2@1 1/4c per pound; cauliflowers, 75c@1.25 per dozen; eggplant, 10@12c per pound; peppers, 6@7c; head lettuce, \$2.25@2.50 per crate; garlic, 12 1/2@15c per pound; sprouts, 10c; artichokes, \$1.75 per dozen; squash, 1 1/2@1 1/4c per pound; celery, \$3@3.50 crate; rhubarb, 3c per pound; tomatoes, \$1.75@2 per crate; turnips, \$1.25 per sack; carrots, \$1.10; parsnips, \$1.25; beets, \$1.25.

Poultry—Hens, 15@16c per pound; springs, 15@16c; turkeys, live, 20c; dressed, choice, 27 1/2@28c; ducks, 12@15c; geese, 12 1/2@13c.

Eggs—Oregon fresh ranch, 41@45c per dozen; storage, 35@37c.

Green Fruit—Apples, 50c@52.50 per box; cranberries, \$12@12.50 per barrel; pears, \$1.25@1.75.

Potatoes—Oregon, 80c@81 per hundred; buying price, 70@80c at shipping points.

Butter—Creamery prints, extras, 34@35c pound; cubes, 32c pound.

Fork—Fancy, 10@10 1/2c per pound.

Veal—Fancy, 14c per pound.

Hops—1913 crop, prime and choice, 20@21c; 1914 contracts, 16@18c.

Wool—Valley, 16@17c; Eastern Oregon, 11@16c; mohair, 1913 clip, 26c.

Cattle—Prime steers, \$7.50@8.10; choice, \$7@7.50; medium, \$6.75@7; choice cows, \$6@6.85; medium, \$5.75@6; heifers, \$6@6.85; light calves, \$8@9; heavy, \$6@7.75; bulls, \$4@5.75; stags, \$6@6.50.

Hogs—Light, \$7.25@7.90; heavy, \$6.50@6.90.

Sheep—Lambs, \$5.50@6.35; wethers, \$4@5.50; ewes, \$3.50@4.35.

Banking Committee Is Perfecting New Plans

Washington, D. C. — The Federal reserve bank organization committee has supplemented its plan for locating Federal reserve cities with an unofficial announcement pointing the way for all cities to present their claims for banks. Before the committee, consisting of Secretary of the Treasury McAdoo and Secretary of Agriculture Houston, starts on its tour of the country, it will advise clearing house associations and boards of trade in cities that are in the field for a reserve bank when they can be heard.

Only 14 cities in addition to Washington will be visited, but it was the understanding that any city and any community can be heard at some point on the trip around the country which has been mapped out.

Although details for the hearings have not been worked out, it is probable that the claims of Baltimore, Philadelphia and Washington will be heard here. Pittsburg will have an opportunity either in Cleveland or Cincinnati. Fort Worth, Tex., which is in the field, will be allowed to argue in Houston, and St. Paul and Minneapolis in Chicago. Information the committee procures will be used in determining the depositories of the reserve districts. It was said that neither cabinet officer on the organization committee had determined on the number of reserve districts and cities. The trip to be taken is almost as much for this purpose as actually locating the cities and defining the districts.

Officials of the Treasury praised the decision of the committee to work out the district limits and cities by public hearings.

Alaska Prospector Lives 14 Days on Dog Meat

Valdez, Alaska—After a harrowing experience on the trail, Max Lichtenberg reached Valdez recently to report to the authorities the death of his partner, Fred Greenough, November 26, five miles south of Tazlina lake, where the two men were camped while on a hunting and prospecting trip.

Greenough was ill for 21 days prior to his death, and during the last seven days could not be induced to eat.

Unable to bury his partner because of the frozen ground, Lichtenberg wrapped the body in his blanket, placed it in a tepee to protect it from animals and started for the coast, deciding to come out over the Tazlina glacier, then drop down on the Columbia and Shoup glaciers to reach the mining camps.

Caught in a storm on the glacier, Lichtenberg was forced to lie in camp for many days. He finally ran out of food and had to kill his two dogs to keep life in his body. For 14 days his only food was dog.

Karluk's Loss Feared by Arctic Traveler

New Bedford, Mass.—The fear that the Karluk, one of the vessels of the Stefansson Arctic expedition, was doomed, was expressed by Stephen Cottle, in a letter written October 13 and just received here. Cottle was on board the steamer Belvedere, which was held fast in the ice 10 miles off Demarkation Point, Alaska. "Dr. Anderson," he wrote, "is stuck about 75 miles west of us with the two small vessels of the Stefansson expedition. The Karluk was last seen about 10 miles off shore of Flaxman Island four days ahead of us. We can get no further news from them and I am afraid it is the last of the Karluk. We are in hopes that the crew will be able to make a place of safety to the west of us."

Army to Have More Fun.

Washington, D. C.—Army chaplains have undertaken the task of providing amusements for enlisted men, and congress, at the instance of Secretary Garrison, is about to increase the usual allowance for post exchanges by a special allotment of \$82,500. This will provide a fund of \$1245 for each chaplain with which he is expected to procure a phonograph, a moving-picture machine, slides and films, a large tent with folding chairs and lighting apparatus, all with the design of giving the soldiers amusement.

Indian Staff Increased.

Washington, D. C.—The appointment of five additional probate attorneys to take up the reform work instituted by the Indian office in connection with the protection of the property rights of Indian children is announced from the Interior department. Commissioner Sells, of the Indian office, has called a conference of attorneys, field agents and county probate judges to convene in Muskogee, Okla., to consider further steps in the program of reformation of laws and practices.

Volcanic Action Subsides.

Paris — The French commissioner resident of the New Hebrides reports that it is now possible to approach Ambrim island, where a series of volcanic upheavals recently occurred. On December 24, however, cinders were still falling and lava was streaming down the mountainside. The commissioner also reports that in addition to many changes in the coast line a small island has sprung up off Dip Point, on the western coast.

Hungarians Warned to Stay Away.

Vienna—The Hungarian minister of the interior has sent a circular to all municipalities in Hungary, warning intending emigrants to delay their departure to the United States until economic conditions in that country improve.

Oregon Better Corn State Than Average

Oregon Agricultural College, Corvallis—Oregon produces 25 per cent more corn per acre than the average produced in the United States. Also, Oregon produces 10 per cent better corn than the average United States crop. Yet Oregon produces less than one-tenth of one per cent of all the corn grown in the United States.

The average yield per acre in Oregon is 28.5 bushels, and the average yield for the whole country is 23 bushels per acre.

The average quality of the Oregon corn crop is 93 per cent, and the average quality for the whole country is 82 per cent.

The amount of the Oregon corn crop

for the year 1913 is 598,000 bushels. The entire yield of the United States is 2,463,017,000 bushels.

The above figures are taken from the November Crop Report issued by the United States bureau of statistics and the weather bureau.

That corn may be successfully and profitably grown in Oregon has been demonstrated by the Oregon Agricultural college, and by many private growers as well. The reports of the federal government show that not only can more and better corn be grown in Oregon than in the average state in the Union, but that corn prices are also higher in Oregon.

College Short Course Will Interest Farmer

Oregon Agricultural College, Corvallis—One of the principal features of the present revelation in agricultural industries is that of farm accounting. Progressive farmers have learned that it is impossible to stop the small leaks that rob the industry of much of its profits without first finding and locating the leak. There is no sure and exact way to do this aside from systematic farm accounting. Many farmers are aware of this fact but are not prepared by training or otherwise to practice a system of bookkeeping. They will be given an opportunity to learn the necessary steps in farm accounting at the winter short course of the Oregon Agricultural College, January 5 to 31.

The course in farm accounting given by the school of commerce during the short course will emphasize simplicity, accuracy and economy of labor. The accounts will include cost of production, investment and returns;

household and personal accounts; labor records; milk records; poultry records; the farm plot; office methods; and business organization.

The newer phases of rural economics, co-operative buying, producing and marketing on the farm, will receive special emphasis. Progress made in these subjects both in Europe and America will be explained in lectures and illustrated by lantern slides. Co-operative manufacturing will receive especial consideration in a manufacturers' convention to be held on January 14 and 15, to devise ways and means of locating factories for the care of surplus products and by-products in every community in Oregon.

In addition to this special work the practical phases of every large industrial operation in Oregon will be treated by college experts and their assistant instructors. Special railroad rates of one and one-third fare will be granted by all the principal Oregon roads.

Probe Power Project for Five-Mile Rapids

The Dalles—The joint legislative commission which has been authorized to investigate The Dalles power project, as it is known officially, visited the scene of the proposed electrical power plant at Five-Mile rapids, on the Columbia river, making arrangements to have preliminary borings made for tests. The committee is composed of Senators Day, of Portland, and Smith, of Grants Pass; Representatives Forbes, of Bend, and Abbott, of Portland, and State Engineer Lewis, of Salem. Besides creating the commission, the last legislature appropriated \$15,000 for the use of the committee in its work of ascertaining whether the proposed project is feasible.

Secretary Lane, of the United States Interior department, is co-operating in the work, the government having also set aside \$15,000 for the investigation. The proposed development of electrical power on the Columbia, five miles above this city, by the state and Federal government, is arousing more interest among department officials at Washington than any other federal project, according to State Engineer Lewis, who recently conferred with officials at the national capital. It is estimated that the plant could be constructed within two years at a cost of approximately \$23,000,000.

Cinnabar Discovery Reported.

Ashland—Discovery of cinnabar has been reported by C. B. Watson, of this city, in the Meadows mining district on Evans creek, 17 miles north of Gold Hill, in Jackson county. There are also indications of copper on the same claim. Mr. Watson discovered evidences of cinnabar in his locality last summer. He has brought a large amount of ore samples to Ashland for inspection, in addition to a number which have been forwarded direct to San Francisco for reduction by the smelting process.

Bridge Work Under Way.

Eugene—The bridge-building equipment of Willard & McCreary was moved to the second Notli crossing last week, and erection of the only large bridge yet to be built east of Noti tunnel will be begun at once. Laying of track through the tunnel and down the Siuslaw watershed can now be begun. The first Notli crossing was completed this week, and while track was being laid for the mile between the two bridges across Noti, the contractors piced the steel for the first crossing over the Long Tom river.

Oakland Ships 2000 Turkeys.

Oakland — The Christmas shipment of turkeys sent out of Oakland numbered 2000 birds. This, added to the 10,000 shipped Thanksgiving, makes 12,000 raised this year in the vicinity of Oakland. The local price was 20 cents as against 22 cents paid for Thanksgiving shipments.

1914 Motor Plates Sent Out.

Salem — Secretary of State Oleott has delivered to 3500 autoists automobile and motorcycle plates for 1914. There are about 14,000 automobile and motorcycle owners in the state, and plates have been sent only to those making application for them.

National Conference for Betterment of Race

Battle Creek, Mich. — Hygienists, who are trying to improve living conditions to favor the individual, and eugenists, who propose to up-build the individual to withstand unfavorable living conditions, will merge theories and efforts to produce a better race of men. Leading authorities on eugenics and eugenics will take part in the National conference on race betterment to be held in Battle Creek, January 8-12, 1914.

Despite the broad scope of work undertaken by the conference, it is not expected that any quixotic reforms will be advocated, although radical recommendations are anticipated. Whatever reforms the conference hopes to enact will be effected through a gradual process of evolution, under the direction of a permanent New Race Institute to be founded during the forthcoming meeting.

The present tendency toward race deterioration will be given full consideration by the conference. The evidence of this tendency, such as the decreasing birth-rate, increasing insanity, the high infant mortality and mental inefficiency will be made subjects of general discussion with a view to suggesting methods of checking the downward trend of the race.

Various remedial agents, such as the sterilization of the criminal insane, health certificates as a condition precedent to marriage, better care for delinquent youth and more rational marriages will be discussed. The conference will also establish general standards of physical and mental perfection, through experimental tests with several hundred children from the public schools.

Apple Growers to Save by Collective Purchasing

Spokane, Wash. — Based on reports of the 1913 experiences of fruit growers of the Spokane country, apple producers of the four Pacific northwestern states will save nearly \$100,000 by purchasing apple boxes co-operatively next year. Orris Dorman, president of the Spokane Fruit Growers' company, a co-operative selling organization, states that his association last season purchased boxes for 8 1/2 cents a box, saving from 2 to 2 1/2 cents on each, or about 20 per cent. With a good yield in 1914 the North Pacific Distributors, the co-operative marketing organization handling 60 per cent of the product of Washington, Oregon, Idaho and Montana, expects to ship about 8,000 cases, necessitating the purchase of about 5,000,000 boxes. If two cents per box is saved by co-operative buying the growers will have to pay \$100,000 less for boxes than if they purchased individually.

"We do not claim the makers charged too much for boxes before," states Mr. Dorman, "as under the methods of bad collections they were obliged to figure on a long wait for their pay and in some cases they were never paid. They have told us that they prefer selling to a well-financed organization, even if the price is 20 per cent lower than to an individual."

Women Jurors Smoked Into Signing Verdict

Seattle, Wash.—Four women jurors, who confessed in affidavits that they returned a verdict of guilty in the case of Theodore Pappas, accused of blackmailing Nick Pantages, brother of Alex Pantages, the vaudeville manager, when they believed him innocent, because one of their number was sick and wanted to go home, now say that they were "smoked out" by the men jurors.

"Because we stood out for acquittal," said one of the women, "the men got angry and one of them said, 'let's smoke them out,' and smoke us out they did. They all lit either cigars or cigarettes and in that close jury room the smoke made us sick. So we signed the verdict."

When the women's affidavits were presented last Monday Judge J. T. Ronald refused to set aside the verdict on the ground that a juror cannot impeach his own verdict. The women now say they will swear to a statement that they were "smoked out."

Heart Sewed Up, Man Lives.

New York — With six stitches taken in his heart Friday night, Vincenzo Lauro, victim of a stabbing affray, is expected to live. When taken to the Holy Family hospital in Brooklyn the surgeons decided that the operation was necessary. Because of the weakened condition of the patient, no anaesthetic was given, but cocaine was used locally, the ribs above the heart were cut through and six stitches taken in the heart tissues. At last report the patient was improving so fast that the surgeons declared he would recover.

Siege of Tampico Lifted.

Brownsville, Tex. — The attack on the Mexican gulf port of Tampico has been abandoned and the constitutionalist force which has been operating in the oil region near there will invest Monterey, capital of Nuevo Leon, about the first of the year. This was the official announcement Saturday of the Matamoros headquarters of the Constitutionalists.

Express Business.

Hartford, Conn. — The effect of the operation of the parcel post is shown in the annual report of the Connecticut Public Utilities commission. Every express company reporting to the commission showed a falling off in receipts. In one instance the decrease in operating income was \$89,872.

TURN WALKOUT INTO LOCKOUT

Frisco Road Forestalls Strike of Railway Telegraphers.

All Telegraph Instruments Removed—Telephones Installed—400 Operators Dismissed.

Springfield, Mo.—In anticipation of the strike of 1100 telegraphers employed on its lines, the St. Louis & San Francisco railroad Sunday laid off indefinitely 400 telegraphers and began to transform its telegraph lines into a telephone system of railroad communication.

This action disclosed the company's plans for resisting the strike, to the amazement of the telegraphers, shippers and railroad circles in general.

Removal of all telegraphic instruments from the company's offices began Sunday. It is said this is the first time such a transposition of the use of the wires has been made by a railroad to avert a strike.

Among those who will leave the service of the Frisco are many who were to present the demands of the Order of Railway Telegraphers at a conference with the receivers of the road.

At noon 24 special trains, consisting of an engine and caboose, went out on the Frisco lines with right of way over all trains except passengers. The crew of each train removed the instruments from every station it passed and joined the telegraph wires at every mile. Thus 12,000 miles of railroad telegraph were converted into a telephone circuit.

Many points on the system were without telegraphic communication temporarily. Telephone operators will replace the telegraphers. The threatened strike will be forestalled by what practically amounts to a lockout, and it is said by some Frisco officials here that the conference between the telegraphers and the receivers may not be held at all.

According to E. G. Levy, general manager of the road, every five miles of the Frisco's wires will be guarded by a man day and night. At all points where it is necessary to give orders, he said, a deputy United States marshal will be on duty to protect the telephone operator.

Gatun Spillway Used to Regulate Lake Level

Panama—Gatun spillway, which regulates the levels of Gatun lake, was opened Monday for the first time since June 27. During the elapsed period the water had risen from 48.25 to 84.7 feet above sea level. While the maximum level the lake can attain is 87 feet, the water will not be allowed to go any higher at present because the diking of the low ridges forming the rim of the lake basin has not been completed.

It is planned to open one gate of the spillway for an hour or so each day to keep the water at the existing level. This process is to be utilized to rid the lake of the vast masses of swamp vegetation, commonly known as floating islands.

Bones of Martyred Frenchmen Are Found

Paris — The martyrdom of five French soldiers more than 100 years ago has been recalled by the discovery of their skeletons among some ruins at Amasia, in Egypt, by the French archaeologist, Captain Cortier.

The five men, who belonged to the army of General Menou, in 1799, at El Arish, were carried off as hostages by the Mamelukes, and the French government forgot to redeem them. The Mamelukes offered to spare the Frenchmen's lives if they would renounce their nationality and accept the Mohammedan faith. All five refused, and their captors walled them in alive in five stone cells at Amasia, where they died of hunger and thirst.

Parcel Post Rate Issued.

Washington, D. C.—The office of the third assistant postmaster general has forwarded to nearly 60,000 postmaster information as to changes in parcel post rates and regulations effective January 1. The orders provide for a reduction of rates in the third, fourth, fifth and sixth zones, and for an increase of the weight limit to 50 pounds on parcels mailed for delivery in the first and second zones. After March 16 books shall be embraced in the parcels weighing over eight ounces.

Radium Helps Bremner.

Baltimore — Representative Bremner, of New Jersey, who is at a sanatorium here undergoing radium treatment for a cancerous growth in his left shoulder, is reported improving. Mr. Bremner received his first treatment of radium on Christmas day, when 11 tubes of the mineral, valued at \$100,000, were temporarily bedded in the growth, which is said to be of a malignant character.

Beachey Does Six Loops.

San Francisco—Looping the loop in six consecutive times at a height of 2500 feet over San Francisco Bay, Lincoln Beachey established Sunday another world's aviation record. Christmas day Beachey looped the loop five times, a record in itself. Previous to looping the loop Sunday Beachey flew upside down.