WESTON LEADER

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WORLD'S DOINGS OF CURRENT WEEK

Brief Resume of General News From All Around the Earth.

UNIVERSAL HAPPENINGS IN A NUTSHELL

Live News Items of All Nations and Pacific Northwest Condensed for Our Busy Readers.

Hi Gill is again nominated for mayor of Seattle.

The house of commons votes a new credit of 2,082,000,000 pounds sterling.

Four hundred lumbermen of the Northwest are holding a meeting in Portland.

A Wenatchee, Wash., couple kept their wedding a secret since October 3 last year.

The French succeed in bringing to earth a Zeppelin making a raid over that country.

Another Portland Chinaman was shot in the tong war Monday, and a Hop Sing suspect is in jail.

Great avalanches of snow and dirt in several districts in Germany have killed 55 persons recently.

President Wilson has filed a petition to place his name before the Iowa voters in the April 10 primaries.

Ex-President Taft declares that "boss-ridden conventions" produce better results than primary elections.

Several Portland druggists are under investigation for the alleged selling of grain alcohol, which is used as a beverage.

Mildred Marek, 6½ years old, who lived near Boise, Ida., was struck over the heart with a batted baseball and died from the effects.

The Chicago police are momentarily expecting to capture Jean Crones, the anarchist accused of poisoning several hundred banqueters in that city.

William Orpet, University of Wisconsin junior, is held to the grand jury in connection with the death of his former sweetheart, Marion Frances Lambert.

An entente allies's submarine succeeded in passing through the Dardanelles and sinking four ships carrying munitions. The visitation caused a panic in Constantinople.

All the income tax cases before the Supreme court are disposed of in favor of the government on the authority of the original decision, upholding the constitutionality of the law.

Colonist passenger fares from points in Wisconsin, Michigan, Minnesota and nearby states to Portland, Seattle, San Francisco and other points on the Pacific Coast and in Western Canada were authorized by the Interstate Commerce commission.

Alaska's trade with the outside world increased $12,000,000 last year, according to figures made public by the department of Commerce. The balance of trade in the territory's favor was $27,000,000. Exports were valued at $55,000,000 and imports at $28,000,000.

Reports of acute suffering and appeals for immediate relief have reached Natchez, Miss., from Concordia and Tensas parishes, in Northern Louisiana, where a half dozen towns, not heard from for several days, were said to be inundated, with their inhabitants marooned and in imminent danger.

The steamer Pavlof in Alaskan waters, sends S. O. S.

Fashion has decreed that the barrel skirt is correct apparel for this spring.

Fire caused $150,000 damages to the Inman-Poulsen lumber yards and mill in Portland.

Sweden asks Uncle Sam to aid in their protest to England against the Britons' intercepting mail to that country.

President Wilson has presented a list of Americans killed in Mexico in the last three years, to the senate. The total is 112.

A bachelor school teacher at Everett, Wash., has educated at his own expense, seventeen boys and one girl. He is an author of some note and from this fund pays for the schooling, living on his salary as teacher.

Paper mills in the United States are operating to capacity and many of them are turning away orders, but the increase in the price of raw materials and the high price of labor have reduced the profits of the business.

Federal detectives are making a nation-wide search for the gang of anarchists who, it is alleged, is instigators of the poison plot.

The Umatilla Indians object to the building of a bridge across the Umatilla river at their expense, declaring the bridge is for the benefit of the white man, and not them.

Sawmill and logging companies declare that by the middle of March there will be a shortage of unskilled labor in these lines. Day labor has advanced from $2 to $2.25 and will go to $2.50 per day.

AMERICAN NAVY THIRD ON LIST; EQUAL TO ANY BY YEAR 1925

Washington, D. C.—The object of the building policy formulated in 1918 by the Navy General Board, it was disclosed Wednesday before the house naval committee, was to keep the United States ahead of Germany in the race for naval supremacy. The statement was made by Rear Admiral Charles J. Badger, a member of the general board, who explained that the policy had contemplated a fleet of 48 first-line battleships by 1919 to accomplish its purpose.

The statement did not go into the record of the hearing and Admiral Badger did not amplify it to show why the board had thought such a course necessary.

The admiral was replying to a suggestion that the object of the old policy, abandoned this year by the board for the first time, was to keep the American navy in second place. While that was the effect it had, he said, the real object was to keep ahead of Germany.

This year the board fixed as its policy the creation by 1925 of a fleet equal to the most powerful afloat at that time, he said. The committee did not go into the board's reasons for changing its ideas beyond drawing out the explanation that the board believed a fleet 10 per cent superior to any fighting force that might be brought against it would be necessary to insure against the invasion of American soil by an enemy.

Under questioning by Representative Kelly, Admiral Badger said the construction of three additional dreadnaughts and eight battle cruisers would place the navy on a par with the capital ships of the German fleet today. Germany now has 22 dreadnaughts and eight battle cruisers, he said, according to the best available information, while the United States has all told 19 ships of the dreadnaught class, built or building.

To equal Great Britain's fleet within two years, Admiral Badger said, the United States would be obliged to have a total force of 40 dreadnaughts, 15 battle cruisers, 25 swift scouting craft, 200 submarines and 250 destroyers. He was not favoring such a program, but merely answering questions by Representative Butler. Such a fleet could not be built in two years, he added, though it might be constructed in four.

GENERAL IVANOFF

General Ivanoff is in command of the southern group of Russian armies and, together with General Brusiloff, is given the credit for the severe defeats inflicted on the Austrians since the Teutonic invasion of Russia was checked.

Roslyn Has $100,000 Fire.

Tacoma, Wash. — Approximately $100,000 loss was caused by a fire starting in some refuse, swept in front of the ash pan of a boiler in the big department store of the Northwestern Improvement company at Roslyn, a coal mining town, according to advices received here.

In the building were the real and personal tax rolls of Kittitas county. These records and those of the company were rescued. Many fusee caps and much oil was stored in the building, but an explosion was averted.

Blockade Minister Created.

London — The government through the Marquis of Lansdowne, announced in the house of lords that it had decided to turn over all matters connected with the blockade of Germany to one man who would rank as a fulfledged cabinet minister. It is understood that the new post will go to Lord Robert Cecil, who, since the formation of the coalition government, has been under secretary for foreign affairs. He will retain this post, joining the cabinet as blockade minister.

Man and Wife Fight Duel.

Louisville, Ky. — Fourteen-year-old Geneve Hall was shot to death during a pistol duel between her mother and father in their home here Wednesday night. The father, Joseph T. Hall, 42, also was killed and the mother, Mrs. Della Hall, 37, is in a hospital in a dying condition. She received four bullet wounds.

The girl was struck by a stray bullet as she crouched under a kitchen sink.

SOLVES PROBLEM OF FRUIT MARKETS

Associations of Northwest Form Selling Combination.

ADOPTS PLANS OUTLINED BY BUREAU

Scheme Is Declared Most Advanced and Thorough of Any—Fruit Experts to Tour Markets.

Spokane, Wash. — With the formation here of the Fruitgrowers' Agency, the problems affecting the profitable growing and marketing of fruit in the states of Washington, Oregon, Idaho and Montana have practically been solved, according to participating government experts.

Organization of the agency was effected and articles of incorporation prepared as the result of an all-day conference between fruitgrowers, representatives of practically every selling agency in the Northwest, and experts from the department of Agriculture at Washington.

According to an official statement issued by the government officials, the Fruitgrowers' Agency is:

"A combined organization of fruitgrowers and selling agencies governed by a board of control divided equally between the producers and marketers. It is the safety-first branch of the fruit industry, involving the growers' protection, assures an orderly control of upwards of 75 per cent of the fruit tonnage of the Northwest, and embodies the ideals sought for years by the growers in a mutual selling system wholly displacing destructive competition by formidable aggressiveness and the most up-to-date progressive measures.

"It provides for every necessity of the grower in assembling, advertising, marketing, opening new and widening markets throughout the world, and has as its basis the individual and collective requirements of the grower from the selling agencies through a uniform contract around which the entire structure of the central protective body is built."

"The plan of organization and procedure as adopted," the statement says, "was submitted by the department of Agriculture, following extensive investigation of the growers' needs by the government officials through their previous visits in the different Northwest sections. It is the most complete and advanced plan that has ever been prepared for the producers of any perishable industry in the United States."

Oklahoma Legislators Riot.

Oklahoma City—Tumultuous scenes occurred in the Oklahoma house of representatives late Saturday while the members were voting on a section of an election law designed to take the place of the famous "grandfather law," which was recently declared unconstitutional by the United States Supreme court because it in effect disfranchised the negro population of the state.

Partisan feeling over the new measure finally culminated in an outbreak, precipitated by charges of corruption and the passing of the lie between members, during which ink bottles, paper weights and other fixtures of the members' desks were used as weapons and a set battle seemed inevitable.

Mariner Age Limit Is Cut.

Washington, D. C.—With a view of increasing the number of officers available for American merchant ships, the United States Steamboat Inspection service has reduced the age limit for officers from 21 to 19 years. No change, however, was made in the amount of experience necessary before an officers' license can be obtained. The fact is that an unprecedented number of merchantmen are building in the United States and a lack of officers to fill commands was brought to the attention of the service by shipowners.

Birth Control Case Ends.

New York—The indictment charging Mrs. Margaret Sanger, editor of the "Woman Rebel," with improper use of the mails in forwarding copies of the magazine containing an article relative to birth control, was dismissed by Judge Dayton in United States District court here Saturday on application of Assistant United States District Attorney Content.

Her case was to have gone to trial on Monday.

Horse Buying Is Ceasing.

Kansas City—Major General F. W. Benson, of the general staff of the English army in charge of the purchase of all horses and mules for British forces, declared here that no American horses had been bought since last November, and the remount service in this country would be closed.

Big War Plant Destroyed.

Bristol, Tenn.—According to a telephone message received here early Saturday, the new Federal Dyestuffs & Chemical company at Kingport, Tenn., 25 miles from here, was destroyed by fire late Friday night. The plant was used for the manufacture of munitions of war and cost millions.

NEWS ITEMS *Of General Interest* About Oregon

Oregon State Commission Asks Opening of Northern Gateway

Salem — Relief of Oregon lumber mills and other shippers who are suffering from lack of cars to ship their products is sought through opening of the Northern gateways. To this end the Public Service commission telegraphed the Interstate Commerce commission at Washington, D. C. It is the belief of the Oregon commission that the railroads may heed a request for a temporary opening of the Northern routes if made by the Federal tribunal.

In its communication to the Interstate Commerce commission, the Oregon commission said:

"The car shortage is increasing. The accumulated shortage on the Southern Pacific is now 700 cars, and on the Oregon-Washington Railway & Navigation company's lines is 300. There is no shortage in Oregon or Washington. We feel that we are being discriminated against. If it is possible to open the Northern gateways temporarily we might procure cars from other lines."

Replies to inquiries sent by the Oregon commission to the commissions of California and Washington are that no car shortage exists in those states.

Coos Bay Cities Plan Big Railroad Jollification

Marshfield — The Marshfield and North Bend Chamber of commerce have committees organized for the purpose of planning for the celebration of completion of the Willamette-Pacific railway from Eugene to Coos Bay, but they have been unable and will not likely set the date for some time, as the Southern Pacific officials are still hesitant about naming a time for the road to be finished.

According to the disposition in both cities, the event and entertainment will exceed anything ever attempted before on Coos Bay.

There are already promises received from the main boosting bodies in the Willamette valley that big delegations will be sent officially, but the committees here wish to have it generally understood that everybody and his relatives will be welcomed. The Cherrians, of Salem, were the first to give assurance they were preparing to come and see Coos Bay, and although the information came in a roundabout manner, they are expected to participate. Eugene and Albany are also among the cities that will send excursions, while the way stations on the Willamette-Pacific will have a general outpouring of joyseekers.

Plans for Four Spans Made.

Salem—The state highway department announced this week that it had completed plans and specifications for four bridges, two in Yamhill county and two in Columbia. Proposals for the construction of the bridges will be accepted by the counties within a short time.

The bridge in Yamhill county at McMinnville will be a reinforced concrete viaduct to cost $14,000. The other structure is a $13,000 160-foot steel span between Athey's Island and the mainland over Willamette Slough below Wheatland.

At Veronia, in Columbia county, a 100-foot steel span will be built over Rock Creek, and a 50-foot girder will be placed across Tide creek, near Deer Island.

No Logs; Dallas Mill Idle.

Dallas—For the first time in several months, the large sawmill plant of the Willamette Valley Lumber company, in this city, is closed. This is due to the shortage of logs. Owing to the heavy snow storms of the past month, work has been impossible in the camps near Black Rock. The supply of logs on hand when the snow stopped operations is exhausted.

All camps are now in full operation, and by the midde of next week the mill will resume again. Only a few of the men were laid off, most of them being employed in repairing the plant, which has a capacity of 100,000 feet a day.

Stock Go to Bunch Grass.

Baker — Hope for relief from the threatened further loss of livestock because of lack of feed is reported from parts of this vicinity. Horses and cattle are leaving their straw and hay for the bunchgrass. In the vicinity of North Powder, where the snow was unusually heavy, it is reported that it is melting and that it will not be long before the grass starts growing if present conditions continue.

John Day stockmen expect that conditions that have been very threatening will improve so that livestock there will be able to begin feeding early next month.

Fairground Sale Likely.

Eugene — Within the next few days petitions will be circulated in Lane county to authorize the purchase of the Lane County Fair grounds by the county for the sum of $20,000. The property is owned by the Lane County Agricultural society, an organization of Eugene business men, and has been leased from year to year for fair purposes. The arrangement has proven unsatisfactory and it is proposed to purchase the property outright.

The question will be placed on the ballot at the primary election in May.

KAISER'S CORFU PALACE SEIZED BY THE FRENCH

"Achilleion," the palace of the emperor of Germany on the island of Corfu, which has been seized by the French and converted into a hospital. The palace was originally built for Elizabeth, the empress of Austria, and was bought by the kaiser in 1907. Greece has protested the seizure of the island by the allies, and the latter have just justified their course by saying that the island was used as a submarine base by the Teutons.

MIRKO OF MONTENEGRO

Prince Mirko of Montenegro is supposed to be in the hands of the Austrians and it is reported that, as he has had leanings toward the Teuton cause, he will be made king of a reorganized Montenegro.

GEN. SIR PERCY LAKE

Lieut. Gen. Sir Percy Henry Noel Lake, who has just succeeded Gen. Sir John Nixon as commander of the British forces in Mesopotamia, has had a brilliant career in India and Egypt. He received a medal in the Afghan war of 1878-79 and also one in the Wolseley Nile expedition of 1885. Later he reorganized the Canadian militia. He left Canada in 1911 to assume command of a division in India, but since 1912 he has been chief of the general staff in India.

Too Uncertain.

"Some men spend their whole lives in the pursuit of pleasure," said the moralist.

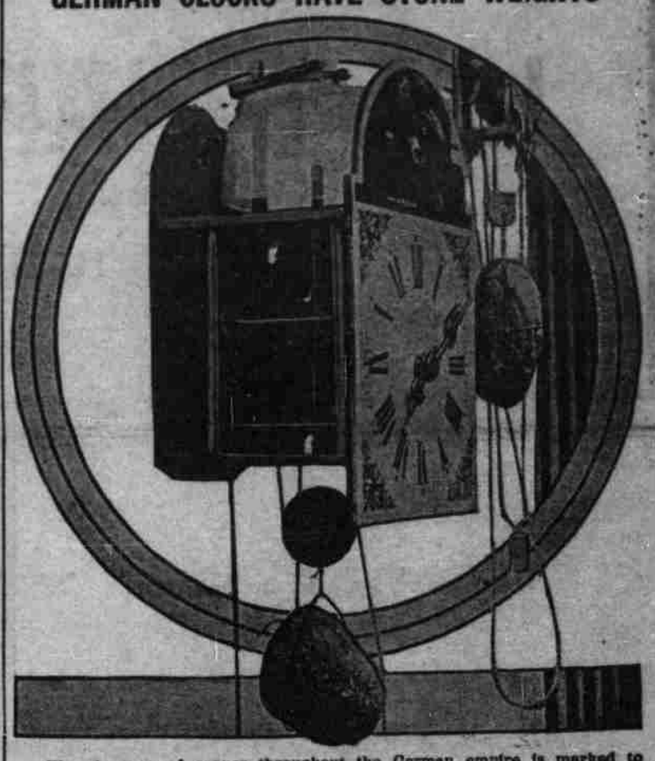
"So they do," replied the philosopher. "Men like that seem to labor under the impression that they will never be invited anywhere."

Thought He'd Be the Next.

The Newsy—Yer's yer extra! All about the hold-up.

Cy Watertop—Great gosh! I guess I'll take th' next train fer hum.

GERMAN CLOCKS HAVE STONE WEIGHTS



The shortage of copper throughout the German empire is marked to such a degree that not only have the copper cooking utensils been converted into food for rifle and gun, but even the ancient clocks with heavy pendulums of copper have been made to add to the war contributions. The picture shows two quaint old clocks in the Black forest. The copper weights of the pendulums have been removed and stones have been substituted for them.

EDISON AND HIS OLDEST EMPLOYEE

Thomas A. Edison photographed with John Ott, who has been in the employ of the famous inventor longer than any other man—forty-six years.

Strawberries.

Herbert Spencer complains in his autobiography that his pleasures were spoiled by analysis of their sources, and we must not mar this record season for strawberries by reflecting that "God's best berry" is a mere horticultural parvenu. The ancient Greeks never ate strawberries at two obols a pound, the customary price on the costermonger's barrows in Fleet street, and had no word in their language for the fruit. The Roman poet Ovid describes the eating of strawberries among the delights of the golden age, while Virgil associates strawberry picking with the perils of love. But these were wild strawberries, as were really the "good strawberries" which, according to Shakespeare, grew in Ely place, Holborn. The evolution of our modern garden strawberries from the Chilean variety, introduced by Captain Frezier, dates mainly from the beginning of the nineteenth century. — London Chronicle.

He Was Wise.

The Musician (at Wise's musicale) —The piano is very much out of tune, sir.

Mr. Wise—Play something from Wagner and they won't notice it.