

WORLD HAPPENINGS OF CURRENT WEEK

Brief Resume Most Important Daily News Items.

COMPILED FOR YOU

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

The federal government has thrown up its hands in the case of Major Alexander P. Cronkhite, who was killed under mysterious circumstances at Camp Lewis, Washington, in 1918, and will prosecute the matter no further.

One man died and six were reported to be in a serious condition from heat prostration suffered in cantaloupe fields near Calexico, Cal., last week, when the apex of a heat wave was reached with a temperature of 116 degrees.

"Two million children were prevented by American women from entering the world last year," Bishop Sigismund Waiz, the former spiritual teacher of Emperor Charles, told a big clerical and monarchical gathering in Vienna recently.

There was widespread property damage but no loss of life in the recent typhoon that swept the Philippine islands, according to reports coming in from different provinces. Roads, bridges and lines of communication suffered most.

The 700 Russian refugees who recently arrived at Shanghai from Vladivostok, via Gensan, Korea, will not be permitted to come to the Philippines, as were their compatriots, who recently left Manila for the United States, according to a statement by Governor-General Wood.

Robert Crozier Scott, playwright and scenario writer, was found dead in his room in Los Angeles Wednesday, his throat having been cut. The police pronounced it a case of suicide and said they found papers in the room showing that Scott's wife had filed a suit for divorce.

The Italian cabinet has decided to abolish the ministries of industry, public works and commerce, replacing them with a single portfolio of national economy, says a Rome dispatch. The correspondent says it is hoped the consolidation will effect a saving of several million lire yearly.

Ferdinand Kutz of Chicago had never seen a parrot and when a large green bird spoke to him from a tree, he thought evil spirits were about, so hastened in the house for his gun and shot the green "devil." Mrs. Bertha Flügge, owner of the escaped parrot, had him fined \$5 and costs.

Jack Dempsey, the man killer from Manassas, is a man killer no longer. He retained his world's championship against Tommy Gibbons, the St. Paul challenger at Shelby, Mont., Wednesday afternoon, but it was by the unsatisfactory margin of a referee's decision at the end of the 15th round.

Notwithstanding the unexpected improvement in the financial condition of the treasury, Senator Smoot, republican, Utah, who will be the new chairman of the senate finance committee, said Tuesday that he does not believe that any general downward revision of taxes is justified in the next session of congress.

When a pressing machine in a tailor shop blazed up suddenly an employe picked up a bucket of gasoline, believing it to be water, poured the oil on the machine and started a fire which virtually wiped out Orangefield, Texas, a village in the Orange oil field. Thirteen buildings were consumed. The loss is estimated at \$50,000.

Testimony tending to show that the whipping given Martin Tabert, North Dakota youth was "within the law," was introduced by the defense Tuesday in the trial of Thomas Walter Higginbotham, former convict whipping boss at Lake City, Fla., charged with the murder of Tabert. The state is contending Tabert died after being struck 75 to 119 times by Higginbotham.

Babies in New York city have a better chance than those in a larger number of smaller cities, the American Child Health association declares. Cities in the 250,000 class with the lowest rates of infant mortality according to the report are: Seattle, Portland, Or., and Minneapolis. The cities in the same class with the highest rates are Buffalo, Pittsburg, and Boston.

FRANCE APPROVES TREATIES

Two Pacts to Date Passed on by Chamber—Others Delayed.

Washington, D. C.—Action of the French chamber of deputies in voting ratification of the four-power pact treaty, coupled with the favorable vote last week on the naval pact, caused gratification in official circles here Monday, although some regret was evidenced at the forecast that the three other Washington treaties would not be put through at once.

The five treaties negotiated at the arms conference are independent documents but to a certain degree they were designed to supplement each other and to extend the effectiveness of the general plan contemplated by the conference for removing probable causes of war. Although there will be no barrier to putting into effect the naval treaty and the Pacific pact, even though French ratification of the other treaties is delayed, the result of that delay may be to develop a somewhat peculiar situation.

The Chinese treaties, one dealing with customs matters in China and the other with political questions there, were worked out as a very vital element in the project of assuring peace in the Pacific. It was through these pacts that the conference delegates hoped to iron out causes of international friction in China and to make less likely clashes of interest in the far east that might lead to war.

This aspect of the situation is regarded as of importance at this time in view of the disturbed conditions in China, where the power of the central government has been greatly weakened and bandit outrages have become numerous. It is felt that proclamation of the Washington treaties might have some effect toward stabilizing the situation.

For a somewhat different reason the delay over the submarine and gas warfare treaty is a cause of regret to officials here. It had been hoped at the time of the Washington conference that the doctrines laid down in that treaty as binding upon the signatories could be extended without delay to all other nations, adding a new chapter to international law. That world progress cannot go forward, however, until the treaty has been ratified.

The submarine provisions of the treaty probably are of greater importance to Great Britain than to the other signatories because of her geographical situation. It is to be recalled that the British delegations at the conference sought to outlaw submarines entirely. The Root resolutions embodied in the submarine and gas warfare treaty were written for the purpose of finding a compromise ground in which naval opinion of all the powers could combine.

Hippopotamus is Killed.

Cincinnati.—The person who threw the tennis ball into the cage of "Zeekoe," gigantic hippopotamus at the zoo, caused the death of that animal, famous as the largest specimen of its kind in captivity in America. This fact was revealed at a post mortem. The tennis ball was found wedged in the huge beast's stomach, where it formed a fatal obstruction.

The animal, which weighed about 2½ tons, was valued at \$5000, but was considered as being worth many times that sum as an attraction at the zoo. "Zeekoe's" life was impaired on previous occasions by some thoughtless visitor permitting him to swallow a woman's mesh handbag. In addition to the tennis ball, a number of pennies also were revealed in the stomach.

Fight Promoter Closes His Bank.

Great Falls, Mont.—The Stanton Trust & Savings bank of Great Falls, of which George H. Stanton, one of the men who assisted in financing the Dempsey-Gibbons fight at Shelby July 4, is president, closed its doors Monday morning at 11 o'clock when it was unable to liquidate its obligations at the local clearing house. The closing was voluntary, and State Superintendent of Banks Skelton arrived here to take charge.

Mr. Stanton stated after the bank closed that the bank was solvent, but that it was impossible to procure money to meet the concern's obligations.

The bank's statement, issued in response to a former call on June 30, showed resources of \$1,174,428, with deposits of approximately \$600,000.

1300 Bottles Seized.

Honolulu.—Customs officers here announced Monday they had seized approximately 1300 bottles of liquor from ships docked here since the United States supreme court's ruling applying to liquor on foreign ships became effective.

Of the amounts seized, 300 bottles were taken from the steamer Makura, 299 from the Korea Maru, 159 from the Eeyo Maru and 38 from the President Pierce.

MINUTE MEN FORM TO ENFORCE LAWS

Patriotic Body Is Headed by General Dawes.

20,000 NOW BELONG

Non-Partisan Group of Public-Spirited Citizens to Weed Out All Religious Prejudices.

Chicago.—Born of a patriotic idea a little more than two months ago, the Minute Men of the Constitution, a non-partisan organization of public-spirited citizens, working in the interest of good government and the upholding of American principles and traditions, has grown with remarkable rapidity in Illinois and is spreading to adjacent states.

Care is taken to examine the standing and records of all applicants for membership, but more than 20,000 persons are now enrolled in northern Illinois. In the course of a year it is believed the membership in this state will exceed 100,000, a compact, brainy, driving force that must be taken into consideration in campaigns and at all times. Sponsors of the organization declare it will become a powerful national body in the course of five years.

The election of men to congress and other positions of trust who are in sympathy with American traditions, ethics and principles and who have the nerve to stand for these things.

The right of men to engage in collective bargaining and the equal right of any and every man to work and support his family, free of interference by other men.

The rigid suppression of anarchy in any form or color, from the blood-red Russian bolshevik to the pale pink parlor socialist.

Strict enforcement for all laws that make for the general good of the public; the bringing about of a general respect for law and order, and the disciplining of foreign and native agitators who teach disregard for every-day Americans stand for.

The weeding out of all religious prejudice and persecutions because of religious beliefs.

Brigadier-General Charles Dawes of "Hell an' Maria" fame, and who stood the looting, wasteful departments at Washington on their heads, is the originator and head of the Minute Men.

BOSS IS MURDERER SAYS FLORIDA JURY

Lake City, Fla.—Thomas Walter Higginbotham was late Saturday found guilty of the murder of Martin Tabert of North Dakota in the second degree by a jury here. The jury was out one hour and 20 minutes.

Higginbotham was sentenced to 20 years' imprisonment. He was released on \$10,000 bond pending hearing of appeal.

The former convict-whipping boss was accused of having caused the death of Tabert as the result of a beating administered while the North Dakotan was serving a term in the Putnam Lumber company convict-leased camp. The trial consumed 13 days.

The death of Tabert finally resulted in an investigation of the whole convict-leasing system and its abolition by the Florida legislature. That body also prohibited corporal punishment. Before the Florida legislature convened the senate of North Dakota adopted a memorial asking the Florida lawmakers to investigate the death of Tabert.

Aeronauts Yet Missing.

Cleveland, O.—The flying boat Nina of the Aero Marine Airways Company, Inc., returned here Sunday after a six-hour search of the Canadian and American shores of Lake Erie in a fruitless effort to find some trace of Lieutenants L. J. Roth and T. B. Null, lost when the naval balloon A-6593 fell into Lake Erie Friday after leaving Indianapolis Wednesday in the national elimination air race.

Portland Office Fifth.

Washington, D. C.—Portland ranked fifth among the leading postoffices of the country in the percentage of gain for postal business last month as compared with June, 1922. Its percentage of gain, the postoffice department announced Saturday, was 14.88. Seattle ranked eighth, with a gain of 12.33 per cent.

Growth of Duck Raising in U. S.

Last Census Showed 2,817,624 Worth \$3,373,966 in This Country.

New York.—Duck raising is conducted successfully both as a side issue on general farms and as a special business on a large scale. The Peking is the most popular breed for the production of meat, and the Indian Runner is the most popular for the production of market eggs. The rearing of ducks for market on a large scale requires extensive capital and experience, remarks a New York Times writer. Young ducks forced for rapid growth and marketed at from eight to twelve weeks of age are called "green" ducks. They weigh from four and one-half to six pounds each and are the principal source of income on commercial duck farms.

"According to the census of 1920," says Alfred R. Lee of the United States Department of Agriculture, "there were 2,817,624 ducks in the United States, valued at \$3,373,966. This shows a slight decrease in numbers from the census of 1910, indicating that the production of ducks in the country as a whole is barely holding its own. The decrease occurred in the southern states, but several of the states in which ducks are raised on special duck farms showed an increase in the number of ducks kept."

New York Ahead in Duck Raising. Massachusetts, California and Colorado showed an increase of about 5 per cent. New York, which contains by far the greatest number of duck farms, shows no change in the number of ducks, but as the number raised on commercial farms has undoubtedly increased materially in the last ten years, a decrease in the number of ducks on general farms must have occurred to offset this increase on duck farms.

"There are about the same number of ducks as geese in this country, and only about three-fourths as many ducks as turkeys. Ducks are most numerous in the following states, arranged according to their production: Iowa, Illinois, Pennsylvania, New York, Missouri, Minnesota, Tennessee, Ohio, South Dakota, Indiana and Nebraska, the number ranging from 225,000 head in Iowa to 100,000 in Nebraska.

"There are eleven standard breeds of ducks which have been admitted to the American Standard of Perfection. These breeds may be divided into three classes: (1) The meat class, including the Peking, Aylesbury, Muscovy, Rouen, Cayuga, Buff and Swedish; (2) the egg class, represented by the Indian Runner, and (3) the ornamental class, composed of the Call, the Crested White and the Black East India. The ducks commonly kept on many farms in the South and Middle West are of mixed breeding, and are generally of small size, poor layers and undesirable types of market duck. Except the Muscovy, all our economic breeds of ducks are said to have originated from the Mallard or wild duck.

On a Large Scale. "Duck raising on a large scale has been developed as a special business to a considerable extent on Long Island, in sections within easy shipping distance of New York city, Boston and Philadelphia. Intensive duck farming on a large scale has been more successful than intensive chicken raising, as Peking ducks, especially, stand confinement well, are more easily brooded and are less subject to disease than chickens. Artificial methods of hatching and rearing and labor-

saving machinery have been used very successfully on duck farms.

"The demand for table ducks at good prices is mostly limited to a few large cities, and is not nearly so general as the demand for chickens or fowls. The demand, however, appears to be gradually increasing, but this lack of wide market materially influences the establishment and growth of duck farms. The market conditions should be studied carefully before making a large investment in ducks.

"A prejudice against the duck flesh and eggs exists in many places, caused probably by eating the common duck, which has been allowed to roam in places where filthy conditions exist. The rearing of ducks for market on a large scale is a business requiring capital and extensive experience. Practical experience on a large duck plant is the best teacher, but the novice can begin in a small way and enlarge as experience justifies. Ducks can be raised with success and at a profit on general farms, but do not appear to be so well adapted as a source of income to average farm conditions as fowls, although they serve to add variety to both meat and eggs for the farmer's table."

CALIFORNIA HAS RECORD



So far as known, this is the lowest auto license number ever issued—number 1,000,000—which was recently issued by the state of California. The one-millionth license was not issued out of order, but only after 999,999 previous ones had been given out.

Hen Lays 183 Eggs in Seven Months. Springfield, Ill.—With a record of 183 eggs laid in the seven months from November 1, 1922, to June 1, 1923, a white leghorn hen owned by H. B. Hamner of Weaver, Ia., has outlaid all other hens in the two-state they belong to Ecuador. Here, surely, is a new field for enterprise."

Islands Natural History Museum

Hidden Gold, Strange Birds and Giant Tortoises on the Galapagos.

Washington, D. C.—"The Galapagos islands are being revisited by scientists because they form an incomparable natural history museum," says a bulletin from the Washington (D. C.) headquarters of the National Geographic society.

"Charles Darwin began his scientific exploration and he reported on the various species of giant tortoises, each species confined to a single islet, and pointed out that half the flowers and half the birds of the island are to be found nowhere else in the world.

"More than 2,000 volcanic cones besprinkle the archipelago, one estimate has it, and the islands' volcanic origin accounts for the peculiar interest they hold to science. Darwin deduced that the group has not been nearer the mainland, nor have the islands been closer together than now.

How Peculiarities Developed. "Hence the species of flowers and birds which drifted to the islands have undergone a development in their isolated environment very different from that in their native habitats. Sceldom has nature provided such a clear-cut opportunity to study the processes of evolution.

"The Galapagos hold a different sort of lure for the modern world. Most tales of hidden treasures warrant many grains of salt, but it seems certain that the pirates of South America hid their loot of gold and silver where they had their headquarters, in these islands. Two caches have been unearthed, silver ingots and pieces of eight. The finder of one built a hotel in Ecuador; the second drank himself to death.

"The islands lie just under the equator, but the air frequently is chilly on some of them. One, Albe-

marie, also called Isabella, is 500 feet high. The cold Antarctic currents which fan the coast of Peru strike seaward at Cape Blanco and surge across the Galapagos group. Up to 800 feet most of the islands are barren, above that level they are swathed in clouds whose moisture aids luxuriant vegetation.

"Wild goats, cattle, cats and dogs, as well as hidden treasure, bear evidence of the rascals of buccannery. In 1832 Ecuador annexed the islands, and since 1885 they have had a governor. They acquired a strategic importance with the opening of the Panama canal, for they lie on the canal-to-Australia route.

"The largest island of the group, the aforementioned Albemarle, is larger than Long Island, New York; the entire group has an area considerably in excess of that of Delaware. The nearest of the islands to mainland is 600 miles west of Ecuador.

Have Economic Value.

"Treasure and science to one side, as a famous humorist would say, the future of the islands looms large upon their agricultural merit." Halph Stock, in his classic account of "The Dream Ship" expedition, wrote:

"The soil is a rich, red loam, almost stoneless, and scarcely touched by the plow. There are 3,500 head of cattle at present on Cristobal island, and it could support 50,000 with ease. There is no disease and no adverse climatic condition with which to contend, and at three years old a steer brings \$100 (gold), live weight, at Guayaquil—when a steamer can be induced to call and take it there.

"There are a few hundred acres under cultivation when there might be thousands, and 200 bone-lazy men do the work of 50 ordinary farm hands.

"Looking down on this fertile valley, it is hard to realize that one is standing on the lip of a long-extinct crater, that in reality Cristobal is a series of these, dour and uninviting to a degree, viewed from outside, but veritable gardens within. And there are four other islands in the Galapagos group—some smaller, some larger, than Cristobal—uninhabited and exactly similar in character. Nominally, egg-laying contests at Quincy and Murphysboro.

Kills Self by Bomb in Mouth.

Leipzig, Germany.—When police approached to arrest him Johann Reisse placed a small bomb in his mouth, lighted the fuse and blew himself to pieces.

Shot by Wad of Gum.

Norfolk, Va.—Mary E. Davis, thirteen years old, was wounded in the breast by a wad of chewing gum shot at her during an Indian play in her school. The injury is not serious.

Baby's Birth Causes Blockade in Traffic

Engene Reed, colored, employed as a gateman by the Long Island railroad at Rockville Center, N. Y., was advised by telephone at five o'clock one morning that a baby was being born at his home. He waxed impatient when his relief failed to arrive three hours later, and telephoned his boss regularly at five-minute intervals, but no relief arrived.

At 11:48 a. m. he lowered his gates and went home. Twenty minutes later, when a long string of automobiles had accumulated, the police arrived and straightened out the tangle. The next day Reed lost his job.

Close-Up of Fatal Texas Oil Fire



A spark created by the casing of bits of metal as crews on two rigs trying to cap the Hughes gusher near Kerens, Tex., set the gas and oil on fire and 14 men were burned to death. The well burned for days, the intense heat making approach impossible until men attired and equipped with asbestos suits entered the heated zone and recovered most of the charred bodies of the victims. Although thousands of curious spectators were kept at a distance of 500 yards from the scene, P. J. Howe, photographer for the Fort Worth Record, ran to a point within 30 feet of the blaze, and at the risk of his life made this extraordinary picture. Howe's clothes were ruined by the spouting oil and his camera and plateholders were burned.