

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.

Forty thousand persons in Pangasinan and Tarlac, Philippine Islands provinces are reported reduced to semistarvation on account of floods, locusts and animal diseases.

Enormous coal deposits were discovered in Ellesmere land by Captain Donald B. MacMillan, Arctic explorer, who arrived at Wiscasset, Maine, Saturday after a 15-month sojourn in the far north.

Intrastate express rates in the zone in which Oregon is located were ordered reduced from 10.7 per cent to 15 per cent in an order issued by the public service commission at Salem, Or., Tuesday.

Major Pedro Zanni, the Argentine aviator who arrived in Hongkong, Monday on his round-the-world flight; Felipe Delorme, his mechanic, and E. Rouillon, the Peruvian consul, narrowly escaped drowning in a collision between motorboats in the harbor.

Judge Stratton, a noted northwest pioneer, died at his home in Seattle Monday night. Judge Stratton formerly was a resident of Portland, and was well known as an attorney in the Pacific northwest. He was a judge of the King county superior court from 1890 to 1896.

The federal farm loan board has announced the successful flotation of the first bond issue for the intermediate credit banks for the 1924 marketing season. The issue was \$10,000,000 and was sold by the board's fiscal agent, Charles W. Lobdell, to a group of commercial banks.

Robbers entered the office of R. E. Bennetts, Inc., an automobile house in Tacoma, Wash., Monday night, stole a light truck, loaded into it a safe containing \$4300 in cash and checks and drove away. No trace of the robbers, the strongbox or the truck, has been found by the police.

A story of the deft juggling of millions, including the sale of a large part of a \$120,000,000 coal property for \$4,000,000, became public Tuesday, preliminary to hearing of the suit for \$300,000,000 filed by stockholders of the Denver & Rio Grande railroad against the estate of George J. Gould and others.

Mortimer M. King, young cotton mill worker and ex-soldier, of Chesterfield, S. C., pleaded guilty Monday to murdering Major Samuel H. McLeary on July 2. Judge Featherstone, however, directed that a plea of not guilty be entered for the defendant, the law in South Carolina prohibiting guilty pleas in capital cases.

That the series of daring daylight holdups of bank messengers in Seattle during the past two years was participated in if not actually directed by a group of Seattle police officers who connived with a bandit gang, is strongly rumored to be the cause of an investigation started by the prosecuting attorney Tuesday.

The problems of what should be the ratio of development of submarines, surface ships and aircraft in the navy during the next few years was handed by Secretary Wilbur Tuesday to the navy general board with instructions that it make a comprehensive study and report to him at its earliest convenience.

If three or four of the great powers—Great Britain, France, Italy, Japan—which have permanent seats on the council of the league of nations, and ten other states, members of the league, ratify the protocol of arbitration and security which was made public Monday there will open at Geneva on June 15, 1925, a great international conference for the reduction of armaments.

Brigadier-General Charles Elmer Sawyer, personal physician to the late President Harding, died suddenly of heart disease at White Oak farm, his home, in Marion, O., Tuesday. Slightly more than a year from the time Dr. Sawyer stood by the bedside of President Harding in a San Francisco hotel and watched the life of the nation's chief executive ebb away, Mrs. Florence Kling Harding, widow of the late president, performed the same service today for the physician. Mrs. Harding has been making her home at White Oak farm since the president's death.

TRADE PLOT LAID TO FIRMS

Government Assails Portland Wholesale Grocers' Association.

Portland.—Conspiracy in restraint of trade was charged against the Oregon Wholesale Grocers' association, seven Portland wholesale grocery and two hardware companies and 27 officials in a bill of complaint filed in United States district court.

The United States government made the accusations following a six-months' investigation by department of justice agents and agents of the federal trade commission. Harlan F. Stone, attorney-general, ordered and directed the probe.

Dissolution of the association was asked. An injunction was requested perpetually restraining the defendants from fixing prices, increasing prices, practicing coercion upon manufacturers, refusing to sell to grocers not abiding by rules of the association and agreeing to fine grocers not abiding by rules.

Henry Anderson Guiler, special assistant to the attorney-general, and Judge John S. Coke, United States district attorney, are conducting the case for the government. Mr. Guiler, with Harry H. Atkinson, also a special assistant to the attorney-general, Clarence Sadler, of the federal trade commission, and John Petrovitsky, agent of the department of justice, conducted the investigation.

"Numerous complaints filed with government officials in Portland and Washington, D. C., prompted the investigation," Mr. Guiler stated. "Attorney-General Stone immediately ordered that we go into the matter thoroughly, declaring that all combinations to increase prices of necessities of life be broken up."

"We have found a startling condition here which has existed for a number of years. Under the Sherman anti-trust act we have two remedies, one, action in equity, the other, criminal action. We have adopted the first method. If it fails we may adopt the second. Similar complaints have been filed against the California Wholesale Grocers' association, Southern California Wholesale Grocers' association, Utah-Idaho Wholesale Grocers' association and Seattle Produce association."

"Price fixing by the association has been done through committees. The class A committee fixed the wholesale prices of certain groceries. The class C committee fixed prices of other staples. A sugar committee fixed the price of sugar. Another committee fixed the price of fruit jars."

The government is prepared, it need be, to bring in from 200 to 300 witnesses, Mr. Guiler said.

"The association has had a stranglehold on the grocery business of Oregon," he declared. "We specifically charge the conspiracy has existed three years. Manufacturers were induced to refuse to do business with grocers who refused to abide by the rules of the association. It dictated prices on such products as Bon Ami, Borden's milk, Carnation milk, Cream of Wheat, fruit jars, Mazola oil, Dutch cleanser, Palmolive soap, yeast, Diamond matches, and many others. It dictated the price of sugar also, and members refusing to abide by the rules were fined. In fact to become members they were required to place \$2000 with the secretary as a guarantee to adhere to the regulations."

The complaint also sets forth in substance Mr. Guiler's allegations. Purported copies of agreements entered into by member companies are added to the complaint in the form of exhibits. Carrying out these agreements they have it is stated, "restrained a large, substantial and important part of the interstate and foreign trade and commerce aforesaid."

Mr. Guiler declared in connection with this that member companies of the association distributed products annually of the value of \$100,000,000.

Wholesale companies named in the complaint follow: Lang & Co., Mason, Ehrman & Co.; Wadhams & Co., Allen & Lewis, T. W. Jenkins & Co., M. Sells & Co., Wadhams & Kerr Bros., Hudson & Gram Co., and Marshall Wells company.

Meeker Will Fly East.

Washington, D. C.—Acting Secretary Davis of the war department has approved a request from Ezra Meeker, 90-year-old pioneer of Seattle, that he be permitted to fly back in an army airplane across the trail he followed in frontier days with an ox team on his way westward. Meeker will travel from Seattle to Dayton, O., in an army machine, arriving there in time to witness the airplane races beginning this week.

Five, Throats Cut, Die.

Mangum, Okla.—The bodies of Mrs. J. A. Melton and her four children, their throats cut, were found lying close together in one room by J. A. Melton, a farmer, when he returned to his home, five miles south of here, late Saturday night. All were dead.

JAPAN MENACES NEW PEACE PACT

Situation at Geneva Declared
Critical.

WAY OUT IS OFFERED

Question Regarded as Concerned With
Immigration Referred to
Sub-Committee.

Geneva.—A grave crisis prevailed Sunday night in the peace discussions through Japan's insistence upon an amendment to the proposed protocol of arbitration and security.

So critical was the situation judged to be that France suggested that the Japanese amendment, which concerns the interpretation of state rights as related to arbitration, and which everybody understands as referring to the immigration problem, should be considered calmly by a sub-committee. A motion by the French to this end was accepted by the arbitration committee.

Japan offered her amendment after a day of fruitless private conferences. Viscount Ishii consulted with M. Briand, M. Loucheur, Sir Cecil Hurst, and other leaders, but no one was able to find a formula acceptable to the Japanese.

At 9:30 tonight, when the arbitration committee had very near completed its revision of the protocol text, M. Adachi arose and formally moved the suppression of the clause in the protocol draft which proclaims an aggressor state any country refusing to abide by the decision of the world court of justice. The clause in question refers to disputes which one party declares to have arisen over a subject which is exclusively within its domestic jurisdiction.

If the world court accepts this view and rules that the matter is in fact domestic in nature and the other, the opposing state, refuses to accept the decision and goes to war, it then becomes an aggressor and will be punished as such by the other members of the league.

M. Adachi wanted this clause stricken out altogether, asserting that it involved great injustice to the plaintiff state and shut off all avenues of peaceful settlement. Reading his statement dramatically and slowly, amid tense, almost painful silence, the Japanese delegate accused the league of nations of not fulfilling its high mission, because it was proclaiming a state a criminal without offering any solution of the difficulty.

He argued that questions judged by the court to be within the exclusive internal jurisdiction of a state might cause the gravest kind of injustice to the other state, which should have the right to prove the righteousness of its complaint.

Senor Fernandez, a Brazilian jurist, combated the Japanese amendment. It has the effect, he said, of putting the sign of approval on the most inadmissible, as well as the most cruel wars of all—those growing out of a conflict over a state's sovereign rights.

U. S. FLIERS END WORLD JOURNEY

Seattle, Wash.—The United States army aviators officially completed Sunday their flight around the world. They landed at the aviation field on the outskirts at 1:35:40 P. M.

Lieutenant Lowell H. Smith, the flight commander, in the flagplane Chicago, was the first to land on the field from which they began their world-famous flight April 6, at 8:34 A. M.

Lieutenant Leigh Wade of the plane Boston II followed the flight commander, and Lieutenant Erik Nelson in the New Orleans came down third. Lieutenant Wade's time of arrival was 1:37:50 and Lieutenant Nelson's 1:38:35 P. M.

The three world girdlers arrived over the field at 1:30 o'clock.

Theft Exceeds Million.

New York.—The defalcations of George R. Christian, missing partner of the brokerage firm of Day & Heaton, amounted to \$1,500,000 in cash and securities, Assistant District Attorney Gibbs announced Saturday. Mr. Gibbs said Christian had taken this amount before disappearing but that the total loss to the firm, including working capital, profits and customers' securities, could be estimated at \$2,500,000.

SCHOOL DAYS



Something to Think About By F. A. WALKER

WILDERNESS OF THOUGHT

MANY of the highest prized things in life, often through carelessness, neglect or perverted habits, are lost amid a wilderness of weeds, whose rankness had been permitted to overtop a wealthy soil.

Penelope's flower garden, which she elected to call "her own," was beautifully laid out and gave great promise, but in an evil day, when she grew weary of pulling out the tares and watering the buds, the weeds ran amuck and ruined the plot about which Penelope had dreamed for weeks.

When put to the test she preferred the melancholy weeds to the rose and the lily.

And so it was with William, who had planned great things while in college, but the weeds crept in among his cherished ambitions and led him far, far afield in a direction he never suspected.

Up to a given point he was a faithful worker, so long as his boyish hopes brightened his sky, but when they faded he lost interest and did not care.

Then came the day when the garden was choked with weeds.

He smiled complacently and accepted his fate because he believed in luck. He had never been taught to hold to the anchor of faith.

But William had learned some risky games of chance, and could, when suddenly called upon to do so, shut his mouth very firmly and exhibit not the slightest sign of fear or discouragement.

He meant to be good and true, and he sought to be fortunate and happy, but the weeds smothered him.

The brilliant course he had considered must wait till another season, or at least until he shall give proof of his change of heart.

He has ample ability, but even with his fine talents there springs up at regular intervals a crop of hot-headed weeds, sometimes growing in the night to present a sickening spectacle in the morning.

William is but a name for a thousand young men who, in spite of paternal advice, insisted upon sowing their wild oats.

William has won the name of being wild and reckless, which he admits. He recognizes that he is a sort of moral cripple, too weak to strike out alone, too proud to accept advice. He is to be pitied, for he really is not bad at heart and is nobody's enemy but his own.

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A MYSTERY

By DOUGLAS MALLOCH

HAPPENED on a mystery, Anyway it was to me; On the bank I found a book; Down beside a shady brook, Yes, sir, yonder by "the creek" Found a brown arithmetic. How it got there, hard to tell; Maybe put there, maybe fell. There it lay, a book of sums Bearing marks of sundry thumbs, Looking blankly at the sky Just as though it wondered why, How it got there. That to me Also is a mystery. Near it was a fishing-hole, I could swear I saw a pole From the bushes sticking out— It was there without a doubt, Not a split bamboo affair, Just an alder cut somewhere. And it seemed to me the line Wasn't silk, but cotton twine. On the water, seemed to me, Something else that I could see: Just a cork, a cork of brown, Slowly bobbing up and down. It's a mystery, as I say; For I'm sure there's school today.

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PROFESSIONAL CARDS

DR. ALEXANDER REID
Physician and Surgeon

UMATILLA OREGON

G. L. McLELLAN, M. D.
Physician and Surgeon
Fraternal Building
Stanfield, Oregon

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DENTISTRY
Dental X-ray and Diagnosis
HERMISTON, ORE.
Bank Building
Phones: Office 93, Residence 751.

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Cor. Main and Webb Sts. Pendleton

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