

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.

At a meeting in Petrograd Saturday, representatives of the whole Petrograd garrison passed under the guidance and influence of the Bolsheviks, the radical pacifist group. There was great excitement in the city.

In the region of the Black Sea coast the Russians have driven the Turks from their first line and advanced in some places to the third line. The War office announces. Large quantities of arms and munitions were captured.

The first woman letter carrier, ununiformed, but with a government badge, was seen in Washington Wednesday. She is on a light route, as an experiment for women substitutes for men, owing to the shortage of men.

Five ships with a tonnage of about 25,000 thus far have been placed by the American government at the disposal of Italy for the transport of supplies. Before the month is over another 75,000 tons, it is said, will have been turned over.

Convinced that pro-German agencies are at work to hinder the aircraft production program, officials believe a drastic campaign against agitators may be necessary, reaching to the spruce forests of the Northwest, where the wood for airplanes is being cut.

Hog cholera killed enough animals last year to have fed one million soldiers a meat ration for five and a half months, the department of Agriculture announced Tuesday. This enormous loss, the statement said, was unnecessary, as hog cholera to a large extent can be prevented.

Coal operators of Colorado, Utah and Wyoming have presented to the priority committee of the War Industries Board a request for a full car supply for mines in those states to meet urgent fuel requirements, both for industrial and domestic use in the intermountain section.

Because he opposed support of the government in its war policies and his congregation called for his resignation, the Rev. J. L. Taylor, pastor of the First Baptist church, leading one of that denomination in Savannah, Ga., announced that he would leave his pulpit next Sunday night.

A dispatch to the London Exchange Telegraph from Amsterdam says General von Berrer, commanding the Wurttemberg armies on the northeastern front, was killed Friday while visiting the trenches near Riga. General von Berrer had a prominent share in the capture of the Russian positions in this region.

Warren K. Billings, under sentence of life imprisonment for murder growing out of a bomb explosion in San Francisco, in July, 1916, which claimed ten victims, was refused a hearing by the state supreme court on his application for a new trial. The state appellate court recently denied his appeal.

Belated returns to the food administration Tuesday raised the total number of pledges received in last week's intensive food-pledge card campaign to well above 7,000,000. Complete reports are expected to send up the total to 10,000,000, the administration's goal, for the week, and extension of the campaign through this week in most of the states probably will carry it well beyond that figure.

Arrangements for supplying captured Americans with food and clothing in the German prison camps have been made through the Red Cross, which has a committee in Switzerland to send rations and other necessities at regular intervals. As the number of Americans in German hands increases it may be necessary to make further provision for them through the Spanish ambassador in Berlin, who is caring for American interests there.

The first arrests for smuggling under the embargo section of the espionage act and the President's proclamation in connection with it, were made Thursday, Frank Stolaroff, a Douglas, Ariz., merchant, and six Mexicans being taken into custody by customs officers. The officers confiscated two wagonloads of shoes and other merchandise.

From Thursday until some undetermined time in the future, the Denver mint will turn out nothing but pennies—600,000 of them a day—to relieve the need for great numbers of coppers caused by the war tax bill.

The Iowa State Executive Council has adjourned until November 5. If returns are complete, the council will on that day begin the canvass of the vote cast in the recent election in Iowa on the constitutional prohibition amendment, which apparently was defeated by a majority of at least 1000 votes.

NEW WAR TAX RULING

Law Applies to Life Insurance, Theater Tickets, Stocks and Bonds, Public Utilities, Cigars and Cigarettes Increased Postal Rates Also Are in Effect.

Three-cent letter postage went into effect Friday of last week, as an additional measure to increase the revenues of the United States during the war period. Postal cards double in price.

The postage on letters will be at the rate of 3 cents for every ounce or fraction thereof, excepting drop letters mailed for delivery from the office at which they are posted, which may be mailed at the rate of 2 cents an ounce or fraction.

Postal cards are required to be prepaid 2 cents, and therefore 1-cent postal cards must have a 1-cent stamp affixed to them in addition to the 1-cent stamp impressed on such cards.

Private mailing cards with written messages sent openly in the mails will be transmitted at the rate of 2 cents each, payable by stamps to be affixed by the sender.

If less than 3 cents is prepaid on a letter or other first-class matter it will be returned to the sender, if known, for the deficient postage. If the sender is not known, it will, if prepaid at least 2 cents, be marked with the deficient postage and sent to its destination for collection of the amount due upon delivery.

The new rates are applicable to letters addressed for foreign delivery, as follows: The Bahamas, Canada, Cuba, Barbados, British Guiana, British Honduras, Dominican Republic, Dutch West Indies, England, Ireland, Scotland, Wales, Leeward Islands, Mexico, Newfoundland, New Zealand and Panama.

With all of the above countries, by mutual agreement, the same rate of postage as that prevailing at home was charged for foreign delivery.

Postmasters have been instructed that the provisions of the order do not affect the rates applicable to letters to foreign countries other than those named, the rates for such remaining at 5 cents for the first ounce and 3 cents for each additional fraction.

On pleasures and necessities alike the war tax falls. It even applies to life insurance, to theater parties, to stocks and bonds, to public utility facilities, and to the manufacture of cigars and cigarettes.

As a part of the war revenue measure the tax is designed to aid the liberty loan in financing the nation's struggle for democracy. The following provisions of the measure have been furnished by Milton A. Miller, United States Collector of Internal Revenue, for Portland:

Individual Income Tax.
Reports to be made between January 1 and March 1, 1918, on income for entire year of 1917. Exemptions: married persons, \$2000; single persons, \$1000. Collector can furnish blank about January 1.

Corporations Income Tax.
Reports to be made between January 1 and March 1, 1918, covering the calendar year 1917.

War Excess Profits Tax.
Reports to be made between January 1 and March 1, 1918, covering the calendar year 1917, by individuals, partnerships and corporations. Exemptions: individuals, \$5,000; partnerships, \$5,000; corporations, \$20,000. Blanks may be procured about January 1.

War Tax on Cigars, Cigarettes, Tobacco, Etc.

One-half of this tax became effective coincident with the passage of the act October 4, upon the floor stock of all dealers in inventory must be made as of that date and filed with the Collector of Internal Revenue at once. Forms may be procured at 210 Custom-house. On and after November 1 all manufacturers or importers must pay the full rate of tax on all such articles sold.

War Tax on Facilities Furnished by Public Utilities.

This tax becomes effective November 1, 1917; monthly returns to be made thereafter showing amount of business transacted, and tax to be paid thereon at the rate of 3 per cent. Express companies are affected likewise and pay a tax of 1 cent for each 20 cents of express charges. Also on passenger fares a tax of 8 per cent on the amount paid for such transportation, except for commutation season tickets on trips less than 30 miles, and on tickets costing less than 35 cents. Tax in every case to be paid by the party paying for such transportation.

War Tax on Insurance.
On life insurance a tax of 8 cents on each \$1000 issued on and after November 1, 1917. On marine, inland, fire and casualty insurance on same date a tax of 1 cent for each \$1 or fraction of premium paid for such insurance.

War Excess Taxes.
On and after November 1, 1917, a tax of 3 per cent on the sale price of all automobiles, automobiles trucks, automobile wagons and motorcycles, all piano players, graphophones, phonographs, talking machines and records, all jewelry, real or artificial teeth, tennis rackets, golf clubs, baseball bats, lacrosse sticks, balls of all kinds, including baseballs, footballs, tennis, golf, lacrosse, billiard and pool balls, billiard cues, billiard and pool tables, chess and checker-boards and pieces, dices, games and parts of games (except children's games and toys), a tax of 2 per cent on cosmetics, pills, powders, lozenges, etc.; 2 per cent on chewing gum; tax in all these cases to be paid by the manufacturer, importer, or producer, and a tax of one-half these percentages on stocks on hand October 4, 1917.

War Tax on Admissions and Dues.
A tax of 1 cent on each 10 cents or fraction thereof charged by any theater, moving picture show, etc., for admission, except in cases of theaters making a maximum charge of 5 cents. A tax of 10 per cent of the amount paid as dues or initiation fees in any athletic or social club, when such annual dues are in excess of \$12 per year. The tax becomes effective November 1, 1917.

War Tax Stamps.
Stamp tax will apply to bonds, stocks, deeds, notes, entry of goods, wares, etc., passage ticket to foreign countries, power of attorney and playing cards. Also a tax of 1 cent for each cent paid on parcel post shipments, beginning with November 1, 1917. These stamps may be purchased from the Collector of Internal Revenue or from the Postoffice.

War Estate Taxes.
A war tax on all estates, the tax being graduated and ranging from 1 per cent to 10 per cent of the net worth of the estate.

Dynamite Plot Fails.

Aberdeen, Wash.—The Northern Pacific gas car from Pacific Beach ran over a stick of dynamite Monday below Stearnsville without exploding it. The dynamite had been fastened on the rail, and on the roadbed between the two rails were other sticks of dynamite, evidently expected to be exploded by the first one. Whether there was any cap attached to the first stick or not is not known. Sheriff Jeff Bartell, who was notified by the railway officials of the attempt to blow up the train, is at Stearnsville, investigating.

JAPAN IS NOW ALLY OF UNITED STATES

New Agreement is Greeted as Most Momentous Event.

INTRIGUE IS DOWNED

Interests in China Recognized, Open Door Maintained—Era of Good Will Appears Inaugurated.

Washington, D. C.—Japan and the United States have reached a complete agreement in regard to China and at the same time have arrived at a clear understanding as to military, naval and economic co-operation in the war against Germany.

This momentous development was announced Wednesday by Secretary Lansing, who made public notes exchanged between him and Viscount Ishii, the special Japanese ambassador, formally recording an agreement recognizing that Japan has a special interest in China, but pledging the independence and territorial integrity of the great Eastern republic and reaffirming the doctrine of the "open door" for commerce and industry.

In a statement accompanying the note Mr. Lansing said Viscount Ishii and the members of his mission, now on their way home, had performed a service of the highest value to the United States, as well as to Japan, by clearing away misunderstandings which, if unchecked, promised to develop a serious situation in the Far East.

He spoke of the attitude of constraint and doubt fostered by a campaign of falsehoods and secretly carried on by the Germans and said that, through the frankness and cordiality of the Japanese commissioners, the propaganda of years had been undone in a few days.

Until Tuesday night, when an Associated Press cable dispatch from Peking announced that the Japanese ambassador there had informed the Chinese foreign office of the signing of an agreement by Secretary Lansing and Viscount Ishii, it had not been known generally that the delicate Far Eastern question had been taken up at the conferences between the commissioners and American officials.

In fact, it was stated authoritatively soon after the mission's arrival in Washington that such problems would not be touched upon and, as the conferences progressed, the general understanding was that such subjects as Japan's need for steel for shipbuilding and American gold for trade balances were engrossing attention.

It now develops that these latter questions have been left to the resident ambassador, Aimao Sato, to work out with the proper officials of the American government.

Comment on the dispatch from Peking was withheld because of an understanding between the two governments that the announcement should be made simultaneously at Washington and Tokio.

U. S. WAR MISSION LANDS

Delegates Are in England to Discuss Prosecution of Conflict.

Washington, D. C.—An American mission landed in England Wednesday on the eve of the opening of the first great war conference in which the United States will participate.

Colonel Edward M. House, President Wilson's personal friend and adviser, is the officially designated representative of the United States. He is accompanied by a staff representing every war agency in the United States.

The date and place of the conference have not been made public, though the understanding here is that the sessions are about to begin.

In a statement accompanying his announcement, Secretary Lansing emphasized the fact that this gathering is to be a war conference and nothing else, charged with mapping out a plan of campaign against Germany to "bring the conflict to a speedy and satisfactory end."

\$2,000,000 Company Forms.

North Bend, O.—Formation of the Consolidated Lumber & Timber company at Cleveland, O., with a capitalization of \$2,000,000, to take over the Buehner mill and timber is announced here. J. A. Slattery, of Portland; E. J. Maskee, of Columbus, O., and S. Larson are named as stockholders. The purchase price is reported as \$1,650,000. Mr. Slattery has an option on the Buehner holdings, the first payment being due November 20. Henry Buehner said he did not know whether the deal would go through.

Peace Believed Nearer.

Amsterdam—Dr. Gustav Gross, president of the Austrian lower house, at the opening of Tuesday's session of that body, according to a dispatch from Vienna, referred to the Italian defeat as follows: "Above all we may rejoice that the prospects of peace have improved, and that our former ally, Italy, which for more than two years was such a menace to our southern frontier, it may be hoped, soon will be struck from the list of our enemies."

BRITISH VESSELS WORK FOR ALLIES

Merchant Marine Is First Line of Naval Defense in This War.

ARE FEEDING MANY LANDS

English Freighters Fight U-Boats While Neutral Craft Ply to Safe Zones—Half Tonnage Working for France Sent by England.

London.—An analysis of the present status of Great Britain's merchant fleet as affected by the war will indicate more clearly than any statement heretofore issued the extent to which the merchant marine has been absorbed into national service under the immediate control of the government.

There is no more emphatic proof of the measure in which England has placed her resources at the disposal of the war cause than this analysis of the merchant fleet's disposition. British ships are working for France, for Italy, for the unfortunate neutral states that would be threatened with starvation if the allies did not help to keep them alive. Troops, munitions, equipment, food supplies have been brought from all quarters of the world in British ships, not exclusively for British consumption, but for all of Britain's allies and for neutrals. Without the British merchant marine the world's international commerce would be almost at a standstill.

A famous authority on shipping and naval affairs recently pointed out that the merchant marine has become the first line of naval defense in this war; and it is literally true. A majority of merchant ships are now armed, and therefore take the same chances as warships. They are attacked by the enemy on sight and they fight the enemy on sight.

Keep Out of Danger.

Neutral vessels have sought the less dangerous zones of operation and ply their trade in waters far from the German submarine bases, where they may reasonably be certain to remain unmolested. To the British merchant fleet is left the uncomfortable duty of serving in those waters where submarines are thickest, where mines are strewn, where the Germans show the least concern for humanity, where every hour and every mile represents the serious chance of death and destruction.

The French ministry of mercantile marine has issued a statement which sets forth the condition of the French merchant fleet. It is stated that the French merchant marine amounts to \$4,167,000 tons, of which 2,100,000 tons has been loaned to France by Great Britain. Thus it appears that half the tonnage working for France is furnished by Great Britain. This is particularly interesting in view of the well-known fact that French shipping has been dealt with rather tenderly by the German submarines.

The greatest of French shipping corporations has been particularly fortunate in this regard, and a curious ex-

SENATOR BANKHEAD CARRIES "BIG STICK"

Washington.—Senator Bankhead of Alabama startled his colleagues by stalking into the chamber just before the recent adjournment with the aid of a hickory stick six feet long. The senator is no lightweight and he towers over the average man, but a prop so entirely out of all accepted proportions caused comment.

Senator Knox's curiosity was such that he demanded an explanation.

"It's the stoutest bit of wood ever cut in Virginia," said the owner.

"Quite a good deal of it," observed the Pennsylvania senator. "Do you know that if that stick were cut in two, and one of the parts had a nice silver head on it, it would make a most appropriate gift for a friend?"

"Not on your life," responded the gentleman from Alabama, quick to reject the hint. "This was sent to me by a friend. I am going to take it down home if you fellows ever get through wind-jamming here and adjourn. It will be just the thing for me to use when I go prowling around my farm."

Gains 200 Pounds as Soldier.

Syracuse, N. Y.—There is nothing the matter with United States army "chuck."

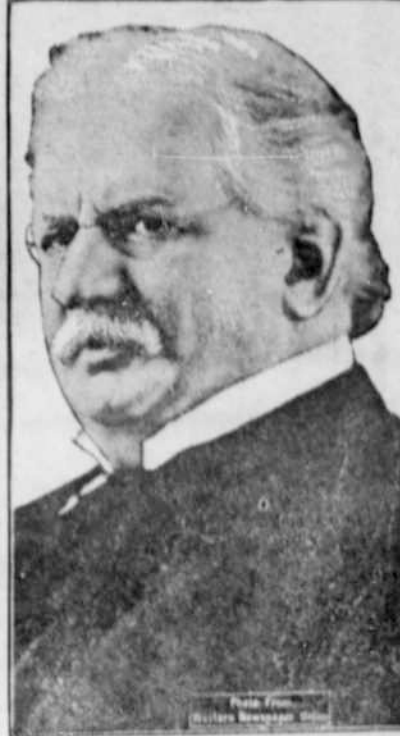
Sergeant Imhoff, quartermaster's corps, stationed at the Syracuse expansion camp, retired after living on Uncle Sam's "chuck" for twenty-seven years.

Imhoff weighed 125 when he enlisted and 325 when he retired, and, as he is said to be the largest soldier in the world, credit cannot be withheld.

Draft Leaves Only Aliens.

Weirtown, W. Va.—The selective draft will leave only foreigners in this steel mill town. Of the 950 registrants here it has been found that 700 are aliens who are exempt from military service. Practically every physically fit American will be taken in the first National army.

WORKS FOR NATIONAL UNITY



Theodore N. Vail, who is head of the League for National Unity, organized recently with the approval of President Wilson, is preparing an intensive campaign for the unification of public opinion in the war. Mr. Vail is president of the American Telegraph and Telephone company.

WANTS TO SHINE SHOES FOR PERSHING'S ARMY

Pueblo, Colo.—Thomas Price, twenty-seven, a legless boot-black here, wants the job of shining shoes for General Pershing's Sammies "over there." His crippled condition prevents him from entering the army, so he has written President Wilson, requesting that he be given a chance to "do his bit."

"I am told that soldiers have to keep their boots polished," wrote Price, who conducts a shoe-shining parlor here, "and that they have to do it themselves. If you can make a place for me to do the shining for them I don't think you'll find me loafing on the job."

Club for Army Officers.

London.—Officers of the American forces on leave in London or passing through will soon have a regular American club where they can while away their spare time. Lord Leonfield has given up his palatial home in Cheshamfield gardens and a committee of the Pilgrims are busy transforming it into one of the coziest clubs in the city. It will be at the disposal of the American officers within a few weeks.

Pet Dog Shipped Back.

Oscoda, Mich.—Bill Biggerstaff's pet fox dog is back. The last Bill saw of the dog was in December when he started a fox. He never was known to return without the fox before, sometimes being out as long as a week. But this time he came back in a baggage car with a note from a man near Grand Marais, 250 miles away, who found the dog there starving two weeks ago. Bill will send the dog out this winter after the same fox.

GET LEATHER FROM SHARKS

Series of Tests by Government Shows That Product is Durable and Satisfactory.

New London, Conn.—A contract for 1,000 shark hooks, 300 to be completed in ten days and 700 in twenty days after the first consignment, has been awarded by the government to J. W. Fordham, a blacksmith, of this vicinity.

There are to be three varieties of hook, eleven, ten and nine inches in length. A chain and swivel are to be attached to each hook.

It is reported from a Washington correspondent that the government is about to prospect in a new leather field, that of shark skins. In a series of tests a durable and satisfactory leather has been evolved from the skins of these fish. It is believed there is no reason why an industry may not be profitably started.

WOUNDED ARE GIVEN BEST OF CARE

Officer, Many Times Injured, Loud in Praise of Hospital Service.

TELLS OF HIS EXPERIENCES

Many American Girls Among Nurses on the Western Front—Man With Artificial Hand Pulls Grewsome Joke on Visitors.

Washington.—"The hospital service on the western front is excellent," said Lieutenant — of the Royal Flying corps. "I ought to know. I've had enough experience with it. Everything is done to make the less seriously wounded man comfortable, and no effort is spared to save the more critically wounded man's life."

"I used to get into the hospital at Boulogne so often that the nurses got to know me very well. They are splendid women, these nurses, and there are more American girls among them than you might suppose. They got to saying 'he's back again,' after I had been there four or five times. I seldom heard them because I usually was unconscious. But they always gave me my favorite bed and the attendants I liked best."

"One Thursday morning, after I had been unconscious for more than a week, I woke up in England, instead of at Boulogne. I knew then that I must have been seriously injured. The men most seriously injured—those not expected to live—usually are sent to Ramsgate. From London I went to Ramsgate. They have a wonderful hospital there."

Take the Sea Air.
"Down along the water-front there is a great promenade. It is perhaps 75 feet wide. When 'hopeless' cases

have been cured they are given wheel chairs which they propel with their hands and sent down to the promenade for the sea air. I saw many funny things on that promenade. The favorite sport was for about fifty of these men, some without legs, some without arms, to join their chairs together and, after getting up speed, play at 'erick the whip.' Then there would be jousting matches, the men charging at each other with their chairs. The winner was the one who succeeded in throwing the other man out of his chair. Frequently the results doctors had secured after months of painful work were undone in this way.

"It used to be funny and sometimes pathetic to see the men trying out their artificial limbs. There were two long iron rails supported by posts between which the men with artificial legs would practice. They would grip the rails with their hands and walk from one end of the path to the other. The stunt was to turn around with hands off the rails. Many a time I have seen a man go sprawling when one of his legs went out from under him."

Rather Grewsome Joke.

"There was one chap at Ramsgate who used to have a great deal of fun out of an artificial hand. It got to a point where his companion invalids would make him pledge that he wouldn't pull his 'hand joke' when they introduced him to their women friends."

"You're right," he'd said, 'that Joka is pretty crude. I won't pull it again.' But when the time for the introduction came the impulse was irresistible. The chap would put out his false hand for the girl to shake and then would pull his arm away, leaving the hand in her grip. More than once I've seen that hand drop on the hard floor of the promenade while the girl shrieked in horror."