

WORLD HAPPENINGS OF CURRENT WEEK

Brief Resume Most Important Daily News Items.

COMPILED FOR BUSY READERS

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

August A. Brown, who served in the famous Light Brigade of the British army at Balaklava, died at Elkton, Md.

King Constantine, of Greece, has applied for and received the regular bread card which is issued to all heads of families.

Rev. Dr. David H. Fouse, a prominent Denver minister, addressing the Ben Franklin club, made a plea for birth control on moral and racial improvement grounds.

Senator Shafroth made a set speech in the senate advocating passage of a constitutional amendment to limit a President to one six-year term and have him elected by direct vote.

Six days after the fund available for paying off gopher bounties in Marion county, Or., became available, \$2500 of the fund had been expended. This represented 25,000 gopher scalps.

A correspondent on the Belgian front writing to the Amsterdam Telegraph says he learns Belgians deported from the neighborhood of Charleroi have been sent to occupied parts of Poland to perform compulsory labor.

Canadian casualties from the opening of the war until December 31, a period of 29 months, total 68,290. This is made up of killed, 10,854; died of wounds, 4010; died of illness, 484; presumed dead, 1108; wounded, 48,454; missing, 1970.

Conductor Clyde Gibson, of Port Angeles, Wash., and two laborers were killed and Engineer Harry Legeer, Fireman Bert Ferguson and 20 laborers injured when a work train on the Seattle, Port Angeles & Western railroad was wrecked west of Majestic.

Baron Devonport, the English food controller, has fixed the following prices which home growers may charge for their 1917 crops: Wheat, 60 shillings per 504 pounds; oats, 38 shillings 6 pence per 336 pounds; potatoes, a varying price of 115 to 130 shillings.

January 10 has been tentatively agreed upon by the Federal Farm Loan Board as the day for opening stock subscription books to the 12 farm loan banks. The books will be opened in each city where there is a farm loan bank.

According to the Handelsblad, of Amsterdam, more than 1,000,000 marks' worth of German cut diamonds will be shipped at an early date to America by a German submarine. A combination of German underwriters has agreed to insure the shipment at 8 per cent, "free of capture," or 11 per cent against capture.

There is a woman's suffrage movement in China but it does not amount to much now, Dr. J. W. Bashford, bishop of the Methodist Episcopal church, resident in China, said on his arrival in San Francisco recently. Suffrage in a constitution now making probably would be based upon educational and property qualifications, the bishop said.

Postal clerks and carriers, both urban and rural, would receive increases of from 5 to 10 per cent in their salaries by a bill agreed on by the house postal committee Friday. The increase would affect about 200,000 carriers and cost \$10,000,000 a year.

The assassination of M. Jollos, an influential member of the Russian Duma, is reported by the Overseas News Agency. According to this report, M. Jollos disappeared mysteriously a short time ago, and it is believed he was the victim of a political murder.

All clocks in New South Wales were set ahead one hour January 1 to save daylight, according to a cablegram received by the Australian Trade Commission in San Francisco. A daylight saving act has also been passed in the state of Victoria.

An estimate that 60,000 persons in Massachusetts are addicted to the drug habit was included in a report of a commission appointed by Governor McCall to investigate the drug evil. The habit, it was said, is not confined to any particular class of people.

Many Belgians who were deported to Germany for manual labor purposes, are returning to their native country in pitiful conditions.

One young lady was killed and her sister seriously injured when a Portland interurban train struck their automobile at a crossing on the Estacada line Thursday.

E. L. McClure, of Portland, one of the promoters of the "Forty-five Efficiency Club," became frantic at the organization meeting at the Library, and threatened violence with a pocket knife.

PROCEEDINGS OF OREGON LEGISLATURE

SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATIONS MADE BY OREGON GOVERNOR TO LEGISLATURE.

Hope expressed that session will be businesslike and economical and establish record for excellence, sanity and brevity.

Tendency toward decentralization of state government deprecated.

Belief expressed that governor should control penitentiary administration.

Pruning of \$461,000 from amounts asked for by state departments and institutions advised, together with legislation to increase revenue by \$250,000. Some of reductions suggested are:

Limit of appropriations to \$100,000 each for State University and Oregon Agricultural College.

Reduction of wild animal bounty about 25 per cent.

Absorption of Child Labor and Industrial Welfare commissions by Industrial Accident Commission.

Absorption of work of Social Hygiene Society by State Board of Health.

Reduced appropriation for State Dairy and Food Commissioner and transfer of food inspection duties to Board of Health.

Reduced amounts for Livestock Sanitary Board, Forestry Department, Department of Mines and Geology, State Engineer's office and Water Board and Public Service Commission. It is suggested that Forestry Department's expenses be met to greater extent by timber owners.

Only one salaried Tax Commissioner.

Making Department of Weights and Measures self-sustaining.

Penitentiary will require less because of reduced population, due to enactment of prohibition law.

Decrease in commitments to State Hospital also expected.

Abolition of office of State Labor Commissioner at expiration of present term and transfer of duties to Industrial Accident Commission.

Lastly, decrease in expenditures of present Legislature suggested. Two suggested feasible sources of new revenue are:

Readjustment of inheritance tax.

Increase of insurance tax from 2 per cent on net premiums.

Increase of insurance tax from 2 per cent on net premiums to 2 per cent on gross premiums.

Importance of road work reiterated, with moderate increase in automobile taxation, total revenue to be devoted to road work.

Legislators told that people expect legislation making absolutely effective the provisions of the "bone-dry" liquor amendment.

Better housing and equipment for State Penitentiary recommended.

Flux experiment reviewed. Soundness of movement asserted. Outstanding features are work for business and blazing of trail for new Oregon industry.

Investigation of feasibility of convict-operated lime quarry suggested.

State Supreme Court is overburdened. Limitation of appeals recommended.

Military training in State University and high schools recommended—not compulsory, but with credits given on school work.

Absentee voters' law for soldiers recommended.

Rural credits amendment requires legislation to make it operative.

Provision for arbitration of industrial disputes.

Passage of sane sterilization act to check increase of the mentally unfit.

Establishment of child welfare department at State University.

Creation of office of fire marshal recommended as good economics.

Increase of anglers' license fee from \$1 to \$1.50 advised, additional funds to go to propagation of trout for restocking streams. New fish ladder at Oregon City advised.

State Fair needs coliseum.

Workable irrigation law needed.

Fruitful field for public economies lies in local administration. Waste in printing of state reports should be eliminated.

Recognition of services of Oregon pioneers recommended as early date as state's finances will permit.

LEGISLATURE IS IN SESSION

Organization Perfected and Business Commenced on First Day.

State Capitol, Salem, Jan. 8.—The Oregon legislature got off to a flying start today.

In both senate and house the presiding officers were elected, desk clerks chosen and all details of organization completed when adjournment was taken this afternoon.

More auspicious for a successful session even than this business-like expedition was the fact that there wasn't so much as a ripple of inharmoniousness.

In the senate Gus C. Moser, of Multnomah, was elected president by unanimous vote. All five of the Democratic senators voted for him, and two of them, Garland and Baldwin, seconded his nomination.

In the house Robert N. Stanfield, of Umatilla, was elected speaker without a dissenting voice after he had been nominated by Louis E. Bean, of Lane, his opponent for the position up to last night.

Although the house did not get quite so far as the senate on its first day, there remains only for Speaker Stanfield to announce his committees to put the two bodies on virtually the same footing. Mr. Stanfield will give out his committee list early tomorrow.

In the senate five bills were introduced before final adjournment for the day. The house adjourned at 4:05 o'clock.

Before they adjourned, however, the issue of prohibition had been put up to both houses, and they had faced the issue squarely.

"Dry" Memorial Passes.

It came about through the introduction in the senate by Eddy, of Douglas, of a joint memorial petitioning congress to pass a bill pending to make the District of Columbia dry. This memorial was brought to immediate vote on suspension of the rules after Senator Eddy had explained that he desired its passage today because the dry bill in question is to be considered in the United States senate tomorrow. With this explanation of the reason for rushing it through, not a senator voted against it. There were two absentees, Senators Bingham and Olson, and 28 voted aye.

It had to wait in the house until the organization was completed. The rules were suspended and the question came up promptly on its merits. D. C. Lewis attempted to delay the proceedings on the technical ground that the house was not ready for business. Dr. J. E. Anderson, leader of the "dry" forces, insisted on an immediate roll call and was supported by Speaker Stanfield.

Mr. Lewis insisted that he was not opposed to the merits of the measure and to demonstrate his good faith, moved its adoption. But his position on the issue was brought into question again when he voted against it on roll call. The seven negative votes were:

Desks Filled by Veterans.

Salem.—The senate has an all-veteran desk organization. With one exception, all the desk clerks and other officials of the senate elected today served in the same capacity at the last session. They fairly bristle with experience. John W. Cochran, re-elected chief clerk, has been chief clerk for two sessions preceding this one. Mr. Cochran, though, is a mere infant in point of service as compared to John P. Hunt, of Woodburn, the capable assistant chief clerk in 1907, and he has not missed a session since.

Few Changes in Rules.

Salem.—The house committee on rules met and decided to recommend the adoption of the rules used at the 1915 session with the exception of a few minor changes.

The committee on military affairs is to be increased from three to five members.

The committee on insurance will be allowed a clerk on account of the heavy work due to consideration of the new insurance code.

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PRUDENCE OF THE PARSONAGE



ILLUSTRATED BY W. C. TANNER

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MR. STARR, a widower Methodist minister, has been assigned to the congregation at Mount Mark, Iowa. He and his daughter, Prudence—she is nineteen, and the eldest of five girls—have come on ahead to get the new parsonage ready for the younger members of the family. Of course the whole town, especially the Methodists, is throbbing with curiosity about the newcomers. Mrs. Adams, a member of the Ladies' Aid society, hurried over to call on Prudence, and noting around found the girl on her knees praying in the barn. So she began at once to "pump" the girl for all she was worth—it would be great stuff to tell the neighbors—and is still at it.

CHAPTER I—Continued.

The Rest of the Family.

It was Saturday morning when the four young parsonage girls arrived in Mount Mark. The elderly Misses Avery, next door, looked out of their windows, pending their appearance on Main street, with interest and concern. They were Episcopals themselves, and in all their long lives they had never so much as heard of a widower-rector with five daughters and no housekeeper. There was something blood-curdling in the bare idea.

The Misses Avery considered Prudence herself rather a sweet, silly little thing.

"You have some real nice people in the Methodist church," Miss Dora had told her. "I dare say you will find a few of them very likable."

"Oh, I will like them all," said Prudence quickly and seriously.

"Like them all," echoed Miss Dora. "Oh, impossible!"

"Not for us," said Prudence. "We are used to it, you know. When we dislike people at first sight, we visit them, and talk to them, and invite them to the parsonage, and entertain them with our best linen and silverware, and keep on getting friendlier and friendlier, and—first thing you know, we like them fine!"

So the Misses Avery concluded that Prudence was not entirely responsible. And they wondered, with something akin to an agony of fear, if the younger girls "had it, too!" and when Miss Alice cried excitedly, "Quick! Quick! They are coming!" they trooped to Miss Alice's window with a speed that would have done credit to the parsonage girls themselves.

First came the minister, whom they knew very well by this time, and considered quite respectable. He was lively, as was to be expected of a Methodist minister, and told jokes, and laughed at them! Now, a comical rector—oh, a very different matter—it wasn't done, that's all! At any rate, here came the Methodist minister, laughing, and on one side of him tripped a small, earnest-looking maiden, clasping his hand, and gazing alternately up into his face and down at the stylish cement sidewalk beneath her feet. On the other side was Fairy. The Misses Avery knew the girls by name already—having talked much with Prudence.

"Such a Fairy!" gasped Miss Mildred, and the others echoed the gasp but wordlessly.

For Fairy was very nearly as tall as her father, built upon generous lines, rather commanding in appearance, a little splendid-looking. Even from their windows they could discern something distinctly Junonian in this sixteen-year-old girl, with the easy, elastic stride that matched her father's, and the graceful head, well carried. A young goddess—named Fairy!

Behind them, laughing and chattering, like three children, as they were—came the twins with Prudence, each with an arm around her waist. And Prudence was a very little taller than they. When they reached the fence that bordered the parsonage, the scene for a moment resembled a miniature riot. The smaller girls jumped and exclaimed, and clasped their hands. Fairy leaned over the fence, and stared intently at this, their parsonage home. Then the serious little girl scrambled under the fence, followed closely by the lily-limbed twins. A pause, a very short one—and then Prudence, too, was wriggling beneath the fence.

"Hold the wire up for me, papa!" cried Fairy. "I'm too fat." And a second later she was running gracefully across the lawn toward the parsonage. The Methodist minister laughed boyishly, and placing his hands on the fence post, he vaulted lightly over, and reached the house with his daughters. Then the Misses Avery, school-teachers and elderly, looked at one another.

"Did you ever?" gasped the oldest Miss Avery, and the others slowly shook their heads.

Now, think! Did you ever see a rector jumping a three-wire fence, and running full speed across his front yard in pursuit of a flying family? It

the girls—with Fairy to keep me balanced! I read, but I do not like to study.—No, you'll have to get along with me just the way I am, Mrs. Adams. It's all I can do to keep things going now, without spending half the time dreaming of big things to do in the future."

"Don't you have dreams?" gasped Mrs. Adams. "Don't you have dreams of the future? Girl's in books nowadays dream—"

"Yes, I dream," interrupted Prudence, "I dream lots—but it's mostly of what Fairy and others will do when I get them properly raised. You'll like the girls, Mrs. Adams, I know you will. They really are a gifted little bunch—except me. I'm just common little Prudence of the Parsonage—but the others!" And Prudence flung out her hands dramatically.

CHAPTER II.

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Now, think! Did you ever see a rector jumping a three-wire fence, and running full speed across his front yard in pursuit of a flying family? It

may possibly have occurred—we have never seen it. Neither had the three Misses Avery. Nor did they ever expect to. And if they had seen it, it is quite likely they would have joined the backsliders at that instant.

But without wasting much time on this gruesome thought, they hurried to a window commanding the best view of the parsonage, and raised it. Then they clustered behind the curtains, and watched and listened. There was plenty to hear! From the parsonage windows came the sound of scampering feet and banging doors. Once there was the unmistakable clatter of a chair overturned. With it all there was a constant chorus of "Oh, look!" "Oh! Oh!" "Oh, how sweet!" "Oh, papa!" "Oh, Prudence!" "Look, Larkie, look at this!"

Then the eldest Miss Avery closed the window overlooking the parsonage and confronted her sisters.

"We must just make the best of it," she said quietly.

But next door the gray old parsonage was full to overflowing with satisfaction and happiness and love. Everyone has experienced the ecstatic, creepy sensation of sleeping in a brand-new home. The parsonage girls reveled in the memory of that first night for many days. "It may be haunted for all we know," cried Carol deliciously. "Just think, Connie, there may be seven ghosts cramped on the head of your bed, waiting—"

"Carol!"

When the family gathered for worship on that first Sabbath morning, Mr. Starr said, as he turned the leaves of his well-worn Bible, "I think it would be well for you to help with the morning worship now. When I finish reading the chapter, Connie, you will make the first prayer. Just pray for whatever you wish as you do at night for yourself. I will follow you."

Connie's eyes were wide with responsibility during the reading of the chap-

ter, but when she began to speak her voice did not falter. Connie had nine years of good Methodist experience back of her!

"Our Father, who art in heaven, we bow ourselves before thy footstool in humility and reverence. Thou art our God, our Creator, our Savior. Bless us this day, and cause thy face to shine upon us. Blot out our transgressions, pardon our trespasses. Wash us, that we may be whiter than snow. Hide not thy face from the eyes of thy children, turn not upon us in wrath. Pity us, Lord, as we kneel here prostrate before thy majesty and glory. Let the words of our mouths and the meditations of our hearts be acceptable in thy sight, O Lord, our strength and our Redeemer. And finally save us, an unbroken family around thy throne in heaven, for Jesus' sake. Amen."

This was followed by an electric silence. Prudence was biting her lips painfully, and counting by tens as fast as she could. Fairy was mentally going over the prayer, sentence by sentence, and attributing each petition to the individual member in the old church at Exminster to whom it belonged. The twins were a little amazed, and quite proud. Connie was an honor to the parsonage—but they were concerned lest they themselves should not do quite so well when their days came.

But in less than a moment the minister-father began his prayer. When he said "Amen," Prudence was on her feet and half-way upstairs before the others were fairly risen. Fairy stood gazing intently out of the window for a moment, and then went out to the barn to see if the horse was through eating. Mr. Starr walked gravely and soberly out the front door, and around the house. He ran into Fairy coming out the kitchen door, and they glanced quickly at each other.

"Hurry, papa," she whispered; "you can't hold in much longer! Neither can I!"

And together, choking with laughter, they hurried into the barn and gave full vent to their feelings.

Doesn't it seem that the happy-go-lucky houseful of parsonage girls will win the friendship of the Avery spinsters and tear away the barrier of snobbishness and reserve which hedges them in?

(TO BE CONTINUED.)