

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.

A total tonnage of 24,522 is the toll by U-boats in the submarine warfare Monday.

The Russians renewed their attacks Tuesday in the Carpathians, in the vicinity of Tartar Pass. Berlin's official statement says the attacks were without success.

A bill appropriating \$45,000,000 for controlling floods on the Mississippi and \$5,600,000 for similar work on the Sacramento in California was passed Monday by the senate. It already had passed the house.

Twenty-eight persons have been arrested in Ireland, Henry E. Duke, chief secretary for Ireland, told the house of commons Monday. The arrests were made under the defense-of-the-realm act. It was not proposed to try these men.

From 10 to 20 persons are reported to have been killed and a number injured in a rear-end collision between the Mercantile Express and a freight train on the Pennsylvania railroad at Mount Union station, between Altoona and Harrisburg, Pa., early Monday.

German destroyers bombarded Broadstairs and Margate early Monday morning. One woman and one child were killed and two persons were injured. Two houses were damaged. This announcement was made by Sir Edward Carson, first lord of the admiralty.

Kut-el-Amara has been captured from the Turks by the British forces, according to a statement made by Andrew Bonar Law, member of the British war council. The Turks are in retreat toward Baghdad, 24 miles to the west of Kut-el-Amara, pursued by British cavalry.

News dispatches from Holland to the London newspapers emphasize the continued indignation aroused among the Dutch by the recent destruction of ships by the German submarines. The dispatches say that there is a complete absence of noisy protest, the gravity of the situation having produced "a marked silence, amounting to a sense of solemnity."

Thousands of cars, filled with food-stuffs consigned to the Atlantic seaboard for export, are lying on the sidings of the Western railroads between Chicago and Los Angeles, Cal., held there because of the congestion in Eastern railroad yards, according to reports received by the bureau of investigation, United States department of justice, from special investigators who have just returned to Chicago from food inspection trips along the Western lines.

Boise, Idaho—The proposed creation of a new state out of territory comprised in the 10 counties in Northern Idaho was one step nearer realization Tuesday, when the House of representatives adopted by a vote of 36 to 25 house joint resolution No. 195 calling for a constitutional convention to consider the proposal. Because a call of the house was insisted upon and ordered before debate had been heard for and against the resolution, debate was entirely shut off and the measure passed without comment.

A woman suffrage bill is passed by the Indiana legislature. The bill gives the women the right to vote for Presidential electors and practically all state officers except governor and secretary of state.

Vindication of all public officials mentioned in the investigation of charges that there was a leak to Wall street on President Wilson's peace note was voted unanimously Wednesday by the house rules committee. The report, now virtually complete, probably will be put in final shape soon.

A net gain of 1413 recruits has been made in the navy in the last 20 days, compared with a total net gain for the whole of January of approximately the same number.

The Panama canal did its biggest month's business in January, according to figures available this week, 176 vessels with a tonnage of 557,839 having passed through the waterway. The previous record was in July, 1915, when 170 ships of 547,370 tonnage passed through.

Germany's undersea warfare is greatly affecting exports of grain and flour from this country.

A 4-months-old Berkshire boar, sired by Epochal, an English hog, sold for \$1000 at the annual sale in connection with the American Berkshire congress in convention at Purdue University, La Fayette, Ind.

The Montana senate, by a vote of 20 to 19, defeated the bill providing for the closing of saloons on Sunday. Montana will go "dry" January 1, 1919, under the initiative act adopted by the voters last November.

NEWS ITEMS Of General Interest, About Oregon

Improvement Plans for New State Buildings Due Soon

Salem—Plans for the new state buildings which were provided for by the legislature are expected to be under way soon.

The most important building work at Salem will be the construction of a wing to the receiving ward at the Oregon State Hospital. The legislature appropriated \$60,000 of the \$65,000 asked for that purpose. The receiving ward was constructed a number of years ago, but one wing was left un-built.

The object of the ward is to receive patients, examine them, and if possible cure them before they ever enter the asylum proper. In reality the ward is considered as the State Hospital, and a patient received there, cured and discharged has not the record of ever having been in the asylum itself.

The building as it stands now is used only for the reception of women, and no male patient ever has been committed to that portion of the institution. With the construction of the new wing it will be ready for the reception of male patients, as well as female patients.

Hill Promises to Help.

San Francisco—Louis W. Hill, president of the Great Northern railway, said here recently that although his road does not connect directly with one now being advocated for Central Oregon by R. E. Strahorn, of Portland and Spokane, the Hill interests would encourage this development.

Strahorn's lines, centering at Bend, Or., would connect the vast Central Oregon country with markets north, south or east, and afford development to a tremendous territory.

"We will encourage and by no means oppose Strahorn," Mr. Hill said. "In fact, I should like to see him fill the gap."

Bridge Wrecked by Snow.

Eugene—The Stafford bridge over the Mohawk river near Donna collapsed under the weight of snow Wednesday, according to word received in Eugene. The structure, which is one of the oldest bridges in the county, was to have been replaced by a new bridge next summer.

A barn belonging to Ralph Sears, at Creswell, collapsed, killing several head of cattle.

The Willamette river at Eugene is rising slowly, but there are no indications of a flood.

Spuds Rise \$1 a Mile.

Gaston—Oregon potatoes increase in value at the rate of \$1 a mile as they travel East. A car of 655 sacks standing on the track here is worth \$2500. When it reaches the New York market, its value rises to \$6000. The highest price ever paid for potatoes here was received by farmers from J. H. Westcott & Son, who gave \$3.25 a hundred. Twelve cars of Burbanks have been shipped and six more are awaiting cars. Many farmers are holding for higher prices.

West Quits Land Agency.

Oswald West has resigned as agent for the Federal government in the adjudication of taxes on the Oregon & California grant lands. The ex-governor says he was just about through with the work, anyway, but that "the legislative monkey-wrench," as he termed it, thrown into the machinery in the shape of the Bean bill, which authorizes the county assessors to restore the lands to the taxrolls, makes it impossible for him to continue in any event.

Bill Yet Missing.

Salem—Although Attorney General Brown held a conference with Chief Clerk Drager, of the house of the recent legislature, relative to the mystery of the missing Polk-Marion county bridge bill, no formal opinion has been given by that official as to whether a substituted bill with the same wording might be sent to the governor and become a law, or, if the original bill were found, it still could go to the executive for his signature.

Pamphlet Cost is Fixed.

Salem—Secretary Olcott has been notified by W. M. Plympton, secretary of the State Printing board, that the cost to persons or associations who desire to file and have printed arguments in the pamphlet prior to the special election in June will be \$75 a page. This cost is based on the expense of printing and paper, and on an estimated size of 48 pages for the pamphlet.

\$1000 Goose Dies in Fire.

Marshfield—Hans, a \$1000 trained grange, owned by Mr. and Mrs. Thaten, vaudeville performers, died in a fire which occurred in the Orpheum Theater Monday. The damage to the theater was about \$500. The trained goose was kept in the basement where the fire originated.

Grange Opposes Bonds.

Eugene—The Lane County Pomona grange, the largest county grange organization in Oregon in proportion to population, at a meeting held at Santa Clara Tuesday adopted a resolution opposing the issuance of \$6,000,000 paving bonds by the state.

2 AMERICAN LIVES LOST ON LACONIA

Chicago Woman and Daughter Are Reported Victims.

LINER SUNK WITHOUT WARNING

Vessel Armed for Defense But Attack Comes in Dark—Washington is Greatly Stirred Over Act.

London—Two American women, Mrs. Mary E. Hoy and her daughter, Miss Elizabeth Hoy, both of Chicago, lost their lives in the sinking of the Cunard liner Laconia, a great vessel of 18,099 tons gross, which had been only recently taken from the admiralty service to resume her run as a merchant vessel, destruction of which was officially reported by the British admiralty Monday.

A Central News dispatch from Queenstown says Mrs. and Miss Hoy were drowned by the swamping of a boat.

The dispatch says many survivors suffered severely from exposure. All hospitals and hotels in Queenstown were prepared for the reception of the survivors, and plenty of warm food, clothing and beds were available when they arrived.

The Laconia was torpedoed by a German submarine and sunk without warning in the darkness of late night. She was armed for defense, but apparently had no opportunity to use her gun.

There were 26 Americans aboard, of whom six were cabin passengers and 20 were members of the crew. Two lives are known to have been lost.

Wesley Frost, American consul at Queenstown, telegraphed the American embassy here Monday:

"Cunarder Laconia torpedoed 10:50 Sunday night. Two hundred and seventy-eight survivors landed. Details lacking but known some missing. One dead."

Washington, D. C.—The sinking of the big Cunard liner Laconia, apparently without warning, and with 26 Americans on board, loomed up Monday night as the most serious disregard of American rights since the ruthless German submarine campaign began.

Government officials here made no attempt to conceal their concern.

President Asks Congress' Support in Protection of Americans

Washington, D. C.—President Wilson Monday asked congress for authority to use the forces of the United States to protect American ships and lives against the German submarine menace to put the Nation in a state of armed neutrality.

The immediate response was the introduction in the house of a bill, approved in advance by the President, empowering him to furnish guns and gunners to American merchantmen to "employ such other instrumentalities and methods" as may become necessary, and providing for a \$100,000,000 bond issue, to be used in his discretion for war insurance to encourage American commerce to brave the submarine peril.

The President's long-expected action, while received in the main with expressions of support, threatens to force an extra session of congress.

Republicans, disinclined to grant blanket authority while congress is in recess, give evidence of opposing the legislation the President asks, not for the purpose of withholding it, but to force him to have congress in special session to take a hand in the next steps, which they feel will lead to war. The Republicans are receiving passive support from the Democratic element classed as pacifist.

The President's advisers deplore this situation, for its effect on Germany, where, they are convinced, it will feed the official impression that congress will not support the President if he finds it necessary to go to war, and that he is not speaking the sentiments of a united country.

Missionaries Will Stay.

Boston—The American board of commissioners for foreign missions and other boards controlling the missions and the mission colleges in Turkey have decided not to order the American missionary workers to leave that country. Dr. James L. Barton, secretary of the American board, announced Tuesday night.

All American workers in Turkey have permission to leave, but it is expected, he said, that none except those whose term of service has expired will quit their posts.

Newspapers Accept Plan.

Washington, D. C.—Newspaper publishers from throughout the United States, meeting here Monday with the Federal Trade commission, voted unanimously to co-operate with the commission if it decides to accept the proposal by news print manufacturers that the commission fix a price for their products.

The publishers agreed to reduce their requirements if necessary to make the plan successful.

PRUDENCE of the PARSONAGE



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IT'S TRULY AN ILL WIND
THAT BLOWS NOBODY
GOOD AND THIS WIND
BRINGS LUCK TO THE
PARSONAGE.

Mr. Starr, widower Methodist minister, is assigned to the congregation at Mount Mark, Ia. He has five charming daughters. Prudence, the eldest, keeps house for him. Fairy is a college freshman. Carol and Lark, twins, are in high school. Constance is the "baby." The activities of the Starr girls—Prudence's work, Fairy's school affairs, the pranks of the youngsters—and the family perplexities make the story; it is simply a recital of glorified homely incidents. This installment describes the capture of a burglar in the parsonage.

CHAPTER VII—Continued.

Mr. Starr had gone to Burlington that morning to attend special revival services for three days, and Prudence had fifty whole dollars in the house, an unwanted sum in that parsonage! And the dungeon was not locked. Without a word, she slipped softly out of the room, ran down the stairs, making never a sound in her bare feet, and saw, somewhat to her surprise, that the dungeon door was open. Quickly she flung it shut, pushed the tiny key that moved the "catch," and was rushing up the stairs again with never a pause for breath.

A strange sight met her eyes in the twins' room. The twins themselves were in each other's arms, sobbing bitterly. Fairy was still looking hurriedly through the dresser drawers.

"They are gone," wailed Carol, "our beautiful ruby rings that belonged to grandmother."

"Nonsense," cried Prue with nervous anger, "you've left them in the bathroom, or on the kitchen shelves. You're always leaving them somewhere over the place. Come on, and we'll search the house just to convince you."

"No, no," shrieked the twins. "Let's lock the door and get under the bed!"

The rings were really valuable. Their grandmother, their mother's mother, whom they had never seen, had divided her "real jewelry" between her two daughters. And the mother of these parsonage girls, had further divided her portion to make it reach through her own family of girls!

"Our rings! Our rings!" the twins were wailing, and Connie, awakened by the noise, was crying beneath the covers of her bed.

"Maybe we'd better phone for Mr. Allan," suggested Fairy. "The girls are so nervous they will be hysterical by the time we finish searching the house."

"Well, let's do the upstairs then," said Prudence. "Get your slippers and kimonos, and we'll go into daddy's room."

But inside the door of daddy's room, with the younger girls clinging to her, and Fairy looking odd and disturbed, Prudence stopped abruptly and stared about the room curiously.

"Fairy, didn't father leave his watch hanging on that nail by the table? Seems to me I saw it there this morning. I remember thinking I would tease him for being forgetful."

"And the watch was not there."

"I think it was Sunday he left it," answered Fairy in a low voice. "I remember seeing it on the 'rail, and thinking he would need it—but I believe it was Sunday."

Prudence looked under the bed, and in the closet, but their father's room was empty. Should they go farther? For a moment, the girls stood looking at one another questioningly. Then they heard a loud thud downstairs, as of someone padding on a floor. There was no longer any doubt. Someone was in the house! Connie and the twins screamed again and clung to Prudence frantically. And Fairy said, "I think we'd better lock the door and stay right here until morning, Prue."

But Prudence faced them stubbornly. "If you think I'm going to let anyone steal that fifty dollars, you are mistaken. Fifty dollars does not come often enough for that, I can tell you."

"It's probably stolen already," objected Fairy.

"Well, if it is, we'll find out who did it, and have them arrested. I'm going down to telephone to the police. You

girls must lock the door after me, and stay right here."

The little ones screamed again, and Fairy said: "Don't be silly, Prue, if you go I'm going with you, of course. We'll leave the kiddies here and they can lock the door. They'll be perfectly safe in here."

But the children loudly objected to this. If Prue and Fairy went, they would go! So down the stairs they trooped, a timorous trembling crowd. Prudence went at once to the telephone, and called up the residence of the Allans, their neighbors across the street. After a seemingly never-ending wait, the kind-hearted neighbor left his bed to answer the insistent telephone. Flatteringly Prudence explained their predicament, and asked him to come and search the house. He promised to be there in five minutes, with his son to help.

"Now," said Prudence more cheerfully, "we'll just go out to the kitchen and wait. It's quiet there, and away from the rest of the house, and we'll be perfectly safe." To the kitchen, then, they hurried, and found real comfort in its smallness and security. Prudence raked up the dying embers of the fire, and Fairy drew the blinds to their lowest limits. The twins and Connie trailed them fearfully at every step.

Every breath of wind against the windows drew startled cries from the younger girls, and both Fairy and Prudence were white with anxiety when they heard the loud voices of the Allans outside the kitchen door. Prudence began crying nervously the moment the two angels of mercy appeared before her, and Fairy told their tale of woe.

"Well, there now," Mr. Allan said with rough sympathy, "you just got scared, that's all. Everything's suspicious when folks get scared. I told my wife the other day I bet you girls would get a good fright sometime, left here alone. Come on, Jim, and we'll go over the house in a jiffy."

He was standing near the dining-room door. He lifted his head suddenly, and seemed to sniff a little. There was undoubtedly a faint odor of tobacco in the house.

"Been any men in here tonight?" he asked. "Or this afternoon? Think, now!"

"No one," answered Prudence. "I was alone all afternoon, and there has been no one in this evening."

He passed slowly through the dining room into the hall, closely followed by his son and the five girls, already much reassured. As he passed the dungeon door he paused for a moment, listening intently, his head bent.

"Oh, Mr. Allan," cried Prudence, "let's look in the dungeon first. I want to see if the money is safe." Her hand was already on the lock, but he shoved her away quickly.

"Is there any way out of that closet besides this door?" he asked.

"No. We call it the 'dungeon,'" laughed Prudence, her self-possession quite recovered. "It is right under the stairs, and not even a mouse could gnaw its way out, with this door shut."

"Who shut the door?" he inquired, still holding Prudence's hand from the lock. Then, without waiting for an answer, he went on, "Let's go back in the other room a minute. Come on, all of you." In the living room he hurried to the telephone, and spoke to the operator in a low voice. "Call the police headquarters, and have them send two or three men to the Methodist parsonage, right away. We've got a burglar locked in a closet, and they'll have to get him out. Please hurry."

At this, the girls crowded around him again in renewed fear.

"Don't be scared," he said calmly, "we're all right. He's in there safe enough and can't get out for a while. Now, tell me about it. How did you



Quickly She Flung It Shut.

get him in the closet? Begin at the beginning, and tell me all about it."

Carol began the story with keen relish. "I woke up, and thought I heard someone in the room. I supposed it was Prudence. I said, 'Prudence,' and nobody answered, and everything was quiet. But I felt there was someone in there. I nudged Lark, and she woke up. He moved then, and we both heard him. He was fumbling at the dresser, and our ruby rings are gone. We heard him step across the room and into a closet. He closed the door after him, didn't he Lark?"

"Yes, he did," agreed Lark. "His hand was on the knob."

"So we sneaked out of bed, and went into Prudence's room and woke her and Fairy." She looked at Connie and blushed. "Connie was asleep, and we didn't wake her because we didn't want to frighten her. We woke the girls—and you tell the rest, Prudence."

"We didn't believe her, of course. We went back into their room and there was no one there. But the rings were gone. While they were looking at the dresser, I remembered that I forgot to lock the dungeon door, where we keep the money and the silver-ware, and I ran downstairs and slammed the door and locked it, and went back up. I didn't hear a sound downstairs."

Mr. Allan laughed heartily. "Well, your burglar was in that closet after the money, no doubt, and he didn't hear you coming, and got locked in."

In a few minutes they heard foot-steps around the house and knew the officers had arrived. Mr. Allan let



"Aren't You Limber-Limb Grant?"

them into the house, four of them, and led them out to the hall. There could be no doubt whatever that the burglar was in the dungeon. He had been busy with his knife, and the lock was nearly removed. If the officers had been two minutes later, the dungeon would have been empty. The girls were sent upstairs at once, with the Allan boy as guard—as guard, without regard for the fact that he was probably more frightened than any one of them.

The chief officer rapped briskly on the dungeon door. Then he clicked his revolver.

"There are enough of us to overpower three of you," he said curtly. "And we have men outside the house, too. If you put your firearms on the floor, and hold both hands over your head, you'll be well treated. If your hands are not up, we fire on sight. Get your revolvers ready, boys."

Then the officer opened the door. Evidently the burglar was wise enough to appreciate the futility of fighting against odds. His hands were above his head, and in less than a second he was securely manacled.

The chief officer had been eying him closely. "Say!" he exclaimed. "Aren't you Limber-Limb Grant?" The burglar grinned, but did not answer. "By Jove!" shouted the officer. "It is! Call the girls down here," he ordered, and when they appeared, gazing at the burglar with mingled admiration, pity and fear, he congratulated them with considerable excitement.

"It's Limber-Limb Grant," he explained. "There's a reward of five hundred dollars for him. You'll get the money, as sure as you're born." Then he turned again to the burglar. "Say, Grant, what's a fellow like you doing on such a fifth-rate job as this? A Methodist parsonage is not just in your line, is it?"

Limber-Limb laughed sheepishly. "Well," he explained good-naturedly, "Chicago got too hot for me. I had to get out in a hurry, and I couldn't get my hands on any money. I had a fine lot of jewels, but I was so pushed I couldn't use them. I came here and loafed around town for a while, because folks said Mount Mark was so fast asleep it didn't even wake up long enough to read the daily papers. I heard about this parsonage bunch, and knew the old man had gone off to get more religion. This afternoon at the station I saw a detective from Chicago get off the train, and I knew what that meant. But I needed some cash, and so I wasn't above a little job of this kind. I never dreamed of getting done up by a bunch of preacher's kids. I went upstairs to get those family jewels I've heard about, and one of the little ones gave the alarm. I already had some of them, so I came down at once. I stopped in the dungeon to get that money, and first thing I knew the door banged shut. That's all. You're welcome to the five hundred dollars, ladies. Someone was bound to get it sooner or later, and I'm partial to the ladies, every time."

Now what do you suppose the girls will do with that five hundred dollars? How much will they devote to church purposes—foreign missions, for instance?

(TO BE CONTINUED.)

Trees Affected by Lightning.
No particular species of tree is more susceptible to lightning stroke than any other except in so far as the species determines the height of the tree.