

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 Tokio war office announces the imminent signature of a Russo-Japanese agreement. It will concede virtually all the Japanese demands, it is declared.

The supreme court recessed Monday until May 17 without handing down a decision on the constitutionality of the prohibition amendment and the enforcement act.

An increase from 2 to 3 cents a copy, effective May 3, was announced by the Detroit News and the Detroit Journal, evening papers. Increased production cost is given as the reason.

General Pershing Friday killed more than a score of pretty young Balboa girls in the course of his inspection of Panama canal activities, afterward presenting them with a cup as a reward for war work.

The police barracks at Gortin, County Tyrone, Ireland, was burned Saturday morning by 40 armed men who held up the village and prevented interference. The police buildings at Plumbridge also were burned.

The stock of gold coin in the treasury has been depleted to such an extent that immediate resumption of gold coinage has become imperative, congress was informed by Raymond T. Baker, director of the mint.

An indictment charging Charles W. Morse with violating the shipping board act, which prohibits the sale of American registered vessels to foreigners, was returned by the New York federal grand jury Monday.

When Mrs. G. F. Johnson of Yakima, Wash., surprised two burglars at work in her home they thrust her into a closet and nailed up the door before fleeing. She was released some time afterward by a telephone employee.

Ruth Taylor, aged 8, and Ruby Moger, 7, school girls, were struck by lightning and killed Monday afternoon at a schoolhouse near Dunning, Neb. The building was demolished but none of the other occupants was injured.

W. G. Lee, president of the Brotherhood of Railway Trainmen at Cleveland, O., announced Monday night that 61 charters of local lodges have been revoked because members participated in an unauthorized strike of switchmen.

A picturesque pageant, commemorating the establishment of the Hudson's Bay company, 250 years ago, took place at Winnipeg, Man., on the Red river Monday. It epitomized in every possible way the company's activities.

Henry Jones Ford, professor of politics at Princeton university, and James Ducean of Quincy, Mass., a former vice-president of the American Federation of Labor, have been nominated by President Wilson to be members of the interstate commerce commission.

Fifty-one persons were killed and approximately 100 injured by a tornado which swept away Peggs, Okla., a small town in Cherokee county, Sunday night, according to reports sent to Muskogee, Okla., by relief workers. Many of the injured are seriously hurt, the reports said.

Thomas Morris, aged 126 years, died Saturday morning at the home of Charles Mitten, ranchman, eight miles northeast of Ansley, Neb. He was born in Berren, North Wales, January 15, 1794. The aged man never married and was a cobbler for 100 years. He came to this country in 1871.

May day passed in Paris with a series of small riots and disorders in which at least three persons were killed, one of them a woman, and many wounded, but without the declaration of a nation-wide general strike which the union workers expected from the general federation of labor.

One of New York's largest department stores inserted advertisements in Monday's newspapers announcing that it would attempt "to break the backbone of high prices" by offering its stock valued at \$20,000,000 at a reduction of 20 per cent. The only goods excluded will be about \$50,000 worth of merchandise purchased under price restrictions which cannot be "honorably changed."

STATE NEWS IN BRIEF.

Salem.—Miss Pauline Kline, of Corvallis, will be reappointed as a member of the board of inspectors of child labor when her present term expires on May 21, according to announcement made by Governor Olcott.

Roseburg.—Cold weather in early April damaged the peach crop materially. It is believed that not more than half a normal crop will be harvested. Peaches are the only fruit damaged according to fruitgrowers.

Salem.—Plans for the banquet which will be held on the closing day of the Oregon Jersey breeders' jubilee to be held here early in May have been completed, and it is predicted that more than 200 persons interested in this industry will be in attendance.

Medford.—A deal has just been completed by which the farm bureau of Jackson county in its expansion campaign takes over the two warehouses and six lots adjacent to the Southern Pacific railroad tracks, from the Rogue River Co-operative Fruit association. The consideration was \$12,400.

Salem.—Sugar prices, together with the high cost of labor and the loss of fruits caused by last winter's freeze will play an important part in the sale of this year's crop of loganberries in the Willamette valley, according to statements made by prominent fruit growers at a meeting held here recently.

Salem.—London buyers who have been in Marion county for several days have closed a number of contracts whereby they will pay 50 cents a pound for hops, subject to fall delivery. For next year's crop the buyers have offered 40 cents and for the following season's crop an offer of 35 cents has been made.

Albany.—The road over the Cascade mountains by way of the Santiam pass will be improved from Cascadia to Fish Lake in the next few weeks so that autos may travel without difficulty this summer to Fish lake and Clear lake, which are near the summit of the mountains about 77 miles southeast of Albany.

Albany.—The construction of a new railroad bridge at Albany to carry trains of the Albany-Yaquina branch of the Southern Pacific across the Willamette river has been resumed. This work was begun last summer but was not completed before high water. It is expected that the bridge will be finished successfully this summer.

Salem.—H. G. Schulderman has issued a warning to the public against having any dealings with certain foreign companies or associations commonly known as "declarations of trust" or "common law trusts," unless an investigation has first been made with reference to the legal and financial status of the corporations or associations.

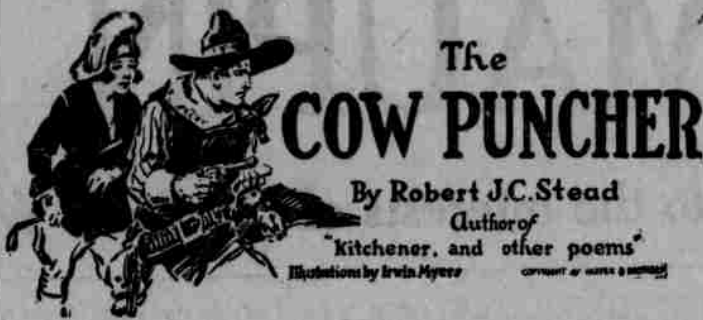
Salem.—Offers of 15 cents a pound for Willamette valley loganberries have been received by the owners of three large tracts of this fruit in this vicinity. The growers are not included in the Marion county pool and are free to dispose of their product independent of the agreement reached at a meeting of producers and buyers held here last Saturday.

Salem.—Lone Maple ranch, comprising 128 acres, near Rosedale, a few miles south of Salem, was sold to Young & Matson, residents of Marion county. The consideration was \$80,000. Approximately 115 acres of the ranch is in bearing prunes, while five acres is in pears. Besides a fine dwelling, the property is equipped with a large drier and barn.

Salem.—Frank J. Jirak, until recently stationed at Fort Stevens, arrived here Thursday to serve as sergeant instructor of the Oregon national guard under the direction of Adjutant-General White. Mr. Jirak came here under orders of the western department of the army. Although he will be compelled to travel over the entire state, he will make his headquarters here.

Salem.—The Famous Players-Lasky corporation, organized under the laws of New York, has filed with J. H. Schulderman, state corporation commissioner, certificate of increase of capital stock from \$1,000,000 to \$22,500,000. The Oregon Knitting Mills, with headquarters in Portland, has been incorporated by Max Green, Adolph Phillips and Phillip Phillips. The capital stock is \$20,000.

Salem.—The Union and Baker county forest fire patrol associations are to be divided into two separate organizations, according to F. A. Elliott, state forester, who returned here last week from La Grande and Baker where he attended a meeting of the association. Mr. Elliott says the people of eastern Oregon are much interested in forest fire prevention and more men will be placed in the field there this year than ever before.



The COW PUNCHER

By Robert J.C. Stead
Author of
"Kitchener, and other poems"

CHAPTER X.—Continued.

Their eyes met, and each of them knew what it meant. It meant announcement to her mother that she had met Dave downtown. It meant perhaps a supposition on her mother's part that she had gone downtown for that purpose. It was far-reaching. But she said simply, "I should enjoy driving home with you."

On the way they planned that the following Sunday they would drive into the foothills together. Of course they would ask Mrs. Hardy to accompany them. Of course. But it might happen that Mrs. Hardy would be indisposed. Irene was of the opinion that what her mother needed now was rest.

As it happened Mrs. Hardy was at the gate. She greeted Dave cordially enough. Encouraged by her mood, Irene determined to settle the Sunday program at once.

"Dave was good enough to bring me up in his car," she said. "And just think! He invites us to drive into the foothills with him next Sunday. Will you come? It will be delightful. Or are you feeling—"

"Mr. Elden is very kind," said Mrs. Hardy, with dignity. "I have no doubt Mr. Conward will accompany us. He is to call this evening and I will ask him. . . . Yes, I think it very likely we will go."

The summer wore on, and autumn followed on its heels. The processes which had been discerned by Conward and other astute operators were now apparent to the mob which forever follows in the wake of the successful, but usually at such a distance as to be overwhelmed in the receding flood. The forces which had built up fabulous fortunes were now in reverse gear, and the same mechanism that had built up was now tearing down.

As the boom had fed upon itself, carrying prices to heights justifiable only to the most insane optimism, so did the subsequent depression bear down upon values until they reached depths justifiable only to the most abandoned despondency. The rosy bubble, inflated with the vapors of irresponsible speculation, had dissolved into thin air.

Mrs. Hardy was among the last to admit that she had bought on an ebbing tide. She contended that her house was well worth the price she had paid; what if speculation had come to a stop? So much the better; her house was still worth its price. She would stand firm.

Mrs. Hardy consulted Conward. It had grown to be her habit to consult Conward on all matters in which she found an interest.

"How is it, Mr. Conward," Mrs. Hardy said to him one evening over her fancy work—for she practiced an indefatigable industry in matters of no importance—"how is it that there is no demand for property? You are a real-estate expert; you should be able to answer that. Isn't this city as good today as it was a year ago? Doesn't it occupy the same site? Are not the farms still producing?"

"That's just it, dear Mrs. Hardy. Why, indeed? Simply because the booster has given way to the calamity howler. Its psychological explanation is simple enough. The world lives by faith. Without faith there would be neither seedtime nor harvest. That is true of raising cities as well as of raising crops. But there are always those who ridicule faith; always were, always will be. And as soon as faith disappears things begin to sink."

"Ah!" said Mrs. Hardy gently. "So we owe all this—these empty houses and shops, unalike property and everything to those who have lost faith—or never had it. To men like Mr. Elden, for instance. You remember how he tried to discourage me from the very first—tried to break down my faith—that was it, Mr. Conward—I see it all very plainly now—and he and others like him have brought things to their present pass. Well, they have a great responsibility."

As a result of this discussion Dave found himself rather less popular with Mrs. Hardy than before. Dave accepted her displeasure with a light-heartedness that was extremely trying to the good woman's temper. Had it not been for his desire to spare Irene any unhappiness he would have treated it with open flippancy. He was engaged in the serious business of capturing the heart of Irene Hardy—a task made none the easier by the self-imposed condition that he must conduct no offensive but must await with such patience as he could command the voluntary capitulation of the besieged. On the whole he told himself he had no reason to be dissatisfied with the progress of events. He and Irene often motored together, frequently accompanied by Mrs. Hardy, sometimes by Conward as well, but occasionally alone. And Irene made no secret of the fact that she preferred the trips in which only she and Dave participated.

The gradual shrinkage of values to the vanishing point imposed upon Dave many business duties which he would very gladly have evaded. The office of Conward & Elden, which had

once been besieged by customers eager to buy, was now a center of groups no less eager to sell; and when they could not sell they contrived to lay the blame upon the firm which had originally sold to them. Although, for the most part, these were men and women who had bought purely from the gambler's motive, they behaved toward the real-estate dealer as though he had done them an injustice when the finger of fortune turned up a loss instead of a profit. For such people Dave had little sympathy, and if they persisted in their murmurings he told them so with becoming frankness.

Then there was Merton, the widower with sick lungs and the motherless boy, who had brought his little savings to the West in the hope of husbanding out his life in the dry, clear atmosphere and saving his son from the white death that had already invaded their little family. With a cruelty almost unbelievable Conward had talked this man into the purchase of property so far removed from the city as to possess no value except as farm land; and the little savings which were to ward off sickness and death, or, if that could not be, minister modest comfort in the declining hours of life, had been exchanged for property which, even at the time of the transaction, was valueless and unsalable.

Merton had called on Dave with respect to his investment. Dave had at first been disposed to tell him frankly that the property, for which he had paid twenty dollars a foot, was barely worth that much an acre. But a second look at the man changed his purpose.

"I know you were stung, Merton," he said, "shamelessly stung. You are one of those unsuspecting fellows who think everybody is going to play fair with them. You belong to the class who keep all kinds of rogues and scoundrels in easy circumstances. You might almost be charged with being accessories. Now, just to show how I feel about it—how much did you pay for those lots?"

"Three thousand dollars. It was all I had."

"Of course it was. If you had had more you would have paid more. I suppose Conward justified himself



"I Think You Are Absolutely Innocent," He Said Gravely.

with the argument that if he didn't take your easy money someone else would, which is doubtless true. But just to show you how I feel about it—I'll buy those lots from you, for three thousand dollars."

"I can't do it, Mr. Elden; I can't do it," said Merton, and there was moisture on his cheeks. "That would be charity—and I can't take it. But I'm much obliged. It shows you're square, Mr. Elden, and I hold no ill will to you."

"Well, can I help you in some way you will accept? I'm afraid I don't mean to be unkind, but we may as well be frank—I'm afraid you won't need help very long."

Merton answered as one who has made up his mind to the inevitable, and Dave thought better of him. This little wreck of a man—this child in business matters—could look death in the face without a quiver.

"Not so long," he said. "I felt ever so much better when I came here first; I thought I was really going to be well again. But when I found what a mistake I had made I began to worry, not for myself, you know, but the boy, and worry is just what my trouble lives on. I have been working a little, and boarding out, and the boy is going to school. But I can't do heavy work, and work of any kind is hard to get. I find I can't keep going that way."

Merton looked with dreamy eyes through the office window, while Dave was turning over the hopelessness of his position and inwardly cursing a system which made such conditions possible. Society protects the physically weak from the physically strong; the physical highwayman usually gets his deserts; but the mental highwayman preys upon the weak and the inexperienced and the unorganized, and Society votes him a good citizen and a success.

"I had a plan," Merton continued, half apologetically, as though his plan

did him little credit—"I had a plan, but it can't be worked out. I have been trying to raise a little money on my lots, but the mortgage people just look at me."

"What is your plan?" said Dave kindly. "Any plan, no matter how bad, is always better than no plan."

"I thought," said Merton timidly—"I thought if I could build a little shack on the lots I could live there with the boy and we could raise a very fine garden. The soil is very fertile and at least we should not starve. And the gardening would be good for me, and I could perhaps keep some chickens and work out at odd jobs as well. But it takes money to build even a very small shack."

"How much money?" demanded Dave.

"If I had a hundred dollars—"

"Bring your title to me tomorrow; to me personally, you understand. I'll advance you five hundred dollars."

Merton sprang up, and there was more enthusiasm in his eyes than had seemed possible. "You will? But I don't need that much—"

"Then use the surplus to live on."

So the Merton affair was straightened away in a manner which left Dave more at peace with his conscience. But another event, much more dramatic and far-reaching in its effects upon his life, was already ripe for the enacting.

There were cases that could not be turned away with a sharp answer. Bert Morrison, for instance. Bert had never mentioned her "investment" since the occasion already recorded. She greeted Dave with the sociability due to their long-standing friendship; and her calm avoidance of the subject hurt him more than the abuse of all his irate patrons.

Business conditions had necessitated unwonted economy in the office affairs of Conward & Elden, as a result of which many old employees had been laid off and others had been replaced by cheaper and less experienced labor. Stenographers who had been receiving a hundred dollars a month could not readily bring themselves to accept fifty, and some of them had to make way for new girls, fresh from the business colleges. Such a new girl was Gladys Warden—pretty, likable, inexperienced. Her country home had offered no answer to her ambitions, and she had come to the city with the most dangerous equipment a young woman can carry—an attractive face and an unsophisticated confidence in the goodness of humanity. Conward had been responsible for her position in the office, and Dave had given little thought to her except to note that she was a willing worker and of comely appearance.

Returning to the office one Saturday evening Dave found Miss Warden making up a bundle of paper, pencils and carbon paper. She was evidently in high spirits, and he smilingly asked if she intended working at home over Sunday.

"Oh, didn't Mr. Conward tell you?" she answered, as though surprised that the good news had been kept a secret. "He is to spend a day or two at one of the mountain hotels, and I am to go along to do his correspondence. Isn't it just lovely? I have so wanted to go to the mountains, but never felt that I could afford it. And now I can combine business with pleasure."

The smile died out of Dave's eyes, and his face became more set and stern than she had ever seen it.

"Why, what's the matter, Mr. Elden?" she exclaimed. "Is anything wrong?"

He found it hard to meet her frank, unsuspecting eyes; hard to draw back the curtains of the world so much that those eyes would never again be quite so frank and unsuspecting. "Miss Warden," he said, "did Conward tell you that?"

"What? About going to the mountains? Of course. He said he was taking some work with him, and he wondered if I would mind going along to do it, and he would pay the expenses, and—and—" There was a quick, hard catch in her voice, and she seized Elden's arm violently. Her eyes were big and round; her pretty face had gone suddenly white.

"Oh, Mr. Elden, you don't think— you don't think—that I—that he—you wouldn't believe that—"

"I think you are absolutely innocent," he said, gravely, "but—it's the innocent thing that gets caught."

The girl had broken into violent tears. "Whatever shall I do? What can I do?" she moaned. "Oh, why didn't somebody tell me? What can I do?"

He let her passion run on for a few minutes, and then he sought, as gently as he could, to win her back to some composure. "Some one has told you," he said—"in time. You don't have to go. Don't be afraid of anything Conward may do. I will settle this score with him."

She controlled herself, but when she spoke again her voice had fear and shame in it. "I—I hate to tell you, Mr. Elden, but I must tell you—I—I took—I let him give me some money—to buy things. He said maybe I was short of money and I would want to buy some new clothes—and he would pay me extra, in advance—and he gave me fifty dollars—and—and—I've spent it!"

(TO BE CONTINUED.)

Tricks of the Trade.
Lawyer (to fair client, a defendant)—"When a young juror looks at you, weep; when an old one looks at you, flirt."

Nothing New.
"All the world's a stage," and yet some people look upon the revolving stage as a modern idea.

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At wholesale and retail. Mail orders promptly filled. Smith's Wall Paper House, 108-110 Second St., Portland.

Lizard's Eyelid Transparent.
There is a lizard living in the Transcaspien desert that has the lower eyelid fused with the upper; it is transparent, and like a window, lets in light, but excludes sand.

For Somnolent Smokers.
A cigar held between the second and third fingers, above the second joints, will not drop from the smoker's hand if he falls asleep.—New York Sun.

MARKETING BY PARCEL POST
Not All Farm Products Lend Themselves to Practice—Saving Can Be Made With Some.

While it may be attractive to a city dweller to believe that he can have a vegetable garden grown for him 100 miles or 150 miles away, place his orders for the cost of a stamp, and have the produce delivered at his door, it should be remembered the United States department of agriculture points out that not all farm products lend themselves to direct marketing by parcel post. Usually it is impracticable to market such heavy products as potatoes by parcel post, whereas eggs, butter, sausage, poultry, many vegetables, and nut meats may frequently be shipped with profit and at a saving to the purchaser. In general the greater the value per pound the more favorable is the chance for direct marketing.

NATURE SELF-PRUNES TREES
Pruning is Often Paying Practice in Farm Timber Tracts of Valuable Small Pines.

When trees are properly spaced, nature "self prunes" the lower branches. But in farm timber tracts of small pines and with valuable kinds of trees, pruning is often a paying practice, say forestry specialists of the United States department of agriculture, if it is done during the slack time of winter.

SEED HOUSES ARE RELIABLE
Occasionally Concern Found That Cannot Resist Temptation of Mixing Grades.

The majority of the seed houses are reliable and trustworthy, but occasionally a concern cannot resist the temptation of mixing common, inferior and good seed together and selling it as first-class grade.

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Get relief without fear as told in "Bayer package"

"Bayer Tablets of Aspirin" to be genuine must be marked with the safety "Bayer Cross." Then you are getting the true, world-famous Aspirin, prescribed by physicians for over 18 years. Always buy an unbroken package of "Bayer Tablets of Aspirin," which contains proper directions to safely relieve Colds, Headache, Toothache, Earache, Neuralgia, Lumbago, Rheumatism, Neuritis, Joint Pains, and Pain generally.

Handy tin boxes of twelve tablets cost but a few cents. Druggists also sell larger "Bayer" packages. Aspirin is the trade mark of Bayer Manufacturing of Monoaceticacidester of Salicylicacid.—Adv.

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