

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 house voted Monday to appropriate \$360,000 for the free distribution of seeds by members of congress.

Stephen D. Engle, aged 83, inventor and builder of the famous Engle astronomical, musical and apostolic clock, famous a generation ago as a theatrical attraction, died at his home in Hazelton, Pa., Sunday night.

House republican leaders Monday approved a program which calls for appropriations of \$13,000,000 for construction of five hospitals for war veterans suffering from mental and nervous disorders and tuberculosis.

Canada's trade for the 12 months ended December 31 totaled \$2,639,726, 135, of which \$1,336,921,021 were imports and \$1,302,805,114 were exports.

France will insist that the German indemnity be fixed by the reparations commissioners, as provided in the treaty, instead of by the conference of the allied premiers. It was asserted on good authority. This decision, it is forecast, will be opposed vigorously by the Belgians. The attitude of the British delegation is not known.

Attorney-General Palmer has charged Samuel Untermyer, New York attorney, with acting "in the German interests" and "with simply serving his old clients" in his criticisms of Mr. Palmer's conduct of the offices of alien property custodian and attorney-general.

William H. Taft and Mrs. Taft sailed for home Tuesday after a visit in Hamilton, Bermuda, of almost a month. Mr. Taft was called home to resume work on arbitrating the value of the shares of the Grand Trunk railway, which is being taken over by the Canadian government.

J. P. Morgan & Co. and the Guaranty Trust company announced recently that subscription books for the \$13,000,000 Belgian loan were opened at 10 o'clock and immediately closed. The announcement was taken to mean that the loan had been successfully floated and that it was over-subscribed.

Telephone and telegraph facilities were crippled in Nebraska Tuesday by snow and sleet. It was estimated that 2000 telephone poles had been leveled by the weight of sleet on the wires and that the damage would reach \$75,000. Snow was falling in eastern Nebraska following a heavy fall in the western part during the last 24 hours.

Alameda, on San Francisco bay, is understood to have been selected by the joint congressional committee as the site for the main naval fleet base on the Pacific coast. San Diego is the committee's choice, for the principal aviation base and San Pedro for the submarine base. Establishment of another aviation base on the north coast at Sand Point, Wash., also will be recommended.

Steps are to be taken shortly by federal prohibition officers to block distribution of intoxicating beverages masquerading as patent medicines. Prohibition officials say that permits for the manufacture of medicinal preparations in which alcohol is used would be limited to the minimum. The bureau of internal revenue, one official said, is determined to curb "the well-known abuse of patent medicine permits."

Herman Frey of Myrtle Point, Or., received a price of \$520.50 a thousand for a seasoned Myrtle plank 16 feet long, three feet wide and two inches thick. Myrtle lumber, particular when seasoned, of attractive grain, and sound, brings about \$250 a thousand on Coos bay and throughout the country where there are factories utilizing it for novelties, such as pin trays, napkin rings, nut bowls, serving trays and for other uses.

Earnings of the United States Steel corporation for the final quarter of 1920, made public after Tuesday's meeting of the executive committee and board of directors, totaled \$43,877,882, against \$48,651,540 in the preceding quarter. Net income of \$31,702,810, compared with \$35,739,137, and surplus of \$14,401,446 showed a decrease of \$3,388,493. For the year earnings totaled \$177,174,126, against \$152,290,639 in 1919, and \$208,281,104 in 1918.

Doings of the Legislature

State House, Salem.—By one vote the house pledged itself Tuesday to take up reapportionment of the legislature at this session. The skirmish in the house was as lively as when the same subject was threshed out in the senate last week. Upton's joint resolution calling for a committee of ten to handle all reapportionment legislation has been adopted by both branches and President Ritner and Speaker Bean are now authorized to select the ten men who will work out the scheme of redistricting.

The ax fell on two house bills Tuesday, both of which related to hunting of game. The bills were introduced by Representative Belknap. One amended the present game law so as to permit the killing of one doe and buck or two bucks in a single season and the other prohibited the use of dogs in hunting China pheasants.

Turning over to Herbert Hoover, chairman of the European relief council, all surplus food and clothing now in the hands of the war department, to be used in relieving the starving people of Europe, is proposed in a senate joint memorial introduced by Senator Hare. Copies of the memorial were transmitted to Oregon's representatives in congress by telegraph.

Twenty-two new bills were introduced in the senate Tuesday, making a total of 172 since the session convened. Exemption of Oregon road bonds from taxation as property is provided for in a bill introduced in the house by Representative Sheldon.

The house has passed the bill providing for completing and furnishing the babies' dormitory at the state feeble-minded institution. The bill carried an appropriation of \$11,367.85 and was introduced by the joint ways and means committee.

Creation of Oregon improvement districts in much the same manner as irrigation and drainage districts are formed under the present laws is authorized under a bill introduced in the senate by Senator Norblad.

Although opposition developed against the granting of authority to the state board of control to dispose of the flax plant at the state penitentiary, a bill for the purpose successfully passed the house, gathering 49 favorable votes.

By a vote of 28 to 27 the bill defining methods of determining circulation on newspapers published in Oregon was tabled on motion of Representative Kay of Marion county, who requested time in which to check up possible defects in the bill.

The senate passed senate bill No. 13, approved at the special session of the legislature last January, over the veto of Governor Olcott. This bill provides that county courts may fix the salaries of county assessors and their assistants.

Two bills carrying an appropriation of \$40,000 and vesting in the state board of control authority to establish an Oregon employment institution for the blind were introduced in the senate by Senator Moser of Multnomah county.

Representatives Egbert and Roberts introduced a joint house memorial urging congress to pass a law compelling every manufacturer, handler or seller of woolen goods to place a tag on such goods showing the exact percentages of wool and other materials in such cloth.

Members of the legislature who visited the state penitentiary during the last two weeks have expressed themselves as well pleased with the management and will support a bill providing for installation in the prison of some industrial plant whereby the prisoners may assist in defraying the cost of operating the institution.

When Senator Smith Tuesday afternoon attempted to smother a bill introduced by Senators Staples, Farrell and Hume providing for the regulation of druggists and creating the Oregon board of drugless examiners, by requesting the adoption of the minority rather than the majority report of the committee on medicine, pharmacy and dentistry, he started a barrage of oratory in which more than half of the senators participated. The majority report favored the passage of the bill and was signed by Senators Hume, Staples and Farrell. The minority report was adverse to passing the proposed law and was signed by Senators Ellis and Smith.

Charles Clifford, at the head of the Oregon branch of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen, arrived here Monday from La Grande to confer with the legislators with regard to passing a bill providing that drivers of motor vehicles shall bring their machines to a full stop before crossing railroad tracks.

56 BILLIONS AMOUNT GERMANY MUST PAY

Agreement by Allies Calls for
Forty-two Installments.

TEUTONS TO DISARM

Full Agreement on Reparations Is
Reached by Premiers—France
Held Fully Satisfied.

Paris.—Full agreement on reparations, German disarmament and all other important questions before it had been reached by the supreme council when it adjourned Saturday evening to meet in London February 21.

The greatest result obtained was, as Premier Briand expressed it "maintenance by the allies of a front as united in making peace as in waging war." The conference has resulted to the satisfaction of all concerned.

A protocol was signed approving the reparations scheme as agreed on by the special committee and also the report on the disarmament of Germany as presented by the military committee. Germany must disarm by July 1, disbanding all her civic guards not provided for in the peace treaty.

Germany will be called on to pay in 42 annuities on a sliding scale 226,000,000,000 gold marks. Her exports, in addition, bear an export duty of 12 per cent for the allies. On the basis of last year's exports this would give the allies 1,250,000,000 gold marks, the export tax being paid in cash.

It is pointed out that besides being a sure method of collection, it will act as a protective tariff in countries near Germany which are likely to be flooded with goods made in Germany at low cost.

Penalties agreed on for violations will apply to all agreements alike—reparations, disarmament and coal deliveries. A feature of the reparation plan, from the French point of view, is that it associates the allies in the benefits of Germany's prosperity.

Seizure of German customs was added as fourth of the penalties adopted. The other three are: Extension of the area of occupation; occupation of the Ruhr district, refusal to admit Germany to the league of nations.

The proposal to apply penalties was presented by Premier Lloyd George. According to the arrangement the annuities and export taxes are payable semi-annually. Discount for advance payments will be 8 per cent the first two years, 6 the third and fourth years and 5 thereafter. Germany is forbidden to establish foreign credits without approval of the reparations commission.

The decisions were communicated to Germany Saturday night. As to Austria it was agreed that the allies should forego reparations, the cost of the army of occupation and certain other Austrian debts to enable Austria to obtain aid more easily. It was also decided to convene a conference of Austria and adjoining countries to endeavor to improve relations between central European states.

Approval was given M. Loucheur's proposal for a 200,000,000 franc corporation to assist Austrian industries, in which the different governments may participate. A commission will be appointed to inquire into the conduct of the Austrian administration.

Great resistance is expected from Germany over reparations. The allies will hear the Germans at a conference in London, February 28.

6171 Commit Suicide in 1920.

New York.—Suicides in the United States in 1920 numbered 6171, including 707 children, members of the Save-a-Life league were told Sunday by Dr. H. M. Warren, president. This exceeded the figures of 1919 by more than 1000, he said. During the year 2604 women, a large increase, died through self-destruction.

The increased percentage among women was ascribed to their entry in commercial and political life.

The youngest suicide was 5 years of age, while the oldest was 103. More than 300 soldiers have taken their lives, the report stated.

Steamer Burns at Sea.

Newport News, Va.—Wireless advice received Sunday were that the Italian steamship Neptunia was burned at sea with a probable loss of life. The Belgian steamship Kilmar, bound for Hampton Roads, was reported to be bringing the survivors of the crew, several of whom were said to have been badly burned. Quarantine officials at Old Point Comfort have been asked to meet the ship with doctors and nurses.

The Great Shadow

By A. CONAN DOYLE

Author of "The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes"

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CHAPTER XII—Continued.

I had expected to find half that regiment of horse lying on the ground; but whether it was that their breastplates had shielded them, or whether, being young and a little shaken at their coming, we had fired high, our volley had done no very great harm. About thirty horses lay about, three of them together within ten yards of me, the middle one right on its back, with its four legs in the air, and it was one of these that I had seen flapping through the smoke. Then there were eight or ten dead men, and about as many wounded, sitting dazedly on the grass for the most part, though one was shouting "Vive l'Empereur!" at the top of his voice. Another fellow who had been shot in the thigh—a great, black-mustached chap he was, too—leaned his back against his dead horse, and, picking up his carbine, fired as coolly as if he had been shooting for a prize, and hit Angus Myres, who was only two feet from me, right through the forehead. Then he out with his hand to get another carbine that lay near, but before he could reach it big Hodgson, who was the pivot-man of the grenadier company, ran out and passed his bayonet through his throat, which was a pity, for he seemed to be a very fine man.

At first I thought that the cuirassiers had run away in the smoke, but they were not men who did that very easily. Their horses had swerved at our volley, and they had raced past our square and taken the fire of the two other ones beyond. Then they broke through a hedge, and coming on a regiment of Hanoverians who were in line, they treated them as they would have treated us if we had not been so quick, and cut them to pieces in an instant. It was dreadful to see the big Germans running and screaming, while the cuirassiers stood up in their stirrups to have a better sweep for their long, heavy swords, and cut and stabbed without mercy. I do not believe that a hundred men of that regiment were left alive, and the Frenchmen came back across our front, shouting at us and waving their weapons, which were crimson down to the hilts. This they did to draw our fire, but the colonel was too old a soldier, for we could have done little harm at the distance, and they would have been among us before we could reload.

These horsemen got behind the ridge on our right again, and we knew very well that if we opened up from the squares they would be down upon us in a twinkling. On the other hand, it was hard to bide as we were, for they had passed the word to a battery of twelve guns which formed up a few hundred yards away from us, but out of our sight, sending their balls just over the brow and down into the midst of us, which is called a plunging fire. And one of their gunners ran up to the top of the slope and stuck a handspike into the wet earth, to give them a guide, under the very muzzles of the whole brigade, none of whom fired a shot at him, each leaving him to the other. Ensign Samson, who was the youngest subaltern in the regiment, ran out from the square and pulled down the handspike, but quick as a jack after a minnow a lancer came flying over the ridge, and he made such a thrust from behind that not only his point but his pennon, too, came out between the second and third buttons of the lad's tunic. "Heien! Heien!" he shouted, and fell dead on his face, while the lancer, blown half to pieces with musket balls, toppled over beside him, still holding on to his weapon, so they lay together with that dreadful bond still connecting them.

But when the battery opened there was no time for us to think of anything else. A square is a very good way of meeting a horseman, but there is no worse one of taking a cannonball, so we soon learned when they began to cut red seams through us, until our ears were weary of the stosh and splash when hard iron met living flesh and blood. After ten minutes of it we moved our square a hundred paces to the right, but we left another square behind us, for a hundred and twenty men and seven officers showed where we had been standing. Then the guns found us again, and we tried to open out into line, but in an instant the horsemen—lancers they were this time—were upon us from over the brae. I tell you we were glad to hear the thud of their hoofs, for we knew that that must stop the cannon for a minute, and give us a chance of hitting back. And we hit back pretty hard, too, that time, for we were cold and vicious and savage, and I, for one, felt that I cared no more for the horsemen than if they had been so many sheep on Corrieuir. One gets past being afraid or thinking of one's own skin after a while, and you just feel that you want to make some one pay for all you have gone through. We took our change out of the lancers that time, for they had no breastplates to shield them, and we cleared seventy of them out of their saddles at a volley. Maybe if we could have seen seventy mothers weeping for their lads we should not have felt so pleased over it, but then men are just brutes when they are fighting, and have as

much thought as two bull-pups when they've got one another by the throat.

Then the colonel did a wise stroke, for he reckoned that this would save off the cavalry for five minutes, so he wheeled us into line and got us back into a deeper hollow, out of reach of the guns, before they could open again. This gave us time to breathe, and we wanted it, too, for the regiment had been melting away like an icicle in the sun. But bad as it was for us, it was a deal worse for some of the others. The whole of the Dutch-Belgians were cut off by this time helter skelter, fifteen thousand of them, and there were great gaps left in our line, through which the French cavalry rode as pleased them best. Then the French guns had been too many and too good for ours, and our heavy horse had been cut to bits, so that things were none too merry with us. On the other hand, Hougoumont, a blood-soaked ruin, was still ours, and every British regiment was firm, though, to tell the honest truth, as a man is bound to do, there were a sprinkling of red coats among the blue ones who made for the rear. But these were lads and stragglers, the faint hearts that are found everywhere, and I say again that no regiment flinched. It was little we could see of the battle, but a man would be blind not to know that all the fields behind us were covered with flying men. But then, though we on the right wing knew nothing of it, the Prussians had begun to show, and Napoleon had set twenty thousand of his men to face them, which made up for ours that had bolted, and left us much as we began. That was all dark to us, however, and there was a time when the French horsemen had flooded in between us and the rest of the army, that we thought we were the only brigade left standing, and had set our teeth with the intention of selling our lives as dearly as we could.

At that time it was between four and five in the afternoon, and we had had nothing to eat, the most of us, since the night before, and were soaked with rain into the bargain. It had drizzled off and on all day, but for the last few hours we had not had a thought to spare either upon the weather or our hunger. Now we began to look around and tighten our waistbelts, and ask who was hit, and who was spared. I was glad to see Jim, with his face all blackened with powder, standing on my right rear, leaning on his fire-lock. He saw me looking at him, and shouted out to know if I were hurt.

"All right, Jim," I answered. "I fear I'm here on a wild-goose chase," said he gloomily, "but it's not over yet. By God, I'll have him or he'll have me!" He had brooded so much on his wrong, had poor Jim, that I really believe it had turned his head, for he had a glare in his eyes as he spoke that was hardly human. He was always a man that took even a little thing to heart, and since Edie had left him I am sure that he was no longer his own master.

It was at this time that we saw two single fights which they tell me were common enough in the battles of old, before men were trained in masses. As we lay in the hollow, two horsemen came spurting along the ridge in front of us, riding as hard as hoof could rattle. The first was an English dragoon, his face right down on his horse's mane, with a French cuirassier, an old, gray-headed fellow, thundering behind him on a big, black mare. Our chaps set up a hooting as they came flying on, for it seemed a shame to see an Englishman run like that; but as they swept across our front we saw where the trouble lay. The dragoon had dropped his sword and was unarmed, while the other was pressing him so close that he could not get a weapon. At last, stung maybe by our hooting, he made up his mind to chance it. His eye fell on a lance beside a dead Frenchman, so he swerved his horse to let the other pass, and hopping off cleverly enough, he gripped hold of it. But the other was too tricky for him, and was on him like a shot. The dragoon thrust up with the lance, but the other turned and sliced him through the shoulder-blade. It was all done in an instant, and the Frenchman cantered his horse up the brae, showing his teeth at us over his shoulder like a snarling dog.

That was one to them, but we scored one for us presently. They had pushed forward a skirmish-line whose fire was toward the batteries on our right and left rather than on us, but we sent out two companies of the Ninety-fifth to keep them in check. It was strange to hear the crackling kind of noise that they made, for both sides were using the rifle. An officer stood among the French skirmishers, a tall, lean man with a mantle over his shoulders, and as our fellows came forward he ran out midway between the two parties and stood as a fence would, with his sword up and his head back. I can see him now, with his lowered eyelids, and the kind of sneer that he had upon his face. On this the subaltern of the Rifles, who was a fine well-grown lad, ran forward and drove full tilt at him with one of the queer, crooked swords that the riflemen carry.

They came together like two rams, for each ran at the other, and down they tumbled at the shock, but the Frenchman was below. Our man broke his sword short off, and took the other's blade through his left arm, but he was the stronger man, and he managed to let the life out of his enemy with the jagged stump of his blade. I thought that the French skirmishers would have shot him down, but not a trigger was drawn, and he got back to his company with one sword through his arm and half another in his hand.

CHAPTER XIII.

The End of the Storm.

Of all the things that seem strange in that great battle, now that I look back upon it, there was nothing that was queerer than the way in which it acted on my comrades. For some took it as though it had been their daily meat, without question or change, and others pattered out prayers from the first gun-fire to the last, and others again cursed and swore in a way that was creepy to listen to. There was one, my own left-hand mate, Mike Threadingham, who kept telling about his maiden aunt, Sarah, and how she had left the money which had been promised to him to a home for the children of drowned sailors. Again and again he told me this story, and yet, when the battle was over, he took his oath that he had never opened his lips all day. As to me, I cannot say whether I spoke or not, but I know that my mind and my memory were clearer than I can ever remember them, and I was thinking all the time about the old folks at home, and about cousin Edie with her saucy, dancing eyes, and De Lissac with his cat's whiskers, and all the doings at West Inch which had ended by bringing us here on the plains of Belgium as a cockshot for two hundred and fifty cannon.

During all this time the roaring of those guns had been something dreadful to listen to, but now they suddenly died away, though it was like the lull in a thunder-storm when one feels that a worse crash is coming hard at the fringe of it. There was still a mighty noise on the distant wing, where the Prussians were pushing their way onward, but that was two miles away. The other batteries, both French and English, were silent, and the smoke cleared so that the armies could see a little of each other. It was a dreary sight along our ridge, for there seemed to be just a few scattered knots of red, and the lines of green where the German legion stood, while the masses of the French appeared to be as thick as ever, though, of course, we knew that they must have lost many thousands in these attacks. We heard a great cheering and shouting from among them, and then suddenly all their batteries opened together with a roar which made the din of the earlier part seem nothing in comparison. It might well be twice as loud, for every battery was twice as near, being moved right up to point-blank range, with huge masses of horse between and behind them to guard them from attack.

When that devil's roar burst upon our ears there was not a man down to the drummer-boys who did not understand what it meant. It was Napoleon's last great effort to crush us. There were but two more hours of light, and if we could hold our own for those, all would be well. Starved and weary and spent, we prayed that we might have strength to load and stab and fire while a man of us stood upon his feet.

(TO BE CONTINUED.)

Tooth Puller's Bad Reputation.

"To lie like a tooth puller" is in Le Roux de Lincy's "Book of French Proverbs" (Paris 1850); quoted from the "Dictionary of the French Academy" (1835). The tooth puller in those days was often a wandering mountebank who drew a crowd by telling Rabelaisian stories and indulging in horseplay. He sold quack medicines, and, of course, lied prodigiously. Lannelongue's explanation of the origin is more amusing, though it is so circumstantial that it breeds suspicion. Furthermore—and this is conclusive—"to lie like a tooth drawer" is in Philibert Joseph Le Roux's "Dictionnaire Comique" (Amsterdam 1718) with this comment, "No one lies more outrageously than a tooth drawer, who promises not to hurt, which is not possible." And Le Roux quotes Poissons' one act play, "The Basque Poet" (1698). "But all of you lie like tooth pullers."

Honesty.

Honesty is not the best policy. It isn't any kind of policy. It's a virtue practiced for its own sake without regard for profits. Those who refrain from stealing because thieves end in jail are not honest. They are merely discreet.—Robert Quillen in Saturday Evening Post.

"Great Expectations."

Should people, it is asked, sleep at the theater? No. They should hardly expect to get bored and lodging as well.—Brooklyn Eagle.