

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 "shimmy," "toddle" and kindred steps were put under the ban by the East St. Louis city council Tuesday.

Twenty-seven hundred union factory employees of the Hamilton-Brown Shoe company in St. Louis have voted to work 48 hours a week, instead of 44.

Wireless apparatus has been installed by the New York police department to notify police of other cities concerning the movements of suspected criminals.

Charles A. McCurdy, the English food minister, declared recently that the present decline of food prices as far as he could judge, would be likely to continue for a considerable time.

Impeachment of Lieutenant-Governor Trapp of Oklahoma is recommended in a report read in the house Thursday by an investigating committee. Fraud and false claims in connection with bond purchases are charged.

A bill providing that murderers sentenced to death be electrocuted was passed by the house of the Utah legislature Tuesday. At present the condemned individual can choose death either by hanging or before a firing squad.

Prohibition of the use of tobacco in public places was contained in a bill introduced in the senate of the Arizona legislature by Senator Lines of Graham county. It would provide fines of \$5 to \$100.

Representative Webster of Washington was authorized by the house committee on interstate and foreign commerce to report out favorably the French truth-in-fabrics bill, the author of which is Burton D. French, representative of Idaho.

Yvonne Weber, 12, has established a record in the public schools in Pittsburgh, Pa. She was graduated from public school as class valedictorian Tuesday. She speaks four languages and teaches physical culture and dancing in the high school class.

The man who lives on the boarding house diet of white bread, potatoes, meat occasionally, prunes and skim milk may look well, but he lacks vitality and tone, Dr. Martin Edwards, a specialist in dietetics, said in an address in Boston recently.

Thieves were believed by the authorities responsible for the deaths of a teacher and seven pupils killed Monday at the Cross Roads school, near Lawrenceville, Ill., by the explosion of a can of nitroglycerin found by a boy in a creek near the school.

President Wilson plans to go into virtual seclusion, for a time after March 4. Free from the responsibilities of office, which have weighed heavily upon him during his convalescence, Mr. Wilson, his friends say, will shut himself in for intensive rest and quiet in his new home.

The army held a "tank show" Tuesday, putting new types of battle wagons through their paces, with Secretary Baker and war department officials watching. Many spectators saw the machines rumble up and down seemingly impossible slopes, leap obstacles and push down trees.

The first move to exempt the salary of the president from income taxes was made in the house Monday by Representative Pell, democrat, New York. His bill would exempt not only the \$75,000 salary of the president but also the salary of the vice-president from provisions of the income tax.

In taking cognizance of the threatened onslaught of grasshoppers from Canada into the northwestern states next summer, Senator McNary called on General Amos A. Fries, chief of the chemical warfare service of the army, to furnish him with detailed information on the method of gassing the field pests.

Sheriff Grant of Ouchita parish, Louisiana, notified Governor Parker Tuesday that he had forgotten to hang Lonnie Eaton, negro convicted of murder February 4, as required by the sentence and asked what to do with the prisoner. The governor has put the problem up to Attorney-General Cocco.

Doings of the Legislature

State House, Salem.—The first consideration given road bills by the house came Tuesday when three road bills sponsored by the committee on roads and highways were passed, one bill designated for special order of business next Monday afternoon and two referred to the committee for amendment. Protection for sub-contractors, material men and laborers performing work of the state is embodied in one of the bills approved Wednesday. Another passed by the house relates to the sale of state highway bonds and the third provides for the employment of a first assistant highway engineer.

Seven port bills, approved by the senate after much debate, were passed by the house without discussion or argument. Representative Gordon of Multnomah made a brief explanation of the purport of the bills, informing the members of the lower house that all the difficulties which had surrounded the port legislation had been ironed out satisfactorily to all.

The \$50 a month which the Multnomah county commissioners receive for meeting once a month on interstate bridge matters will not be taken from them. The Multnomah delegation, at a meeting this week, decided on indefinite postponement of the bill which Gordon sponsored to eliminate this monthly stipend.

Oregon's delegation in congress was memorialized by the legislature Tuesday to procure the enactment of legislation which will provide ships or cargo space for supplies for the sufferers in China and the near east. The memorial, which was adopted under a suspension of rules, first in the senate and later in the house, was telegraphed to Washington.

A bill introduced by Senator Upton provides that there shall be appropriated annually out of the funds of Oregon the sum of \$5000 for the support of the interstate fair and the exhibit of livestock of said fair. The money so appropriated shall be used in defraying the premiums. The fair, under the provisions of the bill, would be held at Prineville.

The Roosevelt highway bill was recalled from the house by the senate Monday. In the house it had been recommended to the committee on roads and highways. Now that the bill is back in committee, it will either slumber there for a while or else will be so amended that it will not jeopardize the rest of the state road program.

Senators Ritner and Patterson have introduced a bill authorizing an appropriation of approximately \$255,000 for the construction, furnishing and equipment of buildings, improvements and betterments at a number of state institutions.

Although seven members of the house offered strenuous objections to the passage of house bill 82, introduced by Representative Wells, creating the office of state real estate commissioner, the measure passed Tuesday.

The senate, by a vote of 20 to 9, passed on third reading Senator Banks' bill providing free textbooks in the elementary schools of the state.

The Oregon Agricultural college, through W. J. Kerr, president of the institution, has asked the joint ways and means committee of the senate and house to appropriate approximately \$187,000 with which to carry on activities of the college for the present biennium, exclusive of resident instruction work.

Only two votes were registered against the bill offered by Representative Kuhl authorizing departments of the state to enter the open market for state printing.

Senator Bell's bill providing for a change in the formation of the state emergency board to pass on all emergency appropriations will become a law if Governor Olcott signs it.

In the remaining two weeks of the Oregon legislative session much must be done. None of the legislation which has been classified as most important has been disposed of. Into the two remaining weeks must be crowded final action on the port development measures, the road and highway bills, the Roosevelt highway bill, the reapportionment plan to redistrict the legislature, the tax supervising and conservation commission bill, the soldiers' bonus measure, irrigation bills, teachers' tenure amendment, appropriation bills, fish commission and fish code, county and city consolidation resolution and a few others.

Of the \$225,000 sought by the Oregon state fair board for the next two years, \$155,000 is needed for improvements, according to a report filed by A. H. Lea, secretary, with the ways and means committee.

WAR CLAIMS REACH TOTAL OF BILLIONS

\$212,700,000 Already Asked of
Federal Government.

IS LITIGATION RECORD

Attorney-General Says Suits to Collect
From United States Are Rapidly Increasing.

Washington, D. C.—Millions of dollars—and promises of billions—are represented in the great tide of lawsuits which is beginning to pour into the United States court of claims as one of the results of the world war. The court was expressly created to determine legal controversies between private citizens and the government.

The attorney-general says the amount of war claims is enormous and that indications are the influx of cases has only begun. Actions upon claims involving approximately \$124,000,000 have already been filed. The ultimate aggregate of claims, it is estimated, will reach between two and three billions of dollars. The personnel of the department of justice having charge of the defense of these actions has been doubled to enable it to cope with the flood of new litigation.

These war claims are brought into the court by plaintiffs having claims against all departments of the government. The war department has claims involving approximately \$5,000,000,000. The bureau of internal revenue now has pending claims for refunds and rebates aggregating \$650,000,000. The shipping board has cancellations of contracts involving more than \$850,000,000. Claims for patent infringement are estimated by the attorney-general at \$100,000,000. The railroad administration has differences with the railroads amounting to approximately \$750,000,000.

There are also claims proportionately large in amount arising from the housing corporation, the war risk bureau and the food and fuel administrations, and it is known that there is a large amount of other claims of miscellaneous character which have not yet been filed.

In preparation for the disposition of this new business the court of claims has so cleared its dockets that not only pending suits, but actions based upon these war claims are receiving immediate attention, and all cases are disposed of as rapidly as they are presented. One of the first and most important cases, affecting claims estimated at \$100,000,000 was begun on May 5, 1920. Judgment was rendered June 28, 1920, and an appeal was argued in the United States supreme court on January 7.

Among the claims already filed in the court are \$60,000,000 for shipping, \$20,000,000 for railroad requisition, \$25,000,000 for patent infringement, \$2,200,000 for aircraft engines and guns, \$2,000,000 for transportation of troops and supplies, and \$2,500,000 in suits commenced by the packing companies.

SENATOR CHAMBERLAIN TO BE ON SHIPPING BOARD

Washington, D. C.—Senator Chamberlain, of Oregon who retires from the senate on March 4, will immediately step into office on the United States shipping board.

This can be said positively on definite information. Whether President-elect Harding will choose to make public announcement soon of his intention to name Chamberlain to the board cannot be said, but there is no doubt that the decision has been reached to have this government avail itself of the senator's service in the new capacity just as soon as he retires from his present office.

Senator McNary was in St. Augustine, Fla., Sunday discussing this and other public matters with Mr. Harding and there is no doubt that he has obtained the assurance of his colleague's appointment, although it is not supposed that he will announce the result of his conference immediately upon his return here.

Secretaries Keep Seats.

Washington, D. C. — Secretaries Daniels and Meredith are to retain their "cabinet seats" permanently. They arranged to purchase the chairs they have occupied in the cabinet meetings as souvenirs. Formerly the chairs were sold for \$65, but the two officers are understood to have paid more than \$100 each. Secretary Baker has contented himself with removing his name plate from the back of his cabinet chair.

The Great Shadow

By A. CONAN DOYLE

Author of "The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes"

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CHAPTER XIV—Continued.

The major and I were raising his head, in the hope that some flutter of life might remain, when I heard a well-remembered voice at my side, and there was De Lissac, leaning upon his elbow, among a litter of dead Guardsmen. He had a great blue coat muffled round him, and his hat, with the high red plume, was lying on the ground beside him. He was very pale and had dark blotches under his eyes, but otherwise he was as he had ever been, with the keen, hungry nose, the wiry mustache and the close-cropped head, thinning away to baldness upon the top. His eyelids had always drooped, but now one could hardly see the glint of his eyes from beneath them.

"Halloo, Jack!" he cried. "I didn't thought to have seen you here, and yet I might have known it, too, when I saw friend Jim."

"It is you that have brought all this trouble," said I.

"Ta, ta, ta!" he cried in his old, impatient fashion. "It is all arranged for us. When I was in Spain I learned to believe in fate. It is fate which has sent you here this morning."

"This man's blood lies at your door," said I, with my hand on poor Jim's shoulder.

"And mine on his, so we have paid our debts." He flung open his mantle as he spoke, and I saw with horror that a great lump of clotting blood was hanging out of his side.

"This is my thirteenth and last," said he, with a smile. "They say that thirteen is an unlucky number. Could you spare me a drink from your flask?"

The major had some brandy-and-water. De Lissac sipped it up eagerly. His eyes brightened, and a little fleck of color came back into each of his haggard cheeks.

"It was Jim did this," said he. "I heard some one calling my name, and there he was, with his gun against my neck. Two of my men cut him down just as he fired. Well, well, Edie was worth it all. You will be in Paris in less than a month, Jack, and you will see her. You will find her at number eleven of the Rue Mironesnil, which is near the Madeleine. Break it very gently to her, Jack, for you cannot think how she loves me. Tell her that all I have is in two black trunks, and that Antoine has the keys. You will not forget?"

"I will remember."

"And madame, your mother? Trust that you have left her very well. And monsieur, too, your father? Bear them my distinguished regards." Even now, as death closed in upon him, he gave the old bow and wave as he sent his greetings to my mother.

"Surely," said I, "your wound may not be so serious as you think. I could bring the surgeon of our regiment to you."

"My dear Jack, I have not been giving and taking wounds this fifteen years without knowing when one has come home. But it is well, for I know that all is ended for my Little Man, and I had rather go with my voltiiggers than remain to be an exile and a beggar. Besides, it is quite certain that the Allies would have shot me, so I have saved myself from that humiliation."

"The Allies, sir," said the major, with some heat, "would be guilty of no such barbarous action."

But De Lissac shook his head with the same sad smile.

"You do not know, major," said he.

"Do you suppose that I should have fled to Scotland and changed my name if I had not more to fear than my comrades in Paris? I was anxious to live, for I was sure that my Little Man would come back. Now I had rather die, for he will never head an army again. But I have done things that could not be forgiven. It was I that led the party that took and shot the Duc d'Enghien. It was I—ah, mon Dieu, Edie, Edie, ma chérie!" He threw out both his hands, with all the fingers feeling and quivering in the air. Then he let them drop heavily in front of him, and his chin fell forward upon his chest. One of our sergeants laid him gently down, and the other stretched the big blue mantle over him, and so we left those two whom fate had so strangely brought together, the Scotchman and the Frenchman, lying silently and peacefully within hand's touch of each other upon the blood-soaked hillside near Hongoumont.

CHAPTER XV.

The End of It.

And now I have very nearly come to the end of it all, and precious glad I shall be to find myself there, for I began this old memory with a light heart, thinking that it would give me some work for the long summer evenings, but as I went on I awakened a thousand sleeping sorrows and half-forgotten griefs, and now my soul is all as raw as the hide of an ill-sheared sheep. If I come safely out of it, I will swear never to set pen to paper again, for it is so very easy at first, like walking into a shelving stream, and then, before you can look round, you are off your feet and down

in a hole, and can struggle out as best you can.

We buried Jim and De Lissac with four hundred and thirty-one others of the French Guard and our own light infantry in a single trench. Ah, if you could sow a brave man as you sow a seed, there should be a fine crop of heroes coming up there some day! Then we left the bloody battlefield behind us forever, and with our brigade we marched on over the French border on our way to Paris.

I had always been brought up during all these years to look upon the French as very evil folk, and as we only heard of them in connection with fightings and slaughterings by land and by sea, it was natural enough to think that they were vicious by nature and ill to meet with. But then, after all, they had only heard of us in just the same fashion, and so, no doubt, they had just the same idea of us. But when we came to go through their country and to see their bonny little steadings, and the douce, quiet folk at work in the fields, and the women knitting by the roadside, and the old granny with a big white smutch smacking the baby to teach it manners, it was all so homelike that I could not think why it was that we had been fearing and hating these good people for so long. But I suppose that, in truth, it was really the man who was over them that we hated, and now that he was gone, and his great shadow was cleared from the land, all was brightness once more.

We jogged along happily enough through the loveliest country that ever I set my eyes on, until we came to the great city, where we thought that maybe there would be a battle, for there are so many folk in it that if only one in twenty comes out it would make a fine army. But by that time they had seen that it was a pity to spoil the whole country just for the sake of one man, and so they had told him that he must shift for himself in the future. The next we heard was that he had surrendered to the British, and that the gates of Paris were open to us, which was very good news to me, for I could get along very well just now on the one bottle that I had had.

But there were plenty of folk in Paris now who loved Boney, and that was natural when you think of the glory that he had brought them, and how he had never asked his army to go where he would not go himself. They had stern enough faces, for us, I can tell you, when we marched in, and we of Adams' brigade were the very first who set foot in the city. We passed over a bridge which they call Neuilly, which is easier to write than to say, and then through a fine park, the Bois de Boulogne, and so into the Champs d'Elysees. There we bivouacked, and pretty soon the streets were so full of Prussians and English that it became more like a camp than a city.

The very first time that I could get away I went with Rob Stewart, of my company—for we were only allowed to go about in couples—to the Rue Mironesnil. Rob waited in the hall, and I was shown upstairs, and as I put my foot over the mat there was Cousin Edie, just the same as ever, staring at me with those wild eyes of hers. For a moment she did not recognize me, but when she did she just took three steps forward and sprang at me with her two arms round my neck.

"Oh, my dear old Jack!" she cried, "how fine you look in a red coat!" "Yes, I am a soldier now, Edie," said I, very stiffly, for as I looked at her pretty face I seemed to see behind it that other face which had looked up to the morning sky on the Belgian battlefield.

"Fancy that!" she cried. "What are you then, Jack? A general? A captain?"

"No, I am a private."

"What! Not one of the common people who carry guns?"

"Yes, I carry a gun."

"Oh, that is not nearly so interesting," said she, and she went back to the sofa from which she had risen. It was a wonderful room, all silk and velvet and shiny things, and I felt inclined to go back to give my boots another rub. As Edie sat down again I saw that she was all in black, and so I knew that she had heard of De Lissac's death.

"I am glad to see that you know all," said I, "for I am a clumsy hand at breaking things. He said that you were to keep whatever was in the boxes, and that Antoine had the keys."

"Thank you, Jack, thank you," said she. "It was like your kindness to bring the message. I heard of it nearly a week ago. I was mad for the time—quite mad. I shall wear mourning all my days, although you can see what a fright it makes me look. Ah, I shall never get over it. I shall take the veil and die in a convent."

"If you please, madame," said a maid, looking in, "the Count de Beton wishes to see you."

"My dear Jack," said Edie, jumping up, "this is very important. I am so sorry to cut our chat short, but I am sure that you will come to see me again, will you not, when I am less

desolated. And would you mind going out by the side door instead of the main one? Thank you, you dear old Jock; you were always such a good boy, and did exactly what you were told."

And that was the last I was ever to see of Cousin Edie. She stood in the sunlight with the old challenge in her eyes and flash of her teeth, and so I shall always remember her, shining and unstable like a drop of quicksilver. As I joined my comrade in the street below I saw a fine carriage and pair at the door, and I knew that she had asked me to slip out so that her grand new friends might never know what common people she had been associated with in her childhood. She had never asked for Jim, nor for my father and mother, who had been so kind to her. Well, it was just her way, and she could no more help it than a rabbit can help wagging its scut, and yet it made me heavy-hearted to think of it. Two months later I heard that she had married this same Count de Beton, and she died in child-bed a year or two later.

And as for us, our work was done, for the great shadow had been cleared away from Europe, and should no longer be thrown across the breadth of the lands, over peaceful farms and little villages, darkening the lives which should have been so happy. I came back to Corriemuir after I had bought my discharge. When my father died, I took over the sheep farm, and married Lucy Deane of Berwick, and have brought up seven children who are all taller than their father, and take mighty good care that he shall not forget it. But in the quiet, peaceful days that pass now, each as like the other as so many Scotch tups, I can hardly get the young folks to believe that even here we have had our romance, when Jim and I went a-wooing, and the man with the cat's whiskers came up from the sea.

[THE END.]

CARRIED "HONESTY" TOO FAR

Trusted Clerk Rather Overdid It, and
Lost the Confidence of His
Employer.

Cash registers became an institution as a means of compelling honesty among employees handling money. There was a time when their installation was taken as an affront by every clerk concerned, but a new generation has accepted them as a matter of course. That they still have their use in the original sense, however, was demonstrated recently by one employer—a grocer—who was telling his story over the counter the other evening to a belated customer.

"Last summer," the grocer said, "my family was living down at the beach and I used to leave early in order to get down there for a late dinner. I had a clerk that I trusted to lock up and put the money in the safe. Naturally the cash register would show in the morning what he had rung up."

"For a few days I thought it was working fine. He was a good clerk and I thought he was honest. Then when I got to thinking about it I decided he was too—honest. For ten days that register and the cash agreed to a penny. Now that's better than I could make it do myself. It ain't natural."

"Then I decided to try a little scheme. Just before I left I rang up \$2.75 on the register and put nothing in the till. Next morning the cash and the register agreed as usual. That was enough for me. Any man who is so honest he will make up mistakes out of his pocket must have plenty of money to do it with."

"No, he isn't working for me now,"—New York Evening Sun.

As the Ancients Believed.

According to the Puranas of Hindu mythology the earth is circular and flat, like the flower of a water lily. Its circumference is 4,000,000,000 miles. In the center is Mount Sumeroo. On this mountain are three peaks formed of gold, pearls and precious stones, where the deities reside. At its base are three mountains on each of which grows a tree 8,000 miles high. The furthestmost country from these mountains is bounded by the salt sea. Beyond this sea there are six others—of sugar cane juice, of spirituous liquors, of clarified butter, or curds, of milk and nectar. Each sea is surrounded by a separate continent.

The Ark of the Covenant.

The Ark of the Covenant was the sacred chest which the Lord directed Moses to make to contain the tables of the law which he had received on Mount Sinai. It was four and one-half feet long, two and one-fourth feet wide and two and one-fourth feet high. It was covered within and without with gold and was carried by staves inserted in rings on the corners. This Ark of the Covenant was the most sacred possession of the Israelites. It was placed in the holy of holies in the tabernacle and later in a similar position in Solomon's temple. The ark was carried from one place to another and what finally became of it is unknown.