

# 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.

Announcement of a 12½ per cent wage advance, effective April 30, was made Wednesday by the American Woolen company. About 40,000 operatives in various mills are affected.

Thomas Bowman, bishop emeritus of the Evangelical church in the United States and one of the best known men in the denomination, died Monday at his home in Allentown, Pa. He was 87 years old.

Theft of a violin valued at \$8000, and which was made in 1851, was reported to the Chicago police Wednesday by a music company. Search was started for a young musician who was said to have been in the store when the instrument disappeared.

The United States government is still paying pensions to 41 widows of soldiers of the war of 1812 notwithstanding the fact that 103 years have elapsed since the close of that conflict, according to statistics just compiled by the department of the interior.

Wheat on hand at country mills and elevators on March 1 totaled 91,546,000 bushels, the department of agriculture announced Saturday. Last year on March 1 stocks totaled 75,071,000 bushels, two years ago, 87,075,000; three years ago, 123,233,000 and four years ago, 107,037,000.

The world's non-stop dancing record now is claimed by a Marseilles professor, who called it a day after he had held the floor for 24 hours 4 minutes and 5 seconds. He was assisted by two young women pupils, the first of whom, Mile. Marcelle Tréf, danced 16 hours 25 minutes and 15 seconds.

Apparently unconcerned at being one of six heirs to a three million dollar estate, Earl Campbell, a machinist, continues to work at his bench in a Racine, Wis., manufacturing plant. He intends to remain at work until he receives his legacy, when he will determine what business to engage in.

In a decision affecting more than 20,000 ex-service men and involving \$8,000,000 in money, the U. S. supreme court held Monday that enlisted men of the aviation service training for reserve officers were not entitled to pay of \$100 a month during training. The contention of the government was sustained.

A pedestrian crossing a street intersection with released traffic where a traffic officer with a semaphore is stationed, has the right-of-way until he reaches the opposite curb, even though the traffic officer may change the semaphore before the pedestrian reaches the curb, the Washington state supreme court held Wednesday.

Radio broadcasting is proving disastrous, financially, for many composers and singers, J. G. Rosenthal, counsel for the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers, said Wednesday at the national radio conference called by the department of commerce. He said copyrights of his clients were being infringed by the radio operations and that steps were in preparation for legal action to protect them.

Charles W. Elliot, president emeritus of Harvard university, beginning his 90th year Tuesday in good health, found time between congratulations to give a few words of advice to those who would do likewise. "Eat moderately, sleep at least seven hours a night with windows open, take regular exercise in the open air every day, use no stimulants, enjoy all natural delights without excess in any, and keep under all circumstances as serene a spirit as your nature permits," was the formula Dr. Elliot gave.

Secretary Hughes Wednesday flatly rejected an appeal to recognize the Russian soviet government made to him by representatives of the women's committee for the recognition of Russia and in a formal statement, declared "the salvation of Russia cannot be contrived outside and injected." The statement which was made to the delegation in reply to arguments it advanced, touched Russian government, trade, finance, economics and various policies inaugurated by the soviet affecting international relations.

## MME. BERNHARDT PASSES

Curtain Closes on Career of World's Finest Actress.

Paris.—Sarah Bernhardt died peacefully in the arms of her son Maurice at 1 minute before 8 o'clock Monday night. In life she had had an amazing power of emotion, of marvelous realism and pathos in her acting of death scenes. At the end of her days she quietly drifted away into eternity, tired after her long fight against death, which she did not wish, but never feared.

Hope for the life of the great actress had long since been abandoned, and half an hour before she passed away those in attendance found her sinking beyond recovery, though, knowing her recuperative powers, it was thought she might live throughout the night.

Mme. Bernhardt died in a large room on the second floor of her home with windows wide open on the Boulevard Pereire, the noise of trucks keeping up a low roar to which she was long accustomed. It was the sudden closing of these windows, opened on the finest day of spring, that gave the signal to those waiting and watching without that Bernhardt was dead.

Death was due to a renewed attack of uraemic poisoning, which began Friday, but the actress astonished her physicians by her repeated rallies and her will to live, just as she did last December when hope had several times been abandoned. A priest was summoned hurriedly in the middle of the afternoon when symptoms of the gravest nature supervened, but Bernhardt rallied and regained lucidity.

The priest administered extreme unction, which she acknowledged with faint movements of the hands and head, too weak to speak.

The widow of Edmond Rostand, whose fame is linked with that of Bernhardt, and the poet's son, Maurice Rostand, were at the bedside. Bernhardt's grandson, M. Grouse, brought the first flowers into the death chamber—mauve and white lilies. Flowers came from many friends quickly, and soon the room was heaped with them, those from the family and dearest friends being placed on the bed.

### Veterans Take to Music.

There are more than 700 disabled war veterans in the country training to become professional musicians, according to Anthony Montani, national director of music trainees with the United States Veterans' bureau, now in the Pacific northwest. Approximately 125 have been rehabilitated as musicians and 90 per cent of these are regularly employed, he stated. "As it is the purpose of the Veterans' bureau to train disabled veterans for gainful employment, only men who show a degree of talent in music are given such training," said Mr. Montani. "Eighty per cent of those who take up either vocal or instrumental music make good. There are 107 disabled veterans learning to become professional singers. The violin leads the instruments with 99 trainees."

### Moscow Gets Hughes' Statement.

Moscow.—The statement made by the American secretary of state, Charles E. Hughes, several days ago in Washington that recognition of the Russian soviet government would not become a fact until the soviet government abandoned its present policies, is printed by the Moscow newspapers Sunday with comment. Unofficially it is learned that the Russian government cherishes no expectation of immediate recognition by the United States but feels certain "recognition will come sooner or later from an economic, if no other standpoint."

### Wolf Escapes in Park.

New York.—A big timber wolf escaped from its cage in the Central park zoo Saturday and fled through the park, pursued by Patrolman Neack. The policeman wounded the animal at 55th street and Transverse road, stopping its flight but not killing it. With two bullets in its body it was returned to its cage, dying. The wolf did not attack any of the hundreds who were in the park.

### Big Wool Deals Closed.

Heppner, Or.—J. A. Funk of Portland and W. W. Smead of Heppner, representing Hollowell, Jones & Donald of Boston, bought 300,000 pounds of wool here Monday morning and it was expected that their purchases would aggregate half a million pounds by nightfall. Prices ranged from 40 cents for average clips to 42 for select lots.

### Hamburg Coming Back.

Berlin.—Hamburg has regained her pre-war position as the greatest shipping center on the European continent, according to tonnage statistics for last year, just published. These show that the port of Hamburg handled more than 13,000,000 net tons as compared with 12,750,000 for Antwerp and 12,350,000 for Rotterdam.

## NATRON CUT-OFF PERMIT IS ASKED

All Papers Already Filed, Asserts Mr. Sproule.

LAW REQUIRES MOVE

Only Confirmation of Title to Central Pacific Waited—118 Miles of Line to Be Built.

Portland.—Official announcement that the Southern Pacific has formally applied for permission to construct the Natron cut-off and that such application was filed with the interstate commerce commission in Washington, D. C., last Friday, was made by William Sproule, president of the company, who arrived in Portland late Saturday night from his headquarters in San Francisco. He was accompanied by George W. Boschke, chief engineer, and will remain for several days to be present at an important railroad consolidation hearing to be held this week.

That only the awaiting of legal confirmation of the company's title to the Central Pacific retards the actual beginning of construction on the cutoff from Kirk through Klamath Falls to Oakridge, was the statement made by Mr. Sproule upon his arrival in Portland to attend the interstate commerce commission hearing which opens Wednesday.

Mr. Sproule declared that proof of the sincerity of his company may be found in the application now on file with the commission to permit construction of the cutoff, and that affirmative decision of the court will immediately result in work upon the 118 miles of construction between Kirk, on the south, and Oakridge, on the north. He estimated the cost of construction to be between \$10,000,000 and \$12,500,000.

"If any further assurances," said Mr. Sproule, "were desired that the Southern Pacific will complete the line through Klamath Falls to Oakridge, usually known as the Natron cutoff, that assurance will be found in the fact that application was placed on file in Washington on Friday last with the interstate commerce commission for commission's certificate of public convenience and necessity, as required by law, to permit construction of the Natron cutoff. This application has been made at this time for the purpose of getting the formal legal preliminaries attended to in advance, so that we may begin the actual work promptly upon favorable action by the United States court."

## RIVER ON RAMPAGE AGAIN IN IOWA

Omaha, Neb.—The Missouri river, after flooding lowlands near Sioux City, Iowa, during the past week, is again menacing property, this time near Onawa, according to information received here Sunday afternoon.

An ice gorge, believed to have been part of the same one which was responsible for flood conditions near Sioux City and which floated down the river during the night, caused a rapid rise in the water opposite Onawa, resulting in overflow on to sand bars, menacing valuable farm land in Iowa.

According to B. E. Harlow, postmaster at Onawa, the river rose 13 feet after formation of the gorge but there was no danger of loss of life, he said, as persons living along the river banks had been moving for the last two days to places of safety. From 12 to 25 families moved out, taking their livestock and other property with them.

A rise of about three more feet, Mr. Harlow said, can be stood before the water is apt to overflow on lands planted with valuable crops.

### Turk Peace Predicted.

London.—Lieutenant-General Sir Charles Harrington, commander in chief of the allied forces in the Constantinople area, on his arrival here Sunday said that the prospects of an early peace with the Turks were excellent, provided the allies and the Kemalists show a reasonable spirit of moderation. He was confident that the Kemalists would accept the modified draft of the Lausanne treaty now being formulated in London.

# The Mardi Gras Mystery

By H. BEDFORD-JONES

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CHAPTER XII—Continued.

"Very well, then, the meeting is called to order!" Jachin Fell smiled as he rapped on the desk before him. "Election of officers—no, wait! The first thing on hand is to give our company a name. Suggestions?"

"I was thinking of that last night," said Lucie, smiling a little. "Why not call it the 'American Prince Oil company'?" And her eyes darted to Gramont merrily.

"Excellent!" exclaimed Jachin Fell. "My vote falls with yours, my dear—I'll fill in the blanks with that name. Now to the election of officers."

"I nominate Jachin Fell for president," said Gramont, quickly.

"Seconded!" exclaimed the girl, gayly, a little color in her pale cheeks.

"Any other nominations? If not, so approved and ordered," rattled Fell, laughing. "For the office of treasurer—"

"Miss Lucie Ledanois!" said Gramont. "Move nominations be closed."

"Seconded and carried by a two-thirds vote of stockholders," chirped Fell in his toneless voice. "So approved and ordered. For secretary—"

"Our third stockholder," put in Lucie. "He'll have to be an officer, of course!"

"Seconded and carried. So approved and ordered." Mr. Fell rapped on the table. "We will now have the report of our expert geologist in further detail than yet given."

Gramont told of finding the oil; he was not carried away by the gay mock-solemnity of Jachin Fell, and he remained grave. He went on to relate how he had secured the lease option upon the adjoining land, and suggested that other such options be secured at once upon other property in the neighborhood. He handed the option to Fell, who laid it with the other documents.

"And now I have a proposal of my own to make," said Jachin Fell. He appeared sobered, as though influenced by Gramont's manner. "Although we've actually found oil on the place, there is no means of telling how much we'll find when we drill, or what quality it will be. Is that not correct, Mr. Gramont?"

"Entirely so," assented Gramont. "The chances are, of course, that we'll find oil in both quality and quantity. On the other hand, the seepage may be all there is. Oil is a gamble from start to finish. Personally, however, I would gamble heavily on this prospect."

"Naturally," said Mr. Fell. "However, I have been talking over the oil business with a number of men actively engaged in it in the Houma field. I think that I may safely say that I can dispose of the mineral rights to our company's land, together with this lease option secured yesterday on the adjoining land, for a sum approximating one hundred and fifty thousand dollars; reserving to our company a sixteenth interest in any oil located on the property. Personally, I believe this can be done, and I am willing to undertake the negotiations if so empowered by a vote of our stockholders. Lucie, you do not mind if we smoke, I know? Let me offer you a cigar, Mr. Gramont."

Gramont took one offered him, and lighted it amid a startled silence.

"Ah!" Gramont regarded him coolly. "Your cards will have to be powerful persuaders!"

"They are," returned Jachin Fell. "I have been carefully leading up to this point—the time of selling. I have practically arranged the whole affair. I propose to sell the mineral rights in that land, largely on the strength of the signed statement you gave me a few moments ago. That statement is going to be given wide publicity, and it will be substantiated by other reports on the oil seepage."

"You interest me strangely," Gramont leaned back in his chair. The eyes of the two men met and held in cold challenge, cold hostility. "What's your motive, Fell?"

"I'll tell you; it's the interest of Lucie Ledanois." In the gaze of Fell was a strange earnestness. In those pale gray eyes was now a light of fierce sincerity which startled and warned Gramont. Fell continued with a trace of excitement in his tone.

"I've known that girl all her life, Gramont, and I love her as a father. I loved her mother before her—in a different way. I can tell you that at this moment Lucie is poor. Her house is mortgaged, she does not know, in fact, just how poor she really is. Of course, she will accept no money from me in gift. But for her to get a hundred and fifty thousand in a business deal will solve all her problems, set her on her feet for life!"

"I see," said Gramont with harsh impulse. "What do you get out of it?"

He regretted the words instantly. Fell half rose from his chair as though to answer them with a blow. Gramont, aware of his mistake, hastened to retract it.

"Forgive me, Fell," he said, quickly. "That was an unjust insinuation, and I know it. Yet, I can't find myself in agreement with you. I'm firmly set in the belief that a fortune in oil will be made off that land of Lucie's. I simply can't agree to sell out for a comparative pittance, and I'll fight to persuade her against doing it! As I look at it, the thing would not be just to her. I'm thinking, as you are, only of her interest."

A light of sardonic mockery glittered in the pale eyes of Jachin Fell. "You are basing your firm conviction," he queried, "very largely upon your discovery of the free oil?"

"To a large extent, yes."

"I thought you would," and Fell laughed harshly.

"What do you mean?"

"I mean," said the other, fiercely earnest, "that for a month I've worked to sell that land! I had young Maillard hooked and landed—it would have

been poetic justice to make him hand over a small fortune to Lucie! But that deal is off, since he's in jail. And do you know why young Maillard wanted to buy the land? For the same reason you don't want to sell. I sent him out there and he saw that oil seepage, as I meant that he should! He thought he would skin Lucie out of her land, not dreaming that I had prepared a nice little trap to swallow him. And now you come along—"

"Man, what are you driving at?" exclaimed Gramont. He was startled by what he read in the other man's face.

"Merely that I planted that oil seepage myself—or had it done by men I could trust," said Jachin Fell, calmly. He sat back in his chair and took up his cigar with an air of finality. "The

concession is shameless. I love Lucie more than my own ethical purity. Besides, I intend to wrong no one in the matter."

Gramont sat stunned beyond words. The oil seepage—a plant.

There was no reason to doubt what Fell said. Gramont believed the little man sincere in his love for Lucie.

"No matter what the outcome, your reputation will not be affected," said Fell, quietly. "The company which will buy this land of Lucie's is controlled by me. You understand? Even if no oil is ever found there, I shall see to it that you will not be injured because of that signed statement."

Gramont nodded in dull comprehension. He realized that Fell had devised this whole business scheme with infernal ingenuity; had devised it in order to take a hundred and fifty thousand dollars out of his own pocket and put it into that of Lucie. It was a present which the girl would never accept as a gift, but which, if it came in the way of business, would make her financially independent. Nobody would be defrauded. There was no chicanery about it. The thing was straight enough.

"That's not quite all of my plan," pursued Fell, as though reading Gramont's unuttered thoughts. "The minute this news becomes public, the minute your statement is published, there will be a tremendous boom in that whole section. I shall take charge of Lucie's money, and within three weeks I should double it, treble it, for her. Before the boom bursts she will be out of it all, and wealthy. Now, my dear Gramont, I do not presume that you will still refuse to vote with me? I have been quite frank, you see."

Gramont stirred in his chair.

"Yes!" he said, low-voiced. "Yes, by heavens, I do refuse!"

With an effort he checked hotly impulsive words that were on his tongue. One word now might ruin him. He dared not say that he did not want to see Fell's money pass into the hands of Lucie—money gained by fraud and theft and crime! He dared not give his reasons for refusing. He meant now to crush Fell utterly—but one wrong word would give the man full warning. He must say nothing.

"It's not straight work, Fell. Regardless of your motives, I refuse to join you."

Jachin Fell sighed slightly, and laid down his cigar with precision.

"Gramont," his voice came with the softly purring menace of a tiger's throat-tone, "I shall now adjourn this company meeting for two days, until Saturday morning, in order to give you a little time to reconsider. Today is Thursday. By Saturday—"

"I need no time," said Gramont.

"But you will need it. I suppose you know that Bob Maillard has been arrested for perjury? You are aware of the evidence against him—all circumstantial!"

(TO BE CONTINUED.)

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(TO BE CONTINUED.)

Plant's Remarkable Growth.

A recent note in science records what is believed to be the temperate zone record for a single season's growth of a shoot of the tree type of woody plant. This quite phenomenal shoot grew from the stump of a be-headed Paulownia and reached a height of 21 feet 6 inches, a circumference of 10 inches at the base, and had 24 leaves, one of which, measured in late July, was found to be 38 inches long in the largest dimension.

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