

WORLD HAPPENINGS OF CURRENT WEEK

Brief Resume Most Important
Daily News Items.

COMPILED FOR BUSY READERS

Events of Noted People, Governments
and Pacific Northwest and Other
Things Worth Knowing.

A terrific storm is blowing along the
Alaskan coast.

President Wilson's Christmas dinner
consisted of all-American dishes.

The Swiss government indorses Wilson's
peace note, and freely offers assistance.

Spokane mining district yields \$13,-
827,281 net to owners, for the year
just closing.

It is reported that President Wilson
is expected to warn Americans against
ocean travel should the peace move fail.

France has barred the sale of alcohol
throughout that country, another
step taken to limit drinking to beer
and wine.

Colonel William F. Cody, (Buffalo
Bill), who has been seriously ill, is
improving at the home of his daughter
in Denver.

William A. Shaner, a barber in a
prominent Portland shop, was shot and
instantly killed by another barber
Christmas morning.

An overturned canoe found in a
slough near Everett, Wash., leads to
the belief that three boys lost their
lives, as one of the bodies has been
found.

J. R. Misner, of Albany, Ore.,
received a bomb through the mail. His
suspicions being aroused, he tied it to
a tree and with a long string pulled
the lid open. A terrific explosion
followed.

John D. Rockefeller's Christmas
present to each of the employees on his
Tarrytown estate was a \$10 gold piece,
inclosed in a case, on which is printed
"The Season's Greetings from John
D. Rockefeller."

The Adams Express company
announced Tuesday that additional
monthly pay to employees already made
and to be made in lieu of a contingent
bonus, will increase its annual wage
schedule by \$1,000,000.

Henry F. Farny, aged 71, widely-
known author and painter, died in
Cincinnati Christmas Day in a hospital.
Mr. Farny won world-wide renown as
an artist of unusual merit by his
paintings of famous Indian chiefs.

Frank J. Gould, says the Paris
Herald, has just given \$100,000 for
the rebuilding of the English Protestant
church at Maison la Fitte. There is
an important English-American colony
at this place, mostly interested in
thoroughbred racing stables.

An armored motor car, funds to buy
which were raised by popular subscrip-
tion, was presented to the National
Guard of Colorado. Adjutant General
Harry P. Gamble accepted the car.
The presentation took place in the
capitol grounds at Denver.

A Frankfurt dispatch to the London
Exchange Telegraph company from
Rotterdam, says there was heavy bet-
ting on the Berlin exchange Tuesday
that peace would be signed before Au-
gust. The same dispatch says that
the German emperor will return to
Berlin for conferences with the Amer-
ican and Spanish ambassadors.

Salt Lake City—An unexploded
bomb was found near Governor Spry's
residence early Monday. It was un-
covered by R. F. Nelson as he was
sweeping a path through the snow be-
tween his own residence and that of
the governor. Examination of the
bomb by the sheriff and state chemist
showed that the bomb contained
enough explosive materials to have
blown both houses to pieces.

Attempts to obtain action on the
Adams resolution to extend the life
of the Newlands railroad committee,
now investigation all phases of the
railroad situation, until January 7,
1918, were abandoned. They will
be taken up after the holiday recess of
congress.

Vallejo, Cal.—A centrifugal machine
gun, said to throw 3000 projectiles a
minute at an initial velocity of 4000
feet a second, was tested by naval
authorities here. The initial velocity
of the army rifle is 2000 feet per second.
The centrifugal gun is operated wholly
by electricity.

RAILROADS ARE PROSPEROUS

Net Income From All Sources During
1916 Exceeds Billion.

Washington, D. C.—More than \$1,-
000,000,000 net income from operation
was made by the railroads of the coun-
try during the year now closing. The
huge total is the peak of prosperity in
railroad operations, and stands more
than one-third higher than the total of
1913, heretofore the banner year.

Statistics gathered by the Interstate
Commerce commission, complete for
nine months and made the basis for
the calculation for the entire year, in-
dicate that the total net income from
operations will be approximately \$1,-
098,000,000. For the first nine months
of the year complete returns show
\$785,558,266. Even this does not rep-
resent the full amount, as roads whose
income is less than \$1,000,000 are not
included.

The estimate — \$1,098,000,000 — is

To Manage Ceremonies at Wilson's Inauguration



Robert N. Harper, a bank president
of Washington, D. C., is to be chair-
man of the inaugural committee which
will have charge of the inaugural cere-
monies for President Wilson. He will
have plenty of hard work in raising
the money for the ceremony and pro-
viding for the hundred thousand visi-
tors who will besiege Washington
March 4.

regarded by officials as conservative.
It makes no allowance for normal in-
crease in business during the last
three months of the year—returns for
which are unavailable—but places the
income for October, November and
December at the same figures as for
July, August and September. There
is no question, officials say, but there
will be an increase, the only doubt is
as to its size.

Analysis of the returns for the first
nine months shows a startling increase
from January to September, amount-
ing to more than 67 per cent. Thus,
net income in January, \$64,915,286,
had mounted to \$107,919,814 in Sep-
tember, an increase of nearly \$43,-
000,000.

For the first nine months of the
year, the commission's figures show
that the railroads collected \$2,654,-
829,647 from all sources of operation.

The chief items were as follows:
Freight, \$1,875,019,990; passenger
traffic, \$522,103,907; mails, \$45,348,-
609; from express companies, \$65,-
089,474; incidentals, dining and buffet
car service, operation of hotels and
restaurants, sale of vending privileges
on trains and at stations, parcel rooms
at stations, demurrage, storage of
freight and baggage, telegraph and
telephone wires leased to other com-
panies, operation of grain elevators,
etc., \$60,414,597, and all other trans-
portation charges, \$76,087,611.

The last item embraces sleeping and
parlor car service; freight on milk,
which has virtually an express service;
switching charges and operation of
special trains.

Wilson Takes Up Deficit.

Washington, D. C.—Various plans
suggested for meeting the deficit are
being considered by President Wilson
and it was said Monday the President
might decide to address congress on
the subject as soon as he made up his
mind how the revenues should be
raised.

Members of the house ways and
means committee already have dis-
cussed the problem with Secretary Mc-
Ado and other administration officials.

Wire Fence Deadly to Two.

Tulare, Cal.—John D. Mello and
Frank C. Silv, ranch hands, were
shocked to death Christmas day by a
wire ranch fence carrying 11,000 volts
of electricity transmitted by a Mount
Whitney Power & Electric company
power wire which had fallen across the
fence and set the posts afire. Manuel
Godhine was severely burned when he
attempted to rescue his companions.

COURT INVALIDATES TITLE TO 600 ACRES

Judge Galloway, Salem, Finds
Fraud in Hyde Entries.

37,000 ACRES ARE AT STAKE

Decision in Linn County Case is First
in Seven Actions Pending—State
Must Return \$1.25 an Acre.

Salem, Ore.—Judge William Gal-
loway, in the Circuit court here late
Saturday, decided that title to 600
acres of land in Linn county was ob-
tained by F. A. Hyde and his associ-
ates through fraud and collusion and
that the title in equity to such lands,
because of the fraud and collusion, still
is vested in the State of Oregon.

But, he determined, that the \$1.25
an acre paid to the state for the land
should be repaid. The money has been
a portion of the state school fund,
bearing six per cent interest. As to
whether the interest which the state
has received on this money should be
repaid as well is still to be decided
when the findings of fact and conclu-
sions of law are signed by the court
next week.

While the cause in question involves
only 600 acres of land, the decision is
of widespread interest, as this is the
first to be decided of the seven Hyde-
Benson cases, which have been sub-
mitted by Attorney General Brown and
Assistant Attorney General Bailey.

All told, the cases involve 37,000 acres
of land situated in Linn, Lane, Clack-
amas, Hood River, Crook, Klamath
and Josephine counties.

If the lower court's contention that
the \$1.25 an acre should be repaid
from the state school fund, proves to
be correct on appeal, it will take
from the fund approximately \$46,250,
with the possibility of payment of six
per cent interest on that amount run-
ning from 1898.

The court found that Hyde and his
associates, through "dummy" entry-
men, obtained 47,000 acres of school
lands in the state. Before the fraud
and collusion were discovered the
United States had patented 10,000
acres of the land, and this was dis-
posed of by Hyde and his associates,
and the land forfeited as far as the
state was concerned.

\$4000 is Obtained by Lone Robber From Bickleton Bank

North Yakima, Wash.—The Bank of
Bickleton, 20 miles southwest of Mab-
ton, Wash., was robbed of \$4000 late
Friday by a lone robber, who rode into
town on horseback, held up the bank
and escaped.

The robber compelled S. A. Rossier,
the cashier, to hand over the money,
and after locking Rossier in a room,
mounted his horse and rode away.

A posse was formed as soon as Mr.
Rossier could free himself and give the
alarm.

The robber's abandoned horse was
found by the posse 30 miles from the
scene of the robbery. The bandit had
ridden the animal until it was exhaust-
ed and then had continued his flight on
foot. The posse was said to be in
close pursuit.

Two thousand dollars which the rob-
ber left behind when he abandoned his
horse was recovered.

Peace Meeting Planned.

New York—Monster peace demon-
strations, at which will be read a man-
ifesto "from the American people to
the world in the cause of peace," will
be held at midnight on New Year's
eve in Chicago, Denver, San Francisco
and this city, it was announced here
Monday by the American Neutral
Conference committee.

At each meeting a community
chorus will ring out the present year
with song.

\$36,000 Paid for Farm.

Pendleton, Or.—The old Prospect
farm, near Stanfield, one of the oldest
in Umatilla county, again changed
hands, David R. Wood, of Weston,
buying it for \$36,000 from William
Robbins and wife, who purchased the
place about a year ago. The farm con-
sists of 1600 acres of wheat land.
Robbins took in trade as part payment
a house and lot in Weston, a chop mill
and warehouse in Weston and a house
and lot in Milton. At one time the
place sold at nearly \$73,000.

ENGLAND STILL SUSPICIOUS

"Something Behind" Belief Prevalent
in Minds of Many.

London—The Monday morning news-
papers again are giving ample space to
President Wilson's note, assiduously
seeking to penetrate any possibly con-
cealed motive that may have led the
President to what is considered here a
most inopportune movement.

According to the Washington cor-
respondents of London newspapers the
opinion in the United States as well as
here is that there must be "something
behind it," and it is the opinion of
many of the newspaper writers that
this act was inadvertently revealed by
Secretary of State Lansing when he
referred to the United States as on the
verge of being drawn into the war.

The suggestion is put forward by
some of the writers that what would
possibly so involve the United States
would be a resumption on a still

Lord Curzon Will Wed Another American Beauty



MRS. ALFRED DUGGAN

The engagement of Lord Curzon,
just named a member of the British
war council, to Mrs. Grace Elvina
Duggan, widow of Alfred Duggan, of
Buenos Ayres, and daughter of the
late J. Munroe Hinds, once American
minister to Brazil, has been announced
in London.

His wife, Mary Victoria Leiter,
daughter of the Chicago millionaire,
died ten years ago. Mrs. Duggan is a
native of Alabama. She is tall and
handsome, and has been known in
European capitals for some years. Her
former husband made a large fortune
in Argentina.

greater scale of Germany's submarine
policy.

The passage in the President's note
to which he professes to find the aims
of both belligerent groups identical
and his qualifying phrase in the con-
text, "as stated in general terms to
their own people and to the world,"
for the most part is ignored, except in
the columns of newspapers of pacifist
tendencies. It cannot be said that
these late press opinions show less op-
position to the President's action than
those of last week.

The Morning Post says the king's
speech in parliament was perhaps the
best answer that could be made to
"the President's amiable proposal."
Alluding to the President's belief that
the nations are ready to welcome a
league of peace, the newspaper says:

"With our experience with these
leagues of peace behind us, we should
think twice and thrice before throwing
over trusted allies in order to put our
fortunes to the vote of Guatemala,
Haiti, Siam and other nations, large
and small, which would compose such
a federation."

The Daily News, one of the most fa-
vorable of the newspapers to President
Wilson, says editorially that the recep-
tion of his note was respectful but un-
compromising. "What had to be said
has been said, for the most part in
language which America will neither
misunderstand nor resent."

Coins Carry New Designs.

Denver—The Denver mint Monday
began turning out the newly designed
half-dollar pieces, and for an indefinite
period will coin an average of more
than 150,000 pieces daily. The new
coin bears the full length of the Statue
of Liberty, with the Stars and Stripes
flying to the wind as a background.
Branches of oak also are imprinted.
On the reverse side an eagle is perched
high on a crag, wings unfolded. The
coin bears the usual wording.

Treaty is Ratified Again.

Copenhagen—King Christian in the
cabinet council Monday ratified the
treaty providing for the sale of the
Danish West Indies to the United
States. This follows the passage by
both houses of the Danish parliament
of the bill for the ratification of the
treaty.

TWENTY MISSING IN MASONIC HOME FIRE

Aged and Children Are Believed
Lost at Wichita, Kansas.

DEFECTIVE FURNACE IS CAUSE

Eight Tots Trapped in Burning Wing
With Rescue Impossible—Institu-
tion Thrown Into Darkness.

Wichita, Kan.—Of more than 100
persons in the Kansas Masonic Home
here, which burned early Friday, only
80 had been accounted for at 3 a. m.,
according to Superintendent Daniel P.
Burdick.

Eight children, trapped in a wing
through which flames were sweeping,
and which had been entirely cut off
from an entrance by the fire, were
given up for lost after rescuers had
made many frantic efforts to enter the
building to rescue the helpless little
ones.

Aside from the tragic destruction of
the Masonic Home, the fire began to
assume serious financial aspects as
several nearby houses began burning.
Efforts to obtain telegraph operators
to man wires to the outside world were
hindered by the fact that five men
from the telegraph office had been
summoned home because their resi-
dences were on fire.

The majority of the older persons in
the Masonic Home apparently escaped.
Many of them were unhurt, but in the
scanty clothing which they were able
to snatch in their exit from the home,
they suffered keenly in a temperature
close to the zero mark. The refugees
took shelter in a nearby chapel and
first aid was rushed to them. Frozen
fire plugs proved a serious handicap to
the firemen in their efforts to check
the flames, so that rescue work could
be carried on.

One woman, caught under a falling
stairway, received injuries which prob-
ably will prove fatal.

The fire is thought to have originat-
ed in the basement of the home.

Paul Zeilke, 15, an inmate of the
basement, Zeilke was awakened
shortly before 2 o'clock by fire and
smoke. He rushed to an electric
switch and pulled it, shutting off the
motor that pumped oil to the furnace.
This also threw the entire building in
darkness.

Revised figures indicate that there
were 99 inmates in the home besides
the assistants and help. Of these but
46 have been accounted for, but dozens
of others are known to have been re-
scued and taken to nearby homes.

Universal Military Training Bill to Reach Congress Next Month

Washington, D. C.—A definite plan
for universal military training will
be laid before congress next month in
the shape of a bill formulated by the
general staff of the army, accompanied
by complete estimates of cost, as com-
pared to the present volunteer system.
Major General Hugh L. Scott, chief of
staff, told the house military commit-
tee Friday that the work was in pro-
gress, and would require about a month
to complete. Chairman Dent said the
committee would be glad to see the
bill.

Irish to Be Released.

London—The government has decid-
ed to release the Irish prisoners who
were interned after the rebellion in
Ireland, Henry E. Duke, chief secre-
tary of Ireland, announced Friday.

"The time has come when the ad-
vantages of releasing these men far
outweigh the risk, and I have so ad-
vised the government. Steps, there-
fore, will be taken to proceed with the
least possible delay to return the in-
terned prisoners to their homes."

Christmas Pardon Given.

Albany, N. Y.—A Christmas pardon
was granted by Governor Whitman
Saturday to William J. Cummins, who
has served three years and two months
of a state's prison sentence of four
years and eight months for his part in
the wrecking of the Carnegie Trust
company, of New York, several years
ago. Governor Whitman said that let-
ters and petitions asking for clemency
had been received from nearly every
state in the Union.

Luther Burbank Wedded.

San Francisco—Luther Burbank, the
famous plant evolutionist, was married
here Thursday to his secretary, Miss
Elizabeth Waters, by Rev. C. S. S.
Dutton, pastor of the First Unitarian
church. The ceremony was private
and Mr. Burbank and his bride were
whisked away in a taxicab.