

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.

Oregon legislature passes a law
which doubles the tax on automobiles.

The English government has agreed
to set aside a day for discussion in the
house of commons of the Irish admin-
istration, as requested by the Nation-
alists.

An executive order to exclude spies
and other undesirable persons from the
Panama Canal zone and give the gov-
ernor virtually unlimited authority to
regulate immigration there has been
signed by President Wilson.

Charles J. White, professor emeritus
of mathematics at Harvard University
and author of several books on astron-
omy, was found dead in his chair in
his room Monday. He had been ill
for several days with grippe.

The "gratitude and thanks of the na-
tion" have been conveyed by the Brit-
ish government to James W. Gerard,
former American ambassador at Ber-
lin, for his work on behalf of British
civilians and prisoners of war in Ger-
many.

The authorities of Niteroy, Brazil,
five miles east of Rio Janeiro, have ar-
rested two Germans who were photog-
raphing the fortress of Imbuhy. The
prisoners are Fritz Meyer and Johan-
nes Karl, employes of commercial
houses.

Federal authorities at San Francis-
co, are detaining for investigation
George Kieft, a German, who came
from Manila on the U. S. transport
Sheridan, as a stowaway. Evidence
which points to him as a spy has been
found on his person.

Revolution-swept Mexico's de facto
government has entered the lists as an
international peacemaker with an
identical note to all neutrals proposing
a joint effort to end the European war,
coupled with the cutting off of exports
of supplies to belligerents.

The Italian lines in the district east
of Gorizia, Italy, which had been pen-
etrated in some places in Austrian at-
tacks late last week, have been re-es-
tablished completely, the war office an-
nounces. In the operation more than
100 prisoners were taken.

According to the Copenhagen Ham-
burger Nachrichten, two large ammu-
nition factories at Thorn, East Prus-
sia, and at Glueckauf, in Quickborn,
near Hamburg, were destroyed by ex-
plosions last week. Sixty-three per-
sons were killed and the same number
wounded.

The Farmers' Warehouse association
of Asotin, Wash., has concluded a deal
with the Interior Warehouse company,
of Lewiston, Idaho, for the purchase
of 150,000 grain bags, to be delivered
before the 1917 harvest season. The
price paid is a trifle less than 12 cents
per bag. This is the first bag contract
for the 1917 supply reported.

An appeal to the Cubans not to
plunge their country into another revo-
lution has been sent to Havana by
Secretary Lansing. Aroused to the
realization that the contested presi-
dential election in Cuba already had
reached the incipient stage of rebel-
lion, the State department decided to
issue to the people an urgent injunc-
tion to await the outcome of the vot-
ing and to abide by the decision of
their courts.

Portland Chinese tong war broke
out Thursday night, when one China-
man was killed and several others
were wounded in a battle in which
some 25 shots were fired.

Resolutions urging that congress
resort to a national referendum before
making a declaration of war against
any nation were adopted in Honolulu
at a meeting of the German-American
alliance.

Ten merchant vessels were listed
Thursday by Lloyd's as having been
sunk by German submarines. One
American life was lost. Six of the
destroyed vessels were British, and
one each French, Russian and Swedish.

Resolutions indorsing the action of
President Wilson in severing diplo-
matic relations with Germany and
pledging its loyalty to the United
States were adopted by the German-
American National alliance at a meet-
ing in Philadelphia.

Doings of State Legislators

Both Houses Pass Big Appropriation Measures

Salem—Appropriations totaling
\$344,555, the first big appropriation
bills to go through both houses of the
present legislature, were passed by the
senate late Monday. They had previ-
ously passed the house.

This total of \$344,555, all of which
is for expenses and maintenance of
various state departments and institu-
tions for the next two years, was di-
vided among five bills, introduced by
the joint ways and means committee
of the two houses.

The appropriations included \$118,-
100 for expenses and maintenance of
the offices of the governor, secretary
of state and state treasurer; \$74,435
for the Oregon state training school;
\$55,260 for the Oregon state school for
the deaf; \$33,320 for the office of at-
torney general, and \$59,440 for the up-
keep of the state capitol and Supreme
court buildings.

The only other appropriation meas-
ure that has passed both houses was a
bill carried early in the session appro-
priating \$25,000 toward the expenses
of the legislature.

Adding this \$25,000 to the money
appropriated Tuesday brings the sum
total of actual appropriations to date
to \$369,555.

The senate had one of the busiest
days of the session. When it adjourned
shortly before 6 o'clock it had passed
19 bills, several of them being meas-
ures of importance, and had killed five
others.

LEGISLATIVE NOTES.

Now it is the senate's turn to wres-
tle with the Rogue river fishing bill,
which has kept the house in turmoil
for a good part of the session. Hav-
ing been passed by the house, this
measure, which prohibits seining and
set nets in the Rogue river, was the
subject of a public hearing Tues-
day night before the senate committee
on fisheries.

Peace officers in the Oregon counties
bordering on the California line were
given an effective club by the house
Tuesday for the enforcement of the
bone-dry law. With only three dis-
senting votes the house passed Repre-
sentative Sheldon's bill providing
search and seizure of vehicles and
boats unlawfully carrying intoxicating
liquors.

Whatever consolidating is done by
this session will not be of the whole-
sale order. That became apparent at
the meeting of the joint consolidation
committees of the two houses. Mem-
bers of both the house and senate ex-
pressed the view that all efforts should
be made to put the consolidation meas-
ures now pending instead of attempt-
ing anything further.

A number of minor amendments in
the laws governing fraternal insurance
societies were proposed in a series of
bills introduced in the house by the
joint insurance committees of the
house and senate. One would permit
surrender of policies, under the dis-
ability clause at 65 years of age instead
of 70 years. Another provides for
juvenile insurance.

The house committee on revision of
laws has prepared an adverse report on
Representative Kubli's anti-picketing
bill, and it is probable that the meas-
ure will be sent to an inglorious end
through the indefinite postponement
process. It is possible, however, that
it will be permitted to go onto the
calendar for third reading.

The fight on the rural credits bill
came up over whether administration
of the rural credits fund should be left
without restrictions in the hands of
the State land board, or whether ad-
ditional provision should be made for
appraisal of lands and examination of
titles. The first view, that advocated
by the State grange, the Farmers'
union and the State land board, was
represented in senate bill 126. The
other view, represented in two bills,
senate bills 1 and 142.

A new road code was proposed in the
house Wednesday by the committee on
roads as a substitute for pending legis-
lation on the same subject. It repre-
sents the views of the joint house and
senate committees on roads and is in-
tended as a compromise between the
Laurgaard code and the Schimpf code.
The latter was drafted by the good
roads committee, an unofficial organ-
ization consisting of representatives of
many civic and commercial organiza-
tions throughout the state.

The house chamber was packed with
a crowd that came to hear the argu-
ments pro and con on the Sweeney
anti-cigarette bill Tuesday. More
than a score of speakers discussed the
measure from various angles. Mem-
bers of the W. C. T. U. and others
urged its adoption. The gallery appar-
ently was filled with proponents of the
bill as the repeated attacks against the
cigarette were loudly applauded. A
number of business men spoke against
it. They pointed out that similar laws
in other states have proved unenforce-
able.

House Favors Drastic Measure Against Cigarette Smoking

Salem—It was open season for the
cigarette in the house Thursday.

Cigarette users, cigarette merchants
and cigarette manufacturers were hit
hard—not only once, but twice, and
both times in the same place. The
second blow was a knockout.

The house first passed Representa-
tive Stott's bill to prohibit the sale of
cigarettes to youths under 21 years of
age and providing heavy penalties for
violations, and then turned around and
put through the Sweeney bill, which
makes the state "bone dry" against
the whole cigarette business—manu-
facture, sale, use and all.

The Stott bill itself was considered
more or less drastic, but it is mild and
inoffensive alongside of the Sweeney
bill. The Sweeney bill is backed by
the W. C. T. U. and other women's or-
ganizations. It is said to be one of
the most drastic anti-cigarette meas-
ures ever passed by any legislature.

The Stott bill was offered as a com-
promise on the Sweeney bill. It is
not nearly so severe as the other, but
proposes to make the law a whole lot
tighter than it is now. It raises the
penalties for the sale of cigarettes to
minors from \$50 to \$250 and imposes
heavy jail sentences.

Stott spoke for his bill and declared
that it would accomplish the professed
objects of the anti-cigarette crusaders
—that is, to prevent boys and young
men from smoking them.

The opponents of the Sweeney bill
gained a strategical advantage when
they substituted the Stott bill ahead of
the other measure, with came up as a
special order. It was thought that by
passing the Stott bill first the other
could be tabled or otherwise prevented
from coming to a vote. Representa-
tive Eaton, in speaking for the Stott
bill, proposed that the Sweeney bill be
tabled if the other bill passed.

The house agreed to follow that pro-
cedure, but after the Stott bill had
passed Sweeney and his supporters in-
sisted that his bill come up anyway.

Nearly everybody took a hand in the
running debate on both questions. The
members seemed in a humor to listen,
for they twice denied the previous
question. Representative Ritter finally
insisted on a vote and the house
almost solidly stood with him.

LEGISLATIVE NOTES.

Representative Callan's bill passed
by the house will require district school
boards in all parts of the state to ad-
vertise for bids when bonds are to be
sold. The present law permits such
boards to sell bonds on private con-
tract.

Speaker Stanfield threw a mild
bombshell into the legislative consoli-
dation proceedings Friday when he in-
troduced in the house a resolution au-
thorizing the governor to appoint a
committee of seven to investigate the
feasibility of consolidation and report
back to the session two years hence.

The fight over the rural credits bill
is ended, so far as the senate is con-
cerned, and the State Land Board, the
Farmers' Union and the State Grange
are the victors. Without debate, the
merits of the State Land Board plan
and of the opposing Shanks and Bar-
rett plans having been pretty thor-
oughly threshed out a couple of days
ago, the senate passed senate bill 126.

With an average increase in enroll-
ment of 20 per cent a year and a de-
cided loss in estimated income from its
millage tax, the University of Oregon
has laid a statement before the mem-
bers of the joint ways and means com-
mittee showing how the decrease in
assessed valuation in the state has
caused a shrinkage in income which
has worked a hardship on the institu-
tion.

Two bills intended to provide a uni-
form standard of grain inspection for
the farmers of Oregon now are pend-
ing in the legislature and are receiv-
ing the earnest attention of members
of both houses. One bill was intro-
duced in the house by Representative
Callan and the other in the senate by
Senator Pierce. Both have the in-
dorsement of the Public Dock com-
mission of Portland, the State Grange,
the Farmers' Union, the State Federation
of Labor and many leading wheat
growers, millers and exporters.

Representative Laurgaard's bill to
regulate automobiles doing a passen-
ger or freight business on the public
highways caused quite a flurry in the
house when it came in with an ad-
verse report from the roads commit-
tee. Laurgaard tried to save it, and
insisted that it go onto the calendar
for third reading. Various members
protested that it granted jitneys al-
ready operating out of Portland an
undue advantage. On motion to post-
pone indefinitely Laurgaard demanded
recall, which resulted in a tie vote,
28 to 28. Callan then changed his
vote, and the bill went down the skids.

RELIEF WORK IS WITHDRAWN

American Belgian Commission Stops at Request of Germany.

London—The American commission
for relief in Belgium has officially
notified the German authorities that
the Americans will withdraw from
participation in the relief work in Bel-
gium and Northern France.

This step was taken in reply to an
order from the German authorities
that Americans must withdraw from
the provinces of Belgium and Northern
France, leaving only a few of their
representatives, headed by Brand
Whitlock, American minister to Bel-
gium, in Brussels. The action of the
commission is explained in a formal
statement which was given out Tues-
day by directors of the commission in
London.

Havre, France—The Belgian gov-
ernment says it has learned that la-
borers at Bruges are being arrested in
the streets by Germans and immedi-
ately sent to the German front along
the Yser, where they are forced to do
military work, such as putting up
wire fences and digging trenches.

It is asserted that 75 per cent of the
men who were compelled to present
themselves to the military authorities
have been taken for work. These men
are between the ages 15 and 45. They
leave their homes Monday and return
Saturday. On their arrival home they
are declared to be greatly depressed
because of insufficient nourishment,
which consists of a quarter of a loaf of
war bread in the morning and fruit
soup made of apples and prunes at
noon. This is said to be all the men
receive.

U. S. Flatly Refuses Germany's Proposal to Discuss Differences

Washington, D. C.—The United
States has flatly rejected Germany's
offer to discuss differences between
the two nations while the ruthless sub-
marine campaign is in progress.

In a note Monday to the Swiss min-
ister, who on Saturday orally presented
the German proposal Secretary Lan-
sing said the United States does not
feel it can enter into any discussion of
the German government concerning
the policy of submarine warfare
against neutrals which it is now pur-
suing unless the German government
renews its assurances of May 4 (the
Sussex note) and acts upon the assur-
ances.

The State department made public
the Secretary's reply, together with a
memorandum which at Mr. Lansing's
suggestion Dr. Ritter, the Swiss min-
ister, had prepared Sunday night set-
ting down in writing the suggestion
originally transmitted orally.

Germany to Hold Hostages.

Washington, D. C.—Formal notifi-
cation of the retention in Germany of
72 American sailors brought in as
prisoners in the prize ship Yarrowdale
was given to the State department
Tuesday by Dr. Paul Ritter, Swiss
minister here, acting for the German
government, together with an inquiry
as to status of the crews of the Ger-
man war-bound ships in American wa-
ters.

Germany, Dr. Ritter said, had de-
cided to hold the Yarrowdale prisoners
until she had definite assurance that
German crews in American harbors
would not be held or imprisoned.

This development, wholly unexpect-
ed, was amusing to the American gov-
ernment. Officials here had come to
the conclusion that the early reports
which misled the German government
as to the treatment of German crews
here has been effectively dispelled by
the forwarding of complete details.
As this included the Presidential an-
nouncement that German ships would
not be seized now or in the event of
war and full information about the fair
attitude of the government toward the
German sailors, officials are wholly at
a loss to know what kind of report
could have so suddenly changed Ger-
many's attitude.

Submarine Base for Columbia.

Washington, D. C.—The mouth of
the Columbia river should be adequat-
ly protected, both by land and by sea,
and is not so protected at the present
time, is the conclusion of the Helm
Naval board, which recently visited
the Pacific Coast. But, in the opinion
of the board, the Naval defense at the
mouth of the Columbia should be con-
fined, at this time, to a submarine and
aviation base. The board is not in
favor of establishing a first-class
Naval base on the Columbia.

Greek Steamer Arrives.

New York—Seventy-six days after
her departure from Piraeus, Greece,
the Greek liner Patris arrived here
Tuesday, the first passenger steamer
from that country to reach this port
for a long time.

The lengthy passage was due to her
being held up at Gibraltar and the
Azores by order of the entente pending
the settlement of the strained rela-
tions with Greece, the agents here
said. She carried 564 passengers.

GERMANY SEEKS RECONCILIATION

Steps Taken to Open Discussion on Break With U. S.

WASHINGTON NOT INTERESTED

Officials Disinclined to Negotiate While U-Boats Operate—Believed Ber- lin is Sparring for Time.

Washington, D. C.—Germany has
taken steps to open a discussion with
the United States of means of prevent-
ing war between them.

In seeking an exchange of views on
the subject, however, it is not under-
stood that the Berlin government has
proposed any modification of its ruth-
less submarine campaign and officials
here say they cannot enter upon such
discussion while vessels continue to be
destroyed in violation of international
law.

The new move is understood to be
predicated upon a willingness on Ger-
many's part to discuss especially the
safeguarding of American ships and
American lives on the seas and backed
by a renewed expression of the desire
of the German government to prevent
the diplomatic breach from leading to
actual hostilities.

Just how American interests are to
be safeguarded if the German war
zone proclamation is to stand, how-
ever, and whether any specific means
of preserving peace between the two
nations is included in the communica-
tion has not been revealed.

What may be the ulterior motive
back of the step is a matter of specu-
lation. In some quarters there is evi-
dently a feeling it is merely a play for
time, designed to postpone any further
action by the United States until the
starvation blockade against England
either has succeeded or failed. Else-
where there are suggestions that there
may be behind it a sincere desire to
make sacrifices to preserve peace be-
tween the United States and Germany
and may come as a response to the ap-
peals understood to have been sent
abroad by pacifists in this country.

Ambassador Gerard Arrives in Switzerland on Way Home

Zurich, Switzerland, via Paris—The
American ambassador, James W. Ger-
ard, arrived at the Swiss boundary at
Schaffhausen, Sunday afternoon. He
was met by the American minister to
Switzerland, Pleasant A. Stovall, and
representatives of the Swiss army.

Swiss military guard of honor was
also in waiting, and a big delegation
of citizens greeted the ex-American
ambassador.

The trip from Berlin was made with-
out incident, although some curiosity
was displayed by those who gathered
along the route through Germany.

Mr. Gerard disembarked at Zurich
with about 120 other Americans, who
expected at first to remain there, but
when, assured of accommodations at
Berne, he left immediately for that
city.

Washington, D. C.—Germany's de-
lay in permitting Ambassador Gerard
and other American officials to leave
the country has aroused deepest re-
sentment here, especially in view of
the steps made to arrange all possible
conveniences for the homeward trip of
German officials in the United States.

It was disclosed at the department
that an inquiry regarding the delay
had been addressed to Mr. Gerard
through the Spanish ambassador at
Berlin. Officials have indicated, how-
ever, that once Mr. Gerard and his
party are safely out of Germany, the
United States probably will consider
the incident closed.

Sinking of U-Boats Hinted.

London—In a letter read at the war-
loan meeting Saturday Vice Admiral
Sir Reginald Bacon, commander of the
Dover Patrol, is quoted as saying:

"If you will try as hard to do your
duty ashore by raising a loan as we
are doing at sea by sinking submarines
and frustrating other evil devices you
will make the loan such a success that
it will be a knockout blow to the
enemy."

Big Munitions Plant Burns.

Pittsburg, Pa.—The machine shop
building of the United Switch & Signal
company, the largest plant for the
manufacture of switch signals in the
United States, and until recently en-
gaged in filling munition orders for the
European governments, situated at
Swissvale, a suburb, was destroyed by
fire early Saturday night with a loss
estimated at \$4,000,000.