

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.

New Zealand's casualties in the war totaled 57,932, of whom only 45 were taken prisoner by the enemy. The number killed was 16,500.

Taxes on amusement admissions will not be increased by the war revenue bill. The conferees have agreed to rescind their rate from 10 to 20 per cent.

Thefts and acts of violence are increasing daily in Paris, according to the Matin, which declares that the demobilization of allied troops is bound to increase acts of lawlessness.

Perhaps the youngest husband in the United States, at least, is Lister S. Barber, 16 years old, who was married in Vancouver last Thursday to Mrs. Blanche M. Schneringer, 25 years of age. The youth had the consent of his parents.

Sixty cents a pound was paid last week by a buyer of Denver for the grand champion individual fat steer at the Denver Stock show. The steer, which weighed 1800 pounds, was sold by the Western Meat company, of San Francisco.

Secretary Baker has ordered the release of 113 conscientious objectors held at Fort Leavenworth, the remission of the unexecuted portions of their sentences, their "honorable restoration to duty" and immediate discharge from the army.

Governor James P. Goodrich, of Indiana, has placed the resources of his office back of the fight of the Indiana Public Service commission against the new long-distance telephone rates ordered by Postmaster-General Burleson.

The Krupp plant at Essen began working for the United States government this week. The task undertaken by the Krupps consist of making parts of 72 incomplete cannon, rejected by the American authorities as part of the war material offered by the Germans under the terms of the armistice.

Under the farm loan system \$157,020,000 has been lent to 67,888 farmers up to January 1, the Federal Farm Loan board reported Friday. This included \$9,567,000 loans to 3525 farmers in December. Loans closed last month by the federal banks include: Houston, \$1,634,000; Spokane, \$1,627,000.

Calmly referring to "the next war," Major-General Leonard Wood made a strong appeal before a joint session of the Kansas legislature Thursday for a system of universal training for national defense. He outlined what he termed "the idea of the great leader who has gone—and of others" and frequently quoted terse sayings of his friend, the late Theodore Roosevelt.

Creation of a separate air department, with its head a member of the cabinet, is advocated by Senator Chamberlain, of Oregon, chairman of the senate military affairs committee, in a statement in which he expressed belief the control of the air would unquestionably be the decisive factor in the next war, overshadowing in importance the forces on either land or sea.

Congress will be asked by Secretary Glass to increase the authorization for liberty bonds to permit a larger issue than \$5,000,000,000 now authorized, or the acceptance of oversubscriptions. Arrangements for the next issue, probably in April, are being completed.

With amendments authorizing the payment of 30 days' pay and 5 cents a mile traveling expenses home to discharged officers and enlisted men, the senate has passed and sent to conference the house bill to permit soldiers to retain their uniforms.

A senate bill modifying homestead laws to shorten the period of residence required of settlers in mountain regions of the west was passed Tuesday by the house without amendment.

The house of representatives has passed a bill providing that no reimbursement shall be required, except in cases of fraud, for government allowances paid but later cancelled, to persons named as dependents by enlisted men.

OREGON LEGISLATURE

State Capitol.—Labor has many changes which it wants touching on the law of the Industrial Accident commission.

Delegations of men identified with organized labor have been traveling to Salem, discussing the changes with members of the commission, with the attorney-general and with senators and representatives. Aside from the labor measures, there have been several bills introduced by house and senate members, and instead of having the bills sent to various committees, Speaker Jones probably will be requested during the present week to appoint a special committee to handle all bills of this character.

Bills have appeared wiping out the state money, for there is a feeling that the commission can get along nicely without a big appropriation. Opinion is divided as to whether the state should pay the cost of maintaining the commission, or whether the expense should be absorbed by the money collected from employers and employes.

An old friend bobbed up in the house Saturday in the shape of a Rogue river fish bill. This bill is said to be directed at the Macleay fishing interests at the mouth of the Rogue and practically duplicates former efforts which have shaken legislatures and adorned initiative and referendum ballots almost from time immemorial.

The bill proposes practically eliminating seine fishing below the mouth of the Illinois river, and provides for gear with nothing less than a six-and-one-half-inch mesh in the spring. Nearly the same measure was passed by the last legislature, referred to the people by the referendum and voted down.

Representative Thrift has introduced, by request, a measure which would place county surveyors throughout the state on salaries graduated according to the assessed valuations of the counties which they represent.

Valuation of \$15,000,000 or less, \$100 per month; from \$15,000,000 to \$20,000,000, \$125 per month; between \$20,000,000 and \$45,000,000, \$150 per month; between \$45,000,000 and \$60,000,000, \$175 per month; more than \$60,000,000, \$200 per month.

Senator Pierce's proposal for the appointment of a legislative commission to make an immediate and thorough investigation of the dairy industry in Oregon, met with the unanimous approval of the senate Friday and resulted in the adoption of his resolution by unanimous vote. President Vinton named Senators Pierce, of Union county, and Patterson, of Polk county, as the two senate members of this commission.

There is nothing in his bill designed to restore the 5-cent carfare in Portland, according to Senator Huston. He says he does not understand where the impression came from that his bill will accomplish anything of the sort, nor was it so intended.

The bill, if enacted, explains the author, will prevent the public service commission from advancing the carfare to 7 cents.

Notice was served on the house last week by Representative Dodd, chairman of the committee on salaries, that the committee will not consider any question of deputies whatever in the county salaries bills. Such bills have come in the usual large number and more are expected. Two salary bills were approved by the committee Friday, but minus clauses relative to deputies.

The roads and highways committee of the house introduced the expected measure providing for a tax of 1 cent per gallon on all motor vehicle fuel oil, with the exception of kerosene. The tax will cover gasoline, distillate and other volatile and inflammable liquid fuels used primarily for propelling vehicles.

While the last legislature enacted legislation prohibiting discrimination between men and women teachers it failed to put any teeth in the legislation. Mrs. Thompson introduced a bill Friday to supply the teeth by affixing a penalty of from \$25 to \$100 for failure to comply with the provisions of the act.

Without a ripple of comment, the house passed Representative Dodd's bill prohibiting the teaching of any subject in the schools of the state in any but the English language. The only exception is where the subject to be taught is itself some foreign language.

An annual appropriation of \$15,000 to be used by the Oregon Agricultural college in the investigation of crop pests is introduced in the house by the joint committee on horticulture.

EXTRA SESSION OF CONGRESS LOOMS

Ten Big Appropriation Bills Still to Be Considered.

CALENDAR CROWDED

War Tasks Take Time of Congress and Regular Legislation Lags Far Behind Schedule.

Washington, D. C.—An extra session of congress next spring now seems certain, in the opinion of democratic and republican leaders.

With but 31 working days of the present session remaining, appropriation bills are to be rushed this week. Only six of the 16 regular supply bills have been passed by the house, and none by the senate.

Besides the regular appropriation measures, several special money bills, including the new deficiency measure and the \$750,000,000 request of the railroad administration, await action.

Much general legislation is also on the calendar with only the railroad, unemployment, naval programme and other questions being pressed for solution. International affairs also are receiving much attention in the senate, and additional addresses on matters connected with the peace conference are planned this week.

Legislation to validate war contracts aggregating about \$2,750,000,000 will be taken up by the senate with a lively dispute in prospect over the house bill and the substitute framed by the military committee.

The annual postoffice and rivers and harbors bills were reported Monday and their consideration is expected to follow passage of the war contract legislation.

In the house the agricultural appropriation bill was taken up Monday, to be followed by the deficiency measure appropriating \$285,000,000 and providing for reductions of about \$15,000,000 in war authorizations.

Final legislative action is expected early in the week on the administration bill appropriating \$100,000,000 for food relief in Europe and the near East, which is now in conference.

UNEMPLOYMENT IS DEVELOPING FAST

Philadelphia.—Unemployment is developing throughout the country with such rapidity as to warrant serious concern, according to Nathan A. Smyth, assistant director-general of the United States employment service, at a meeting of the American Academy of Political and Social Science here Sunday night.

"There are unmistakable indications of an impending storm of extreme severity," said Mr. Smyth. "On January 21 55 cities reported a total unemployment of 211,000."

Reports from the 750 United States employment service offices throughout the country, which, for the week ending November 9, showed about 380,000 positions open and 150,000 applicants for jobs, now show that the margin has almost entirely disappeared. Generally speaking, the southeastern states still can absorb labor; the Pacific, northern, middle and eastern states show unemployment. In a few places such unemployment has reached unprecedented proportions.

Aerial Defenses Planned.

Honolulu, T. H.—Two million dollars will be spent on the aerial defenses of the Hawaiian islands. The money will be expended in establishing three aero squadrons here with 500 men in all and some 50 machines of all types. One squadron is already here and four seaplane hangars and one landplane hangar have been erected on Ford island, in Pearl harbor. This information is given out by the commanding officer.

260 Miles an Hour Made.

Oklahoma City.—Flying at the rate of 90 miles in 22 minutes, an average speed of approximately 260 miles an hour, was the feat accomplished Sunday by Lieutenant Robert B. Baker, stationed at Post Field, Fort Sill, Okla. Lieutenant Baker attained the speed in a flight from Fort Sill to Oklahoma City.

Aliens to Be Made Yanks.

Butte, Mont.—W. E. Maddock, superintendent of Butte public schools, announces the names of 10 teachers who will compose the faculty of the Americanization school which will open here. The pupils, aliens of a dozen nationalities, will register for courses in English civics and American history.

STATE NEWS IN BRIEF.

Winter wheat and oats stood the recent freezing weather in the Forest Grove locality fine, and the prospects are good for an excellent yield. Much of the grain was sown early and was well rooted when the freezing weather set in.

The first woman police officer to serve in Bend took her place as a member of the force last week when Mrs. Anna Curry was deputized by Chief of Police L. A. W. Nixon. Mrs. Curry has been employed as truant officer for the Bend schools.

Condon promises to be the most important wool shipping point in Oregon this spring. There is enough wool promised now to bring the total to 1,250,000 pounds. Several large clips from the interior are coming to Condon this year, due to the efforts of local business men and to the improved condition of the road.

After a particularly stormy career in the senate, the soldiers' relief bill, providing for an appropriation of \$100,000 for emergency relief to returned soldiers, sailors and marines, finally was passed in both house and senate last week and became a law upon its approval shortly after by Governor Withycombe.

Ending a bitter fight, which has been waged in Bend, the past month by candidates to succeed H. H. Dearnond as district attorney of Deschutes county, word was received from Salem of the appointment of A. J. Moore. Mr. Dearnond resigned late in December, and Mr. Moore was named as his successor within a few days.

Abolishment of the office of county surveyor is sought in a resolution asking for a constitutional amendment introduced by Senator Hurley, of Malheur. He also is author of a twin measure, in the form of a senate bill, providing for the office of county engineer, to be appointed by the county court or county commissioners.

Contending that restrictions on the free sale of fruit juices will kill the fruit juice industry, now becoming fairly well established in the northwest states, the Eugene chamber of commerce has protested to the congressional committee framing the 1918 tax bill against the proposed 10 per cent tax on the sale price of all fruit juices.

During the heavy wind on Monday evening more than four miles of the Sheridan Lumber company's flume extending to the upper mill was blown down and other damage done. The Sheridan mill will suspend operations after cutting a small amount of logs. The upper mill will continue to run this winter and the lumber will be trucked out in the summer.

Prospects that the stunted juniper tree, growing in immense numbers on the unwatered lands of central Oregon, may assume real importance as a substitute for cedar in the manufacture of pencils, were extended recently in a letter received by the Bend commercial club from the Dolken Lumber company. Practically unlimited quantities of the wood can be used for this purpose, it was stated.

L. F. Falkenstein, manager of Bay Park mill, and George Sheridan, manager of the Sunrise Milk condensary, of North Bend, who leased the Marshfield Cold Storage plant recently, for the purpose of engaging in the shipment of fish from Coos Bay, to the towns in the Willamette valley, and other interior points, have initiated a local campaign to have the ban on the shipment of crabs and shell fish from that county raised.

In spite of the certainty of prohibition in the United States, the price of hops has climbed to a high point and is likely to go higher. A deal has just been closed in Portland which old-time hopmen declare is the largest transaction in hop futures and the price the highest that ever occurred in the history of the American hop market. The deal, which involved 9000 bales of hops, mostly Oregon, represented a total value of \$500,000. The hops were bought by the London firm of George Bird & Co., and the seller was Ralph E. Williams, of Portland.

Criticizing sanitary conditions, J. A. Eastes, newly-elected mayor of Bend, demanded last week that a general cleanup of the city be made. Renovation of alleys, outbuildings and the city's sewage disposal plant will be undertaken before spring.

H. T. Bagley, prominent attorney, twice mayor of Hillsboro and for many years active in public affairs, died last Thursday of pneumonia following influenza. He was ill but a week and the case was not believed serious until the day before he died.

RAILROADS SHOW BIG LOSS

Figures Indicate the Result of Government Operation.

Washington, D. C.—Railroads in 1918 under government control and unusual war conditions earned about \$718,000,000, or \$250,000,000 less than in 1917, \$370,000,000 less than in the record year of 1916, and about the same as in 1915.

This became apparent Saturday on the basis of definite reports to the Interstate Commerce commission of earnings of 195 principal railroads—those having annual operating revenues of more than \$1,000,000—for 11 months—and unofficial calculation of December earnings, which Railroad administration reports indicate will be considerably smaller than those of preceding months. Although subject to slight revision, the figures afforded the first public view of the results of railway operations last year so far as earnings are concerned.

Returns from freight, passenger, express and other transportation during the year amounted to approximately \$4,873,000,000, or \$832,000,000, more than in the previous year. Operating expenses jumped to about \$3,971,000,000, or about \$1,119,000,000 more than in the preceding year.

Preliminary reports to the Railroad administration indicate that freight traffic fell off in December, with the virtual stopping of war traffic, while expenses could not be reduced materially. This condition sent the net earnings, or railway operating income, which had been declining steadily since the record month of July, to probably \$25,204,000 in December of 1917, when the blizzards and curtailment of traffic sent earnings to what was then considered a very low record.

NEW GOVERNMENT IS ASSEMBLY AIM

Berlin.—The German national assembly, which will convene at Weimar February 6, is expected to be in session about two months. Its first business will be the selection of a provisional government because the present government considers its existence at an end with the convening of a constituent assembly.

The assembly then will take up the adoption of a constitution. The present government as such will not present any proposal and the draft drawn up by the ministry of the interior will be submitted merely as a basis for discussion.

The obligatory task of the constituent assembly will be finished with the adoption of a constitution, but it has the right to make of itself a constituted instead of a constituting body, and this probably will be done. In that case the assembly will be obliged to regulate tax and financial questions.

The peace question probably will not be considered, as it is not expected the Germans will be admitted to the peace conference before the adjournment of the assembly.

The matter of lodging the 3000 persons who are expected to attend the convention is a serious one, because Weimar is a small city. The municipal authorities there are considering the question of billeting the delegates and journalists with private families, if necessary, and in adjacent cities.

2 New Cables to be Laid.

San Francisco.—Two new cables are to be laid between this city and two cities in Japan within the next two years, according to K. Uchida, former vice-minister of communication of Japan. He has been in this country four weeks in connection with the laying of the cables. The U. S. and Japan, Mr. Uchida said, jointly will operate and control the cables. He believes Yokohama will be the Oriental terminal of one of the cables.

Trotsky Reported Taken.

Basel, Switzerland.—Leon Trotsky, the Bolshevik minister of war and marine, did not escape from Narva after the defeat of the Bolsheviks by the Esthonian, but was taken prisoner, according to dispatches received here from Liban.

Advices from the same sources state that, owing to the intervention of Finnish troops in northern Estonia and Livonia, the country has been completely cleared of Bolshevik forces.

Blockade Kills 500,000

Berlin.—It is announced officially by the German government that statistics of mortality "due to the blockade" from the autumn of 1916 until the end of 1918 shows more than 500,000 deaths were caused by malnutrition or under-nutrition.

Lone Yankee in Germany.

Berlin.—Of the American soldiers taken prisoner by the Germans on the western front, only a single one now remains in Germany, the Associated Press correspondent has learned. He is at Stuttgart, too ill to be removed at present.

SINN FEIN ELEMENT DECLARE REPUBLIC

British Evacuation of Ireland Is Demanded.

LEADER MERE YOUTH

Many Women and Children, Wearing Gay Ribbons, in Audience When Declaration Is Read.

Dublin.—The Sinn Fein assembly met at the Mansion house Wednesday afternoon. The assembly stood while a declaration of independence was read announcing the establishment of an Irish republic and demanding the evacuation of Ireland by the British garrisons.

A crowd of perhaps 1000, including many women and children, wearing green, white and yellow ribbons, pressed around the door of the Mansion house, watching the delegates enter. Only two policemen were visible, but the Sinn Fein had its own police—youths wearing white armbands—to keep order.

Another crowd of different type was on hand—repatriated war prisoners of the Dublin Fusiliers. They had been entertained at lunch in the Mansion house, and their friends and the public generally were waiting outside to cheer them.

This combination furnished the possibilities of a clash, but none occurred. The rotunda of the Mansion house, where the congress met, is a dingy old place, lighted by stained glass windows overhead. The platform and half the floor were fitted with tables for officers and delegates. The remainder of the floor and the circular gallery were reserved for the public, admission being by ticket.

A large proportion of the audience consisted of women. The number of young priests was conspicuous. One of the popular figures arriving first was Father O'Flanagan, who recently was dismissed from his parish by the bishop on account of his political activity.

There was brief demonstration when the delegates came down the center aisle, the people standing on their seats and applauding them and waving hats and handkerchiefs.

The youthfulness of the Sinn Fein leaders was their most noticeable characteristic. There were hardly a half dozen gray heads in the group. Count Plunkett, a member of Parliament and one of the leaders of the party, introduced in a few terse sentences Charles Burgess, a young man who acted as chairman and who made a short speech which was much applauded.

Most of the members of the party crossed themselves frequently during the prayer of the Rev. Father O'Flanagan.

The rollcall was made in English. It included all the members of Parliament elected from Ireland to the British Parliament. Naturally a majority of these men failed to respond, as they are in prison.

SOUND SHIPYARD MEN ON STRIKE

Seattle, Wash.—Between 35,000 and 37,000 members of the metal trades unions in Seattle, Tacoma and Anacortes went on strike Wednesday morning, paralyzing the major portion of Washington's shipbuilding industry.

According to a statement given out by the ship carpenters' controlling council, another 8000 men belonging to the various woodworking trades employed in shipbuilding have their jobs imperiled by the strike, and may all be forced out through inability of the yards to operate without the metal trades workers.

The metal trades strike is for a basic wage of \$1 an hour for mechanics and \$7 and \$6 a day for helpers and laborers. Through a federal wage adjustment board known as the Maey board, the mechanics were recently granted 56 1/2 cents per hour.

Preacher Sent to Prison.

San Francisco.—Rev. Joshua Sykes, aged Berkeley, Cal., and Denver evangelist, was sentenced to 18 months in the federal prison at McNeil's island following conviction on charges of conspiring to obstruct the war programme. "Apostles" A. M. Dean, Walter Crosby and John Ferguson were sentenced to one year and one day each. Last April Sykes' tented "Church of the Living God" at Berkeley was burned by a mob.