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NEWS NOTES OF CURRENT WEEK

Resume of World's Important Events Told in Brief.

United States exports increase 86 per cent in January.

Seven deaths were caused by heavy snow storm in New York.

The price of bread in Chicago has risen one cent—to 6 cents a loaf.

Two hundred of the 670 members of the English parliament are serving at the front.

Reports have it that Serbia is to be invaded again by a large army of Austro-Germans.

A German dynamites a Canadian railroad bridge and escapes to the United States.

A London dispatch announces that the Germans lost 6000 killed on a Polish front less than a mile long.

General Villa en route to Tampico, captures San Luis Potosi and is in full possession of the city and vicinity.

The steamer Northland loses rudder in storm off California coast, but was taken in tow by the steamer Nann Smith.

W. H. Hornibrook, editor of the Albany, Ore., Daily Democrat, has been appointed by President Wilson as minister to Siam.

Victoria, B. C., film censors in the last 12 months barred 50 per cent of the pictures because there was used too much Stars and Stripes.

An indication of possible action by Italy is to be found in a notification issued to Italian reservists in England to prepare to join the colors.

A German statistician denies that Germany can be "starved out" in the present war and declares the country's granaries are stocked with abundance of cereals.

Reports reaching Holland say that the new bread regulations in Germany have caused so much unrest that 12,000 special constables have been appointed to guard the bakeries in Berlin.

England notifies U. S. that shipments of foodstuffs for Germany and Austria will be considered as contraband and will confiscate all cargoes captured without compensation to the shippers.

According to reports in circulation at the Vatican, Great Britain, Germany and Austria have answered favorably Pope Benedict's proposal for an exchange of civil prisoners—women and children and men above the age of 55.

With the opening of the British parliament the political truce was renewed. The government, while assuming all responsibility for the war, welcomed the opposition's support and the ministers announced that they would reply readily to all criticism and endeavor to avoid controversial matters.

Jitney-bus bandits, operating for the first time in Seattle, Wash., kidnaped two passengers from the down-town districts, took them to a lonely spot on the boulevard near Lake Washington, beat them, and, after stealing $8.50 in cash and two watches, left them to find their way back to the city after they recovered consciousness.

A conscience-stricken person sent $15 to the Seattle office of the Union Pacific railroad, and the fund has been forwarded to the Portland headquarters. Bills amounting to $15 were pinned to the following note: "U. P. R. R. Co.—I have been in your debt this amount since 1882." No explanation whatever is given as to how the company was defrauded, and the identity of the remitter remains hidden.

A Portland highwayman said to be sixty years old, secured 40 cents from a victim.

Carranza troops enter Mexico City and with little resistance take charge of the government.

Germans are reported to be using a new shell containing a higher explosive than heretofore known.

A Babylonian tablet, believed to have been buried in the earth more than 4000 years ago and containing the earliest law code, recently has been unearthed and is now in possession of Yale University. The laws are written in the Sumerian language, the language of Southern Babylonia prior to its conquest by the Semites or Accadians in the time of Hammarabi. Owing to imperfect knowledge of the language the work of deciphering is extremely difficult. The laws that have been translated refer to legislation concerning injury to women, the repudiation of children who have been adopted, elopement, the hire of boats and cattle, and provision for the killing of a hired ox by a lion.

During the year ended June 30 last a total of 10,302 persons, including 265 passengers, lost their lives in accidents on railroads and in railroad shops reporting to the Interstate Commerce commission. In addition, 192,662 persons were injured, of whom 15,121 were passengers.

A dispatch from Lima, Peru, says that Dr. Gazzani, Peruvian ex-minister of foreign affairs, was seriously wounded in a duel with Juan Durand. Durand is a brother of Dr. Augusto Durand, the Peruvian revolutionary leader, who was compelled to leave Chilean territory last August.

Two British Vessels Sunk Off West Coast of England

London—A German submarine, the 21, made a raid off the west coast of England Monday. At least two British vessels were sunk.

The Ben Cruachen, a small steamer on her way from Cardiff to Liverpool, was hailed off Liverpool, and sent to the bottom after her crew had been warned they would have only 10 minutes to escape. The other vessel was the Linda Blanche, a steam trawler on her way from Manchester to Belfast.

The crews of both vessels reached land safely, that of the Ben Cruachen at Fleetwood and that of the Linda Blanche at Liverpool.

The captain of the Ben Cruachen says he was overtaken by the submarine and ordered to leave his ship within ten minutes. Hardly had the crew got into the boats when a torpedo was fired, and the steamer went down.

The Ben Cruachen, which was of 1978 tons register and belonged to the Morrison Shipping company, was on a voyage from Cardiff to Liverpool with a cargo of 5000 tons of coal.

Fleetwood is one of the principal fishing and shipping ports and watering places on the west coast.

The steamer Graphic, with passengers, Belfast to Liverpool, the paper says, passed wreckage, and soon afterwards saw the Ben Crauchen sunk. The Graphic was chased, but eluded pursuit and reached the Mersey safely.

The Linda Blanche was on its way from Manchester to Belfast when the submarine suddenly appeared alongside. Officers came aboard, and, in perfect English, ordered the crew to leave the steamer. As soon as the men of the Linda Blanche were in their boats the Germans attached a mine to the bridge and another to the forecastle. The mines were then exploded, destroying the vessel.

Turks Are Beaten in Battle in Snow Storm

Petrograd — The following report from the general staff of the Russian army of the Caucasus was given out here:

"On the Sari-Katysh front, on the evening of January 27, one of our columns, profiting by the snow storm, crossed the crest of the mountains and seized, after a violent battle, the village of Garness, making prisoners there the chief of the Thirteenth Turkish division, with his staff, 16 officers, seven surgeons and 450 others, and capturing three cannon, more than 200 rifles, a convoy train and a large quantity of war munitions and provisions.

"The Turks attacked this column, but were repulsed by a counter attack with great losses, abandoning to us a rapid-fire gun."

Pastor Uses Doll in Talk.

Baltimore—Dr. Weston Bruner surprised worshippers at St. Fuller Baptist church Sunday when in the course of his sermon against fashionable dressing he produced a doll. He then proceeded, the while using the doll to illustrate his subject, to condemn the irregularities of modern feminine apparel. The doll was dressed and undressed several times, was adorned with jewelry and then stripped and clad again in modest clothing which took place of the slit skirt, etc. In emphatic terms the speaker denounced many forms of modern dress, remarking on the beauty of modesty and that while clothes do not make the man, without exception they depict the character of a woman.

President's Niece in Movies.

New York—Impersonations of girl-characters by a niece of President Wilson is in store for patrons of the movies, Miss Margaret Vale having just entered into contract with William Fox to play important ingenue roles.

Miss Vale, who is a Southern girl, also is an authoress of some note, a painter and athletic enthusiast, and she recently played a round on the golf links with her uncle, the President of the United States, while visiting the White House. Her home is in South Carolina. Being an ardent suffragist, Miss Vale recently led the suffragists' parade of protest against war, the demonstration being given in New York.

Red Cross Helps Serbs.

Washington, D. C.—Advices to the Red Cross here Monday said the second and third American Red Cross units sent to Serbia a few weeks ago had turned a tobacco factory at Gevgalia into a hospital to care for 1300 wounded Serbians and several Austrian prisoners. Measures had been adopted, the report said, to make sanitary the insanitary surroundings. On account of the difficulty of obtaining hospital supplies from Serbian sources, it was said large shipments from America would be necessary.

Honored Negro Is Dead.

New Albany, Ind. — Lucy Nichols, said to be the only negro woman honored with membership in the Grand Army of the Republic, and pensioned by the government for her service in the Civil war as a nurse, is dead here. She joined the Twenty-third Indiana regiment in Tennessee in 1861. Sanderson Post of the Grand Army, composed chiefly of members of that regiment, elected her an honorary member several years ago and helped obtain by special act of congress a pension for her.

DOINGS OF OREGON'S LEGISLATURE

A Brief Resume of Proceedings of the People's Representatives at the State Capital, Bills Introduced, Passed, Rejected, Etc.

Portland Electric Light Co. Says It's Worth $60,000,000

State Capitol, Salem—A valuation of approximately $60,000,000 is made for the property of the Portland Railway, Light & Power company, according to figures produced before the State Railroad commission in the general investigation hearing into the rates and service of the company.

The valuation figures were brought out through the testimony of W. J. Hagenah, utility expert, testifying in behalf of the company. It was under his direction that the company made an inventory of its property to be submitted to the commission in the present investigation.

What valuation has been placed by the commission's engineering experts has not been developed in the testimony, but the line of questions shot at Hagenah indicated that the commission has figures that will range considerably under those of the company.

Franklin T. Griffith, president of the company, was present at the hearing, but the examination for the company was conducted by R. A. Leiter. Mr. Hagenah was the only witness. He narrated the manner in which the appraisal had been made, the commission inquiring at length into the methods he had used in arriving at the value of various items.

Among the largest items are $8,694,000 for roadway and tracks; $9,076,326 for land; $4,987,000 for equipment, $44,357,000 for buildings, fixtures and grounds, $4,557,000 for rolling stock and floating equipment, $6046 for hydraulic power works, $4,767,000 for water powers, and $9,962,000 for cost of development.

New Workmen's Compensation Act Is Filed in Senate

State Capitol, Salem—A bill providing for workmen's compensation similar to the Michigan law was introduced in the senate by Bingham. It is different in many phases from the present compensation law, and its author says it will solve the perplexing question of aiding injured workmen in this state.

An important feature of the new act is that employes will make no contributions. Those sustaining minor injuries will receive no benefits until the 15th day after the injuries were sustained. Persons incapacitated from work for four weeks or longer will receive compensation from the time of the accident.

The law provides for the appointment by the governor of one industrial accident commissioner, who shall receive $3000 a year. In case of dispute as to the amount of compensation he and two other persons, selected by those interested, shall fix the amount. Employers may provide compensation through casualty companies, mutual insurance, pay it themselves or come under a provision for state compensation.

Under the present law the payment of compensation is according to the size of the families of the injured persons, but the new act makes the earning capacity the basis of compensation. Senator Bingham said one of the important features of his bill is that it would induce employers to provide all safety appliances, that accidents should be reduced to a minimum.

"Under practically this same law operating in Michigan 90 to 95 per cent of the employers have come under its provisions," said Senator Bingham, "and out of 500,000 employes less than 15 have rejected it since the law went into effect about two and one-half years ago."

House Passes Bill to Repeal Many Appropriations

State Capitol, Salem—Friends of the Oregon National guard made an effort in the house to save the $70,000 continuing appropriation provided for that organization before the Schuebel bill, providing for a general repeal of all continuing appropriations, was passed and sent over to the senate.

Although it was plain from the start that the National guard fund, as a continuing appropriation, would be wiped out if the Schuebel bill carried, members of the guard made no protest against the measure until just before it was placed on its final reading. Then Representative Allen, of Marion county, who is a member of the guard, appealed to the house to save the item out of the bill. His pleas fell on deaf ears.

He pointed out that the National guard fund had been placed on a continuing basis for the purpose of taking the guard out of politics and urged that by passing the measure in its present form it would be necessary for the officers of the guard to come before the legislature every two years and ask for money to carry on their work.

Voting Machine Law Stands.

State Capitol, Salem — Multnomah county will continue to have the option of purchasing and operating voting machines if it so elects. The house committee on revision of laws reported adversely on the Michelbrook bill, providing for the repeal of the law authorizing any county in the state that chooses to use voting machines.

The 1913 act never has been taken advantage of. However, the committee took the attitude that some county may at some future time desire to use them.

Prominent Women Plead for School for Girls

State Capitol, Salem — Declaring that there was real need for the institution and that it was the duty of the state, which it should not attempt to shirk, to take care of and educate its wayward girls, 12 women, representing various clubs, appeared before the joint ways and means committee this week and protested against the proposed recommendation to the legislature that the Industrial School for Girls be abolished.

Representatives of the women's clubs spoke frankly, as did members of the committee, and it is believed a plan will be agreed upon that will be satisfactory to all concerned. Mrs. S. M. Blumauer, representing the Council of Jewish Women, said it would be unjust and unwise at this time to discontinue the school. It was not a mercenary question, she urged, but an economical one, and a duty that should be performed. The fact that only a comparatively few girls had been taken care of was no reason for doing away with the school, she said.

Permanent Registration for Voters Approved by House

State Capitol, Salem — Permanent registration of voters and compulsory voting are provided for in a bill passed in the house. The measure was introduced by the joint committee on judiciary and revision of laws and combined the essential features of bills previously submitted by Representative Kuehn, of Portland, and the Marion county delegation. Under its provisions the clerks are required to keep a card index system for the registered voters. When a person registers the record becomes permanent and can be used indefinitely at future elections. If a voter moves from one precinct to another within the same county or desires to change his or her political affiliation it will be necessary only to advise the county clerk. To accommodate voters who move from one county to another, the county clerks are authorized to send the cards from one to another upon request.

Naturalized citizens will not be required to show their naturalization papers at the time they register. They will be required only to swear that they are naturalized and give the dates in connection therewith.

Labor Loses Three Bills.

State Capitol, Salem—Three more of the bills introduced by Representative Oscar W. Horne, of Portland, and indorsed by the State Federation of Labor failed to get past the house. One was postponed indefinitely, meaning that it was put to sleep beyond possible reawakening, another was amended and another was referred. Mr. Horne made a determined effort to save one of his measures—the one compelling contractors on public works to enforce the eight-hour law more scrupulously. The bill is aimed particularly at "station work" or contract labor through which groups of workingmen are enabled to work more than eight hours a day on the ground that they are working for themselves.

60-Day Session Plan Lost.

State Capitol, Salem—Representative Lewis' plan to change the limit on legislative sessions from 40 to 60 days was defeated in the house. His resolution made the pay of the legislators $5 a day instead of $3 and provided a recess of 14 days after the fortieth day, to reconsider bills, but without pay. After the house turned down the resolution Lewis offered another providing that sessions in the house begin at 9 o'clock in the morning. The speaker ruled him out of order. Mr. Lewis himself is at his desk every morning at 7:30 o'clock and brings his lunch to the house chamber.

Governor Signs Six Bills.

State Capitol, Salem — Governor Withycombe has signed the following house bills:

Creating district courts, defining their jurisdiction and providing system of procedure.

Exempting chickens and other domestic animals from execution of attachment.

Abolishing justice courts and creating districts. Further defining jurisdiction of district courts.

Giving laborors in logging camps lien upon their products.

Limiting catch of crabs in waters of Coos bay.

Anaesthetic Law Whacked.

State Capitol, Salem—Senator Dimick's bill repealing a law providing that only graduate nurses with licenses be allowed to administer anaesthetics was passed by the senate. The Clackamas legislator contended that the present law was class legislation; "a nice little game put over by the nurses two years ago so they would have all this work." In the interest of humanity, he said, country physicians were forced to violate the law daily. Senators J. C. Smith and Wood, physicians, opposed the present law.

House Passes First Relief Bill.

State Capitol, Salem—The house has passed its first relief bill. It provides $2000 for Ada E. Lundborg, of Bend, whose husband, a laborer, was killed on the Tumalo irrigation canal, in Central Oregon. The Desert Land board already has set aside $2000 from the Tumalo fund to pay Mrs. Lundborg. The action of the legislature is a mere formality.

FEAR OF DEFEAT, ASKS FOR PEACE

Austria Suggests to Germany That Proposal Be Made.

Suggestion Made That Each Give Up Some Territory—Fear of Britain Is Obstacle.

London — The Copenhagen correspondent of the Daily Mail asserts that Baron Burian, the Austro-Hungarian foreign minister, at his recent meeting with the German Emperor drew a doleful picture of the plight of the dual monarchy and urged that the time had arrived for the Germanic powers to consider most seriously the possibilities for a tolerable peace.

The Daily Mail attaches great importance to the dispatch, which was delayed in transmission.

The dispatch in part says:

"From a most trustworthy and well-informed source in Berlin I received the following statement regarding the negotiations between the German statesmen and Baron Burian, who recently visited the German chancellor in Berlin and Emperor William at the army headquarters in France.

Baron Burian, whose sole object is to save what can be saved of the dual monarchy, reported to the Germans that the situation in Austria was most precarious and that if the Russian advance on Budapest is not stopped the effect may probably be the downfall of Austria and the complete collapse of Hungary, which must later entail a logical sequence, also the downfall of Germany.

"Baron Burian urged that the Russians must, at all costs, be repulsed and that Germany must send large reinforcements to Hungary to prevent a catastrophe. In any case, he said, it was doubtful if it could be possible for them to resist the Russians and Serbians, and perhaps also the Roumanians. Therefore, it was necessary seriously to examine into the question of peace.

"A definite defeat would mean a debacle for Austria-Hungary and the partioning of the empire. His visit to Germany was to consider most seriously the possibilities of a tolerable peace. He advised Germany not to reject fundamentally the thought of peace on the grounds of a probable disarmament of Europe. If Germnoy were disposed to treat on such terms he believed the other conditions would be tolerable.

"Perhaps it would be necessary to leave the French part of Alsace to France and to give up some Polish provinces to a new Poland, but if Russia would relinquish a provence and Austria a part of Galicia to Poland, no real sacrifice for Germany would be entailed."

Rich New York Man Kills Three, Then Self

New York—Armed with a magazine rifle, equipped with an automatic silencer, Herman Auesbach, a wealthy real estate operator who had become despondent because of finanical reverses, Sunday shot and killed his wife and two daughters as they slept and then, returning to his own bed, killed himself.

His son, Lester, a high school student, was the only member of the family left alive.

So completely did the device muffle the reports of the weapon that the tragedy was not discovered until several hours later, when the son found a note from his father. The quadruple killing took place in an apartment house on Central Park West.

Coroner Feinbery said that Auerbach evidently had been planning the tragedy for several days. The dead man's son informed the coroner that his father had taken the rifle home nine days ago. The coroner expressed the belief that the man's despondency was due to recent depreciation in value of mortgages and securities which he held.

The boy found under his door a note in his father's writing which read:

"When you wake up telephone Uncles Leopold and Joe Levy and grandpa."

The boy went to his father's room, where he found his father and mother dead in their beds, between which lay the rifle. Dashing into the room of his sister he found Beatrice, aged 18, and Daisy, 2 years old, dead also, with the bedclothing tucked about them and drawn over their heads

Hindus Offer British Aid.

Victoria, B. C.—A large number of Hindus who have seen service with the British army in India and China and who, since their discharge, have found their way to Victoria, are organizing a company. Already they have asked to join the third Canadian contingent. The same request has been made of General Hughes, minister of militia, by East Indians of Vancouver. The Oriental ex-soldiers are exceedingly enthusiastic. They are following the course of the war with close attention and are eager to get to the front.

Greece May Aid Serbia.

Rome — According to information obtained from diplomatic sources here, Greece has decided to aid Serbia if another Austrian invasion of Serbia is attempted. Meanwhile Greece is allowing munitions of war destined for Serbia to be landed at Salonika without heeding German protests.