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VOLUME XXVII.

ATHENA, UMATILLA COUNTY, OREGON, FRIDAY, AUGUST 20, 1915.

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WORLD'S DOINGS OF CURRENT WEEK

Brief Resume of General News From All Around the Earth.

UNIVERSAL HAPPENINGS IN A NUTSHELL

Live News Items of All Nations and Pacific Northwest Condensed for Our Busy Readers.

Carranza is said to be preparing a reply refusing peace proposals.

Yuan Shi Kai is considering the advisability of proclaiming himself emperor of China.

Application has been made for the appointment of a receiver for the Missouri Pacific railroad.

A Georgia mob took Leo M. Frank, serving a life sentence for the murder of Mary Phagan, from jail and hanged him.

A terrific Gulf storm wrecked many vessels and did much other damage along the Gulf coast, and particularly at Galveston.

A German submarine torpedoed the British transport Royal Edward in the Aegean sea, off the Turkish coast, and about 1000 lives were lost.

British agents in San Francisco charged with recruiting in violation of neutrality laws, raised technical points and gained much time by the delay.

The executive committee of the German National Liberal party declares permanent peace can only be had by a wide extension of German frontier in all directions.

French find on German prisoners copies of a military order saying "we shall take, we must take, Verdun. Then the war will be finished by December at the latest."

A German submarine shelled three towns on the Cumberland coast of England. Several lives were started by shells from the under-water boat and the railroad was damaged, but there were no casualties.

Nancy Hanks, 2:04, champion trotter from 1892 to 1894, died at Hamburg Place, the estate of J. E. Madden, who purchased the horse several years ago to pension her until her death. Nancy Hanks was foaled in 1886.

A Spokane woman, while down town with her 10-months-old babe in her arms, recognized a man who had burglarized her home a few days before and chased him seven blocks, finally stopping him and holding him until he was taken by an officer.

A cablegram from Paris announces the death of Jacques Neyvatte, a member of the French aviation corps. Neyvatte was formerly a newspaper man of Phoenix, Ariz. He was licensed by the Aero Club of France in 1905, and appeared in aerial exhibitions in this country. He served in the Boer war as a balloonist.

Representatives of the Italian government have begun the purchase of 12,000 more horses for war purposes in East St. Louis. These are to be selected within 90 days. Thus far more than 160,000 horses have been sold to the belligerent nations through dealers at that place. A dealer said the Allies had spent \$27,000,000 for horses in East St. Louis.

Russians report inflicting heavy loss on Turks in Caucasian campaign.

British minister of war munitions declares he has control of 345 plants.

A recent German military decree is said to have declared that peace is certain by October.

Petrograd joyfully announces the repulse of a German naval force from the Gulf of Riga.

After extensive inspection, the Oregon hop crop for 1915 is estimated at less than 100,000 bales.

Baron Kikujio Ishii, new Japanese minister of foreign affairs, is said to be a firm friend of United States.

Mail order liquor houses of Hornbrook, Cal., just across the Oregon line, are said to be preparing for a big business, in anticipation of the going into effect of the prohibition law in Oregon and Washington Jan. 1, 1916.

Sweeping reductions in the anthracite freight rates of railroads handling 80 per cent of the country's anthracite production were ordered by the Interstate Commerce commission in a decision which held the carriers guilty of giving illegal preferential treatment to allied coal companies.

William Barnes, Jr., speaking before the New York state constitutional convention, likened Roosevelt to Bismarck.

General economy and thrift is being urged as a regular study in the public schools by the National Educational association.

Forest fires in Lytle Creek canyon, near San Bernardino, Cal., have leaped the fire brakes and are on their way into the spruce timber. The flames have already destroyed timber and watershed brush covering 2000 acres. Forty additional men have been sent.

MRS. CHARLES REID RILEY



Miss Minnie Conrad, daughter of the late William G. Conrad, a Montana copper magnate, was married recently to Charles Reid Riley, who owns a large farm in Clark county, Virginia, near the Conrad home. Mrs. Riley and her sister inherited \$8,000,000.

MEXICAN FORCES CROSS RIVER AND ATTACK AMERICAN TROOPS

Brownsville, Tex.—About 100 Mexicans, under cover of darkness, Tuesday night forded the Rio Grande near Mercedes, about 30 miles up the river from here, and partly surrounded 21 men of the 21st United States cavalry. They killed one trooper and wounded two. For a time it was reported that the Mexicans were advancing on Mercedes, but at midnight all had disappeared. Soldiers and possees are searching the brush for them.

The battle at the crossings was short but sharp. The troops are unable to say whether the main body of Mexicans crossed to attack them or whether the crossing was a cloak to cover crossings at other nearby river points.

In addition to darkness, the Mexicans had the cover of thick brush and bends of the river. During the height of the fighting the soldiers said many shots were fired from the Mexican bank opposite their camp. This camp was near Progreso, an excellent ford, where man and horse could cross with ease at a gallop, and where for two days cavalrymen and rangers have been watching the gatherings of Mexicans in considerable numbers. A Mexican at this point fired on the soldiers but hit no one.

Ranger Lieutenant Reynan in an early report said he understood 270 Mexicans had crossed and that they were coming to attack Mercedes.

The report from Ranger Reynan said that the Mexicans had crossed the river in three bands. Mercedes, according to details of troops in that region, should have available 70 United States cavalrymen and half a dozen rangers for protection, besides vigilantes who have been organized in force there.

Reynan said it was reported that in addition to the Mexicans who had crossed the river, a large number of others were lined up on the Mexican side.

Reinforcements of rangers and soldiers from Harlingen were hurriedly ordered to Mercedes by automobile. Harlingen is about 15 miles from Mercedes. Mexicans who crossed the river would have seven or eight miles to cover before they reached Mercedes.

Reinforcements to Mercedes should reach there ahead of the Mexicans, according to officers at Brownsville.

Russians Resist Bitterly

Rotterdam, via London.—No point is yielded by the Russians to the advancing Germans until the railroad bridges and everything else of military value has been destroyed, according to German reports received here.

The Cologne Gazette admits the difficulties confronting the invaders and says: "The great area west of the Vistula is covered by ceaseless processions of wagons bringing up supplies. An incredible amount of work has to be done. Only by herculean exertions have we been able to carry supplies over the Vistula."

Russia Courts America

Milan, Italy, via Paris.—A long dispatch from Petrograd outlining the situation in Russia, which gives the impression of being inspired by Sergius Sazanoff, Russian foreign minister, is published by the Corriere della Sera. The article says in conclusion: "The proposal for a Russian-Japanese alliance finds no opposition on condition that it be not aggressive against China and even less so against America, whose friendship is necessary to Russia."

Wilson Studies Union Pay

Washington, D. C.—Demands of machinists at the Washington navy yard for increased pay were taken up by President Wilson in a conference with a committee representing the workmen.

The president promised to discuss their demands as soon as possible with Secretary Daniels. N. P. Allfas, president of the local branch of the machinists' union, said the delegation was much encouraged by the president's attitude.

Foodstuffs Price Treble

Paris.—A dispatch from Bucharest says that Austrian and German agents at points along the Roumanian frontier are paying three times the normal price for wheat, corn, hay, flax, peas and beans exported from that country. This is the result of heavy export tax.

ILLS OF BUSINESS HEARD BY BOARD

Federal Commission Is Asked to Give Remedial Advice.

LUMBER INDUSTRY IS INJURED MOST

Existing Depression Laid at Door of European War and Removal of Protection of High Tariff.

Business in the Pacific Northwest is bad—that was freely and frankly and almost unanimously admitted before the Federal Trade commissioners hearing held in Portland. But what caused it to be bad, and how to improve it, were elements in the situation that brought forth many conflicting theories.

All witnesses were agreed, however, that the commission can be and should be of material assistance in bringing about the improvement.

There was universal agreement, too, on the proposition that the lumber industry is the backbone of business in

ORVILLE WRIGHT



New photograph of Orville Wright, who, as a member of the new board of experts, will place at the command of the navy department his great knowledge of aeroplanes and aeronautics.

the Pacific Northwest, and that the lumber industry, more than any other, is experiencing distressing demoralization.

Most attention was given to the lumber situation in the hearing that occupied the attention of the commission for four hours, but the grain situation, the fruit situation and various other industries that represent the Pacific Northwest received ample attention.

The commission's hearings were informal, although all the testimony was transcribed for future reference by the commission. The session was opened by Joseph E. Davies, the chairman, who subsequently asked C. C. Colt, of Portland, to preside.

The various elements that have contributed to the present stagnation of the lumber industry were presented for the commission's review.

Foremost in the list of causes was placed the diminishing demand due to the European war, but next in order and closely behind it were placed careless financing and speculation. Difficulty in obtaining charters also was named as a contributing factor, and this condition, it was pointed out, was due entirely to the war.

The commission also received some written testimony in addition to the oral evidence, and some of these documents emphasized the tariff as the probable cause of depression in some branches of the lumber industry, particularly of the shingle industry. Removal of the shingle tariff has permitted shingles manufactured in British Columbia to enter into unnatural competition with the shingle manufacturers of Oregon and Washington.

Argentine Warned by Carranza

Buenos Ayres.—Dr. Victorino de la Plaza, president of Argentina, has received a telegram from Gen. Venustiano Carranza, first chief of the Mexican Constitutionalists, which asserts that the Washington conference, should it decide to interfere in Mexican affairs, would commit an unpardonable error.

Young Turks Scorn Chief

Rome.—Reports have been received from Constantinople that the Young Turks held a meeting at which Enver Pasha, Turkish minister of war, argued the necessity for breaking relations with Italy and thus freeing Turkey from the "leading spy," namely, the Italian ambassador, and simultaneously adopting severe measures against the Italians. After a long discussion, it is reported, the meeting decided to postpone a definite decision.

OREGON STATE NEWS

Insurance Report Is Issued.

Salem.—Investments of all classes of insurance companies in Oregon bonds, their mortgage loans on real estate and real estate owned total \$23,235,063, according to Harry Weils, state insurance inspector. Figures are based on the year 1914.

Life and accident insurance companies lead all others in the amount of their Oregon investments, with a total of \$15,924,254. Of this sum, \$10,015,515 is in mortgages, \$2,999,983 in municipal, school and miscellaneous bonds, \$2,894,000 in interurban and street railway bonds, and \$14,778 in real estate.

Fire and marine insurance companies have \$2,630,118 invested in bonds, mortgages and real estate; fraternal mutual fire, \$25,000; domestic mutual fire, \$145,650; fraternal benefit \$3,987,640, and miscellaneous companies \$522,401.

In distributing their investments in Oregon, the insurance companies have seemed to favor mortgage loans on real estate by the general total of \$11,232,718. It is to be noted, however, that life and accident companies, especially, have favored this class of investment.

Fraternal benefit societies operating in Oregon have confined their investments for the most part to municipal, school and road bonds, for the report shows that of the \$3,987,640 invested, all but \$887,884 is in bonds of this character.

Although property owned by local lodges in the state aggregate several millions, only the property owned and controlled by the Southern Pacific Railroad company's interest in this land amounted to \$250 per acre:

"Whether we have a right to assess these lands only for the amount of the railroad's equity of \$250 per acre, or whether we have a right to assess it at all, is a matter for the board of trustees to determine," he said. "This land is assessed at virtually the same figure as last year."

Assess Land Grant \$5 Per Acre.

Eugene.—The Oregon & California lands in Lane county have been placed upon the assessment rolls at valuations of from \$5 to \$20, the total appraisement amounting to \$3,350,000, by B. F. Keeney, county assessor, disregarding the recent ruling of the supreme court of the United States, which held that the Southern Pacific Railroad company's interest in this land amounted to \$250 per acre.

"Whether we have a right to assess these lands only for the amount of the railroad's equity of \$250 per acre, or whether we have a right to assess it at all, is a matter for the board of trustees to determine," he said. "This land is assessed at virtually the same figure as last year."

Salmon Fishing Improves.

Astoria.—There was quite an improvement in the catch of salmon this week. This was especially true in the section of the river opposite the city and above Tongue Point, where several gill-nets secured in the neighborhood of a ton each, and catches of 500 to 600 pounds were common. The spruce and traps did not make good hauls.

In the lower harbor, however, the catch was not so good, indicating that the school of fish which began to enter the river on Saturday hastened upstream.

Day of Rock Roads Ends.

Oregon City.—The ultimate solution of the rural road-building problem is not in the construction of macadam or rock roads, County Judge Anderson said here.

In the future it will be the policy of the Clackamas county court, at least as far as Judge Anderson is concerned, to replace worn-out rock roads with bituminous macadam, and the carrying out of this programme has already begun. Next year a bituminous road to Portland from Oregon City may be completed.

Polk Prune Yield Normal.

Monmouth.—Prune trees in the hills about Falls City, Monmouth, Dallas and Arlie are expected to yield normally this year. The growers report a favorable season for fruit development and claim only in a few instances the early frosts have injured the fruit. While not as large as last year, the size of the prunes will rank well up with the past few years, according to the growers. Many new orchards will bear this fall.

Sumpter and Auburn Fires Checked.

Baker.—That fire in the Sumpter Valley and Auburn districts is now well under control was reported by County Fire Warden Palmer, who returned from Auburn, where he directed trenching operations. Mr. Palmer believes that new fires will hold the only danger to timber in the section through which he was working, as those now burning are well safeguarded.

Pumpkin Show Planned.

Junction City.—The seventh annual Junction City Pumpkin Show will be held on September 15, 17 and 18. The show will have ten departments: Pumpkin, forage, orchard and vineyard, vegetables, grain and seed, cutting, flowers and art, industrial school exhibits, fancy work and poultry. The state exhibitors of poultry are invited to compete. B. F. Keeney will judge the poultry exhibits.

Artesian Well Borings Succeed.

Klamath Falls.—Success obtained by B. S. Grigsby, of this city, a few weeks ago in obtaining artesian water on his ranch near Fort Klamath, north of here, was such that five other wells have since been put down, and more likely will follow. The record for getting water is on the Grover Neal place.

Percheron Prizes Up.

Salem.—W. A. Jones, secretary of the state fair, announced that the Percheron Society of America had offered 13 special premiums for stallions and mares exhibited at the meeting, which opens September 27 and continues six days. The fair board has offered prizes totaling \$622 and a banner each for champion stallion and champion mare in the Percheron exhibit.

GIVE ALL TO FRANCE

Rich and Poor Turn Over Hoarded Treasure.

Peddler and Seamstress Lead Great Line of Patriots Bringing Gold to Maintain Nation's Credit and Defense.

Paris.—Since the Bank of France opened special counters in Paris to receive the people's hoarded gold a few days ago the yellow coins have continued to flow in an uninterrupted stream. Depositors exchanged gold for bank notes in the first four days in Paris to the extent of \$3,000,000. No reports from the provinces have been made out.

Capitalists went to the bank in automobiles, taking little bags of gold to strengthen the credit of France and help in the national defense. In the early morning hours working men and small employers hurried in on the way to their labor to hand in their jealously preserved savings.

First to respond to the call for more gold were a street ironmonger seller who brought two napoleons wrapped in a big rag, and a little seamstress, who proudly gave her solitary coin.

All who take gold to the bank get in return a receipt slip as a souvenir, saying for their country's sake they have parted with their treasure.

In addition to equivalent value in paper money the Bank of France can issue legally three bank bills of \$20 for every \$20 in gold. When Finance Minister Ribot asked the governor of the Bank of France to open special gold-receiving offices in Paris and its provincial branches M. Pallain already had taken steps to this end.

Inquiries in many competent quarters have led to the estimate that gold money held privately in France amounts to \$700,000,000, or nearly \$80,000,000 less than the total gold reserve now at the Bank of France.

"Few of the depositors say: 'I wish to exchange gold,' or, 'I wish to pay in gold.'" All make the simple remark: "I bring gold."

Rich and poor alike are conscious they are taking gold, not to the bank, but for France.

It would be a mistake for the public to imagine that it is making a sacrifice in exchanging gold for notes, since the gold is unemployed and therefore unprofitable. The bank is naturally anxious to keep a reserve as possible so as to maintain fully the credit of its paper issues and at the same time enable the government to pay for supplies from abroad in gold.

Another reason why the government wishes the nation's gold to be held in the strong hands of the bank is to prevent it from being withdrawn privately under false pretenses to find its way to the enemy by trickery. Germany and Austria are in desperate straits financially, and are ready to adopt the most deceitful practices to get gold.

SINGS TO HER DEAD BABY

Child Had Drowned in Four Inches of Water While Mother Was in Another Room.

New York.—Mrs. Bernard Morris of 2376 Eighth avenue left her son Philip, fifteen months old, and her daughter Helen, two years old, lying in four inches of water in the bathtub while she went into another room.

In a few moments she heard the little girl scream. Rushing into the bathroom, she found the baby floating face downward in the water. Thinking the baby had only turned over, the mother dried him carefully and put him in his cradle.

For several minutes she sang and rocked the baby, and then, seeing he was quiet, she put her hand on the child's face. It was cold. Doctor Rosenbluth of the Harlem hospital, who was summoned, said the child was drowned.

HOGS SAVE OWNER'S LIFE

They Kill Three Snakes With Which a Trout Run Man Was Battling.

Clearfield, Pa.—Permitted to roam through the woods at will, several pigs belonging to Henry Smith, a wealthy farmer near Trout Run, developed a great dislike for snakes.

Recently when Smith, while trying to kill two rattlesnakes and a blacksnake, which were fighting, was attacked by all three reptiles, his hogs, feeding a short distance away, heard the noise and, coming to his aid with their sharp hoofs and tusks, tore the snakes into shreds and devoured them.

The rattlesnakes, according to Smith, measured three feet in length. The blacksnake was the largest ever seen in this section.

LIVE REINDEER FOR BERLIN

Ten Thousand to Be Imported From Norway for Slaughtering—Experiment Shipment Satisfactory.

Christiania.—A syndicate of Norwegians has accepted a commission from the German meat trade to furnish 10,000 live reindeer which are to be delivered alive in Berlin during the summer and fall for slaughter there.

An experimental shipment has already been made and proved entirely satisfactory to the Berlin butchers.

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