

# NEWS NOTES OF CURRENT WEEK

## Resume of World's Important Events Told in Brief.

Business in Paris is said to be better now than at any time since the war began.

Berlin goes wild over victory of army against Russia in Poland, and enthusiasm runs riot.

Repairs of the damage done to the English coast towns by the German fleet are rapidly being made.

Rear Admiral Fiske admits there is one foreign navy that leads in gunnery, but refuses to name the country.

A British shipbuilding concern built a modern battleship in ten and one-half months, said to be the shortest time on record.

Deputy Game Warden Hubbard, of Ashland, Ore., is shot by alleged game poachers, when he attempts to search their cabins.

It is reported from Amsterdam that two British ships were sunk Friday off the coast of England, but the rumor is not confirmed.

Mexican troops on the border show no signs of heeding the warning of President Wilson, that firing into American territory should be stopped.

Report comes from South Shields, England, that three ships were sunk by mines; one is believed to be a passenger vessel, and the other two are unknown.

Food exports from the United States during November showed an increase of 300 per cent over same month last year. The great increase is attributed to the European war.

E. Henry Wemme, prominent Portland citizen and good roads enthusiast, dies suddenly in Los Angeles. He is reputed to have purchased the first automobile ever brought to Portland, likewise an aeroplane.

A German diplomat in New York upholds the attack on the English coast towns on the grounds that they were either fortified or defended, which does not conflict with the decision of The Hague convention of Oct. 16, 1907.

A letter from Robert Fulton to General William Duane, March 1, 1813, telling him of torpedoes invented by him capable of destroying any foreign invaders of New York harbor, was sold for \$32.50 at the auction sale of the library of the late Adrian H. Joline. "I am happy to find you continue the firm friend to torpedoes," Fulton wrote, "an infant art which requires only support and practice to produce a change in maritime affairs of immense importance to this country. Expecting the enemy here, I have not been idle. I have prepared nine torpedoes, with locks that strike fire by concussion, and four with clockwork locks."

Vienna officials admit of the retaking of Belgrade by the Servians.

President Wilson expresses deep interest in the uplift of the negro.

Pendleton, Oregon, is sending 100 barrels of flour to aid the Belgians.

Russians were forced to retreat before the Austrians in West Galicia.

It is reported in Tokio that the German armed merchantman Oxford has been captured by the British in the Indian Ocean. The German converted cruiser Cormorant has entered the harbor of Guam, in the Ladrone Archipelago.

The postoffice department has advised that hereafter all Oregon postal savings funds at offices without a local depository bank, will be remitted to the Portland office, which will serve as a clearing house for the payment of withdrawals.

President Wilson was asked by a delegation representing the Masters' and Pilots' association to support an amendment to the administration ship purchase bill to restrict employment of officers of government-owned vessels to America.

All the street lamps in Paris are being extinguished at midnight. The reason for this precaution is said to be the receipt of a report that two Zeppelin dirigible balloons had been sighted at Amiens, proceeding in the direction of Paris.

The mikado's budget for 1915, which shows an estimated expenditure of 556,000,000 yen (\$278,000,000), and a decrease of the revenues of \$40,500,000, is now before the house of representatives for consideration. Considerable opposition to it has developed. There is good reason to believe that unless the house passes the budget it will be dissolved. The right of dissolving the house of representatives is among the prerogatives of the emperor.

## Servians Again Occupy Capital, City of Belgrade

London—The Servians, after a fierce battle Tuesday, have reoccupied Belgrade, according to a Nish dispatch to Reuter's Telegram company.

The Austrians occupied Belgrade December 2, after having besieged it since July 29, bombarding from batteries near Semlin and from monitors on the Danube.

A large portion of the city was said to have been destroyed by the fire of the Austrians.

When war was declared the Servian government moved from Belgrade to Kragujevats and later went further south to Nish, where it remains.

London—Reuter's Amsterdam correspondent says the Austrians admit defeat at the hands of the Servians, in an official communication issued at Vienna. This communication follows: "Our offensive movement, directed in a southerly direction from the River Drina, encountered southeast of Valjevo a greatly superior force of the enemy.

"Our advance was not merely stopped, but we were compelled to make more extended retirement of our troops, which for many weeks have fought obstinately and brilliantly, but with many losses.

"Against this we may place the occupation of Belgrade. A new decision and measures consequently will be taken which will serve to repel the enemy.

"During the days of December 10, 11 and 12 the enemy continued to retire along the entire front. The Servian advance guards have progressed as far as Veliki and Bosniak."

## Real Winter Strikes East; Death Follows in Wake

Chicago—Winter, nearly two months overdue, got down to business Tuesday when the temperature here dropped to 2 degrees below zero, accompanied by howling blasts. The only redeeming feature of the day was the bright sunshine after two weeks of darkness and fitful snow and rain storms.

Two men were so badly frozen that amputation of their legs was necessary. A watchman was found nearly dead where he had fallen during the night. His hands and feet must be amputated and he probably will die. The other victim was found frozen in a ditch, where he had fallen from exhaustion.

Navigation on the Great Lakes was brought to a sudden stop by stiff gales and blizzards and blinding snow. Some big boats are still out.

As showing the scope and nature of the cold wave, following are some representative high and low temperatures for the day:

Boston, 42-28 above; Buffalo, 20-10 above; Pittsburg, 22 to 8 above; Chicago, 4 above to 3 below; Madison, Wis., 2 to 6 below; Worth, 4 above to 2 below; Charles City, Ia., 2 to 14 below; Devil's Lake, N. D., 2 to 18 below; Duluth, Minn., 0 to 19 below; Sioux City, Ia., 4 to 14 below; Kansas City, 4 below; Texas points reported a maximum of 36 and a minimum of 12; Montgomery, Ala., had a maximum of 36 and minimum of 30; Jacksonville, Fla., got down to 44 and New Orleans, to 40; Los Angeles had a maximum of 60 and minimum of 40.

## Thousands of Penniless Jews are in Flight

New York—One hundred and seventy thousand Jews have fled for refuge from Galicia to Vienna, according to a letter received here from the Austrian Israelite Alliance in Vienna by the American Jewish relief committee. "Galicia, as the field of military operations, has been cleared of almost the entire civil population," reads the letter. "At the present time there are 170,000 Jewish fugitives from Galicia here, of whom 70,000 are absolutely penniless. Furthermore, 25,000 destitute Jewish fugitives have been placed in barracks in Moravia and 70,000 in Bohemia, where barracks are also being built. These 165,000 poor Jews are in pressing need."

## America Austria's Hope.

Berlin—The official press bureau here gave out the following: "Austrian newspapers say that when negotiations for peace begin America will have earned the right to act as intermediary. These papers print sympathetic articles in connection with the opening of the American congress. They point out that the sending of gifts by American children to the children of dead soldiers is proof of the high motives in which the nation is guided."

## President to Act at 3 A. M.

Washington, D. C.—To push an electrical button to give a signal for opening the San Diego, Cal., exposition on the beginning of the new year, President Wilson will be awakened before 3 o'clock New Year's morning. He will push the button at midnight, Pacific Coast time, which is 3 a. m. here.

## NORTHWEST MARKET REPORTS.

Portland—An important meeting of the grain trade of Portland was held at the Merchants' Exchange the early part of this week to consider the matter of state grain inspection. It was the unanimous opinion of those at the meeting that a state grain inspection law should be in force in Oregon, which would put this state on the same basis as every other grain state in the Union.

This step is regarded as a most important one by the members of the grain trade. It is declared that Portland has lost much grain business because of the lack of state grain inspection, and that thousands of carloads of grain have gone to the Sound markets that would otherwise have come to this city.

Two years ago a state grain inspection bill was drawn up and sent to the legislature, but it did not pass. Not only do grain merchants want such a law, but the farmers are said to be a unit in favor of it.

The demand for hops, both for exportation and for domestic account, continues strong and prices are being maintained without difficulty.

The most important development in the market was the news received from Grants Pass that the bulk of the supply remaining in that section had been bought by Durbin & Conroy at 12 cents. The purchases by this firm were estimated at 700 bales, including the Flanagan & Cornell crop.

The Washington market continues strong and active, with 12 cents bid for the best Yakimas. McNeff Bros. purchased the Laigne crop of 275 bales and another lot of 350 bales in that section.

The frost of the last week has nipped most of the small vegetables in this section and larger supplies of radishes, onions and such lines will be brought up from California for the local trade.

The egg market was easy at the beginning of the week. Oregons were not plentiful, but the efforts to work off storage stock affected the entire market. Local candied ranch were sold at 40 and 41 cents and there were reports of some being offered at 38 cents.

Wheat—Bid; Bluestem, \$1.20 bushel; forty-fold, \$1.19; club, \$1.18; Red Russian, \$1.11; red Fife, \$1.13.  
Oats—Bid; No. 1 white feed, \$28.  
Barley—Bid; No. 1 feed, \$25 ton; brewing, \$25.50; bran, \$23.50; shorts, \$24.50.

Millfeed—Bran, \$24@24.50 ton; shorts, \$26@26.50; rolled barley, \$27.50@28.50.

Corn—Whole, \$26 ton; cracked, \$37.  
Hay—Eastern Oregon timothy, \$14 @16 ton; grain hay, \$10@11; alfalfa, \$12@13; valley timothy, \$11@12.

Vegetables—Cucumbers, 50c dozen; eggplant, 7c pound; peppers, 7@8c; artichokes, 90c dozen; tomatoes, 60c @1 crate; cabbage, \$1@1c pound; beans, 12c; celery, 60@75c dozen; cauliflower, 60c @1; sprouts, 8c pound; head lettuce, \$2 crate; pumpkins, 1c pound; squash, 1c.

Green Fruits—Apples, 65c@1.50 box; casabas, 1c pound; pears, \$1@1.50 box; grapes, \$1@1.35 crate; cranberries, \$8@9 barrel.

Potatoes—Oregon, 75@85c sack; Idaho, 90c@1.10; Yakima, 85c@1; sweet potatoes, 2@2c pound.

Onions—Oregon, buying price, \$1.25 f. o. b. shipping point.

Eggs—Fresh Oregon ranch, case count, 36c; candied, 38@41c.

Cattle—Prime steers, \$7@7.25; choice, \$6.50@7; medium, \$6.25@6.50; choice cows, \$5.75@6.25; medium, \$5@5.50; heifers, \$5 @ 6.75; calves, \$6 @ 8; bulls, \$3.50 @ 4.75; stags, \$4.50@6.

Hogs—Light, \$6.25@7.10; heavy, \$5.75@6.25.

Sheep—Wethers, \$5.25@6; ewes, \$4.25@5; lambs, \$6.25@7.50.

Seattle—Aside from the Christmas movement, which is slated by the street for this week, interest centers in the immediate futures for apples, spuds and onions, the three leading local staples for the midwinter season.

Eggs—Select ranch, 40c dozen.  
Poultry—Live hens, 10@14c pound; old roosters, 10c; 1914 broilers, 11c; ducklings, 12@13c; geese, 10c; Guinea fowl, \$6 dozen; turkeys, live, 20c pound; do. dressed, 21c.

Apples—Cooking, 50@60c box; Black Twigs, 75c@1; Baldwins, 50 @75c; Delicious, \$1@1.50; Spitzenbergs, 75c@1.25; Yellow Newtown Pippins, 75c@1.25; Stamen Wine-apples, 75c@1.

Pears—Beurre Easter, \$1.25@1.50 box; Beurre Anjou, \$2@2.25; Winter Nellis, \$1@1.25.

Dressed Beef—Prime beef steers, 12@12c pound; cows, 11@12c; heifers, 12c.

Dressed Veal—14c pound.  
Dressed Hogs—Whole, packing house, 8@10c pound.  
Dressed Spring Lamb—13@13c pound.

Dressed Mutton—10@10c pound.  
Potatoes—White Rivers, car lots, \$13@15 ton; Gems, car lots, \$14@17; Burbanks, \$17@19; store price, \$2@3 ton additional; sweets, \$2@2.25 cwt.

# State Land Board Leases Salt Deposits in Lakes

Salem—With the leasing by the State Land Board of Summer and Albert lakes, which contain rich deposits of salts, to Jason C. Moore, head of a New York syndicate, the development of another of Oregon's remarkable resources seems near.

What the value of the output of the lakes annually will be is problematic, but Mr. Moore declared that he and his associates would expend at least \$6,000,000 in equipment and development within the next two years. He thought that from 3500 to 6000 men would be employed.

Engineers will be put to work at once, but because of a reservation of the board that the legislature must pass upon the proposition, the work of building a plant and laying pipelines will not be started until that is done. The board awarded the contract to Mr. Moore and will recommend to the legislature its ratification. The lease is for 45 years.

Under the contract Mr. Moore must give a bond of \$25,000 and pay to the state annually, beginning January 1, 1917, royalties of not less than \$25,000. He deposited with his bid a check for \$10,000 as a guarantee of good faith. He agrees to give the state 50 cents a ton for potassium salts, 10 cents a ton for sodium chlorides and 25 cents a ton for all other salts. C. A. Sheppard, Mr. Moore's lawyer, said it is the plan to pipe the raw product along the Deschutes river to the Columbia river, where a plant for extracting the salts will be erected.

It will be transported from there by

river to Portland and from there shipped to various markets by rail and steamships.

But two bids were received by the board, the other being by the Oregon Sodium Potash association, through H. S. Wallace, of Portland. The latter one was declared to be irregular because it was not accompanied by a check for \$10,000, as stipulated in the advertisement, and did not conform to other requirements.

The association represented by Mr. Wallace bid 5 cents a ton for sodium chlorides and 50 cents a ton for sodium carbonate and sodium bicarbonate. It bid \$3 a ton for potassium salts, it being \$2.50 higher than that of Mr. Moore. However, it was declared that there was only a trace of this salt in the lakes, and the bid might as well have been \$20 a ton, because there will be little obtained.

It made no bid under the heading "other salts," whereas the advertisement stipulated that prices should be named for potassium salts, sodium chloride and "other salts."

More than two years ago C. M. Sain obtained a lease from the state to develop the lakes, but was compelled to forfeit his lease because of lack of money to complete the work. Immediately after that Mr. Moore bid more than \$1,500,000 for the property outright and later a syndicate, represented by Portland men, offered about \$2,000,000 for it. Reports that actual value was from \$15,000,000 to \$30,000,000 caused the rejection of both offers and the determination of the board to lease the property on the royalty plan.

# Injured Give Advice to Industrial Accident Board

Salem—Numerous unique replies have been received by the State Industrial Accident commission from beneficiaries of the compensation act to the question asked by the board: "How in your opinion could such accidents be avoided?"

E. A. Dahl, employed by the Pacific Brick company, lost 14 days from work because of an injury to an eye caused by a fellow workman striking him with a mud ball. "Such accidents may be avoided," he writes, "by workmen attending to business and not playing when they should be at work."

"Don't follow a dump-cart over the dump," is the suggestion of John Kelly, employed by the J. W. Sweeney Construction company, who with his cart tumbled down hill and was incapacitated for work for several days.

C. C. White, an employe of the Gambrinus Brewery, suffered injury to four digits on his right hand, causing permanent stiffness, by allowing his hand to be caught between two beer kegs which he was rolling. He thought such injuries could be avoided

by persons keeping their hands away from beer kegs.

C. P. Mason, employed by the Coos Bay Times Publishing company, sat on an oil can, puncturing the sciatic nerve. "Be careful where you sit," was his answer to the question.

"Wear wooden shoes like the Belgians," was the reply of an employe of the Nicolai Neppach company, who crushed his feet by dropping heavy timbers on them, and was unable to work for several days.

J. A. Allen, an employe of the Union Meat company, while attempting to kill a hog, was kicked in the stomach by the animal. "Kill 'em first," writes Allen to the commission.

"Keep away from the business end of a mule," is the suggestion of L. I. Griffith, employed on the Tumalo Irrigation project, who was seriously injured because he did not heed his own injunction.

A man injured while working in a sawmill blamed a co-worker, who was of foreign birth. He said such accidents could be avoided by "keeping the foreigners out of the country."

## Jackson County Spends \$500,000 On Roads

Ashland—Jackson county has spent nearly \$500,000 on roads in 1914. The Siskiyou unit of the Pacific highway has cost to date \$160,000, or \$12,000 a mile. From Ashland's western outskirts to the Poor farm, about five miles, the expense has been nearly \$12,000 a mile, or a total of \$62,000. This stretch has an asphalt wearing surface five inches thick, and was contract work. From the Poor farm to Medford, less than seven miles, the cost was \$74,000, divided between county and state, averaging \$11,000 a mile.

The Central Point unit was the most expensive, costing \$16,000 a mile. This, however, includes the cost of machinery and material, the entire expense over this particular area amounting to nearly \$55,000. About \$25,000 was applied on new construction and grading, while the maintenance of the roads throughout the county in general cost nearly \$90,000. The foregoing figures are semi-official as given out by the county court. More than half of the paved surface completed on the Pacific highway to date has a concrete base.

## Ashland Re-elects Four.

Ashland—O. H. Johnson, mayor; C. H. Gillette, recorder; George Eubanks, treasurer, and R. A. Minkler, water commissioner, were re-elected at the city election Tuesday. S. Peniston was elected park commissioner. For councilmen, R. P. Cornelius was elected in the First ward; P. L. Ashcraft in the Second and A. J. Biegel in the Third.

The biggest fight was for recorder, there having been six candidates in the field. The town went dry by more than 700 majority. Two measures, one enlarging the city boundaries and the other levying a half mill tax for publicity purposes, carried. The total vote was 1438. The maximum polling strength is 2000.

## Siletz Road Unit Near.

Dallas—It is practically certain now that the much-talked-of permanent road between Falls City and the Siletz will be started within the year. Road District No. 21, of this county, in which most of the Siletz road is located, has voted a special tax of 5 mills for this purpose. The county court has signified its intention to give the district, in addition to this special levy, all of the money raised on the general road levy in that district, together with other money from the general road fund. When improved the distance between Portland and Newport will be cut down about 13 miles and a highway given to tourists that will equal anything in the West from the standpoint of scenic beauty. The Lincoln county court has commenced work on the Lincoln county end of the road.

## Board Releases Notes.

Salem—Upon promise of the company that it would make no additional sales of land in the Central Oregon canal unit, the State Desert Land Board returned to the Central Oregon Irrigation company \$29,321 settlers' notes, deposited as a guaranty of good faith. Roscoe P. Howard, manager of the company, reported the capacity of the canal to be sufficient for irrigating 30,800 acres. The unit, therefore, was cut to that acreage. The board announced that hereafter under a ruling of the Federal authorities proof of a contract for land would have to be made only by the original settler.

## Gov. West Will Practice Law.

Salem—Oswald West, governor of Oregon, has announced that after his term of office expires early in January he will engage in the practice of law in Portland. He and Claude C. McCulloch, ex-state senator from Baker county, and Governor West's lieutenant on the floor of the senate at the 1913 session of the legislature, have formed a partnership to be known as West & McCulloch.