

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.

The new Wurttemberg government, says a Stuttgart dispatch, proposes to abolish all nobility, titles and powers.

The Rev. Dr. J. Wilbur Chapman, noted as an evangelist, died in New York Christmas. He was operated upon a few days ago.

The Germans have returned stocks taken from the banks in northern France amounting approximately to 6,000,000,000 francs.

The cost of living in New York state has increased 62 per cent since 1914, according to figures made public by the Consumers' league of New York.

There has been completed in Vernal, Utah, a bank building made of bricks, all of which, together with the hardware, were delivered by the government's mail service.

Two hundred and seventy-five thousand French prisoners have returned from Germany. There still remain in Germany 200,000 Frenchmen, a large number of whom are already home-bound.

An American relief expedition carrying relief physicians, nurses and supplies will sail from New York next month for the near East, it is announced by the American Committee for Armenian and Syrian Relief.

Death sentences imposed by courts-martial for desertion upon Recruit F. C. Laub and Private George A. Jacobs, of the 150th Infantry, were commuted by President Wilson Christmas day to dishonorable discharge and 20 years' imprisonment at hard labor.

Secretary Baker declined Wednesday to grant general amnesty to 300 or more conscientious objectors held in military custody for having refused to perform any kind of work in connection with the army after being called for service under the selective draft law.

The capital issues committee of the treasury, the government's war agency for the suppression of unessential security issues, announces that it will suspend activities on December 31, and remain inactive until dissolved, unless called back into service by developments.

Appeals for the union of all the liberal parties which desire a republic and do not wish the new Germany to fall into the hands either of reactionaries or socialists were made at a meeting Sunday of the German democratic party, which assembled in Coblenz to adopt a platform.

The flocks of released Russian prisoners who are making their way home-bound through Poland, all of whom appear to be tainted with Bolshevism and are recognized as a danger in this respect by the Polish authorities, are in fact already causing much trouble by their lawlessness in their search for food.

An enrollment of nearly 17,000,000 was shown by reports from the American Red Cross Christmas rollcall received at national headquarters in Washington, D. C. Many divisions reported that thus far they had been able to get only scattering returns from many chapters, and this led officials to believe that the ultimate total will exceed 20,000,000.

The Montreal Corn exchange has been advised by the department of trade and commerce at Ottawa of the removal of the restrictions on the exportation from Canada of all kinds of coarse grains.

A page advertisement, appearing in a Butte, Mont., newspaper and signed "Workers' Council," appeals for the establishment of a workers' commonwealth in America. The article is headed, "Down With Capitalism."

TO PROTECT TRADE FLEET

U. S. Shipping Board Will Open Permanent Offices Abroad.

Paris.—The United States Shipping board has decided to create a permanent world organization for the purpose of handling the government's trade fleet with the greatest effectiveness.

"We will open at once offices in London, Paris and Rome," said Edward N. Hurley, chairman of the board. "From these centers," Mr. Hurley continued, "will be directed 10 or 12 other offices, such as Shanghai, Yokohama and Bombay, in the east; Genoa, in Italy; Buenos Aires, Valparaiso, and Rio de Janeiro, in South America, and at Rotterdam and Antwerp. Take, for example, vessels bringing supplies to Belgium or France. It is of the greatest importance that we have a quick turn around. It may be of advantage to reroute a vessel on this side to India or to South Africa.

"The London, Paris or Antwerp offices would have precise information and be able to consign a ship without delay for its most efficient use. The subordinate centers are essential properly to direct our national fleet. They will be managed by practical shipping men who will be assigned to their posts from the United States.

"There will be no interference with the War department's handling of ships. The service of supply has really done its work admirably and we shall not have any changes to make in that. Our business will be with the trade fleet."

Director-General Rossiter has received instructions to proceed at once to put the plan into effect. The French, Belgian and Italian governments, it is understood, will welcome representatives in their capitals with whom they can deal direct.

Prominent Russian Denies Czar Nicholas is Murdered

Warsaw.—"There is no doubt that the Czar and his entire family are alive. I am positive of this," was the declaration made to a correspondent recently by Michael de Tchitchaef, a nephew of General Skoropadski and who has just escaped from the Ukraine after a recent trip to Petrograd, Dvinsk, Vilna and Povo.

"I cannot reveal where the Czar is, because he does not wish it," he added. "He does not care to be bothered and he wants to be left alone.

"His whereabouts is known to the allied governments. It is in a neutral country. Accounts of his murder at Ekaterinburg were manufactured by Trotsky and Lenine for propaganda purposes.

"It took much money and time and also the lives of many officers to accomplish his escape. Among the officers killed was Count Tatischev, the Czar's former personal military attaché, who was shot instead of the Czar. Documents describing the Czar's escape were in the hands of German Consul Koenig at Petrograd, who forwarded them to Berlin."

"Go to Hell" Says Hoover.

Washington, D. C.—Food Administrator Hoover, in Europe, arranging relief for the people of the war-devastated territories, has refused in emphatic terms to discuss German food conditions with Baron von der Lancken and Dr. Rieth, who sought a meeting with the food administrator. In answer to a message for a conference, Mr. Hoover sent this message:

"You can describe two and a half years of arrogance toward ourselves and cruelty to the Belgians in any language you may select and tell the pair personally to go to hell with my compliments. If I do have to deal with Germans it will not be with that pair."

Noisy Welcome Given Tars.

The vocal welcome came later when the rugged, weather-beaten tars who manned the ships debarked and, with Secretary Daniels and Admiral Mayo at their head, marched down Fifth avenue in the country's first great victory parade.

Leading civilians in the cheering were wounded soldiers returned from France. With the memory of their own first anxious voyage still fresh in their minds they paid unstinted tribute to brothers in arms who had guarded them across the Atlantic.

BANQUET OF REGAL POMP GIVEN WILSON

British King Dines President at Palace.

ALL MOST BRILLIANT

Guests Eat From \$15,000,000 Worth of Gold Plate—Many Diplomats Seated at Festive Board.

London.—No more regal setting ever had been arranged in Buckingham Palace than that which greeted President Wilson and Mrs. Wilson when they were escorted to the banquet hall Friday night for the precedent-breaking state dinner.

Every royal formality which had attended epochal occasions at the palace for 200 or 300 years was carried out before and during the banquet. President Wilson, with Queen Mary, led the procession into the dining hall, preceded by officials of the palace splendidly costumed, bearing wands and walking backward and making obeisance to the guests.

Immediately behind the president and queen came King George and Mrs. Wilson. They were followed by members of the royal family.

At the head of the table 12 persons were seated, with King George in the middle. President Wilson sat at the king's right and Mrs. Wilson on his left. To the right of President Wilson was Queen Mary and then the French ambassador, Princess Christian, the Spanish ambassador and Princess Patricia, daughter of the Duke of Connaught. At Mrs. Wilson's left sat Princess Mary, the Italian ambassador, Princess Beatrice and the Japanese ambassador, in the order named. The American ambassador, John W. Davis, had the first place at a side rectangular table on President Wilson's right.

Queen Mary wore a cream-colored gown of silk with a long train and a tiara of diamonds and many other jewels. Mrs. Wilson's dress was black with spangles and was made at the White House. She wore very few jewels.

The military and naval officers were in service uniforms and wore their swords. The ambassadors were in full ambassadorial uniform. President Wilson and Ambassador Davis wore formal American evening clothes. The British civilian guests wore court dress and the insignia of many orders.

Prior to the dinner President and Mrs. Wilson were escorted from their apartments to the great white drawing-room, where the royal family had gathered with their other guests. These guests were presented to President and Mrs. Wilson and the dinner party immediately proceeded to the dining hall.

The scene was one of splendor. In the dining salon was a great collection of solid gold plate and huge gold ornaments valued at \$15,000,000. These had been brought from the vaults for the occasion.

Food Drive Held Urgent.

Washington.—Secretary of Labor Wilson has asked the governors of all states to co-operate with him in securing the observance of the week beginning January 29 as a national enrollment week for the United States Boys' Working Reserve. This organization, created during the war to furnish an additional agricultural labor supply, must be continued, the secretary said in his appeal to the governors, in order that food production sufficient for the requirements of the world may be secured.

Teuton Wealth Flies Out.

Munich.—The Munich Post Saturday printed a startling charge that German war profiteers, unable otherwise to get their booty out of the country, have resorted to the use of airplanes. According to the newspaper several airplanes have taken securities of enormous value from Frankfurt to Switzerland. The Post urges the government to seize capital where it is available, especially in banks.

1920 TAX RATES ARE FIXED

All Provisions in War Revenue Bill Adopted on Partisan Vote.

Washington, D. C.—By a strict party vote, the senate late Saturday adopted all provisions in the war revenue bill prescribing tax rates for 1920, which democrats advocated and republicans opposed, but failed to reach a final vote on the measure.

Disposition of the controverted 1920 tax provisions, designed to raise about \$4,000,000,000, as compared with the \$6,000,000,000 estimated for 1919, precipitated long and spirited debate, with numerous partisan clashes.

Action was taken virtually on a test vote in disposing of the provision reducing the individual income normal tax rate to 8 per cent in 1920. On a motion by Senator McCumber of North Dakota, republican, to strike out this section, 37 democrats voted to retain it and 31 republicans were recorded for its elimination.

Later all other 1920 provisions were adopted with perfunctory viva voce votes. Senator Penrose of Pennsylvania, senior republican member of the finance committee, offered motions to strike out the sections, but these were bowled over by a chorus of democratic "ayes."

Among the 1920 clauses thus approved was the provision for reduction in that year of the corporation normal income tax rate from 12 to 8 per cent. In similar manner the senate adopted the 1920 war excess profits tax section, prescribing excess profits ranging from 20 to 40 per cent, in lieu of those from 20 to 60 per cent for 1919 and abolishing the 80 per cent war profits levy after 1919. An amendment by Senator Jones of New Mexico, democrat, to continue war profits taxes in 1919, was voted down, 44 to 15.

WALTER HINES PAGE, AMBASSADOR, DIES

Pinehurst, N. C.—Walter Hines Page, former ambassador to Great Britain, died here late Sunday night after an illness of many weeks. Mr. Page's health began to fail nearly a year ago and he gave up his post as American representative at the Court of St. James late in the summer.

Dr. Page returned to the United States on October 12 and he was moved directly from the steamer to a hospital in New York.

Most of the members of Dr. Page's family were with him when death came.

As American ambassador Mr. Page participated in many of the important diplomatic conferences and exchanges growing out of the delicate relations between the United States and Great Britain at the time when England was blockading Germany before the United States entered the war. As ambassador he presented the British government American notes in protest against the British treatment of American commerce, and held numerous conferences with British statesmen over this and other moot questions rising from the war. One of these was the American note to Great Britain protesting against the misuse of the American flag when the United States was a neutral. Mr. Page was at that time one of the agents through which the few diplomatic dealings between Germany and Great Britain were conducted. It was Mr. Page who offered an agreement between England and Germany under which the United States, as well as England, was enabled to feed the starving Belgians. Mr. Page received numerous degrees and decorations for his diplomatic services abroad.

American Fleet on Rhine.

With the American Army of Occupation, Saturday.—American patrol boats, each armed with a machine gun used by the marines at Soissons or in other drives, are plying the Rhine. The Rhine American fleet consists of 12 boats, 10 patrol craft, one supply boat and the "Prussian," which is being used by General Dickman. The Prussian was requisitioned from the head mayor of the Coblenz district and is one of the finest steam yachts on the Rhine.

PIRATING OF NEWS DECLARED ILLEGAL

Associated Press Wins Suit in U. S. Supreme Court.

HEARST SERVICE HIT

Injunctions Barring International News Service From Pirate Methods Is Allowed to Stand.

Washington, D. C.—The supreme court of the United States Tuesday sustained federal court decrees restraining the International News Service from pirating news of the Associated Press.

Five members of the court, including Chief Justice White, concurred in a majority opinion delivered by Associate Justice Pitney, upholding the principle of a property right in news and the complaint of unfair competition, and refusing to interfere with injunctions specifically prohibiting the International News Service from pirating by:

Bribing employes of newspapers to furnish Associated Press news before publication for transmission to the defendant's clients.

Inducing Associated Press members to violate its by-laws by permitting the defendant to obtain news by publication.

Copying news from bulletin boards and from early editions of Associated Press newspapers and selling it either bodily or after rewriting.

Two minority opinions were delivered. Associate Justice Brandeis dissented entirely, declaring that, while the injustice of the use of unearned news matter by a competitor was obvious, the defendant had acted without misrepresentation and he regarded the majority action as laying down a dangerous opinion, which might result in the denial to a great number of people of news that only the Associated Press secures. He suggested that there should be legislation to protect the public rights.

DEMOCRACY

Great mother of a new-born race,
All earth shall be thy dwelling place;
Democracy, thy holy name,
Shall set the continents aflame,
Shall thrill the islands of the sea,
And keep thy children ever free.

From God's eternal universe
Shalt thou remove the primal curse
Which man upon his fellow-man
Imposed since first the world began;
Away with slaves, deprived of rights,
And illy-fingered parasites!

For thus the new-world purpose we
Can, step by step, unfold see;
Columbus sailed, at God's behest,
From lands by wicked kings oppressed—
His messenger, to search the earth
And find the place for Freedom's birth.

Then up rose peerless Washington,
With many another dauntless son,
Whose spirit, caught beyond the blue,
Encompassed France, and Europe, too,
Until the purpose of the Lord
Was plainly written with the sword.

Out of it all—Democracy!
The final word of God's decree,
To carry out His cherished plan
Of peace on earth, good will to man.
Therefore, arise, ye people, sing
This heaven-born and glorious thing!

—William Mill Butler.
Beachwood, N. J., July 4, 1918.
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Yanks Lose Twenty-One Balloons.

Washington, D. C.—During the last allied offensive, between September 26 and November 11, 21 American balloons were lost. A report on the balloon companies of the first army in France made public Saturday by the war department shows 15 balloons were destroyed by German airplanes and six by shells, and the enemy lost at least 50.