

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.

Men still held in the spruce production division at Vancouver barracks will practically all be discharged by February 10.

The Presbyterian church in the United States has provided in its 1919 budget for a fund of a million dollars to increase salaries of pastors not considered adequately paid.

The Nebraska state senate, by unanimous vote, adopts a joint resolution memorializing the United States senate to submit the question of national equal suffrage to the states for approval.

Secretary Baker has submitted to Chairman Dent of the house military committee a bill to authorize purchase of land in France for a military cemetery, to be designated "The American Field of Honor."

Orders directing Major-General Leonard Wood, now commanding Camp Funston, Kansas, to proceed to Chicago and take command of the central department, were issued by the War department.

Princess Charlotte, sister of Grand Duchess Marie, of Luxembourg, has been chosen as the latter's successor by the chamber of deputies, which met immediately after the abdication of the grand duchess was announced.

Bob Griffith, veteran Alaska "musher," with a heavily armed guard and two dog teams, arrived in Seward, Alaska, Thursday with \$400,000 worth of gold dust from the Iditarod for shipment to Seattle on the steamer Alameda.

Crews of the German mine sweepers, according to the Cologne Volks Zeitung, are refusing to serve unless they receive increased pay and new schedules calling for sums as high as 100 marks daily, exclusive of the insurance guarantee.

Despite the ending of the war, there will be no letup in the movement to have women take more interest in farming, according to speakers before the Women's Land Army of America, which concluded its first annual convention in Philadelphia Thursday.

A violent peasant uprising in the interior of Russia against the imposition of excessive taxes by the Bolsheviks and against the "committee for fighting poverty," which exercise a tyrannical dictatorship in the villages, is reported in a Petrograd dispatch.

Nine persons are known to have been killed and about 50 injured by the explosion of a huge tank of molasses on the Boston waterfront off Commercial street, near Keany Square, Wednesday. Eight bodies were removed from the wreckage and one man died at the relief hospital. Most of those injured suffered only from bruises.

Congress has been asked by Secretary Daniels to appropriate \$270,400, 000 to meet a deficit in the navy's expenses for the current fiscal year.

Senator Lodge, of Massachusetts, will deliver the eulogy at the joint Congressional memorial services for Theodore Roosevelt to be held in the house chamber on February 9.

Two aviators of Carruthers Field, Fort Worth, Tex., were killed Monday morning when their plane dropped into a tail spin and fell 5000 feet. They are Lieutenant John E. Garbut, of Sheridan, Wyo., and Mechanic R. L. Quinn, of Pittsburg, Pa.

American Christmas mail for Sweden, estimated to be the most valuable of the year, has not yet arrived in Stockholm. It is believed that the mail was lost on the missing British steamer Gitano, which left Hull, England, on December 20 for Sweden.

U. S. TO BE 'DRY' JANUARY, 1920

Washington, D. C.—Ratification last Thursday of the federal constitutional prohibition amendment made the United States the first great power to take legislative action to permanently stop the liquor traffic.

Nebraska's vote gave the necessary affirmative three-fourths majority of the states to make effective the amendment submitted by congress in December, 1917. It was followed by similar action in the legislatures of Missouri and Wyoming, making 38 states in all which have approved a "dry" America.

Affirmative action by some of the 10 state legislatures yet to act is predicted by prohibition advocates.

Under the terms of the amendment, the manufacture, sale and importation of intoxicating liquors must cease one year after ratification, but prohibition will be a fact in every state much earlier because of the war measure forbidding the manufacture and sale of alcoholic beverages after June 30 until the demobilization of the military forces is completed. Under the war-time measure exportation of liquor is permitted, but the great stocks now held in bonded warehouses will have to be disposed of before the federal amendment becomes effective.

Discussion as to whether the new amendment becomes a part of the constitution, now that 36 states have ratified it, or whether it becomes a part of the basic law only when each state has certified its action to the secretary of state, led to a search for precedent, which showed that the only two amendments ratified in the last half century providing for income taxes and direct election of senators, were considered effective immediately the 36th state had taken affirmative action.

Senator Sheppard, author of the prohibition amendment, held that national prohibition becomes a permanent fact January 16, 1920. Only 14 of the states have certified their action to the State department.

New problems of government are raised by prospective stoppage of the manufacture and sale of intoxicating liquor as hundreds of millions of dollars derived from internal revenue will have to be obtained from other sources. Laws for enforcement of the amendment also will have to be passed by congress.

Only a minimum of unemployment is expected to result, as the cumulative severity of successive restrictive measures adopted since the war began already has caused many distillers and brewers to seek other uses for their plants.

More than half the territory of the United States already is dry through state action or local option elections. Western and southern states took the lead in prohibition. In the west only California and Wyoming still license the sale of intoxicants, and in the south only Louisiana.

REORGANIZATION OF ARMY IS POSTPONED

Washington, D. C.—The house military committee practically reached an agreement Friday in conference with Secretary Baker and General March, chief of staff, to postpone the War department reorganization bill until the next session of congress and with it a large part of the prospective debate over the future military policy of the country.

A suggestion by Chairman Dent that a legislative rider on the army appropriation bill continuing the existing war organization of the department and the regular army for another year, be substituted for the reorganization measure, met with the approval of Mr. Baker and apparently with that of a majority of the committee members.

The proposal grew out of a conference at which Secretary Baker and the chief of staff explained to the committee the reorganization measure framed by the department, providing for a regular army of 500,000 men to be raised by voluntary enlistment on a flat three-year basis.

India Favors Autonomy
London, via Montreal.—At the Nationalist Congress, being held at Delhi, India, say reports, a resolution was adopted favoring full provincial autonomy and against special electorates for Europeans. The congress passed formal resolutions of loyalty to the crown.

STATE NEWS IN BRIEF.

A. H. Lea was unanimously re-elected secretary of the State Fair board at its annual meeting last week. It is understood the salary will continue to be \$3000 a year. Mr. Lea will accept.

Through an agreement reached between the Coos Bay Shipbuilding company officers and the carpenters' and joiners' union, the strike in progress in Marshfield since January 7 was settled and the 652 workmen returned to work Friday morning.

The Mutual Drilling company is the name of a new incorporated body, composed of farmers who are drilling for artesian water in Swan lake, Poe valley and the dairy district in eastern Klamath county.

The first complaint that soldiers returning to Bend have been unable to secure work, was filed Saturday with T. H. Foley, chairman of the Community Labor board, and the question was immediately taken up with the local commercial club for action.

A belief of Oregonians that warmer weather instead of the recent cold, unusual in the Willamette valley, would be the best possible preventive of the "flu" appears to be justified in the rapid improvement of conditions in Albany since freezing weather vanished.

The post of Astoria dredge Natoma is engaged in dredging the Skipanon river and at the present rate will soon have the channel completed up to the turning basin. It is planned to make this basin large enough to accommodate all vessels which will be able to get up the river.

Deportation of all alien slackers who cancelled their citizenship papers rather than be inducted into the army under the draft law is to be demanded in a joint resolution being prepared by Senator Walter B. Dimick, of Clackamas county, and which he introduced in the senate early this week.

Portland school children interested in the goat club project met for an educational rally in the Lincoln high school auditorium Saturday morning at 10 o'clock. The goat clubs are to give training in a practical industry for the city child; education in business methods, and to help the children of devastated France.

Favorable reports were authorized by the senate lands committee through Senator Chmaberlain recently on the Coos Bay wagon road land grant bill, the bill extending time for the completion of the Tumalo irrigation project, and the bill permitting residents of Jordan valley, Malheur county, to transport fuel wood from Idaho.

The Oregon dairy and food commissioner's office has been indorsed by the 27th annual convention of the Oregon Dairymen's association and a resolution was sent to the legislature asking that the office be retained as a separate department of state government and that the commissioner be given a sufficient sum to carry on his work.

The 27th annual meeting of the Oregon State Dairymen's association opened in Hillsboro last Wednesday with a large attendance, which included representatives from practically all dairy sections of the state. Delegates were welcomed by William Schulermerich, president of the County Farm bureau, and the response was by President Frank Lynn, of Perrydale.

A full survey of the damage done the Inman Mines company, on Sixes river, in Coos county, November 14, when lightning struck several portions of the company's structures, has been set at \$20,000, instead of \$10,000, which at first was believed to have been a liberal estimate. The loss to the company came at a time following several years of expensive construction and successful defense of several lawsuits.

An order will be issued at once by the Coos county court, prohibiting stock running at large any place on the county's improved highways. Estimates of damage have been made and submitted to the court which indicate stock climbing on the new graded work in various sections of the county have torn down the grades and created damage it would necessitate the expenditure of \$1000 to repair.

OREGON LEGISLATURE

State Capitol.—Organization plans in both house and senate Monday went off with well-lubricated precision, W. T. Vinton, of Yamhill, being elected president of the senate, and Seymour Jones, of Marion, speaker of the house, without opposition. Vinton cast a complimentary vote for Senator Farrell, and Jones for Burdick. Otherwise, with the exception of a few absentees, the elections were unanimous. Contests for minor places in both houses were few.

Except for one unexpected clerkship fight, the caucus plans for the senate organization were carried out this morning without interruption. Robert Ruhl, of Medford, who had received 16 pledged votes for calendar clerk, gave way to Paul Burris, a returned soldier, after Senator Huston, of Multnomah, led a heated fight on the floor of the senate in behalf of the lad in the uniform.

Senator Vinton, of Yamhill, was elected president without opposition. He received all votes except his own.

House organization was perfected before noon. Representative Haines was made temporary chairman; Representatives Sheldon, Richardson, Dennis, Mrs. Thompson and Hughes, temporary committee on organization, and Representatives Richards, Griggs and Gordon on credentials. Representatives Bean, Burdick and Kubli escorted Chief Justice McBride to give the oath.

Death to Bolshevism and the I. W. W. in all their forms in Oregon is the purpose of two measures which reached the desks in both the house and the senate at the opening day of the Oregon legislature.

They came from Mr. Kubli in the house and Mr. Dimick in the senate.

Representative Kubli succeeded in getting his anti-Bolshevik and I. W. W. bill as No. 1 on the house calendar, and if it passes the two houses it will contain ample dynamite to blow those forms of terrorism and syndicalism from the state forever.

Application of business methods, elimination of non-essentials and postponement of unnecessary improvements until a more auspicious time will enable Oregon to be financed without indebtedness. A survey of the budget which has been prepared for the consideration of the legislature shows a total estimate to be provided from the public treasury of \$9,167,795.81. As estimated, visible revenues amount to \$7,870,580.97, it appears that \$1,297,214.84 will be needed.

Every essential in the budget can be provided with \$200,000 remaining, although drastic economies are necessary. Apparently there is a shortage of \$1,297,214.84. By the exercise of the pruning knife, it is possible to trim from the budget \$1,322,520 without damage to the running machinery of the state. The legislature will probably devise reconstruction schemes which must be heavily financed, in which event the tentative budget items will have to suffer.

It is estimated \$500,000 can be lopped off in the industrial accident commission by abolishing the one-seventh which the state contributes to the compensation fund. The estimate in the budget is for \$680,000. The commission itself recommends that the legislature make an appropriation for administration expenses of \$296,876.16, instead of the estimated \$680,000, which the state's one-seventh for two years will amount to; the state adding to the money which comes from employers and employees for compensation.

A good get-away in legislative progress was made the first day with the introduction of four bills in the senate and 11 in the house.

Compulsory employment of returned soldiers and sailors by the state, county, city and other municipal corporations within the state is provided in a bill introduced in the senate by Senator Farrell, of Multnomah.

The bill, which is the first of a flood of reconstruction measures to be ground through the legislative mill this year, provides that soldiers and sailors who have been honorably discharged must be given preference in employment by state, county, city or other municipal corporations. It applies to veterans of the Civil War, Spanish War and the war with Germany.

PEACE CONFERENCE FORMALLY OPENED

League of Nations to Be First
Subject Discussed.

CLEMENCEAU IN CHAIR

Seventy-Two Seats Are Provided for
in First Session of World's
Historic Conference.

Paris.—The peace conference, destined to be historic, and on which the eyes of the world are now centered, was opened Saturday afternoon in the great Salle de la Paix.

The proceedings, which were confined to the election of Georges Clemenceau, the French premier, as permanent chairman of the conference, an address of welcome by the president of the French republic, Raymond Poincare, and speeches by President Wilson, Premier Lloyd George and Baron Sonnino, were characterized by expressions of lasting friendship and the apparent determination of the representatives of the various nations to come to an amicable understanding with respect to the problems to be decided by the conference.

When President Poincare spoke the entire assembly stood, and the fact that, according to custom, no applause greeted his utterance, gave greater solemnity to the scene.

M. Clemenceau's acceptance of the presidency of the congress was both a feeling expression of personal gratitude and a definite outline of the great questions immediately ahead. Three of these larger general subjects he defined as responsibility for the war, responsibility for crimes during the war and international labor legislation. The league of nations, he declared, was at the head of the program for the next full session.

"Our ambition is a great and noble one," said M. Clemenceau. "We wish to avoid a repetition of the catastrophe which bathed the world in blood. If the league of nations is to be practicable we must all remain united. Let us carry out our program quickly and in an effective manner."

Referring to authors of the war, he said he had consulted two eminent jurists on the penal responsibility of the former German emperor and each delegate would receive a copy of the report.

In all 72 seats were provided for the opening session of the peace conference. On the outer side of the great horseshoe were arranged the Japanese and British and colonial delegates and the seat of the fifth British delegate. A chair for the fifth American delegate also was reserved immediately to the right of the table of honor.

The Italian, Belgian, Brazilian, Cuban, Haitian, Peruvian, Portuguese, Serbian, Czechoslovakian and Uruguayan delegates sat in the order named. Across at the left wing of the table sat the Siamese, Roumanian, Polish, Liberian, Hedjas, Guatemalan, Ecuadorian, Chinese and Bolivian delegations.

As the delegates arrived they were met by fanfares of trumpets and accorded military honors by the troops. The Japanese were among the earlier arrivals and were followed by the Siamese and East Indians in picturesque turbans.

PRINCE JOHN, SON OF KING GEORGE, IS DEAD

London.—Prince John, the youngest son of King George, died at Sandringham Saturday night. He had been ill for some time.

The prince was possessed of exuberant spirits. He was the prime favorite of all classes and the idol of the servants and tenants at Windsor. It is said that he was the favorite brother of Princess Mary, who loved to romp with him. The prince was born at Sandringham July 12, 1905.

An official bulletin issued this evening says:

"Prince John, who since infancy has suffered epileptic fits which lately had become more frequent and severe, passed away in his sleep following an attack at 5:30 P. M. Saturday."