

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 Newfoundland sealing fleet reported Tuesday that it had encountered great herds of seals and 40,000 had been caught.

Acting secretary of the navy in absence of Secretary Denby, Assistant Secretary Roosevelt attended the cabinet meeting Tuesday.

The American Telephone & Telegraph Co. announced Tuesday the regular annual dividend rate would be increased from 8 per cent to 9 per cent. The increase will take effect on July 15.

Fire destroyed the interstate cotton compress, nine boxcars and a two-story office building of the compress company in Oklahoma City Tuesday at a total estimated damage of \$578,000.

The San Francisco chamber of commerce Tuesday gave its indorsement to the proposal to hold an Atlantic-Pacific Highway and Electric exposition in Portland, Or. The exposition will be held in 1925.

The maximum weight limit of parcel post packages exchanged between the United States and Germany will be increased from 11 to 22 pounds beginning April 1, the postoffice department announced.

James Arnold, 74, of Willows, Cal., who attracted considerable notice a year ago by erecting a vault for himself in the Willows cemetery, and by purchasing an expensive coffin, was burned to death here Monday morning. His portable house was destroyed by flames.

Levi P. Ankeny, ex-United States senator, died at the family home in Walla Walla at 12:30 o'clock Tuesday afternoon after a long illness. Death was due to general senility and rheumatism. He was in his 77th year. He was surrounded by his immediate family.

Unemployment in London theaterland, like that in other professions and trades, is widespread, it being estimated that there were more than 2000 chorus girls and actresses out of work. It was feared that unless conditions improve immediately many producers will have to quit.

Manufacture and storage of fireworks in a manner prohibited by Chicago city ordinance was blamed by city and police officials for an explosion in the west side tenement district Tuesday which killed at least eight persons, injured 100 or more, rendered dozens temporarily homeless and damaged many buildings.

Suspension of mining operations by the Anaconda Copper Mining company, one of the largest producers of copper ore in the United States, was announced in New York by John D. Ryan, chairman of the company's board of directors, after four other concerns earlier in the day had made known their intentions of shutting down.

Work on a wireless station at Shanghai, to be the largest in the world, will begin shortly under an agreement between the Chinese government and the Federal Telegraph company, an American concern, it is announced by the department of commerce. It is to be completed within 18 months and will be able to communicate across the Pacific without relay.

The four marine corps aviators who left the naval air station in Washington, D. C. in two planes early Tuesday afternoon on the first leg of their 5000-mile flight to the Virgin islands had not been heard from. They had intended to make their first stop at Fayetteville, N. C., 340 miles distant, but did not put in an appearance either there or at Langley field, Virginia.

U. S. TRADE DENIED SOVIET

Big Changes In Economic System and Safety of Life Demanded.

Washington, D. C.—The American government notified the soviet authorities in Russia Saturday that resumption of trade between Russia and the United States could not be considered until fundamental changes had been made in the economic system underlying the soviet regime.

Safety of human life, guaranty of property rights, free labor and observance of the sanctity of contracts were among the requirements laid down in a note by Secretary Hughes as essential if trade relations are to be renewed.

The communication added that "convincing evidence of the consummation of such changes" must be furnished before this government cared even to discuss the subject.

The communication was made public at the state department in the form of a statement by Secretary Hughes with the notation that a copy of it should be sent to the American consul at Reval, Esthonia, to be handed to Litvinoff, soviet representative there.

The note was in reply to the appeal recently addressed by the soviet regime to President Harding and congress asking that trade relations between the United States and Russia be restored and proposing to send a delegation to the United States to negotiate.

Prior to making a final decision, the Russian trade question was discussed by President Harding and his cabinet.

In a statement after the note had been made public, Secretary Hoover declared the conclusion reached "shows the complete agreement of the views of the whole administration."

Unlike previous official pronouncements of the American government's attitude toward the soviet regime, Secretary Hughes' note dealt solely with the economic aspects of the problem, and made no attempt to discuss the political shortcomings of the unrecognized bolshevist government. It set forth in a few words the reason why the United States considers it poor business to trade with Russia under existing conditions, but making no indictment against bolshevism as a political system.

Service Men Are First.

Washington, D. C.—Promise that he would observe the spirit as well as the letter of the law giving preference to former service men in the postal service was given by Postmaster-General Hays Saturday to a committee of the American Legion. The legion committee, consisting of Theodore Roosevelt, assistant secretary of the navy; Thomas W. Miller, alien property custodian, and F. John Markey of Frederick, Md., laid before the postmaster-general several specific cases of alleged discrimination against former service men. Mr. Hays promised to have the cases investigated immediately and assured the committee he was in full sympathy with the law directing officials of the postal service to consider time spent by employes in the military service on their postal records.

State Wants New Name.

Mitchell, S. D.—Directors of the Mitchell chamber of commerce Saturday voted for the appointment of a committee of three to begin a statewide campaign for a constitutional amendment changing the name of South Dakota to Roosevelt. The name was chosen because the late Theodore Roosevelt spent part of his early manhood in Dakota. Among reasons assigned for the campaign to change the state's name is that more than 30 bank failures in North Dakota have been attributed to South Dakota.

Egg-Rolling Resumed.

Washington, D. C.—After a lapse of four years, Easter egg-rolling was permitted on the White House grounds Sunday, and Washington youngsters roamed at will over the immense lawn. The annual frolic was discontinued by President Wilson in 1917 after was declared.

Winnipeg Has 10 Below.

Winnipeg, Man.—Below zero temperature with a strong wind prevailed here Sunday. Ten degrees below zero was registered in the morning.

PEACE RESOLUTION TO BE AMONG FIRST

Proponents Firm in Determination to Call Matter Up.

HARDING IS SILENT

President Holds Important Conferences, Probably Concerning Foreign Relations.

Washington, D. C.—Senate proponents of an immediate peace with Germany by congressional resolution are understood to be standing firmly by their intention to present such a resolution promptly on the convening of the extra session of congress.

This information was obtained Saturday after a day of White House conferences, at which the advisability of a congressional declaration of peace, together with other questions involved were understood to have been discussed.

Whether the intention of peace-by-resolution senators has been approved by President Harding and whether it has the support of senators generally, were matters on which no information was available.

The conferences were generally considered in the bearing on international affairs as probably as the most important that President Harding has held since his inauguration.

Senator Knox, ex-secretary of state and author of the republican peace resolution; Colonel George Harvey of New York selected as ambassador to Great Britain; Myron T. Herrick of Ohio, understood to be under consideration for ambassador to France, and Stephane Lauzanne, French journalist, who came to American with ex-Premier Viviani, were among those whom the president saw.

By inference the day's developments were coupled with the visit of M. Viviani. Gossip about his mission persistently has suggested that he is supposed to persuade the administration not to push its peace declaration, but rather to consider on what basis it might accept the Versailles treaty.

Senator Knox and the president spent more than two hours together. The senator's visit started a new outcropping of speculation about the fate of the peace resolution.

The impression given was that a definite policy was yet to be framed.

Mild Winter Aids Crops.

Washington, D. C.—The condition of cereal crops in the northern hemisphere were described as "generally favorable" by the department of agriculture's bureau of crops Saturday in a summary of foreign crop prospects. The mild winter in almost all the reporting countries was held to have been an important factor in the crop situation. The bureau said that nothing reliable had come through as to Russian crops.

Due to mild weather, seeding was reported to have started in Saskatchewan and Alberta, Canada, a month earlier than usual. Winter rains improved the autumn-sown cereals in France. Spring cultivation was reported unusually advanced in the United Kingdom. Crops in Finland were said to be in a "promising condition" and in Belgium late wheat was reported somewhat irregular.

The Italian crops were reported as making normal progress and the wheat area in Roumania was estimated at 5.3 per cent over last year.

Fair and mild weather in Germany was declared to have been favorable to the cereal crops.

The total wheat acreage in India was estimated at 23,352,000 acres.

From the southern hemisphere, Argentine reported a continuation of favorable climatic conditions. Excessive rains were reported from Australia, but the latest figures indicated the output of wheat would reach 147,000,000 bushels.

The bureau noted an effort to encourage production of hemp in western Canada.

London.—Ex-President Wilson, according to Reynold's newspaper, is expected here for a 10-day visit at the end of April. It says rooms for a party of eight have been reserved.

STATE NEWS IN BRIEF.

Baker.—The Ben Harrison gold mine on Greenhorn mountain, one of the state's largest producers, will resume operation soon, it was announced by W. C. Fellows, Baker mine manager.

Roseburg.—The committee arranging for the 10th annual strawberry carnival held its first meeting Saturday and made the preliminary arrangements for the yearly festival held in this city. Early interest in the carnival assures its success this year.

Pendleton.—Umatilla county sheepmen, who probably will open the sheep-shearing season about April 10, expect to pay from 10 to 12½ cents a head to shearers, according to local sheepmen. This is a decrease of last year's price, which was around 17½ cents a head.

Salem.—The Tumalo irrigation district has filed with the state engineer applications for the appropriation of 300 second-feet of water from Tumalo creek and 100 second-feet of water from Crater creek and Little Crater creek for the irrigation of lands within the district.

Dallas.—A cut of from \$3.60 to \$3 a day as the basic wage, which has been accepted by the employes of the Willamette Valley Lumber company, will assure the continuation of operation of both the mill in this city and the logging camp at Black Rock, according to the management.

Salem.—There were two fatalities in Oregon due to industrial accidents during the week ending March 24, according to a report prepared by the industrial accident commission. The victims were Herbert W. Notter, shipyard worker, Portland, and Sanford H. Holgate, meat cutter, Astoria.

Salem.—Employes of the C. K. Spaulding Logging company, who recently received notice that on April 1 their compensation would be reduced from \$3.60 to \$3 a day, will resist any cut in the present wage scale, according to a resolution adopted at a meeting of the workers held here.

Eugene.—J. O. Holt, manager of the Eugene Fruitgrowers' association, has reported a steady increase in inquiries from eastern jobbers concerning the canned products of the association. Several carloads of canned goods, a car of prunes and a car of barreled cherries were shipped out by the association last week.

Salem.—The Oregon public service commission, in an order Saturday, extended the suspension of proposed increased transportation rates on milk and milk products to June 30. Application for increased charges for transporting milk and milk products was filed with the commission by the American Railway Express company several months ago.

The Dalles.—Early construction of the \$125,000 municipal auditorium in this city, bonds for which were voted last summer, was decided on at a meeting of the auditorium committee Friday night. A site has been obtained for \$11,000. The \$114,000 in bonds to be used in the construction and equipment of the auditorium, will be raised immediately.

Salem.—The Charles K. Spaulding Logging company, with headquarters in Salem, has obtained the contract for lumber to be used in construction of the plant for the Hutchinson Lumber company near Oroville, Cal. Preliminary shipment of 400,000 feet of Douglas fir for the mill is now being made. The plans of the Hutchinson company include a new town to be known as Adelaide, just west of Oroville.

Salem.—The Oregon public service commission, at the instigation of northwest hop growers, has started an action to restore a carload minimum of 15,000 pounds in the shipment of this product instead of the carload minimum of 18,000 pounds fixed during the federal control of the railroads. The case has been docketed before the transcontinental freight bureau with headquarters in Chicago.

Dallas.—Hugh Smith this week purchased from J. M. Card an improved farm of 145 acres, just west of Dallas. Sixty-five acres of the place are planted to prunes. Mr. Smith owned this farm for several years, selling it to A. S. Campbell two years ago. Mr. Campbell a year later sold the place to Mr. Card, who has just sold it back to its former owner. The consideration of the latest transfer is about \$35,000.

CANNING MERGER DECISION IS MADE

\$10,000,000 Corporation Soon to Organize.

BIG AID TO GROWERS

Washington and Oregon Business Men Take Definite Action at Recent Portland Conference.

Portland.—Backed by twenty of the biggest businessmen of Oregon and Washington, a gigantic corporation to handle the business end of the soft fruit and berry industry of the two states was launched in this city Tuesday afternoon.

Articles incorporating the Oregon-Washington Canning & Preserving Company with a capitalization of \$10,000,000 under the laws of the state of Delaware were ordered filed by telegraph in order that the new concern could function in the quickest manner in view of the early approach of the berry season.

Crop experts estimate that the two states this year will produce one of the largest, if not the largest, outputs of berries on record.

The strength of the new corporation is indicated by the personnel of the preliminary conferences, sessions of which were held in both states before the movement for united action to handle the berry crop assumed its present definite shape.

Attending the organization meeting were the following:

J. C. Ainsworth, president United States National bank; S. L. Eddy, vice-president Ladd & Tilton bank; W. A. MacRae, manager Portland branch of the Bank of California; F. P. Kendall manager of the American Can company; E. A. Douty, president of the Multnomah Lumber & Box company; F. C. Stettler, president of the F. C. Stettler Manufacturing company, all of Portland; Alfred C. Schmitt, president of the First National bank, Albany; W. G. Allen, manager of Hunt Brothers Canning company, Salem; W. H. Paulhamus, president of the Puyallup & Sumner Fruit Growers' Canning company; J. W. Spranger, president of the Seattle National bank; H. C. Henry and Gordon C. Corbalcy, of Seattle; Henry Rhodes, W. R. Rust, Chester Thorne and G. H. Raleigh of Tacoma; Will L. Finch, New York.

Twenty thousand berry growers in the two states are affected by the movement, which is expected to result in centralization of cannery interests which now do a business with an annual turnover of \$20,000,000 and which is increasing so rapidly that it will reach \$30,000,000 within a few years. The trend for a closer union of interests is the outcome of extensive investigations conducted by Will L. Finch of New York, who has been in the Northwest since the beginning of the year surveying the berry growing and cannery field. His analysis has shown that the berry industry has been expanding faster than the facilities for efficient handling of the business.

Eight directors from each of the two states will be chosen and these will select the executive and administrative officers of the new corporation.

The stated purpose of the consolidation is to develop and expand the fruit growing and packing industries of the two states as a unit, to stimulate berry growing and the manufacturing and marketing of products of bush and soft fruits of Oregon and Washington with the facilities of existing canneries, thereby reducing the overhead expense and making possible the widest distribution of products through aggressive selling campaigns to bring maximum returns to producers and packers.

Dublin.—The Irish census which was to have been taken in May, has been indefinitely postponed, Dublin castle, announcing this decision said that under present conditions the government recognizes that the returns must be incomplete and misleading. The Daill Eireann at its last session passed a measure authorizing the Sinn Fein minister of home affairs to forbid the census.