

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.

Marked improvement in conditions in the building trades, Attorney-General Daugherty said Tuesday, has been evidenced since his "modest but emphatic warning" of last week against illegal practices.

Members of congress who served with the colors during the world war Tuesday night formed an organization with the view of exchanging ideas for the assistance of ex-service men. Fifteen attended the initial meeting, the majority of them being new members.

Suggestion of a 5 per cent tax on corporations to replace the excess profits tax was made to the American farm bureau federation conference Wednesday by T. S. Adams, tax expert of the treasury department. He also expected opposition to a sales tax.

In the race between an airplane and three carrier pigeons from Portland, Oregon., to San Francisco, the first pigeon, a navy bird called U. S. S. California, reached its cote in Oakland at 10:59 A. M. Tuesday, coming in just 21 hours 19 minutes behind the machine.

The Bowie line steamship Colonel Bowie, with 22 men on board, foundered in the Gulf of Mexico Monday night, according to wireless advices received by the home office at Beaumont, Tex. Three men were picked up by the British steamer Cissy; 19 men are still missing.

A citizens' reserve corps of the army on the basis of voluntary service instead of compulsory training, which it is hoped will be trained under the direction of General Pershing is under formation, army officials announced Monday. Age limits for enrollment were placed at 16 to 35.

Francis J. Carey, 19-year-old bank cashier of Ottawa, Ill., whose theft of about \$96,000 last November was followed by widespread criticism of Judge Landis when the latter permitted the youthful culprit to return home pending sentence, was Monday sentenced by Judge Landis.

While motion picture cameras clicked on the deck of a tug in the East river Wednesday, Daniel Carone, 27, puffing a cigarette, leaped from the center of Brooklyn bridge and was picked up in the water 133 feet below unharmed. It was his second jump, the first being made in 1915.

Plans for sending to Washington a distinguished Japanese, who would take up the entire range of the so-called Pacific problems, including mandates, California, China, Siberia, immigration and armaments, were understood to be in the process of formulation by the Japanese government.

Archibald Fries, vice-president of the Baltimore & Ohio railroad, in an address in New York, recently said private ownership and operation of railroads under government regulations was the accepted formula for the future. He predicted rates would rise no higher and soon would be reduced by economy of operation.

Whereabouts of the official seal of the confederacy, an unsolved mystery for more than half a century, probably will remain unknown. James Jones, aged negro employe in the senate office building, said to be the only person knowing where the seal was buried, died Sunday without disclosing the secret.

Declarations that the navy department is ready to take what congress will appropriate and keep the fleet "ready and fit to fight," and that the war department is pursuing a policy of retrenchment in an effort to get down to "normalcy," were made by Secretaries Denby and Weeks Tuesday night before the American Legion post of the National Press club.

WORLD IS LITTLE IMPROVED

Unemployment and Unsatisfactory Industrial Conditions General.

Washington, D. C.—Financially and economically the world situation improved but little in March, according to cabled summaries received Saturday by the bureau of foreign and domestic commerce from its trade commissioners and commercial attaches.

In Europe tight money, unemployment and unsatisfactory industrial and shipping conditions were in evidence, while some declines in prices and slight revival of building activities were noted. In the east the situation was described as somewhat easier, while in South America conditions were reported as practically unchanged.

Commercial Attache Lennis reported that business depression in Great Britain has increased owing to the prospective failure of an early settlement with Germany on reparations. The Russian trade agreement is not expected appreciably to benefit business, he added, and traders are holding off to secure assurance as to the legality of payment.

American imports into France continue to show marked reductions, Commercial Attache Huntington at Paris reported. Refusal of Germany to pay installments due on reparations contributed to a dull financial market. The situation also was described as influenced by the upper Silesian plebiscite, the British coal strike and the situation in Hungary.

Ruins of Ancient Temple on Marquesas Ile Found

Honolulu, T. H.—Ruins of a gigantic temple decorated with sculptured heads and figures in a manner unknown elsewhere in Polynesia, but practiced by the temple builders of Indo-China and Central America, have been discovered on the island of Hiva-oa, in the Marquesas, by Ralph Linton, archaeologist and member of the scientific exploration party of the Bishop museum of this city. The expedition has been in the South seas for 12 months, and will continue there for another year.

Linton, in his report to Dr. H. E. Gregory, director of the museum, declares the temple in question "one of the most impressive" he has ever seen, those in Central America not excepted.

Linton says that the temple approach is a paved way 400 feet long, consisting of a series of great terraces, the lowest being 180 feet long, 12 feet high and 40 feet wide. The construction is very good and some of the stones weigh six tons.

Civil War Is Foreseen.

Boston.—Europe was described as preparing for "a civil war of the white race," in an address Sunday by Bishop Micholai of Serbia.

"There is no sign of peace in Europe," he said. "European civilization is white outside, but within it is a black civilization. The third kaiser of Europe is Lenin in Moscow. Europe is suffering today not from a kaiser but from kaiserism."

Dr. G. L. Cady, secretary of the American missionary society, asked for broader toleration of the so-called "inferior peoples," asserting they "may yet possess the world."

"The time is past," he said, "when you can maintain the world's peace by insulting discriminations against the yellow men of Asia."

\$25,000,000 Debt Due.

Washington, D. C.—Great Britain's payment of \$25,000,000 in principal and interest during the funding scheme for liquidating the debt of \$122,000,000 incurred during the war by the purchase of \$100,000,000 standard silver dollars for the relief of the silver famine in India falls due Friday. Payment probably will be made through the federal reserve bank in New York, treasury officials said.

An additional payment of \$47,000,000 also falls due May 15, officials added, under the agreement making provision for payment from April 15, 1919.

Heirs Are Out of Luck.

Scranton, Pa.—Federal Judge Whitmer Saturday handed down an opinion in which he held that a beneficiary named in a war risk insurance policy was entitled to all installments due up to the time of his death, but that unpaid installments could not be handed on to his heirs as part of his estate.

It was said to be the first opinion of its nature rendered in the country.

PROFITEERS HIT BY U. S. TRADE BODY

Retailers Blamed for Keeping
Commodities Up.

BIG CUTS ADVISED

Tendency Declared to Be to Bring
About Uniform Prices at Artificially High Level.

Washington, D. C.—Legislation to eliminate unnecessary brokerage transactions, to facilitate a wide distribution of information on market conditions and strengthen the powers of the government in its price investigations was recommended by the Federal Trade commission in a report on the industrial situation, drawn up at the request of President Harding and made public Sunday night.

"Open-price associations," which operate within the laws to keep their respective members advised confidentially of one another's price schedules, were accused by the commission of contributing to the maintenance of unduly high retail prices.

"It was suggested that means must be found to reduce costs of necessities, such as fuel and housing, before other commodities can come back to normal."

"It should be said," the report continued, "that following the disordered condition of the world's affairs, a shrinkage in values is inevitable, and that normal conditions will be the more quickly restored if the producer, the laborer, the manufacturer, and jobber and the retailer will each share at once in the unavoidable loss, and furthermore any effort by any element to place its share of the common loss on the shoulders of others, and particularly on the consumer, can be result in a continuation of the conditions under which the country is suffering."

Declaring cost of many commodities has not been reduced in accordance with the decline in raw materials, the commission gave its belief that "in general the movement toward the reduction of prices is retarded at the retailing stage, and that relief would be reflected back in increased production, which would reduce the production cost and relieve to some extent, at least, the check on the manufacturer and by increasing the demand for raw materials would react on the producer."

The report took note of the influence of foreign combinations of capital in determining the price of grain and added that among domestic combinations one of the newest was the "open-price association."

Collection and public dissemination of statistical data might make the operation of such associations of benefit to the producer and consumer alike, it said, but unfortunately the tendency is to bring about uniform prices at an artificially high level by curtailing production or supply.

STORM DEATH TOLL IN 6 STATES IS 97

Memphis, Tenn.—Incomplete reports from the six states swept Friday and Saturday by storms showed Sunday night 97 deaths with 43 seriously injured and nearly 30 suffering lesser injuries. When reports come from isolated sections it is feared that the death toll will be higher.

As compiled, the death list was:

Texas, 9; Arkansas, 66; Mississippi, 8; Alabama, 14.

In Arkansas the injured totaled 71 Sunday night.

Extent of property loss cannot be determined for days. In Arkansas, on many plantations in Miller and Hampstead counties, practically every building was destroyed, newly planted crops washed out, orchards ruined, roads and bridges badly damaged, while telephone and telegraph wires were almost all destroyed. Railroads report tracks washed out at many places. Estimates made on the loss in these counties place the property and crop loss at over \$2,000,000.

STATE NEWS IN BRIEF.

Salem.—The Oregon Food Products company has reduced its capital stock from \$300,000 to \$1000 and the Salem Kings Products company has reduced its capital stock from \$50,000 to \$1000, according to notices filed with the state corporation commissioner Saturday.

Albany.—The only damage suffered in this vicinity from the frosts a few days ago was to strawberries and peaches. No other fruits or berries appear to be injured to any extent, so far as growers can discern now, and very little damage was done. Early gardens appear uninjured.

Salem.—Receipts from Oregon motor vehicle license fees go first into the general fund of the state and do not become available for use on the roads until apportioned by the secretary of state on March and September 15 of each year, according to a legal opinion given by Attorney-General Van Winkle.

Baker.—Frank S. Barton and Grace Wickam were married Saturday night on a raft in the natatorium swimming pool as a feature of the Baker Automobile show and Merchants' exposition, Rev. E. Temple Starkey officiating. The natatorium lobby and balcony were crowded with persons, who applauded the odd spectacle.

Vale.—The largest real estate transfer to be made in Malheur county in a number of years, involving approximately \$300,000, was completed in this city when the deed conveying part of the holdings of the Moline Farms company to the Commerce Mortgage Securities company of Portland was recorded in the office of the county recorder.

Salem.—Any doubt as to what action will be taken by the Oregon public service commission in reconsideration of the Pacific Telephone & Telegraph company rate case, was removed Saturday, when H. P. Corey, member of the commission, said he would join with the other two commissioners in granting the petition of Portland for a rehearing.

Scappoose.—A mass meeting was held in the Watts & Price hall Saturday night to hear the report of surveyors for the proposed water site and to discuss the advisability of a new water system for the town. The meeting was adjourned with the understanding that a canvass of customers be made before anything definite is decided. The system would cost about \$38,000.

Salem.—Because the Guarantee Security corporation, with headquarters in Portland, failed to list with the state corporation department United Cigar Stores, Limited, stock which it had offered for sale in Oregon, without qualifying the same under the blue sky law, T. B. Handley, corporation commissioner, has revoked the license of the concern to transact business in this state.

Salem.—A bid of \$987,850 for \$1,000,000 of state highway bonds to match federal aid funds in the construction of forest and post roads was received by the state board of control Saturday. Before formally accepting the proposal, the board telegraphed to the state highway commission to determine whether the offer was satisfactory to that body and to ascertain if the issue should be sold in its entirety or in part.

Prineville.—Under the supervision of County Agent Tinker, Crook county is to experiment this season in the production of sugar beets. This experiment is to be tried out on the Ochoco project, selecting three acres, one each on the farms of Fred Woelscher, G. W. Slayton and E. T. Slayton. It is planned to send the product of these three acres to a refinery for testing, and should the experiment prove a success it is hoped to obtain a refinery at this place.

Medford.—The farm bureau co-operative exchanges of Jackson, Josephine and Douglas counties, through their respective managers—Roland Flaherty of Medford, C. N. Cully of Grants Pass and C. E. Bannings of Roseburg—as the result of a conference just concluded here by the managers will hereafter handle shipments of livestock to market together, sending only one man from here to handle the simultaneous shipments from each exchange.

HARDING CASTS OUT LEAGUE COVENANT

President Proclaims Rejection
of Versailles League.

EARLY PEACE URGED

America Will Have No Part in Super-
Power Government—Message
Given to World.

Washington, D. C.—Final rejection of the Versailles league of nations by the American government was proclaimed to the world Tuesday by President Harding in a solemn pronouncement of the foreign policies of his administration.

Speaking before the new congress, the president declared acceptance of the league would be nothing short of a betrayal of the mandate of the November elections. Instead, he asked a congressional declaration of peace and for reaffirmation of those portions of the Versailles treaty which protect American rights and interests in the war settlement.

"In the existing league of nations, world-governing with its superpowers, this republic will have no part," he said. "It is only fair to say to the world in general and to our associates in war in particular that the league covenant can have no sanction by us."

A tremendous demonstration followed this declaration, republican senators and representatives leading, while most of their democratic colleagues sat silent. After weighing the words of the president, the senate irreconcilables were claiming complete victory, predicting that even the portions of the treaty endorsed by Mr. Harding never would receive senate approval.

In his recommendations for domestic legislation, the president gave greatest attention to tariff and tax revision and to the railway situation, though he endorsed lesser measures which congressional leaders declared might prolong the special session until the snow flies. He also declared his faith in a maintained merchant marine and in the principle of armament reduction without asking for legislation.

An emergency tariff was placed at the head of the requests, and within an hour after he had finished the house ways and means committee agreed to reach the emergency measure vetoed by President Wilson. For the permanent tariff bill Mr. Harding made no specific suggestions except that it follow the principle of protection.

Similarly he refrained from detailed recommendations on taxation, contenting himself with a discussion of the situation with a reminder that his party pledged itself to repeal the excess profits tax. He also recalled the promise to organize a separate government department of public welfare.

Declaring rates and operating expenses of the railroads must be lowered, Mr. Harding asked that congress investigate the transportation problem. He recommended co-ordination of all government agencies dealing with former service men, strengthening of the federal laws affecting highway construction and maintenance, enactment of budget legislation and a congressional inquiry into lynching and race relations.

British Miners Reject Proffers

London.—The conference of the mine owners, mine workers and government officials Tuesday failed to reach a settlement in the miners' strike, miners refusing to accept the premier's proposals for a national settlement of wages without a national pool of profits which Mr. Lloyd George declared impracticable.

Transport workers and railwaymen, however, suspended their strike notices, which would have expired at midnight.

The only government proposal which the miners would consider was one in which the government offered after the wage question had been settled, to give temporary assistance to mitigate the rapid reduction of wages; the others they brushed aside.