

Spray Courier

THE COURIER
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NEWS NOTES OF CURRENT WEEK

Resume of World's Important Events Told in Brief.

Both French and Belgians report gains against the Germans.

Italy has prevented the Germans from penetrating into Abyssinia.

Russia continues to report successes in the Carpathian mountain passes.

Special reports of bank examiners show a nation-wide business revival.

The British collier Lena is anchored outside the three-mile limit off San Diego harbor, Cal.

The knee joint of a mammoth estimated to be 250,000 years old was unearthed in Southern California.

French troops from Africa are resting at Alexandria, Egypt, ready to proceed to help the British expeditionary forces against Turkey.

The well known American wish for docks in Chinese ports is believed to be one of the main reasons for the demands being made upon China by Japan.

A thief cut the hair from the tails of 160 horses which were awaiting shipment in Spokane. He got about 80 pounds of hair, which brings 8 cents a pound.

A prisoner who had recently escaped from the chain gang in Los Angeles hired an auto truck and proceeded to a Presbyterian church in that city and stole a baby grand piano.

Persistent rumors that Germany is about to invade Holland are current in London. It is well known that Holland is ready to repel any such invasion to the best of her ability.

Two men and a woman have been arrested near Baker Or., charged with the holdup of a stage recently in which \$7000 worth of gold bullion was stolen. The bullion was found concealed in a badger hole.

Both the Villa and Carranza factions in Mexico are preparing to use aeroplanes in their warfare against each other. American aviators will man the machines, and steel darts as well as bombs will be used.

It is estimated that it will cost \$200,000 to repair the turbine engine of the Coast liner Great Northern, and it will be at least 30 days before she can resume her run between San Francisco and Portland.

An diplomatic report from Rome declares that Austria is seeking a separate peace from Germany, and the rumor stirs Italy greatly, as such a move would preclude any possibility of her gaining territorial accessions from Austria.

Under a treaty between the United States and Prussia, made in 1828, Germany has announced that she will pay in full for the sinking of the American ship William P. Frye by the German auxiliary cruiser Prinz Eitel Friedrich.

Railroads of the Middle West have called upon employment agents for 100,000 laborers, to be put to work by the end of April. The roads are preparing to put their roadbeds in the best of condition to care for the heavy tourist travel which is expected to the Coast during the summer.

"Drys" succeeded in voting out 100 saloons in Illinois at the recent election.

Butte, Mont., ousts its entire Socialist set of officers and elects Democrats.

Twenty-seven Terre Haute, Ind., officials are convicted of election frauds.

Chicago elects an entire Republican ticket, including mayor, the first in many years.

The steam schooner Speedwell is stranded on the spit off the Oregon coast near Bandon.

An Italian senator declares that unless all nations disarm anarchy will prevail universally.

An Austro-German force capture 7500 Russians of a mountain line on the Hungarian border.

A Zeppelin balloon appeared over Dunkirk Wednesday night, coming from the direction of the sea. The dirigible apparently intended to bombard the shipping in the harbor, but being sighted by the torpedo boats retreated to the German lines.

The arrival at San Remo of the American ambassador, Thomas Nelson Page, occasioned the rumor that he had gone to Italy to meet foreign diplomats for the discussion of peace negotiations. The ambassador, however, denied that his presence was in any way connected with the international situation. He explained that he was seeking a few days' rest.

Right of Embargo Not Admitted by United States

Washington, D. C.—The United States government has made public its note to Great Britain announcing that it could not "admit" either the right of the allies or their assertion for justification in placing an embargo on all commercial intercourse between Germany and neutral countries.

"To admit it," says the communication, "would be to assume an attitude of unneutrality toward the present enemies of Great Britain, which would be obviously inconsistent with the solemn obligations of this government in the present circumstances, and for Great Britain to make such a claim would be for her to abandon and set at naught the principles for which she has consistently and earnestly contended in other times and circumstances."

The note reviews at length the legal phases of a blockade of belligerent territory and virtual blockade of neutral coasts.

In conclusion the United States asserts its expectation that Great Britain "after having considered" the possibilities of "serious interruption of American trade under the Order-in-Council," will take steps to avoid them and in the event that they should unhappily occur, which under the rules of international law constitutes a violation of neutral rights.

The American communication interprets the circumstances under which Great Britain pretends to be justified in adopting retaliatory measures toward her enemies as "merely a reason for certain extraordinary activities" by her naval force "and not an excuse for or a prelude to any unlawful action."

WILLARD WINS WORLD'S CHAMPIONSHIP FROM BLACK

Havana—Jack Johnson, exiled from his own country, Monday lost his claim to fistic fame as the heavyweight champion of the world, the title being wrested from him by Jess Willard, the Kansas cowboy, the biggest man who ever entered the prize ring.

Monday's fight probably has no parallel in the history of ring battles. For 20 rounds Johnson punched and pounded Willard at will, but his blows grew perceptibly less powerful as the fight progressed, until at last he seemed unable or unwilling to go on.

Johnson stopped leading, and for three or four rounds the battle between the two huge men was little more than a series of plastic poses of white and black gladiator.

So it was until the 26th round, when Willard got one of his widely swinging windmill right-hand smashes to Johnson's heart. This was the beginning of the end.

When the round closed Johnson sent word to his wife that he was all in, and told her to start for home. She was on the way out and was passing the ring in the 26th round when a stinging left to the body and a cyclonic right to the jaw caused Johnson to crumple on the floor of the ring, where he lay partly outside the ropes until the referee counted 10 and held up Willard's hand in token of his newly-won laurels.

Pullman Car Porters' Pay Only \$27.50 Month

Chicago—The first government inquiry into wages and conditions and employment of sleeping car porters and conductors was made here Tuesday by the United States commission on industrial relations. L. S. Hungerford, general manager of the Pullman company, was on the stand most of the day and was questioned by Frank P. Walsh, chairman of the commission.

In the first 15 years of the sleeping porter's service, Hungerford said, he is paid \$27.50 a month. At the end of 15 years he, like other service employes, automatically received an advance of 5 per cent, which makes his pay \$28.87 a month. In the first 10 years of service he buys his own uniforms, but thereafter the company takes on this burden. A bonus system gives men with good records an extra month's pay for the year.

Mr. Walsh then brought up the subject of tips.

"Do you expect the public to pay the difference between these wages and a living wage?" he asked the witness.

"No, sir, I don't think that was considered," the latter replied.

"You thought them satisfied with these salaries?"

"No, I wouldn't say that; we received no expressions of dissatisfaction regarding them," replied Mr. Hungerford.

Suit Against T. R. Is Set.

Syracuse, N. Y.—By agreement of counsel for both sides, the trial of the \$50,000 libel suit brought by William Barnes of Albany, against ex-President Roosevelt, has been set down for April 19. The action will have preference over all other cases on the calendar.

State Highway Fund Is Divided by Oregon Board

Apportionment State Road Fund.	
Douglas county	\$ 20,000
Hood River county	50,000
Columbia county	50,000
Clatsop county	35,000
Jackson county	50,000
Josephine county	5,000
Miscellaneous	20,000
Rex-Tigardville road	7,231
Total	\$237,231

Salem—At a meeting of the State Highway commission, apportionment of the state highway fund for the year, which, it is believed, with receipts from delinquent taxes, will approximate \$237,231, was made, seven counties receiving substantial funds.

The largest amounts, \$50,000 each, go to Columbia, Jackson and Hood River counties, the board adhering to its original policy of aiding counties that have bonded themselves to build roads. Of the \$50,000 awarded to Jackson county, \$10,000 was owed from last year and the balance was provided for in a law passed at the recent session of the legislature. The commission set aside \$20,000 for office expenses.

John H. Albert, of Salem, and S. Benson, of Portland, members of the advisory committee recently appointed, met with the board and participated in making the apportionment. It also was announced that the committee would advise with State Highway Engineer Cantine frequently regarding road work. The other member is Leslie Butler.

County Judge Clark, of Columbia county, and J. H. Johnson, representing the Consolidated Contract company, requested the board to have the engineer make estimates of the work done by the company in that county, so the County court could make certain payments. Under the law the payments cannot be made until the estimates are furnished. State Treasurer Kay called attention to the fact that H. L. Bowlby, ex-state highway engineer, had made the estimates, but had not furnished a copy to the county judge. Mr. Cantine was instructed to do this. Mr. Johnson said after the meeting that the estimates of Major Bowlby were not satisfactory to the company and would not be accepted. He declared that under them the company would lose about \$60,000, and that, if satisfactory arrangements could not be made with the county, litigation would result.

A delegation from Yamhill county, which asked for state aid, was informed by the board that it probably would be helped next year, but not this one, because of a lack of funds. The spokesman said Tillamook and Yamhill counties each had raised \$15,000 for use on the Grand Ronde road and suggested that the state provide a similar sum.

The apportionment of the state fund suggested by Major Bowlby was as follows:

Clatsop county, \$40,000; Douglas county, \$27,000; Columbia county, \$60,000; Hood River county, \$60,000; Jackson county, \$40,000; miscellaneous, \$20,000.

New Line From Grants Pass to Ocean Assured

Completion of the California & Oregon Coast railroad from Grants Pass to Crescent City, Cal., at a cost approximating \$5,000,000, was assured this week when Twoby Bros., railroad contractors of Portland, arranged with the city officials of Grants Pass to finance the project and perform the work.

The people of Grants Pass already have bonded themselves for \$200,000 to pay for the first 10 miles of the work. This portion of the road, from Grants Pass to Wilderville, has been built. The remaining portion, from Wilderville to Crescent City, is approximately 81 miles long. It is estimated that the work can be completed this summer. Twoby Bros. are prepared to put a large force of men to work there within the next few weeks.

The road is bonded for \$5,000,000, and it is understood that Twoby Bros. have made adequate arrangement for disposing of the bonds, as a means of financing the project. It is reported that Canadian and European capitalists have agreed to take some of the securities, which, on account of the glowing reports regarding the territory to be served by the new road, are expected to sell at a high figure.

Columbia Fish Prices Set.

Astoria—The Columbia River salmon packers, both canners and cold storage men, have set the prices to be paid for raw fish during the season which opens on May 1 at the following rates: Small or canner Chinooks, 6 cents a pound; large or cold storage Chinooks, weighing 28 pounds or more, 7 cents a pound; marketable steelheads, 3 cents a pound; bluebacks, 4 cents a pound; shad, 1 cent a pound; sturgeon, 5 cents a pound.

The principal changes from last season's figures are a reduction of one-half cent in the price of large Chinooks and an advance in the dividing point between what are known as small and large Chinooks from 25 to 28 pounds. The reason assigned for these changes is that on account of the war the shipment of cold storage or pickled fish to Germany has been curtailed, and the market for that variety of the cured product is not encouraging. A similar reason is assigned for cutting the price for steelheads 2 cents a pound.

Cleanup Day for Dogs.

Baker—Baker will have a cleanup day for dogs, April 12, following the civic beauty cleanup two days earlier. Mayor Palmer says that there are at least 200 worthless canines on the streets and that the danger of rabies is great because of them. The plan is to have the official dog catcher capture every animal that has not a license tag or muzzle.

\$1 Wheat by Fall Is Hope.

Baker—With two large contracts for wheat in Umatilla county at a dollar a bushel reported, farmers in this vicinity are holding their grain at this price and expect to get it at harvest time. Some think it will go as high as last winter, while some are even more optimistic.

NORTHWEST MARKET REPORTS.

Portland—Wheat—Bluestem, bid, \$1.28; forty-fold, \$1.26; club, \$1.27; red Russian, \$1.22; red sife, \$1.22. Millfeed—Spot prices: Bran, \$26.50 ton; shorts, \$28.50; rolled barley, \$31 @32.

Corn—Whole, \$35 ton; cracked, \$36. Hay—Eastern Oregon timothy, \$14 @ 15; valley timothy, \$12 @ 12.50; grain hay, \$10@12; alfalfa, \$12.50@13.50.

Vegetables—Cucumbers, hothouse, \$1.50 dozen; peppers, 30@35c pound; artichokes, 75@85c dozen; tomatoes, \$5 crate; cabbage, 1 1/2@3c pound; celery, \$4.50 crate; cauliflower, 75c@1 dollar; head lettuce, \$2.25 crate; hot-house lettuce, 75c@1 box; spinach, 5 @6c pound; rhubarb, 1 1/2@3c pound; asparagus, white, \$1.25@1.75 box; green, 9@10c pound; eggplant, 30c pound; peas, 11@12c pound.

Green fruits—Strawberries, \$4.50 crate, apples, 50c@1.50 box; cranberries, \$11@12 barrel.

Potatoes—Oregon, \$1.25@1.50 sack; Washington, \$1.25@1.50; new potatoes, 10c pounds; sweet potatoes, 8c pound.

Onions—Oregon, selling price, 75c sack, country points.

Carrots, \$1.50 sack; beets, \$1.50; parsnips, \$1.25; turnips, \$1.75.

Eggs—Fresh Oregon ranch, case count, 18@18c; candled, 19c dozen. Poultry—Hens, 15 1/2@16c; broilers, 25@27c; fryers, 18@20c; turkeys, dressed, 22@23c; live, 16@19; ducks, 12@15c; geese, 8@9c.

Butter—Creamery, prints, extras, 29c pound in case lots; 1/2 more in less than case lots, cubes, 23@25c. Hops—1914 crop, nominal; contracts, nominal.

Wool—Eastern Oregon, coarse, 22@25; Eastern Oregon, fine, 18@20c; valley, 24@27c; mohair, new clip, 29 @31 pound.

Cascara bark—Old and new, 4 1/2c pound.

Cattle—Best steers, \$7.25@7.75; choice, \$7@7.25; medium, \$6.75@7; choice cows, \$6@6.75; medium, \$5@5.75; heifers, \$5@6.25; bulls, \$3.50@6; stags, \$5@6.50.

Hogs—Light, \$5.50@7.55; heavy, \$5.90@6.50. Sheep—Wethers, \$7@8.25; ewes, \$6@7; lambs, \$7.50@9.25.

Seattle—Wheat, Bluestem, \$1.28; forty-fold, \$1.26; five, \$1.24; red Russian, \$1.20; barley, \$25 ton. Car receipts: Wheat, 18, oats, 8; barley, 2; hay, 15; flour, 10.

Tacoma—Apples—Cooking, 75@90c; Winestaps, \$1.25@1.35 a box; local, 85c.

Vegetables—Cabbage, Flat Dutch, 2c; carrots, \$1.50@1.65; beets, home grown, \$1.25 sack; potatoes, Yakima, \$32 ton; Idaho, \$28@30; sweets, \$3.50 cwt.; Early Rose seed, \$50; tomatoes, 6c case; Onions, green, 20c dozen; Walla Walla, \$1.75 box; Oregon yellow Danvers, \$1.75; Yakima, \$1.50; garlic, 30c pound; radishes, local, 20c dozen bunches; parsley, 3c dozen bunches; lettuce, head, \$2.25 crate; spinach, 5c pound; cucumbers, \$2.25 dozen; celery, \$4 @ 4.50; rutabagas, \$1.85 sacks; cauliflower, \$2.25 crate; Oregon, \$3 crate; artichokes, 75c dozen; Brussels sprouts, 8c pound; rhubarb, local, 4c; asparagus, Walla Walla, \$1.55 a box; green peas, 12c pound.

Fresh Meats—Steers, 12 @ 12 1/2c pound; cows, 12c; heifers, 12@12 1/2c; wethers, 14c; dressed hogs, 11c; trimmed sides, 15c; combinations, 16c; Diamond T. C., 16c; yearlings, 15c; ewes, 13c.

Poultry—Ducks, live, 10@12c; hens, dressed, 16 @ 18c; live, 10 @ 14c; springs, dressed, 22c; live, 14@16c; squabs, live, \$2.50 dozen; dressed, \$6; turkeys, live, 18c; dressed, 28@30c; geese, 20c.

Butter—Washington creamery, 19@30c pound; Oregon and California, 28c. Eggs—Fresh ranch, 18@21c.

Spokane—Cattle—Prime steers, \$6 @ 7 cwt.; heifers, and cows \$5@6. Sheep—Wethers, \$6 @ 7; ewes, \$5 @ 6; lambs, \$6@7.

Hogs—Heavy live hogs, \$6.25 cwt.; light, \$7.25. Wheat—\$46 ton, delivered in city. Oats—\$35 ton, whole, \$36 rolled, delivered in city.

Bran—\$25 ton; shorts, \$32; bran and shorts, \$27. Hay—Timothy, \$16 ton; \$15 ton in carloads; alfalfa, \$15 ton delivered in city; \$14 ton in carloads.

Corn—\$37 ton; cracked, \$38. Barley—Rolled, \$35 ton.

Buy 200 Head of Cattle.

Walla Walla—Grant Copeland who is feeding 1200 cattle on his Hooper, Wash., ranch was here this week from Spokane arranging for the transportation of 200 head of cattle from the Hudson Bay country to the Hooper ranch. The cattle were bought from Thomas Copeland.

PROTEST IS SENT GENERAL VILLA

Threat to Confiscate Idle Mines Disturbs Washington.

Carranza Authorities Still Assert Oregon Was Routed in South—Battle Result Disputed.

Washington, D. C.—The State department Saturday sent a formal protest to the Villa government at Chihuahua, Mexico, against its threat to confiscate foreign-owned mines. Following are excerpts of the statement issued summarizing the situation:

"The department is advised that the Villa administration at Chihuahua on March 19 issued a decree with reference to mining operations, providing that if operations at the mines are suspended or if taxes are not paid the mines will be forfeited. It is said that the decree will be in effect from April 1, and that 120 days from the date of the promulgation of the law will be allowed for the resumption of operations.

"The department has made a protest against the provisions of this decree, pointing out the hardships that would be imposed upon companies in compelling them to operate their mines when either the condition of the work or the political situation would make such operation highly inadvisable and unprofitable."

Definite information as to the progress of the campaign in the region of Irapuato, in which General Villa is leading his troops in person against the Carranza forces under General Obregon, still were lacking, although a report to the State department, says Obregon's men had retreated toward Queretara after a short skirmish and probably would make a stand there. Messages to Villa representatives here tended to confirm this, but dispatches from Carranza headquarters at Vera Cruz continued to assert that Obregon had won a great victory.

A report from Consul Canada at Vera Cruz said news received on April 8 by Carranza officials from Obregon was interpreted there as indicating that a decisive victory had been won. "It was intimated on the 8th," said the message, "that fighting was still in progress, notwithstanding that the enemy had been driven northward 30 kilometers."

War or New Regime Is Threat of Italian People

Rome—Political parties favorable to Italy's immediate intervention in the war, comprising Democrats, Radicals, Reformists, Socialists and Nationalists, have arranged great meetings to be held throughout Italy in an endeavor to bring about the participation of the country in the conflict.

The Journal d'Italia, commenting on the event, says that it has assumed the character of a warning to the monarchy, since the National league, which arranged the meeting, adopted a resolution containing this sentence: "If, after long waiting, there are disillusion, no matter of what nature, a profound political upheaval is inevitable."

Professor Mussolini, a Socialist leader, explains this section of the resolution thus:

"In other words, if the monarchy is unable to make national war, the monarchy will cease to exist in Italy, as a profound political upheaval means a change of regime."

Revival at Stock Buying On Enormous Scale Noted

New York—With transactions aggregating almost 1,300,000 shares and gains extending from 3 to 7 1/2 points in leading issues, Saturday's stock market was the most exciting and noteworthy of any day since July 30 last. On that date, which marked the issuance of Germany's ultimatum to Russia, the market was stirred to a state of feverish activity at the expense of prices. The operations were all the other way, only a few of the unimportant stocks failing to share in the broad and steady advance.

On the surface, the market had the signs of a general awakening of public interest, due to a variety of favorable factors, including the statement of the Treasury department, which bore out unofficial advice of general domestic improvement.

812,000 Allies Captives.

Amsterdam—A dispatch received here from Berlin says that on April 1 812,808 prisoners of war were being held in Germany—10,175 officers and 802,633 men. The dispatch gives the prisoners by nationality as follows: French, 3838 officers and 238,498 men; Russian, 5149 officers and 504,210 men; Belgians, 647 officers and 89,620 men; British, 520 officers and 20,307 men.