

## 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.

Clocks of Chicago will be turned one hour ahead next Saturday night to conform with the daylight saving regulation.

Fire at Cebu, the oldest city of the Philippines, Tuesday destroyed 200 houses and rendered more than 1600 persons homeless. The monetary loss is estimated at \$150,000.

Immediate revision of the reclamation law along the lines indicated in the report of Secretary Work's fact-finding commission was recommended to congress Monday by President Coolidge.

Harry K. Thaw was declared sane Tuesday night by the jury that had been hearing testimony to determine his mental condition. The jury declared him fully capable of looking after his estate.

Benito Mussolini, Italian premier, was made a Roman citizen Monday. The ceremony was imposing and was participated in by a distinguished assemblage on the anniversary of the founding of the city of Rome.

A snowfall of 4.7 inches was recorded at the Fort Wayne, Ind. weather bureau Monday, breaking all records for this time of year. The previous record fall was on April 4, 1920, when 4.1 inches was recorded.

Marie Corelli, English novelist and author of a score of popular romantic tales, died Monday from heart disease at her home Stratford-upon-Avon. She had been ailing for some weeks but apparently was recovered when the fatal seizure occurred.

Allegations of liquor disappearance at the department of justice, of defaults in anti-trust law prosecutions and of privileges extended to "millionaire" convicts at Atlanta federal penitentiary were made Monday before the senate Daugherty investigating committee.

All the Smiths in Spokane—believed to number 1000 or more—have been invited to meet next Tuesday for the purpose of forming an association for social purposes. A committee of Smiths, including a minister, an attorney, a dentist and several others, has been busy on the proposal for some time.

Celia Cooney, 29 years old, smiled a demure goodbye as she boarded a train in Jacksonville, Fla., Monday for New York in custody of two detectives to face charges of highway robbery and assault with intent to kill in connection with a long series of daring holdups credited to the "bobbed-hair girl bandit."

A joint resolution was adopted by the senate Tuesday authorizing changing the name of Mount Rainier, Wash., to Mount Tacoma. The resolution recited that whereas it was "the universal practice" to perpetuate Indian names in the geographical nomenclature of the country, Mount Rainier now bears the name of "the commander of a British ship engaged in depredations along the Atlantic coast."

Material modification of the tariff provisions of the McNary-Haugen agricultural export bill was agreed upon Tuesday by the house agriculture committee. A substitute was approved which would give the president authority to declare embargoes on any agricultural product or to increase tariff duties when importations result in losses to the corporation to be created under the bill for the marketing abroad of surplus farm commodities.

Another attempt to bring back 2.75 per cent beer by modification of the Volstead act was made Tuesday before the house judiciary committee. Samuel Gompers, president, and other representatives of the American Federation of Labor, vigorously urged legislation that would permit once more the sale of beer with this alcoholic content on the ground that it would give the working man a "good, palatable, nourishing drink" that had "warmth" to it.

Long Railway Tunnel.  
The longest railway tunnel in Great Britain is the Severn tunnel. It has a length of four miles, 620 yards, and took over 13 years to construct.

### MODIFIES CORPORATION TAX

Levy on Telegraph and Phone Messages Repealed by Senate.

Washington, D. C.—Modification of the corporation tax and repeal of the tax on telegraph and telephone messages was voted Monday by the senate in advancing consideration of the revenue bill. Notice was given, however, that contests would be made later on both of these levies.

The corporation tax was increased from 12 1/2 to 14 per cent with the understanding that the capital stock tax would be eliminated. This latter amendment is yet to be acted upon. Senator Simmons of North Carolina, ranking democrat on the finance committee, announced that minority members were drafting a substitute amendment proposing to replace the present corporation tax with one carrying a graduated scale.

Pending the writing of this amendment, Senator Simmons said he would ask for postponement of consideration of income tax rate sections over which the main contest on the bill will center. These rates were reported but were passed over at the request of the North Carolina senator.

In voting for the repeal of the tax on telegraph and telephone messages, the senate rejected the recommendation of the finance committee. Repeal of this tax had been suggested by Secretary Mellon and was voted by the house. Chairman Smoot of the finance committee announced he would ask for a record vote on it later.

Senator Smoot explained that the tax involved revenue amounting to \$34,000,000 annually and it had been restored to the bill by the committee because it was found necessary to raise more revenue than would be forthcoming under the measure as framed by the house.

### EXPLOSION TRAPS 114 MEN IN MINE

Wheeling, W. Va. — One hundred and fourteen miners were entombed Monday by an explosion and fire in the Benwood Mill mine of the Wheeling Steel Corporation at Benwood, a few miles from here.

Hope has been practically abandoned that any of the men would be rescued alive. The bodies of 14 miners had been recovered but the progress of mine rescue crews was made difficult by poisonous gases that filled the workings. Two miners were alive when found but died a few minutes later.

Only a faint hope was held out by officials of the mine rescue car Holmes for the other 100 men in the mine at the time of the explosion. If any of them escaped being killed outright and had time to barricade themselves in rooms filled with fresh air, some of the trapped miners may be found alive, they declared. Upon that possibility rescue crews in short shifts worked frantically throughout the day and night but had not reached the scene of the explosion late Tuesday.

California Stock Loss Light.  
Sacramento, Cal.—A very small percentage of the livestock of California has been affected by the foot and mouth disease, said Dr. U. G. Houck, United States government chief in charge of the eradication forces, Monday.

Dr. Houck further stated "the success in combating the malady by combined quarantine, destruction of infected and exposed animals, and disinfection, as now carried on, demonstrates in a striking manner the efficacy of the present method."

The California crop report, special bulletin No. 43, issued by the United States department of agriculture, gives the following census of livestock in California as of January 1, 1921:

Milk cows, including heifers over 18 months, 664,000. All other cattle 1,421,000, sheep, 2,450,000, swine 834,000, goats 120,000. Total 5,489,000 head.

To date approximately 60,000 head in the infected districts have been destroyed, 5 per cent of which were in two counties. Of the number exterminated, nearly half were cattle.

### Harvey Back at Desk.

New York.—Colonel George Harvey, ambassador to Great Britain, has resumed the editorship of the North American Review. It was announced at the publication's office Monday. His first article, on President Coolidge, will be published in the June issue of the magazine.

Colonel Harvey's return to editorial work just before the presidential campaign is considered as of particular significance.

### New Zealand Bird a Plague.

The kea, a parrot of New Zealand, as large as a chicken hawk, has been known to kill thousands of sheep yearly to satisfy a craving for kidney fat.

## U. S. BOND FRAUD IS TERMED MYTH

Sec'y Mellon Clears Engraving Bureau of Charges.

### REPORTS TO COOLIDGE

Losses by Theft in Seven Years Declared to Amount to No More Than \$13,100.00.

Washington, D. C.—Secretary Mellon advised President Coolidge Sunday night that the treasury had completed its inquiry into charges of irregularities of the bureau of engraving and had found them baseless.

The charges, made by Charles B. Brewer, department of justice attorney, and which were accompanied by wholesale dismissals in the bureau by President Harding, contained no element of fact, Mr. Mellon asserted. He informed the chief executive that he was enabled, as a result of the investigation, to confirm the integrity of the government's securities.

Contained in the report to the president, a document of magazine size, were specific replies to every assertion made by Brewer in his repeated assaults on the treasury and by these, Secretary Mellon said, the "utter falsity" of every charge was established. In addition, the treasury chief vigorously assailed Brewer, personally, saying in concluding the report:

"His report indicates a conspicuous avoidance of fairness, and the frequent adoption of artful and evasive methods. Where the facts are susceptible of distortion, Mr. Brewer resorts to misstatements, where irrelevance will tend to obscure the facts, Mr. Brewer resorts to irrelevance, and where neither distortion, omission, misstatement nor irrelevance will serve his purpose, Mr. Brewer resorts to insinuations and innuendo.

"Before concluding, I am taking this opportunity to assure you that a most exhaustive investigation clearly establishes Mr. Brewer's charge to be absolutely without foundation.

"There has been no fraudulent duplication or over-issue of the public debt, but on the other hand, by investigating the Brewer charges and establishing the utter falsity thereof, the treasury is enabled unreservedly to confirm the integrity both of the government's obligations and those branches of the treasury service which have been engaged in the handling of public debt securities."

Mr. Mellon assured the president there had been "no fraud or carelessness on the part of officials or employees responsible for the safeguarding of the retired securities." He said Brewer had called attention to losses "during a period of seven years," and added that the total of these was \$13,100, "and were the result of thefts committed by subordinate clerks or messengers in the treasury."

"It has been pointed out," the letter continued, "that the loss of \$13,100 over a period of seven years, during which time over \$100,000,000,000 in securities were handled by thousands of employees, is by no means a reflection upon the officials or employees of the treasury responsible for the safeguarding of retired securities nor upon the treasury's system of controls and audits. Incidentally, the thefts of securities illustrate the danger of retaining indefinitely, and not destroying, the dormant stocks of retired securities."

### Fruit Loss is Heavy.

Walla Walla, Wash.—Higher temperatures from Sunday on did away with needs of smudging in the orchards where the blossoms had escaped the freeze and orchardists felt relieved. Reports coming in from the district show the freeze, though almost general, was somewhat spotty, some trees escaping while others a few feet away seem to have lost all their fruit. Inspectors say there will be more fruit than first expected.

### Lowell's Loss Million.

Lowell, Mass.—One fireman was killed, eight were injured and a property loss of approximately \$1,000,000 was caused when fire, starting early Sunday in the heart of Lowell's business district, swept through five buildings destroying two of the city's largest office buildings, a theater, the Knights of Columbus building and a large garage.

### Watch Your Step.

"One big advantage in avoidin' bad company," said Uncle Eben, "is dat you don't have to watch yob step so close to keep rum bein' cheated."

## STATE NEWS IN BRIEF.

Portland.—Fire of undetermined origin swept the plant of the St. Johns Lumber company Sunday night, destroyed a greater part of the plant and did damage estimated by company officials at \$400,000.

Portland.—On the first 40,000 ballots counted in the city-wide referendum on the proposition of Saturday half holidays for carriers and clerks of the Portland postoffice from May 1 to October 1 the patrons voted yes 29,994, no 6.

Eugene.—The million dollar mark in building permits was passed Saturday in Eugene. The permits for the day totaled \$119,750, making a total for the first four months of \$1,104,900, as compared with a total of \$1,137,919 during the entire year 1920.

Pendleton.—Prospects for a wheat crop in Umatilla county this year are far from bright, according to H. W. Collins, local miller and buyer, and if needed rains do not fall soon the yield in this section of the Inland Empire will be materially less than it was in 1920.

Scappoose.—Prompt action on the part of Scappoose citizens prevented a robbery of the First National bank here early Saturday. When the burglar alarm at the institution was set off about 2 o'clock, heavily armed forces took up positions covering the bank as rapidly as possible.

Astoria.—A fire supposed to have started from a cigarette dropped from a passing train, Sunday afternoon burned a space about 100 feet square in the Hammond Lumber company wharf and destroyed the side track. As a result of the fire the Western Union Telegraph line to Portland was put out of business.

Dayton.—"Made in Yamhill county" week will be observed here, as in all other parts of the county, April 26 to May 3. Observance of the week will be followed by a made-in-Yamhill county banquet given in the community hall at Dundee May 9. Excepting the coffee everything served at this banquet will originate in Yamhill county.

Salem.—A copy of a proposed amendment to the constitution of the state of Oregon, abolishing the death penalty for murder, was filed with the secretary of state here Saturday. The copy is signed by many persons prominent in the affairs of the state. The secretary of state is asked to request a ballot title from Attorney-General Van Winkle.

Hood River.—While the freezing weather of last Wednesday and Thursday nights will give them a set back, mid-Columbia truck gardeners, because of the embargo on garden truck of California, due to the foot and mouth disease, expect a profitable year. Gardeners of this section are already marketing a varied assortment of produce.

Eugene.—Notice to Lane county farmers to comply with the state law to eradicate the gray squirrels and other rodents of a similar nature has been sent by the Lane county court. Members of the court Saturday stated that it is desired to get the campaign well under way so that as many of the rodents as possible may be destroyed before the grain ripens.

Salem.—Several pedigreed puppies owned by Ernest Flake were burned to death here Saturday night when Flake's kennels on the Portland road about two miles north of Salem on the Pacific highway caught fire and were reduced to ashes. The origin of the fire was unknown. All of the outbuildings on the Flake place were burned, but the house was saved.

Garibaldi.—A water committee composed of Harry E. Morgan, William McKinlay, E. J. St. Onge, J. E. Denting, R. C. Loop, W. E. Robbins, H. J. Ditter and F. B. Wicker, appointed at a recent meeting of the Garibaldi commercial club for the purpose of formulating plans for obtaining an adequate supply of pure water for the town, already have dug up data of a favorable nature.

Pendleton.—Tentative plans calling for the holding of a series of wool sales in Umatilla county as a way of selling this year's wool clip are being made, according to Mac Hoke, secretary of the Oregon Wool Growers' association. The first one probably will be held at Pilot Rock, May 21, he said, and indications are now that between 300,000 and 500,000 pounds of wool will be offered.

Seaside.—W. A. Viggers of the Astoria Marine Iron Works has announced that he expects to let a contract in the near future for a fine natatorium. The new building, which will be situated on the prom north of the Hotel Seaside, will be 100 by 100 feet in dimensions and will have a tank 20 by 20 feet. Mr. Viggers said plans had been prepared and that a 45-day construction period would be required to have the natatorium ready for operation.

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