

NEWS NOTES OF CURRENT WEEK

Resume of World's Important Events Told in Brief.

The railway merger begins its dissection by electing new directors for the Southern Pacific. Wilson says he will form his cabinet from the progressive element of the Democratic party. President Taft has abandoned his plan for a world peace treaty and will take up his duties as professor of law at Yale. The Treasury department plans a reorganization of the customs service, under which many employees will be dispensed with. The rivers and harbors bill introduced in congress provides for a million dollars for improvements at the mouth of the Columbia river. Florence, Or., having been cut off from water communication by storms, the people are getting supplies of bacon and other commodities from Portland by parcels post. At the first general election held in the town of Gladport, Oregon, in ten years, blank paper was used for ballots, the names of candidates being written by the voters. Under a new law every child born in the Kingdom of Great Britain hereafter to parents insured under the national insurance act will bring the parents a bounty of 30 shillings, or about \$7.50. Farmers near Seattle, Wash., have made arrangements with the Women's Federation of that city to supply fresh eggs and other produce direct to the consumers in the city, cutting out all middlemen. Robert W. Archbald, Federal District Judge of Pennsylvania and a judge of the Commerce court of the United States, was adjudged guilty of "high crimes and misdemeanors," expelled from office and forever disqualified from holding positions of public honor or trust. The Indian appropriation bill carrying \$8,000,000 has been passed by the house. Roosevelt rejects a proposal to try to bring the Republican and Progressive factions together. Survivors of the steamer Rosecrans say 33 men perished when the vessel was lost on Peacock spit. Robbers using a motorcycle held up an expressman on the outskirts of Portland, making their escape easily. Governor Marshall of Indiana, opposes free school books. Suffragettes announce their intention of marching from New York to Washington to present their demands to congress. The accounts of the sheriff of Multnomah county, Or., balanced to a cent when the books were turned over to his successor. Two desperadoes in an automobile threw a brick through a Chicago jewelry store window, seized gems worth \$800 and escaped. Witnesses testified that "profits" of more than \$90,000,000 have been made by the First National bank of New York City, since its organization with a capital of \$500,000 in 1863. A 15-year-old girl was rescued from a band of gypsies at Los Angeles. She claimed to have been bought by the leader of the band from an orphan asylum in Montana eight years ago. Mexican rebels exterminated the garrison and captured the town of Ayotzingo, only 25 miles from Mexico City, afterwards annihilating the federal reinforcements.

RESUME WAR WITHIN WEEK Balkan Allies Will No Longer Tolerate Delays of Turks.

London—Unless unforeseen events should change the current of affairs, war in the Near East will be resumed within a week. The allies, convinced that the Turks merely are drifting, without a fixed policy, have determined to end the seemingly fruitless debates and withdrawing by resuming military operations where they were left off more than a month ago. The Balkan kingdoms, moreover, are anxious to obtain relief from the heavy burden of maintaining armies on a war footing indefinitely. Wishing, however, to observe all diplomatic courtesies, they have given the powers a reasonable time to agree on the note regarding Adrianople, frame it and present it to Turkey. If Turkey, as seems probable, fails to reply to the note, the Balkan kingdoms have agreed that they will call another sitting of the conference through Sir Edward Grey or Rechad Pasha, who, according to the rotation followed, would be the next presiding officer, and announce definitely their decision to break off negotiations. Immediately afterward the Servian, Bulgarian and Montenegrin commanders will notify Turkish headquarters that hostilities will be resumed within 96 hours. The allies have no faith in the efficiency of the note the powers will present to Constantinople. The Ottoman government has failed to convene the grand council, and apparently has no intention of meeting the allies' ultimatum on Adrianople. The allies feel that the note of the powers is couched in too mild terms to be effective, and that Turkey will know that it means nothing, because the powers will be unable to agree on coercive measures.

WOMAN INTRODUCES FIRST BILL IN LEGISLATURE

Olympia, Wash. — The first bill ever introduced in a Washington legislature by a woman was house bill No. 1, introduced by Mrs. N. Jolin Croake, of Tacoma, providing a minimum wage scale for girls and women in Washington. Mrs. Croake had her measure all prepared and the instant it was in order to introduce bills she presented her, which received the first place in a shower of 17 bills of all descriptions and from all parts of the state. Mrs. Croake's bill provides a minimum wage for women and girls in any line at \$1.25 a day, or 16 cents an hour where engaged in piecework.

FISHER FAVORS RECEPTION

Secretary Would Have Affair in Rotunda Displace Inaugural Ball. Washington, D. C.—President-elect Wilson's inauguration, according to Secretary of the Interior Fisher, should be celebrated by a "popular reception in the rotunda of the capitol, with no charge for admission," rather than by an inaugural ball in the pension building. Mr. Fisher expressed his views in a letter to Senator Sutherland and Representative Shepard, chairmen, respectively, of the senate and house committees on public buildings and grounds. Mr. Fisher suggested that congress take charge of the inauguration celebration and make the necessary appropriations therefor. An appropriation of \$100,000 would involve far less loss to the taxpayer, he said, "than is incurred directly and indirectly in the existing practice."

PORTLAND MARKETS

Table listing market prices for various goods in Portland, Oregon. Includes categories like Wheat, Corn, Oats, Fresh Fruits, Potatoes, Onions, Vegetables, Eggs, Butter, Poultry, and Cattle.

OREGON STATE ITEMS OF INTEREST General News of the Industrial and Educational Development and Progress of Rural Communities, Public Institutions, Etc.

TAX APPORTIONMENT IS OUT State Levy Among Various Oregon Counties Made Public.

Salem—The apportionment of the state levy among the various counties was completed by the state board of tax commissioners. The division among the counties is as follows: Baker... \$ 27,277.55 Benton... 14,452.25 Clackamas... 14,831.15 Clatsop... 24,236.50 Columbia... 24,322.00 Coos... 24,811.00 Crook... 18,972.55 Gilliam... 14,861.90 Douglas... 39,317.00 Grant... 9,290.75 Harney... 9,292.60 Hood River... 12,795.30 Jackson... 36,365.25 Jefferson... 36,365.25 Joseph... 19,500.00 Lake... 9,928.50 Lane... 44,901.00 Lincoln... 8,779.25 Linn... 25,448.00 Malheur... 12,391.00 Marion... 51,577.00 Morrow... 12,721.00 Multnomah... 410,186.48 Polk... 20,164.00 Sherman... 19,259.50 Tillamook... 18,231.50 Union... 25,044.50 Wallowa... 18,067.75 Wasco... 24,982.50 Washington... 28,414.50 Wheeler... 24,775.25 Yamhill... 24,775.25 Total... \$1,122,214.48

WANT MORE EGGS PER HEN Agricultural College Regents to Urge State Chicken Farm.

Salem—To bring the standard of the laying hen in Oregon far beyond the present average is the intent of the board of regents of the Oregon Agricultural college. The board has decided to recommend to the legislature passage of an appropriation of \$12,000 for the purchase of 70 acres of land near Corvallis to establish a poultry farm. The average hen in Oregon now lays 50 eggs each year, while there are some at the college which go far past the 200 mark. It is for the purpose of developing choice layers and selling them and their eggs at a nominal price to the farmers of the state that the regents desire to secure this land and establish a "chickery."

GRAZING LAW IS UNPOPULAR People in Rural Districts Object to Stock-Fencing Regulations.

Salem—Enactment of the law at the last election prohibiting stock, including cattle, horses and hogs, from being pastured outside of fences in portions of Eastern Multnomah and Clackamas counties, is proving objectionable in many localities, and already petitions are being circulated asking the legislature to take some action to provide relief. E. Lacy, of Springwater, has charge of circulating the petitions there, which will be placed in the hands of F. M. Gill, representative at Cherryville.

Mail Has Shellac Finish. Gold Hill—The woes of other postmasters since the establishment of the parcel post are lost upon Postmaster Hamersley, of this city, who declines to admit that even a dozen scrambled eggs in a mail sack can compete for discomfort with three quart cans of "gooey" varnish mixed thoroughly throughout a sack of second-class mail.

Aid for Project Wanted. Bend—Bend's first representative in the Oregon legislature, Vernon A. Forbes, is to be a speaker at the irrigation congress in Portland. The subject of Mr. Forbes' discussion will concern the Columbia Southern Irrigation project adjacent to Ladley. Together with J. E. Sawhill, secretary of the Central Oregon Development league, he will go before the congress, and later before the legislature, urging the adoption of plans whereby the state will lend its financial aid to the completion of the project.

Cherryville May Get Railway. Cherryville—The Cherryville Commercial club held a meeting Saturday night and elected officers for the year. It was reported at the meeting that the Multnomah & Eastern railway has made arrangements to clear the right of way between Sandy and Welch's resort. Dr. Botkin, who made the trip to Portland, said that he had been informed that the work of clearing the route had been let. The commercial club will lend its assistance in every way possible to get an electric railway through here.

Witchcombe Visits Union Farm. Union—Professor James Witchcombe, of Corvallis, stopped here en route home from the meeting of wood-growers at Vale and inspected the state farm at this place. He outlined the plan of the board of regents, which contemplates many things to the advantage of the farm, including the utilization of the entire tract in experiments, general farming, stock raising, dairying, etc.

Coast Highway is Sought. Salem—To convert the ocean beach along the shores of Oregon into a public highway is one of the pieces of legislation which Governor West is contemplating giving his sanction before the next legislative assembly. In many places along the coast the beach is used as a highway, but in others it is cut off.

Misquoting May Be Made Illegal. Columbia, S. C.—Enactment of a public law making it a misdemeanor for a newspaper reporter to misquote a public speaker was urged by Governor Bleuse in his message to the South Carolina legislature. The governor recommended the passage of a 2-cent railway fare bill.

The Flying Mercury

By ELEANOR M. INGRAM AUTHOR OF THE GAME AND THE CANDLE, ILLUSTRATIONS BY RAY WALTERS. COPYRIGHT 1910 BY DOODS-MERRILL CO.

SYNOPSIS. The story opens on Long Island, near New York city, where Miss Emily French, a relative of Ethan French, manufacturer of the celebrated "Mercury" automobile, meets her way. The car has stopped and her cousin, Dick French, is too muddled with drink to direct it right. They meet another car which is run by a professional racer named LeStrange. The latter fixes up the French car and directs Miss French how to proceed home. Ethan French has distinguished his son, who has disappeared. He informs Emily she is to educate her indifferent cousin as an automobile expert. Dick undertakes his business schooling under the tutelage of LeStrange. Dick is absent, and in making a test race meets with an accident which makes Emily an invalid. Under an impulse he cannot control he flies her and she returns his love. He informs her that the man he has disbarred, whom she has just met, is her future husband. A race is run between Dick and Ethan French takes Emily to see it. CHAPTER VIII.—(Continued). "My mother was a Californian," LeStrange once said, coming back from a tour of inspection. "She was twenty times as much alive as any French that ever existed. I've been told, I fancy she passed that quality on to me—you know she died when I was born—for I nearly drove the family mad. They expect 'd the worst of me, and I gave the best worst I had. But," he turned to Dick, "the car and/or of his smile, 'It was rather a decent worst, I honestly believe. The most outrageous thing I ever did was to lead a set of seniors in hosting a cow into the dean's library one night, and so get myself expelled from college." "A cow?" the other echoed. "A fat cow, and it moaned," he stuffed the pillow into a more comfortable position. "It's just our car running in. No, it's just passing. If Frank doesn't wreck my machine, I'll get this race. And there, the same week, my chum and roommate ran away with a Doraora girl of some variety show and married her. I was romantic myself at twenty-one, so I helped him through with it. He was wealthy and she was pretty; it seemed to fit. I believe they've stayed married ever since, by the way. But somehow the reporters got affairs mixed and published me as the bridegroom. Have you got a cigar? I smoke about three times a year, and this is one of them. Yes, there was a fine scene when I went home that night, a Broadway melodrama. I lost my temper earlier then; by the time my father and uncle gave me time to speak, I was too angry to defend myself and set them right. I supposed they would learn the truth by the next day, anyhow. And I left home for good in a dinner coat and raglan with something under ten dollars in odd change. What's that?" "That," was the harsh allard of the official klaxon, coupled with the cry of countless voices. The ambulance gong clanged as LeStrange sprang to his feet and reached the door. "Which car?" he called. Rupert answered first: "Not ours. Number eight's burning up after a smash on the far turn." "Jack's car," identified LeStrange, and stood for an instant. "Go flag Frank; I'll take the machine again myself. It's one o'clock, and I've got to win this race." Several men ran across to the track in compliance. LeStrange turned to make ready, but paused beside the awed Dick to look over the infield. "He was in to change a tire ten minutes ago," observed Rupert, beside them. "Tell LeStrange I'm doin' time catchin' 'im," he yelled to me. Here's hoping his bronch machine pitched him clear from the firework." When the Mercury car swung in, a moment later, LeStrange lingered for a last word to Dick. "I'm engaged to Emily," he said, gravely. "I don't know what she will bear of me; if anything happens, I've told you the truth. I'm old enough to see it now. And I tried to square things."

do it without me," slowly added Bailey. "But it won't be any use to send for Mr. David, because he won't come." The autocrat of his little world looked from one rebel to the other, confounded with the unprecedented. "If I wish to withdraw him, it is to place him out of danger," he retorted with asperity. "Not because I wish to mortify him, naturally, is that clear! Does he want to pass the next thirteen hours under this ordeal?" "I'll tell you what he wants," answered Dick. "He wants to be let alone. It seems to me he's earned that." Ethan French opened his lips and closed them again without speech. It had not been his life's habit to let people alone and the art was acquired with difficulty. "I admit I do not comprehend the feelings you describe," he conceded, at last. "But there is one person who has the right to decide whether David shall continue this risk of his life. Emily, do you wish the car withdrawn?" "I?" the young girl exclaimed, amazed. "I can call him here—safe—" Her voice died out as LeStrange's car roared past, overtaking two rivals on the turn and sliding between them with an audacity that provoked rounds of applause from the spectators. To call him in from that, to have him safe with her—the mere thought was a delight that caught her breath. Yet, she knew LeStrange. The three men watched her in keen suspense. The Mercury car had passed twice again before she raised her head, and in that space of a hundred seconds Emily reached the final unselfishness. "What David wants," she said. "Uncle, what David wants." "You're a brick!" cried Dick, in a passion of relief. "Emily, you're a brick!" "I don't see why you wanted to come," he began before he reached them. "I'm busy enough now. We're leading; if LeStrange holds out we'll win. But he's driving alone; Frank went out an hour ago, on the second relief, when he broke through the padlock fence and wrought his leg. It didn't hurt the machine a bit, except tires, but it lost us twenty-six laps. And it leaves LeStrange with thirteen steady hours at the wheel. He says he can do it." "He's fit?" Bailey questioned. Dick turned a peevish regard upon him. "I don't know what you call fit. He says he is. His hands are blistered already, his right arm has been bandaged twice where he hurt it pulling me away from the gear-cutter yesterday, and he's had 'three hours' rest out of the last eleven. See that heap of junk over there; that's where the Alan car burned up last night and sent its driver and mechanic to the hospital. I suppose if LeStrange isn't fit and makes a miscue we'll see something like that happen to him and Rupert." "No!" Emily cried piteously. Remorse clutched Dick. "I forgot you, cousin," he apologized. So resting the card Dick supplied on



"Here Goes Another." "Don't go off; LeStrange swears he feels fine and gives at me for worrying. Don't look like that." "Richard, you will go down and order our car withdrawn from the race," Mr. French stated, with his most absolute finality. "This has continued long enough. If it had not been arrested in New York for exceeding the speed limit, I should have been here to end this scene at midnight." Stunned, his nephew stared at him. "Withdraw!" "Precisely. And desire David to come here." "I won't," said Dick flatly. "If you want to rub it into LeStrange that you send Bailey. And I say it's a confounded shame." "Richard!" His round face ablaze, Dick thrust his hands in his pockets, facing his uncle stubbornly. "After his splendid fight, to stop him now? Do you know how they take being put out, those fellows? Why, when the Italian car went off the track for good, last night, with its chain tangled up with everything underneath, its driver sat down and cried. And you'd come down on LeStrange when he's winning—I won't do it, I won't! Send Bailey; I can't tell him." "If you want to discredit the car and its driver, Mr. French, you can the steering wheel, LeStrange wrote a difficult two lines. He was out again on the track when Dick brought the message to Emily. "I just told him you were here, cousin," he whispered in her ear, and dropped the card in her lap. "I'll enjoy this more than ever, with you here," she read. "It's the right place for my girl. I'll give you the cup for our first dinner table, tonight." Emily lifted her face. The tragedy of the scene was gone. LeStrange's eyes laughed at her out of a mist. The sky was blue, the sunshine golden; the merry colors commencing to pour in woke carnival in her heart. "He said to tell you the machine was running magnificently," supplemented Dick. "and not to insult his veteran reputation by getting nervous. He's coming by—look." He was coming by; and, although unable to look toward the grandstand he raised his hand in salute as he passed, to the one he knew was watching, Emily flushed rosily, her dark eyes warm and shining. "I can wait," she sighed, gratefully. "Dickie, I can wait until it ends now." Dick went back. (TO BE CONTINUED.)