

NEWS NOTES OF CURRENT WEEK

Resume of World's Important Events Told in Brief.

New York City has added 500 new policemen to the force, making 10,800 in all.

A resident of Guinda, Cal., found a \$100 gold nugget in his freshly-made lawn.

Stefansson's polar ship, the Karuk, was badly damaged by ice off Point Barrow.

The International Congress of Neurology urges a world-wide struggle against alcohol.

The blowing up of Gamboa dyke and opening of the Panama canal has been postponed to Sept. 12.

The Thaw case becomes more and more involved in red tape and takes on an international aspect.

Chinese Northern troops are winning against the Southern rebels, but both sides are losing many men.

Two large ships, one of them laden with dynamite, crashed together while being towed in Astoria harbor, damaging both considerably.

W. Cameron Forbes, governor general of the Philippines since 1909, has resigned, alleging uncourteous treatment by the administration.

A Jewish congregation of San Francisco has granted the use of its synagogue to a Congregational church, and both sects will use the edifice for religious worship.

Portland city officials are preparing an ordinance requiring every loaf of bread sold in the city to be plainly labeled with the exact number of ounces it contains.

A pet baboon belonging to a Los Angeles chiropractor got drunk on pure alcohol stolen from his master's operating room, and had to be taken in charge by the police.

A 4-year-old girl at Albany, Or., fell into a deep, swift water ditch of the Oregon Power company, and a 7-year-old boy playmate promptly plunged in and rescued her.

President Wilson pardoned Lawrence Golden, who was serving a life sentence at Leavenworth for train robbery. The President is severely criticized by the police and others who arrested and convicted Golden.

Lightning killed four persons during a thunder storm in Arkansas.

President Wilson is preparing a special message to congress on the Mexican situation.

It took 18 days for a telegram to reach Colonel Roosevelt in the heart of the Navajo desert.

A Spokane thief locked a woman in a closet and then leisurely searched the house and collected valuables.

A Seattle merchant has collected several bad debts by sending dummy packages to his debtor by C. O. D. parcel post.

Americanized Italian immigrants are said to lose their taste for macaroni and a big eastern macaroni factory has gone bankrupt.

Owing to the drought in Kansas, stockraisers are asking for the removal of the duty on corn.

The good roads rally of the Pacific Highway association for 1914 will be held at Medford, Ore.

The University of Missouri has brought suit under the inheritance tax law against the estate of Joseph Pulitzer, former newspaper publisher.

A woman has been appointed judge in Norway. She is 36 years old, unmarried and has been a practicing lawyer for many years.

PORTLAND MARKETS

Wheat track prices: Club, 79¢@80¢ per bushel; bluestem, 83¢@84¢; forty-fold, 80¢; red Russian, 77¢; rye, 78¢; valley, 80¢.

Oats—No. 1 white, 25¢ per ton.

Corn—Whole, 37¢; cracked, 28¢ ton.

Hay—Fancy Idaho timothy, \$17@18; fancy Eastern Oregon timothy, \$15@16; timothy and clover, \$14@15; timothy and alfalfa, \$13@14; clover, \$8.50@10; oat and vetch, \$10@11; cheat, \$10@11; valley grain, \$10@11.

Onions—Walla Walla, \$1.50 sack.

Vegetables—Beans, 36¢@42¢; cabbage, 20¢@24¢; cauliflower, 32¢ crate; corn, 10¢@15¢ dozen; cucumbers, 20¢@40¢ box; eggplant, 60¢@80¢ pound; head lettuce, 35¢@40¢ dozen; peas, 5¢@7¢ pound; peppers, 60¢@80¢ pound; radishes, 10¢@12¢ dozen; tomatoes, 50¢@75¢ box; garlic, 10¢ pound.

Potatoes—Oregon, \$1@1.15 per hundred; sweet potatoes, \$2.75 per crate.

Green Fruit—Apples, \$1@2.25 box; cantaloupes, \$1.25@1.75 crate; peaches, 30¢@70¢ box; watermelons, \$1.25@1.50 cwt.; plums, 75¢@1.00 box; pears, \$1.50@1.75 box.

Poultry—Hens, 15¢; springs, 15¢; turkeys, live, 20¢; dressed, choice, 25¢; ducks, 10¢@15¢; geese young, 12¢.

Eggs—Oregon ranch, case count 22 @25¢ dozen; fresh ranch, candled, 28 @30¢.

Butter—Oregon creamery butter cubes, 32¢ pound; butter fat, delivered, 32¢.

Fork—Fancy, 12¢ pound.

Veal—Fancy, 15¢@15¢ pound.

Hops—1912 crop, 15¢@18¢ pound; 1913 contracts, 20¢.

Wool—Eastern Oregon, 11¢@16¢ pound; valley, 18¢@19¢; mohair, 1913 clip, 31¢.

Cattle—Prime steers, \$8@8.35; choice, \$7.50@7.75; medium, \$7.25 @7.50; prime cows, \$6.75@7; choice, \$6.50@6.75; medium, \$6.25@6.50; beefers, \$6.75@7.25; light calves, \$8 @9; heavy calves, \$8.75@9.75; bulls, \$4@5.50; stags, \$5.75@6.25.

Hogs—Light, \$8.50@9.30; heavy, \$7.50@8.25.

Sheep—Wethers, \$3.30@4; ewes, \$3.50@3.75; lambs, \$4.50@5.

TO AID WESTERN SETTLERS

Secretary Lane Says Homebuilders of West Are Heroes.

Colorado Springs—Closer co-operation between the government and the settlers in the reclamation of many sections of the arid West, was the keynote of an address in this city by Secretary of the Interior Franklin K. Lane before the Fifth Annual Congress of Governors.

Mr. Lane's speech was taken as an announcement of the new policy adopted by the Interior department gained from a tour of the West during the last few weeks, where he has inspected dozens of irrigation projects with a view to gaining information that will enable the Wilson administration to do the most for the farmer and stockman.

"In my visits this summer through land in process of reclamation," said Secretary Lane, "I found thousands of self-sacrificing men and women who are displaying as much heroism, fortitude, endurance and self sacrifice as has ever been shown by soldiers in any part of the world on the field of battle. Far from railroads and amid many difficulties, they are building homes, and I was particularly touched by the many noble, suffering women on whose shoulders falls the main burden of the home. It is my conception that the main duty of the United States government in its land department is to help the people to make homes and to lighten their burden, the government of the United States will suffer not at all."

CHILDREN'S WORK LAUDED

School Hygiene Is Discussed at International Congress.

Buffalo, N. Y. — Practical and applied hygiene is much further advanced in the Philippines than in the United States, according to Dr. Allen J. McLaughlin, surgeon of the United States public health service, who was one of the speakers at the Fourth International Congress on School Hygiene.

"In this country," said Dr. McLaughlin, "we are prone to overlook the enormous influence of school children upon the hygiene of the home. The children of poor, ill-educated parents are often the intermediary through which the simple gospel of hygiene and disease prevention reaches the parents. In the Philippines, in many instances, it is only because of the children that the parents carry out the instructions of the health officer."

"With an epidemic of contagious disease existing, there is a tendency in most communities to close the schools. In the Philippines, on the contrary, it is the policy of the bureau to keep schools open because of their extraordinary value in teaching the precepts of disease prevention."

"Open air schools and open school rooms were the general topics of the day, and it was practically the unanimous opinion of the delegates that children in rooms with windows wide open, even during the winter months, are immeasurably more healthful and make more rapid progress in their studies than under other conditions."

BAD POTATOES ARE BURNED

Seattle Refuses Worm-Eaten Spuds From California.

Seattle, Wash.—F. N. Rhodes, district horticultural inspector, after condemning a number of carloads of potatoes shipped from California to this market, has determined to invoke the aid of the criminal courts in punishing those responsible for attempting to force wormy spuds on Seattle consumers.

A carload of potatoes shipped from Sacramento to a Seattle commission firm on August 15 was destroyed. Inspector Rhodes says he found the potatoes badly infested with potato tuber moths, and that he took 105 infected potatoes from one sack.

Mr. Rhodes, backed by J. H. Perkins, commissioner of agriculture at Olympia, some time ago sent a circular to California shippers announcing that hereafter all potatoes shipped into the state and found to be infested would be burned.

"This moth," said Mr. Rhodes, "is the most dangerous pest known. A few years ago it destroyed nearly the entire crop of Australia, Tasmania, New Zealand, India, China, South Africa and Jamaica, and is now a grave menace to California."

Japan's Note Delivered.

Washington, D. C. — Ambassador Chinda late Wednesday delivered to Secretary Bryan's latest note in the California anti-land controversy. Secretary Bryan and Ambassador Chinda agreed to continue their understanding of making public nothing contained in the diplomatic exchanges on the question. It may be said, however, that the latest Japanese note is couched in a vein to carry the negotiations along and preserve the issue without making any determination of the contentions of either government.

Old Soldiers Go Hungry.

London—Hundreds of army pensioners in Chelsea hospital, the old soldiers' home of London, went hungry Wednesday because of the strike of electricians of the public works department, declared because of the employment of nonunion painters at the admiralty. After a formal appeal from Earl Beauchamp, first minister of Public Works, to the strike leaders, the electrical engineers consented to leave the ovens and supply bread to the veterans. Ten thousand men laid down their tools.

Militants' Truce Not Complete.

London—The news of the truce between the militant suffragettes and the British government evidently has not reached the districts outside of London, as a fine country house in the suburban town of Finchley, to the north of London, was burned by suffragette sympathizers. The place was occupied by only a caretaker.

OREGON STATE ITEMS OF INTEREST

General News of the Industrial and Educational Development and Progress of Rural Communities, Public Institutions, Etc.

DATE IS SET FOR NAVAL QUIZ

Oregon Competition for Annapolis Fixed for September 19-20.

Oregon Agricultural College, Corvallis—Oregon youths who aspire to reach positions in the United States navy by way of appointment to the naval academy at Annapolis may take competitive examinations at Oregon Agricultural college on September 19 and 20 next, to determine eligibility for admission to the entrance examinations to be held in February and April, 1914.

Announcement of this effect was made by President W. J. Kerr, to whom Senator Harry Lane has referred the matter of holding a preliminary examination and thereby securing a list eligible from which the senator can name four applicants for appointment from Oregon. Senator Lane announces that this method of choosing the candidates appeals to him as being fairer than the plan of naming them on the basis of personal recommendations.

The competitive examinations to be given at O. A. C. are to serve as the first step of the weeding-out process and are to be as similar to the academy entrance examinations, both in scope and detail, as it is possible for the faculty committee in charge to make them.

The four men making the highest passing grades in the September quizzes at Corvallis will, in all probability, be recommended by Senator Lane in order of their standing as principal, first, second and third alternates for the academy examinations.

SEALER'S TESTS WILL BEGIN

Full Set of Standard Weights Received From Washington.

Salem—That all weights and measures in the state must be made absolutely correct as soon as possible, was an announcement made by F. W. Buchtel, deputy sealer of weights and measures, who has opened an office in the state house. Mr. Buchtel has received from S. W. Stratton, director of the bureau of standards in Washington, D. C., standard weights which have been adopted by this state.

All standard weights and measures of county sealers of weights and measures must correspond to the ones in Mr. Buchtel's office. Mr. Buchtel said that more than two-thirds of the counties had appointed sealers of weights and measures as provided by a law passed at the last session of the legislature.

"A majority of the weights and measures that are incorrect," said Mr. Buchtel, "work to the disadvantage of the consumer. This is probably not the result of wilful intent, but long use tends to make them so. It is the intention of this department to exercise supervisory control over weights and measures throughout the state, and see that the people get what they pay for. It will take a little time, however, to put the law into general effect."

Land Ordered Forfeited.

Under the "innocent purchaser" act to protect corporations and individuals who had purchased large tracts of timberland from the Oregon & California Railroad company, Federal Judge Bean has ordered 20,000 acres of land in Coos county forfeited by the C. A. Smith Lumber company to the United States.

As in all the other "innocent purchaser" cases that have been settled, the lumber company had bought the land in one large block from the railroad company and more than \$2.50 an acre was paid for it. The grant allowed the railroad company to sell the land only to actual settlers, and that in blocks of 160 acres at \$2.50 an acre.

One of the provisions of the statute, which was passed a year ago, is that the lands must be bought back by the original purchaser from the railroad company. Otherwise the government will institute suit for the absolute forfeiture of the property without compensation to the party paying it. The lumber company will have to pay \$50,000 to regain possession of the acreage.

Wildcat Game Dying Out.

Eugene—Oregon's new blue sky law has put wildcat mining propositions on the obsolete list, according to Sydney B. Vincent, inspector of the corporation department at Salem, who passed through Eugene recently after inspecting mines in Southern Oregon. "Wildcat schemes," said Mr. Vincent, "have no chance in Oregon. If we don't get them all this year we will next year. The American public likes to be flimflammed; it likes to buy 'dollar' stock at 1 cent, but it can't do this in Oregon."

Mexican Cattle Received.

Ashland—Benton Bowers and R. L. Burdick, local capitalists, arrived here with more than 500 head of cattle from Magdalena, state of Sonora, Mexico. They drove the cattle 40 miles for shipment by rail from Magdalena, crossing the border at Nogales. No trouble whatever was experienced along the line. They started from Mexico with 700 head, disposing of about 200 at Montague, Cal., from which point the cattle were driven to Ashland, where quite a number have already been sold to feeders.

Farmers Want 70 Cents Bushel.

Pendleton—Many Umatilla farmers are holding their wheat, waiting for a raise in price. A little is being sold at 68 cents, and 69 cents for choice lots. When 70 cents is reached hundreds of thousands of bushels will be thrown on the market, but local growers declare they will not take less.

Salmon Orders All Dogs Muzzled.

Salem—The city council has passed an ordinance providing that all dogs in the city shall be muzzled from July 15 to September 1. The ordinance goes into effect at once. Unmuzzled dogs are declared to be a menace to public safety.

DISTRIBUTORS TAKE SPUDS

Northwest Association Will Handle Tubers for Producers.

Hood River—Although it was thought at first by the management of the North Pacific Fruit Distributors that the potato crop in the districts in which the central agency has affiliated growers' associations would not be handled through the same channels of the organization as the apple crop, the Idaho growers, according to Wilmer Sieg, sales manager of the distributors with headquarters here, have forced the handing of the potato crop on the distributors. At Pocatello, Idaho, a potato sub-central of the organization will be formed, and the grading and packing rules of the season will be formed. Three thousand carloads of tubers are assured the distributors from the Idaho districts and more than 1000 from Montana.

In addition the distributors will handle the crops from Oregon and Washington districts. Hood River produced thousands of bushels of potatoes last year, and potatoes may be seen rotting in all sections of the valley at the present time on account of the surplus stock produced in all parts of the country. Many growers have planted this crop on their new land this year, and all are looking forward to a good harvest.

"The potatoes from these sections have been going into Texas and other Southwestern states," says Mr. Sieg, "and the management of the distributors feel that the handling of the product can be put into the hands of capable potato men and the marketing worked out to the success of the growers as well as the central agency. It will give us a greater income with practically no more expense."

J. U. McPherson, state horticultural commissioner of Idaho, has been employed as general field superintendent of the potatoes. This department will give its time exclusively to potatoes, and outside of the superintendent, inspectors and salesmen, no additional overhead expenses, it is said, will be incurred. Each affiliated grower will be required to sign with the grower a separate contract for the handling of the potato crop. No growers will be allowed to ship their tubers without this contract. Estimates are being called for on the crop of the year.

The potatoes will be handled for \$15 a car, the same as is charged for handling apples, but no deductions will be made for advertising purposes.

Pears Going By Carloads.

Hood River—Several carloads of pears have been shipped from this city this season. "The crop will be comparatively small this year," says Mr. Sieg, sales manager of the Distributors association. "We will have no more than 10 carloads, and the D'Anjou crop will be the smallest we have ever had since our trees came into bearing. We will do well if we ship as many as two carloads of D'Anjou."

Hood River launched its Australian business this week, when 1000 boxes of Gravensteins and Kings were shipped by rail to Vancouver, B. C., where they will be loaded for Australia. The shipment consisted of four and one-half and five-tier stuff. Two thousand more boxes will follow on September 10. "This is a cash sale," says Mr. Sieg.

"We have between 10 and 15 carloads of Kings here," says Mr. Sieg, "and this fruit will begin to move at once. The growers are picking it up as fast as it colors. Then will come the Jonathan crop. We will find the best markets for Jonathans if they attain the good size that the trade likes."

Sam G. Campbell, chief inspector of the distributors, has just returned from Medford, where he has been looking over the orchards of the Rogue River valley. "If a man wants to see a Bartlett pear that will please his eyes because of its beauty," says Mr. Campbell, "he will only have to see the Bartletts of that district."

Salem May Get Factory.

Salem—That the Grand Rapids Furniture company, of Michigan, may install a plant in this city is a possibility. T. T. Stockwell, agent of the company, is here making an investigation of conditions. As the forests in Michigan are disappearing fast the company realizes that it will not be long until it must obtain new fields from which to obtain its supply. Mr. Stockwell says the pitch in the pine and fir is a disadvantage, but it is believed a process may be provided to make them ideal woods.

Roseburg Women Busy.

Roseburg—For the first time in the history of Roseburg women will serve on the election boards at the regular city election to be held here on October 6. This was decided upon when the election committee of the city council met recently and appointed the judges and clerks of election. In the Fourth ward the board is composed exclusively of women, while in the First, Second and Third wards the boards are about equally divided among men and women. The names of those appointed were not made public.

Salmon Again Plentiful.

Union—Salmon are plentiful in Catherine creek this season for the first time in many years. Old settlers still talk of the times when they caught salmon in Catherine creek, but for many years the fish have been blocked by dams below the town. This year the water has been high, and as there has been no need for irrigation the fish have been allowed a free run-way of the stream.

Farmers Unload Wheat.

Pendleton—Wheat, which has hung around 68 cents a bushel since the first time in many years. Old settlers still talk of the times when they caught salmon in Catherine creek, but for many years the fish have been blocked by dams below the town. This year the water has been high, and as there has been no need for irrigation the fish have been allowed a free run-way of the stream.

What Is Your Intention?

to his hotel, where he bought a number of papers and magazines. The secret service reported at 11:00 p. m. that he had retired, and considering him safe for the next eight hours they did likewise. There they made a mistake. The chevallier read until twelve. Then, cautiously opening the door, he looked into the hall and listened.



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SYNOPSIS.

For fifty years the continent of North America had been isolated from the rest of the world by the use of a wonderful invention of Hannibal Prudent. The invention saved the country from foreign invasion, and the continent had been united under one government with Prudent as president. For half a century peace and prosperity reigned in this part of the world. The story opens with Prudent critically ill. His death is hastened by the receipt of a message from Count von Werdenstein of Germany that he has at last succeeded in penetrating the rays. Dying, he warns his daughter Aetra that this means a foreign invasion. He tells her to hurry to the location of the place. Aetra is nominated for the presidency by the continental party. Napoleon Edison calls on Aetra, informs her that he was a pupil of her father's, and promises to help her. He gives her a ring made of a newly discovered substance which, he says, will solve the problem of flying. Chevallier di Leon appears in Europe. He notes that preparations have been completed for an invasion of America.

CHAPTER IV—Continued.

The count's face was disturbed for a second, when his own cold blue eyes met the gray ones; they flashed like two swords, both blades keen, hard and elastic.

"Chevallier di Leon?"

The chevallier bowed.

"Your business must be very important, since you ask to see me in my private residence."

"It is, your excellency, and as I know your time is valuable I shall not delay you long."

"Please!"

The chevallier took a small package from his pocket and unwrapped it, then he placed a piece of yellow metal on the table.

"Will your excellency examine this?"

The count picked up the metal with a bored expression and its weight surprised him.

"Gold?"

"Yes, it is gold."

"And what is its meaning?"

"I am willing to build and equip a factory for your excellency, enabling you to produce the metal for 25 pennings the kilogram."

"Then it is not gold."

"Have it examined by an expert."

"Will you do that?"

"When may I return for your answer?"

"Tomorrow morning at nine sharp."

The two bowed and turned to go, but the count stopped them.

"Who knows the secret of the composition besides yourself?"

"Only one man. He lives in South Africa."

"And this gentleman?" and the count pointed to Kalmor.

"He knows as much about it as your excellency."

The count thought for a moment. Suddenly he came nearer to the chevallier and, stopping before him, looked steadily into his wide, gray eyes. They stood thus for a few moments.

What the chevallier felt no one knows, but he looked as if he were the applicant and the other the almighty chancellor upon whom the eyes of four continents rested hopefully. At least that was the impression Herr Kalmor received.

Slowly he asked: "And what is the price of your secret?"

"I will tell you tomorrow."

CHAPTER V.

The Countess Rosiny.

Chevallier di Leon and his companion hardly had left the room when the count gave orders that caused two men to emerge from the side door at the instant the two men approached the waiting conveyance. These two men took separate cabs and found it an easy matter to follow the quarry, as they had no desire to avoid the detectives.

Herr Kalmor returned to the editorial rooms and Chevallier di Leon went to his hotel.

The secret service reported at 11:00 p. m. that he had retired, and considering him safe for the next eight hours they did likewise. There they made a mistake. The chevallier read until twelve. Then, cautiously opening the door, he looked into the hall and listened.

No one was in sight and no sound came to his ears, so he turned and picked up a small box and hurried with it to the fire escape at the end of the hall.

It was a clear, starry night, but no moon was shining. He mounted to the square, flat roof, and listening again

kept the invitation to the "Hotball" given day after tomorrow."

The chevallier bowed. The count filled out an invitation card personally and escorted his caller to the door.

In the afternoon the chevallier sought aeroplane hangars and stores and bought a small monoplane of the "Belt" style. After trying the machine, he inquired for a large, private hangar and succeeded in finding one near the count's residence.

The count ball was one of the formal social events of the week. The room in which the count marshal and his assistants received the guests was in the ultra-secession style. When the chevallier entered it he received the impression of entering a gigantic wedding cake that had been hollowed and decorated artfully on the inside.

The stiff courtesy that once prevailed at the court of Frederick the Great still was in existence during ceremonious affairs. Only the few French diplomats seemed to have ease of bearing and a certain freedom of movement.

The Count von Werdenstein approached the chevallier with unusual kindness and introduced him to many of the guests. The plain, black evening dress, without crosses, ribbons or other signs of distinction, was strange under this roof and among these gorgeous uniforms.

Baron von Koener was asked by the chancellor to take care of the chevallier, and the little huzzar did his best to entertain the interesting chevallier, whose sole reason for being there was that he had some great and valuable invention for military purposes.

The hidden orchestra played the ribbons or other signs of distinction, was strange under this roof and among these gorgeous uniforms. Baron von Koener was asked by the chancellor to take care of the chevallier, and the little huzzar did his best to entertain the interesting chevallier, whose sole reason for being there was that he had some great and valuable invention for military purposes.

The emperor, a tall, typical Prussian, came first, leading the Princess of Wales, then came the Prince of Wales, escorting the Princess Isold; the young emperor was not married.

The hidden orchestra played the melody, "Die Wacht am Rhein." When his majesty finished the regular circle the chancellor introduced the chevallier. The courtiers fell back at a motion from the emperor and he and the chevallier spent some time in what was apparently an intimate conversation. When the dance began he was dismissed and the emperor waltzed around the great hall once with his cousin, the Princess of Wales.

Chevallier di Leon stood alone for a short time, watching the dancers with interest; then the Baron von Koener

"Absolute disarmament and peace." The count showed no surprise. He felt that he stood before an extraordinary man. He walked up and down the room thoughtfully, then suddenly he stopped before the chevallier.

"Sir, who are you?"

The chevallier stood up and smiled pleasantly.

"I expected this question, your excellency, but if you will permit I shall not answer it. All I can say is that I believe I am a true apostle of brotherly love. My ideal is to overthrow tyranny and make not only the leaders but the masses happy and contented. What I am offering you is a mighty instrument to forward this movement. True, it also means destruction if injudiciously used. I came to you, sir, the chosen leader of the armies of four continents." He looked earnestly at the man standing before him.

"Do you not think that it is your duty to accept my offer—to send home the millions who are amazed to break peace; whose final destination is to break into a happy, peaceful continent where every man is free and where the hearts of the people are not poisoned with the passions of selfish greed? It is my own wish, also, that those invisible walls which separate the American continent from the others shall disappear, not be destroyed by ruthless hands, but opened to receive brothers!"

The enthusiastic young man stopped when he saw a sarcastic smile play round the corners of the count's mouth.

"I know enough, chevallier!" His voice was cool and cutting. "You are an American."

The chevallier did not say "yes" or "no," but scorning the cold expression on the count's face he almost ordered him to hear him out.

"Your excellency must listen to me to the end. Who I am or whence I come does not matter. I have offered you a secret that will enable you to make your country, and through your country the world, happy if used with discretion. If not, it may bring conditions that will break all your ambitions. Your tremendous armies, men of war and fortifications, figuratively speaking, are all made of gold. You can easily imagine what chaos will reign if I give my gold away—make it no more valuable than iron. Don't you realize that it will break you, in spite of your might, and drive your armies to work instead of wasting time in pursuing the scientifically perfected exercises and studies of devastation? You ought to realize that gold is only an image created by man; that yellow metal has no real value. Work is the only thing of value to a nation."

"I have one thing more to say. You have evidently selected for your life's work the invasion and conquering of the American continent, claiming that the United States had refused to yield to the wishes of the European powers fifty years ago. Do you think there are no more men like Hannibal Prudent? Do you think that after breaking the isolator all you would need do would be to land your armed puppets and kill the people who have nursed at the bosom of Liberty? I have spoken, your excellency!"

The chevallier made a courteous bow. The count seated himself before his desk.

"Chevallier di Leon, no man has ever spoken to me as you have." His voice was dull. "I will think over the far-reaching perspective you have spread before me; I will have to consider it from every side. For that reason I cannot set a date for my final decision and the decision of his majesty the kaiser."

"Above all, you have awakened my admiration; you