

WORLD HAPPENINGS OF CURRENT WEEK

Brief Resume Most Important Daily News Items.

COMPILED FOR BUSY READERS

Events of Noted People, Governments and Pacific Northwest and Other Things Worth Knowing.

The tenth pair of twins are born in Portland since the first of January. Germany has released the 72 Americans who were taken prisoners by the German raider in the South Atlantic.

The Oregon troops returned from the border Wednesday, and on Thursday a great parade was held in Portland.

The second daughter of Senator and Mrs. Harry Lane, of Oregon, was married to Dr. S. D. Hicks, of Norfolk, Va., Monday.

A bone-dry prohibition bill was passed by the South Dakota house late Friday by a vote of 88 to 10. The measure now goes to the senate.

The Washington state senate passes a bone-dry law which will be signed by Governor Lister. The bill becomes effective 90 days after the adjournment of the legislature.

One hundred and sixty-six Democrats and Republicans in Indianapolis have been indicted by the Federal grand jury charged with conspiracy to corrupt the 1914 election.

The Minnesota senate has passed the house bill submitting to the people a proposed prohibition constitutional amendment. The measure would be voted on at the 1918 election, and if adopted would be effective July 1, 1920.

Francisco Villa has disappeared from his command after promising his men that he would return at the end of three months and give them some "startling" news, according to reports brought to the border by passengers from Mexico.

Principal railroads of the country have taken summary action to relieve the shortage of freight cars and the traffic congestion at Eastern seaports, again approaching the acute stage because of the curtailment of trans-Atlantic sailings by Germany's new submarine policy.

Pacificists generally and William J. Bryan particularly were attacked in the house by Representative Gardner, of Massachusetts, in making reply to previous declarations by Representative Moore, of Pennsylvania, that Great Britain seeks to draw the United States into the war.

The first party of children from the occupied portion of France, numbering 250, arrived at Rosendal, Holland, Thursday. Their ages ranged from 6 to 14 years. They presented a most distressing spectacle, bearing evident suggestions of having endured hardships, and all told stories of scarcity of food.

In the U. S. senate drastic amendments to the postal appropriation bill were agreed to which would make criminal the importation of liquor into states which prohibit its manufacture and sale for beverage purposes, and which would exclude liquor advertisements from the mails in states which legislate against such advertising.

Hachita, N. M. — Lem Spillsbury, Mormon scout, and companions late Thursday discovered the bodies of Andrew P. Peterson, Hugh Acord and Burton Jensen, American cowboys kidnaped last Monday when Mexican bandits raided the Corner ranch, 60 miles southwest of here. The bodies, badly mutilated, were found on the Mexican side, three miles south of Monument No. 53. It is believed they were taken across the international line and killed when they attempted to break away from their captors.

The English government has agreed to set aside a day for discussion in the house of commons of the Irish administration, as requested by the Nationalists.

Charles J. White, professor emeritus of mathematics at Harvard University and author of several books on astronomy, was found dead in his chair in his room Monday. He had been ill for several days with grippe.

The "gratitude and thanks of the nation" have been conveyed by the British government to James W. Gerard, former American ambassador at Berlin, for his work on behalf of British civilians and prisoners of war in Germany.

Oregon legislature passes a law which doubles the tax on automobiles. An executive order to exclude spies and other undesirable persons from the Panama Canal zone and give the governor virtually unlimited authority to regulate immigration there has been signed by President Wilson.

The authorities of Niteroi, Brazil, five miles east of Rio Janeiro, have arrested two Germans who were photographing the fortress of Imbuhy. The prisoners are Fritz Meyer and Johannes Karl, employes of commercial houses.

The Italian lines in the district east of Gorizia, Italy, which had been penetrated in some places in Austrian attacks late last week, have been re-established completely, the war office announces. In the operation more than 100 prisoners were taken.

According to the Copenhagen Hamburger Nachrichten, two large ammunition factories at Thorn, East Prussia, and at Glueckauf, in Quiekkorn, near Hamburg, were destroyed by explosions last week. Sixty-three persons were killed and the same number wounded.



MAJOR GENERAL FREDERICK FUNSTON.

FUNSTON EXPIRES SUDDENLY

Fatal Stroke of Acute Indigestion Comes at San Antonio.

San Antonio, Tex.—Major General Frederick Funston, commander of the Southern department, United States army, since February, 1915, died suddenly at a hotel here Monday night, a few minutes after he had finished dinner. He collapsed while seated in the lobby of the hotel talking with friends, and was playing with little Inez Silverberg, of Des Moines, Ia., a guest, with her parents, at the hotel, when he fell unconscious. Death was almost instantaneous. General Funston was 51 years old.

Ever since March, 1916, when he was placed in command of all United States forces on the Mexican border, General Funston had worked at an unusual pace. At critical times in border developments he frequently remained on duty 24 hours of the day. The handling of regulars disposed at various stations on the border, the Pershing expedition, and of late, re-arranging of regular troops, while providing for the return of National Guardsmen, have entailed an enormous amount of detail work, probably exceeding that which has fallen to any commanding general of the United States army since the Civil war. Only Monday General Funston completed orders for the return of the guardsmen.

The picturesque and dashing capture of Aguinaldo, the rebel chief, was the achievement which brought Funston prominently to the attention of the American people, but he performed many services for his country besides that which were probably more difficult. His administration of affairs in Vera Cruz, where he carried out the President's orders with a firm hand, simply holding the city when every influence about him was centered upon forcing the American army into actual fighting with the Mexicans, probably was the most notable service of his career.

Two weeks ago General Funston suffered an attack of indigestion. To use his own expression, "I fought it out alone." Later he placed himself under the care of Lieutenant Colonel M. W. Ireland, of the medical corps, Southern department, and regained normal health and spirits. "For three days," Colonel Ireland said, "General Funston had been entirely well."

Navy Ready to Strike.

Washington, D. C.—Preparedness is the order of the day and even of the night in Washington.

The Navy department is equipping Ambassador to Protest.

Washington, D. C.—One of the first official acts of Henry P. Fletcher, the new American ambassador to Mexico, will be to protest against confiscation of mines not in operation on February 14.

Mr. Fletcher's arrival at the Mexican capital Sunday was reported Monday to the State department. His formal presentation to General Carranza probably will not be later than Thursday and immediately afterward he will begin making representations on various questions at issue between the two governments.

Zionist Relief Goes.

New York—The provisional Zionist committee announced here the diplomatic situation between the United States and Germany had not interfered with its distribution of relief funds in Palestine, Poland and Lithuania.

With the approval of the Danish government and the support of Minister Egan at Copenhagen, it was said, Danish Jews have taken over the committee's work in three districts, to which more than \$1,000,000 already has been sent.

Big Oil Melon Indicated.

Sacramento, Cal.—Making an affidavit that their net assets are in excess of their capital by \$25,000,000, the Standard Oil company of California has made application to the State Corporation commission to issue \$24,843,300 worth of stock as a stock dividend to the stockholders of the company. A similar stock dividend was declared a year ago. The company has 745,300 shares of stock, worth \$7,453,000, now outstanding.

GERMANS SERVE IN MEXICAN ARMIES

Teutons Said to Be With Both Carranza and Villa.

NEW REVOLUTION IS GAINING

Oil Fields at Tampico Protected by Four Thousand Men in Pay of Foreigners—Railways Cut.

Washington, D. C.—German officers are serving with the armies of General Carranza and General Villa in Mexico. Information to this effect has reached the State department. As Carranza and Villa are enemies, it would seem that the Germans would offset each other. If, however, the anti-American sentiment should force co-operation by Carranza and Villa—the situation German agents desire—the German officers would act together in operations against the United States.

The State department also has been informed that a new revolution is making headway in Mexico. The Tampico oil fields are "protected" by 4000 men, whose chief is well paid by the foreigners owning and producing the oil. This is in addition to the export tax paid to Carranza.

Were the Tampico chief supplied with ammunition, it would be a comparatively easy matter for him to capture Vera Cruz. He needs cartridges, but the embargo applied by the United States prevents him from getting them.

There is another revolutionary force in the state of Oaxaca which is arranging to co-operate with that in the Tampico district. If the junction takes place Carranza will be faced by a large body of men in addition to Villa's army and the troops under General Zapata. Railroad connection between Vera Cruz and Mexico City is frequently cut by the Zapatas, and it is no longer safe to go from one point to the other.

The administration strongly desires to avoid being drawn again into Mexico, but it is realized that there is a grave danger point which may become menacing as a result of activities of German agents.

Villa's Voyage is Doubtful.

El Paso, Tex.—A report that Villa had gone in disguise to the West coast and taken a ship for Japan on a political mission has been known to Carranza officers and officials here and in Juarez for several days, Eduardo Soriano Bravy, the Mexican consul here, said Sunday night.

"Villa has not been accounted for since he fled to Parrel after his defeat at Jimenez about six weeks ago," said the consul. "We have had many reports that he was in different places, but no evidence. However, we are inclined to doubt the story that he has gone to Japan. It may have been invented to account for his absence. His friendliness to the Japanese government gives it plausibility. It is believed more likely that he is in hiding in the mountains, either to try to reorganize his bands there, or because he is sick or wounded."

Salazar is in command in the North, but there is a report that he split with Villa and is acting independently. They were old-time enemies until reconciled during the Chihuahua City attack September 16 last."

Mr. Soriano Bravo said he heard the raid on the Corner Ranch was used by Salazar as a diversion in order to smuggle ammunition over the border.

Holland Gets Apology.

London.—In reply to a protest by the Dutch government regarding the shelling of the Dutch steamer Oldmaid, December 29, by German coast batteries while the steamer was being taken to Zebrugga according to an Amsterdam dispatch to Reuters, the German government says the shelling was "accident of force majeure." The German government, the dispatch says, expresses sincere regret that subjects of a friendly power were killed or injured and expresses readiness to pay compensation to their relatives.

Ship Reported Stolen.

Galveston—Word was received here Monday that the 50-ton schooner Galate has been stolen from her owners at Pasco, and had secretly departed into the Gulf. Unconfirmed reports said she was fitted with war supplies, which according to one rumor were for Cuban revolutionists. Another rumor was that she is to get into communication with German submarines, which are reported to have been sighted in Gulf waters. Broadcast land authorities to apprehend the boat.

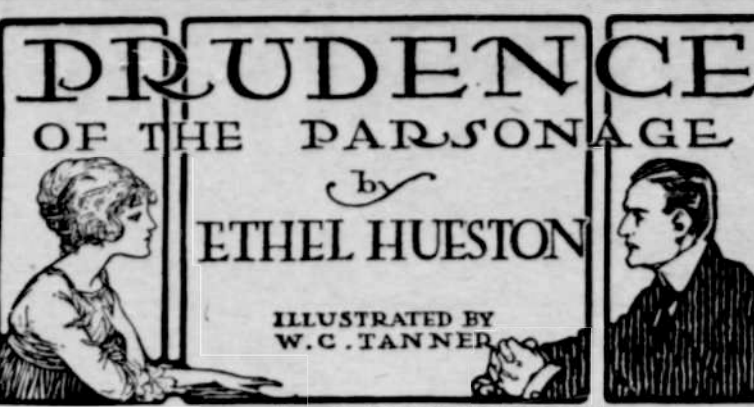
Eight-Hour Bills Introduced.

Washington, D. C.—Senator Robinson, of Arkansas, and Representative Keating, of Colorado, Monday introduced identical bills to prohibit interstate shipment of goods made in whole or in part by women employed more than eight hours a day or more than six days a week.

The bills, drawn on the lines of the Federal child labor law, would nationalize conditions for American working women.

New Ruler is Demanded.

London.—The speaker in the house of commons, the Right Honorable James William Lowther, declared here Monday night it was impossible for British statesmen to make any agreement with the German government as now constituted. It would be necessary before signing peace or any agreement, he said, to insist that it must be with a government different in essence and constitution from the present one.



PRUDENCE OF THE PARSONAGE

by ETHEL HUESTON

ILLUSTRATED BY W. C. TANNER

(Copyright, by the Bobbs-Merrill Company.)

THE MEMBERS OF THE CONGREGATION FORGET THAT THE PARSONAGE FOLKS NEED MONEY FOR CHRISTMAS, SO LITTLE CONNIE TELLS BANKER SOME PLAIN TRUTHS

Mr. Starr, a widower Methodist minister, comes to Mount Mark, Ia., to take charge of the congregation there. He has five charming daughters, the eldest of whom, Prudence, age nineteen, keeps house and mothers the family. Her younger sisters are Fairy, the twins Carol and Lark, and Constance, "the baby." The family's coming stirs the curiosity of the townspeople. After a few weeks the Starrs are well settled. Prudence has her hands full with the mischievous youngsters, but she loves them devotedly despite their outrageous pranks. It is a joyous household, but the parsonage girls are embarrassed at Christmas time because the congregation has failed to pay the pastor's salary. Little Connie needs clothing, and sadly disappointed, takes matters into her own hands.

CHAPTER VI—Continued.

"Oh, I had her dressed warmly underneath, very warmly indeed," declared Prudence. "But no matter how she was undernourished, you look warm you are underneath, you look for winter weather. I kept hoping enough money would come in to buy her a coat for once in her life."

"She has been looking forward to one long enough," put in Fairy. "This will be a bitter blow to her. And yet it is not such a bad-looking coat, after all." And she quickly ran up a seam on the machine.

"Here comes Connie!" Prudence hastily swept a pile of scraps out of sight, and turned to greet her little sister with a cheery smile.

"Come on in, Connie," she cried, with a brightness she did not feel. "Fairy and I are making you a few coats. Isn't it pretty? And so warm! See the nice velvet collar and cuffs. We want to fit it on you right away, dear."

Connie picked up a piece of the goods and examined it intently. "Don't you want some fudge, Connie?" exclaimed Fairy, showing the dish toward her hurriedly.

Connie took a piece from the plate, and thrust it between her teeth. Her eyes were still fastened upon the brown furry cloth.

"Where did you get this stuff?" she inquired, as soon as she was able to speak.

"Out of the trunk in the garret, Connie. Don't you want some more fudge? I put a lot of nuts in, especially on your account."

"It's good," said Connie, taking another piece. She examined the cloth very closely. "Say, Prudence, isn't this that old brown coat of father's?"

Fairy showed her chair back from the machine, and ran to the window. "Look, Prue," she cried. "Isn't that Mrs. Adams coming this way? I wonder—"

"No, it isn't," answered Connie gravely. "It's just Miss Avery getting home from school—Isn't it, Prudence? Father's coat, I mean?"

"Yes, Connie, it is," said Prudence, very gently. "But no one here has seen it, and it is such nice cloth—just exactly what girls are wearing now."

"But I wanted a new coat!" Connie did not cry. She stood looking at Prudence with her wide hurt eyes.

"Oh, Connie, I'm just as sorry as you are," cried Prudence, with starting tears. "I know just how you feel about it, dear. But the people didn't pay father up last month. Maybe after Christmas we can get you a coat. They pay up better then."

"I think I'd rather wear my summer coat until then," said Connie soberly.

"Oh, but you can't, dear. It is too cold. Won't you be a good girl now, and not make sister feel badly about it? It really is becoming to you, and it is nice and warm. Take some more fudge, dear, and run out-of-doors a while. You'll feel better about it presently, I'm sure."

Connie stood solemnly beside the table, her eyes still fastened on the coat, cut down from her father's. "Can I go and take a walk?" she asked finally.

"May I, you mean," suggested Fairy. "Yes, may I? Maybe I can reconcile myself to it."

"Yes, go and take a walk," urged Prudence promptly, eager to get the small sober face beyond her range of vision.

When Connie was quite beyond hearing, Prudence dropped her head on the table and wept. "Oh, Fairy, if the members just knew how such things hurt, maybe they'd pay up a little better. How do they expect parsonage people to keep up appearances when they haven't any money?"

"Oh, now, Prue, you're worse than Connie! There's no use to cry about it. Parsonage people have to find happiness in spite of financial misery. Money isn't the first thing with folks like us."

"Poor little Connie! If she had cried about it, I wouldn't have cared so much. But she looked so—heart-sick, didn't she, Fairy?"

Connie certainly was heart-sick. More than that, she was a little disgusted. She felt herself aroused to take action. Things had gone too far! Go to church in her father's coat she could not! She walked sturdily down the street toward the "city"—ironically so called. Her face was stony, her hands were clenched. But finally she brightened. Her lagging steps quickened. She skipped along quite cheerfully. She turned westward as she reached the corner of the square, and walked along that business street with shining eyes.

"What in the world?" she began, gazing on into the room, half-lighted by the moonshine, and seeing Carol and Lark shivering beside her bed.

"Sh! Sh! Hush!" whispered Lark. "There's a burglar in our room!"

By this time, even sound-sleeping Fairy was awake. "Oh, there is!" she scoffed.

"Yes, there is," declared Carol with some heat. "We heard him, plain as day. He stepped into the closet, didn't he, Lark?"

"He certainly did," agreed Lark.

"Did you see him?"

"No, we heard him. Carol heard him first, and she spoke, and nudged me. Then I heard him, too. He was at our dresser, but he shot across the room and into the closet. He closed the door after him. He's there now."

"You've been dreaming," said Fairy, lying down again.

"We don't generally dream the same thing at the same minute," said Carol sternly. "I tell you he's in there."

"And you two great big girls came off and left poor little Connie in there alone with a burglar, did you? Well, you are nice ones, I must say."

And Prudence leaped out of bed and started for the door, followed by Fairy, with the twins creeping fearfully along in the rear.

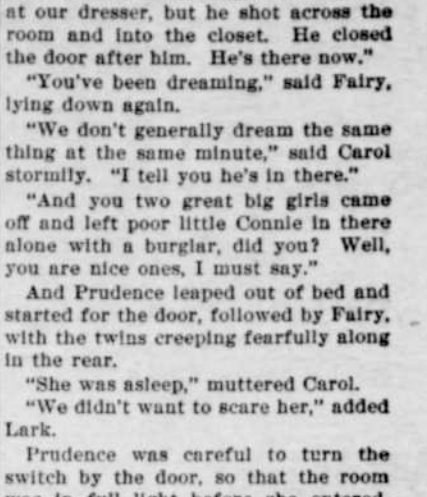
"She was asleep," muttered Carol.

"We didn't want to scare her," added Lark.

Prudence was careful to turn the switch by the door, so that the room was in full light before she entered. The closet door was wide open. Connie was soundly sleeping. There was no one else in the room.

"You see?" said Prudence sternly. "I'll bet he took our ruby rings," declared Lark, and the twins and Fairy ran to the dresser to look.

But a sickening realization had come home to Prudence. In the lower hall,



Prudence Dropped Her Head on the Table and Wept.

under the staircase, was a small dark closet which they called the dungeon. The dungeon door was big and solid, and was equipped with a heavy catch-lock. In this dungeon, Prudence kept the family's wardrobe, and all the money she had on hand, as it could there be safely locked away. But more often than not, Prudence forgot to lock it.

Have you ever awakened to find a burglar in your room? What did you do—pretend sleep? Or shout? Or keep still at his command?

(TO BE CONTINUED.)

SYMBOL UNTOUCHED BY WAR

Lion of St. Mark Has Escaped Destruction, Though Hand of Time Has Been Heavy on It.

The lion of St. Mark still stands. Curiously enough, while utmost precautions have been taken to preserve the edifices and monuments of Venice against the ruthless hand of the aviator, this symbol of the republic, one of the chief artistic and historical glories of the city, still poses on its column in the Piazzetta with never a sandbag, masonry shield, or wooden covering to guard it from harm.

The lion of St. Mark long has been an interesting relic, source of some speculation and an endless amount of historical legend more or less authentic. There is a tradition that when Napoleon carried it to Paris there were diamonds in its eyes. They were really white agates, faceted.

It is conjectured that the lion may have formed a part of the decoration of some Assyrian palace centuries before it became the symbol of the Venetian patron saint, St. Mark. The head, except for the crown, the mane, and the larger part of the body and legs, except the claws, are much older than other portions of the figure. The wings and paws are of a much later date, while the rump part and the tail are restorations executed after the lion had been sent back from Paris early in the last century.

The lion is in a condition that care is required even under ordinary conditions to prevent its disintegration. There are rents and fissures throughout the body, and the portions are held together by iron rivets that have rusted away. Many initials mark the metal, presumably engraved by artists employed in various restorations.

The Lion of St. Mark could be destroyed with little effort. It has survived the chances of war to the present.

What He Left Moch.

"Your father was pretty rich when he died, wasn't he?" asked the young man in search of an heirless.

"Oh, yes!" replied the world-wise maiden.

"Did he leave your mother much?"

"About twice a week."—London Answers.

CHAPTER VII.

A Burglar's Visit.

A small hand gripped Prudence's shoulder, and again came a hoarsely whispered:

"Prue!"

Prudence sat up in bed with a bounce.