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**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.

William Archer, the noted dramatic critic and author, died in London Saturday.

R. Q. Merrick, prohibition division chief for New York and northern New Jersey, said New Year's eve raids would be "bigger and better than ever."

Three aged patients of the Illinois state insane hospital, three miles east of Alton, were burned to death early Sunday when a frame farmhouse was destroyed by fire.

Expenditures of approximately \$41,500,000 will be made by the North American company for expansion of its public utility properties throughout the United States in 1925.

More than 60 persons were killed, upward of half a hundred were injured and 15 others were missing as the result of an unusual number of accidents in Chicago Christmas eve and Christmas day.

A bomb in the form of a Christmas package received by Ernest M. Torchia, an attorney, exploded in Glendale, Cal., early Thursday, blowing off his left hand, driving fragments into his body and injuring one eye.

Unprecedented efficiency and economy characterized the operation of the country's railroads during 1924, with a consequent vast saving to the shipping public, the American railway association declared Sunday night in annual summary of its activities.

Stacy, 12, and Clark, 10, sons of Mr. and Mrs. H. R. Swanson, living a mile below Santa Clara on river loop No. 2, five miles north of Eugene were drowned in a small lake at 4:30 o'clock Thursday afternoon.

Construction of five hospitals for the world war veterans, completion of one and purchase of another will be undertaken shortly by the veterans' bureau with funds recently made available by congress. A national training school for the blind also will be built.

Contracts for construction of a 232-bed hospital at San Fernando, Cal., to cost approximately \$1,000,000, have been awarded by Director Hines of the veterans' bureau. The North Pacific Construction company of Los Angeles obtained the general construction contract on its bid of \$755,900.

The zero weather had moderated over the middle west Sunday night with the approach of a light fall of snow. Utah reported zero and Colorado was warmed up to an average of three above zero, except in the mountains and on the plains, where sub-zero weather still prevailed.

The whining of an Alredale dog, unable to bark because of an automobile accident which left it crippled, awoke the J. W. Stuart family in Galesburg, Ill., early Sunday and saved the lives of five persons who escaped in night clothes when their home burned. The thermometer showed 15 below zero at that time.

Four more bodies were found Saturday in the muck from the dam that broke Wednesday night and flooded the lower sections of Saltville, Va., bringing the known death list to 13. Seven persons still are missing. The bodies found were those of children ranging in age from three to ten years. Three were from one family.

Ultra microbes, organisms so small that they are invisible with the strongest microscopes, which presumably live as parasites in disease bacteria, have been isolated in experiments at the University of Minnesota, in a fluid so deadly that one drop will annihilate the most highly developed culture of disease bacteria, it has been announced.

Thrown onto the pilot of the Knickerbocker special, fast Big Four passenger train, after the train had crashed into an automobile in which she was riding and injured three members of her family, one fatally, at a crossing in Indianapolis, Ind., Mrs. Kenneth Clark, 18, had a wild 12-mile ride Saturday night until she fell from the train into a ditch near Oakland, Ind.

Ice several feet thick was encountered in the Columbia river by the steamer Rose City, which left Portland early Sunday en route to the sea, according to a radio message Sunday night. The message indicated that ice conditions in the Columbia had become worse due to the break-up of floes in consequence of the milder weather and these were declared to be jamming the river between Portland and Astoria.

Longview.—A cut of 1,015,526 board feet was made in two eight-hour shifts at the west fir unit of the Long-Bell manufacturing plants here one day this week, according to Roy F. Morse, manager.

**MILLIONS FOR WAR ON WETS**

House Takes Action for Prohibition Enforcement.

Washington, D. C.—Provision in the treasury postoffice appropriation bill for expenditure of \$11,000,000 for prohibition enforcement during the coming fiscal year was approved Monday by the house.

No effort was made to alter the amount, which is \$341,770 less than the amount available this year, but \$783,120 more than the budget estimates.

The house also approved, without amendment, an allotment of \$20,597,836 for coast guard activities, part of which would be available for curbing rum-running. This amount is \$11,753,706 more than the total appropriated for this year.

A halt, in the name of economy, to the ever-increasing activities of the federal government was urged from both sides of the house during general debate on the appropriation bill carrying \$760,000,000 for the postoffice and treasury department.

Chairman Madden of the appropriations committee said he hoped for further tax reduction, but that the action of congress would in large measure determine whether it would be possible.

Representative Byrnes of Tennessee, ranking democrat on the committee, declared that, without questioning the sincerity of President Coolidge in his efforts for economy, he was convinced there had been no such great reductions in the cost of government operations as the public had been led to believe. He insisted that the figures failed to show a material net reduction in the original peace-time cost of government.

Political appointments to federal offices except in a few cases would be prohibited under a bill introduced in the senate by Senator Couzens, republican, Michigan.

Use of political influence in the appointment and promotion of federal employes would be made a misdemeanor, subject to a fine of \$1000 or six months in jail, or both.

The penalty would apply to senators, representatives, members of state legislative bodies, state officials and officers of all national political organizations. Violation by public officials would constitute a cause for removal from office.

**Fliers to be Rewarded.**

Washington, D. C.—Secretary Weeks approved Monday a plan for reward of the army war fliers which would advance Captain Lowell H. Smith 1000 files on the promotion list and Lieutenants Wade, Nelson and Arnold 500 files each.

Sergeants Henry H. Ogden and John Harding, who hold reserve corps commissions as second lieutenants, would be appointed officers in the regular army in their reserve corps grades.

All members of the flight squadron would receive distinguished service medals and would be permitted to accept the decorations offered by foreign governments.

The plan was drawn up at the war department at the request of President Coolidge, to whom it was submitted by the war secretary.

**5000 Rabbits Killed.**

Pendleton, Or.—The jackrabbit population in Harris Canyon district, west of Echo, was diminished by 5000 in three big drives Sunday. About 200 people from Umatilla and Morrow counties participated. They formed in line and marched down the canyon, driving the rabbits into a corral. Motion pictures of the drive were taken and one of the camera men who placed his camera on the snow in the corral to close-up views had his machine knocked over twice by the surging animals.

**Invention Biggest Yet.**

Basle, Switzerland.—By his invention of a hochdruckkondensationsdampflokomotive, Professor Kurt Wiesinger of the Zurich Technological university has demonstrated his capacity not only as an engineer but also as a coiner of long words. His invention with the 37 letters in its name means a high pressure condensing steam locomotive. It is claimed that it will effect a saving of about 50 per cent of coal.

**College Changes Name.**

Durham, N. C.—The board of trustees of Trinity college voted Monday to change the name of the college to Duke university. By this action the college is assured \$6,000,000 for building purposes and in addition an endowment of \$12,500,000. James B. Duke, a tobacco magnate, stipulated that if Trinity college did not change its name to Duke university a new university of that name should be established.

**Potato Probe Ordered.**

Washington, D. C.—A message directing Ambassador Kellogg to ascertain and report the facts concerning the promulgation by the British government of the embargo against importation of American potatoes into England and Wales was dispatched late Monday by Secretary Hughes. The embargo became effective December 23.

**FRANCE WANTS TO POOL ALL DEBTS**

Statement Makes Plea for Special Treatment.

REPUDIATION DENIED

Distribution of War Expenses in Proportion to National Wealth Is Suggested.

Paris.—France's war debts to America and Great Britain, amounting close to 31,000,000,000 gold francs, are not listed as liabilities of the French treasury as shown in a balance sheet issued by the French ministry of finance Saturday.

Nor are the amounts due France from other countries for war and post-war advances, amounting to about 15,000,000,000 gold francs, included in the assets. The inventory was issued "for non-party purposes" with the view of creating confidence by a clear breast of the facts, as the document said.

On the other hand, 103,000,000,000 paper francs, as the capitalization of the French share in the Dawes plan annuities, are included in the assets.

Although the figures were omitted, inter-allied debts were freely discussed. Finance Minister Clementel, renewed the French thesis that these debts form part of the general allied resources pooled in war time. He figured that a strict equity would seem to demand a general addition to war expenses and their distribution among the allies in proportion to the wealth, without taking into account special undertakings imposed by monetary necessities.

The finance minister insisted that France, therefore, was entitled to special treatment. He remarked in the inventory that the use of French soil as a battlefield saved the allies much blood and money. He also averred that America and Great Britain pocketed debts on profits made by British and American firms which fulfilled French war-time orders. He suggested that the amount of these duties should be deducted from the French debt.

M. Clementel concluded his statement by declaring that France had no intention of repudiating her debts, but that she was convinced an appeal to conscience and the sentiments of justice of the allies would not be in vain.

**Mayor's Removal Asked.**

Seattle, Wash.—Charles L. Maxfield, secretary of the University Young Men's Christian association Saturday asked the city council to impeach Mayor Brown because of alleged vice conditions existing in Seattle.

"I believe that you must share with other citizens deep humiliation because of conditions that exist in our city with regard to gambling, robbery, bootlegging and graft," Mr. Maxfield said in his letter to the council, and asked that body to remove Mayor Brown and appoint another man in his place.

**Break in Strike Likely.**

Scranton, Pa.—Union leaders said Saturday night that the first break in the strike of 11,000 Pennsylvania and Hillside Coal & Iron company mine workers had taken place at the Underwood colliery of the company, near Thorof. As a result of a vote taken by the Underwood strikers it was said at least 800 of the 1200 employes would return. According to statements issued after the meeting of the strikers, 825 miners voted to resume work, while eight dissented.

**400 Students Protest.**

Lawrence, Kan.—Four hundred University of Kansas students held a meeting here Sunday afternoon and adopted a resolution protesting against the removal of Chancellor E. H. Lindley by the state board of administration, which is headed by Governor Davis. It was decided to launch a statewide campaign with a view to inducing Governor-elect Paulen to reinstate Dr. Lindley after Paulen assumes office January 12.

**Coast Robber Captured.**

Chicago.—William Ryan, 25, alias William Smith, was arrested here Sunday with his 18-year-old wife, Martha Gieser Smith, and confessed that he took part in the theft of \$17,700 in currency and \$60,000 in bonds from messengers of the Pacific Gas & Electric company of San Francisco, December 4. Ryan disclosed the entire story of the robbery to police officers, naming two San Francisco men as his companions.

**Death Rate Gain Shown.**

Washington, D. C.—Slight increase in the death rate of mothers from childbirth or puerperal causes in 1923 over 1922 was announced Sunday by the department of commerce. For the ten states and the District of Columbia which constitute the so-called "birth registration area" the death rate from puerperal causes in 1923 was 6.4 per 1000 live births, as compared with 6.2 in 1922 and 6.1 in 1915.

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