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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.

After a delay extending over 20
 years the senate Thursday took up the
 treaty recognizing Cuban sovereignty
 over the Isle of Pines under an agree-
 ment calling for final action at this
 session.

A vote of confidence in Premier
 Mussolini, which implies approval of
 the basic principles of the electoral bill,
 now pending, was given Friday by the
 chamber of deputies. The vote was
 303 to 23.

Jack Dempsey, world's heavyweight
 champion, has quit the ring, he an-
 nounced Friday simultaneously with
 the giving out of the announcement of
 his engagement to Estelle Taylor,
 movie actress.

Two men held up Claus Seltz, as-
 sistant cashier of the Pacific Tele-
 phone & Telegraph company, in Seat-
 tle, Saturday, and obtained \$800 in
 cash and \$12,000 in checks which he
 was going to deposit in a bank.

Tentative plans for a strike among
 the 60,000 miners of district 1, United
 Mine Workers of America, to com-
 mence Wednesday were approved Sat-
 urday night. Action was taken at a
 meeting of the general grievance com-
 mittee of the district.

The coast guard rum chaser CG-255
 brought the trawler Florence and its
 cargo of liquor into San Francisco
 Saturday as a prize. The crew of the
 Florence were under arrest. The Flo-
 rence is a San Francisco boat.

An increase of about 1 per cent in
 retail food costs in December as com-
 parable with the November level was
 announced Sunday by the labor de-
 partment, which added that the ad-
 vance for the entire 12 months ending
 December 15 was practically the same.

Products valued at \$55,355,161 were
 manufactured by the optical industry in
 the biennial census year 1923, the
 commerce department announced Sun-
 day, placing the increase over the 1921
 output at 25 per cent. Of the total
 \$51,450,742 was in lenses, spectacles
 and similar goods.

Captain Benjamin J. Leavitt of Phil-
 adelphia has broken all records for
 deep-sea salvage in recovering the
 \$600,000 cargo of copper that had lain
 since 1869 with the wreck of the Brit-
 ish frigate Cape Horn off the coast of
 Chile, said messages received in New
 York Thursday from the salvage ship
 Blakely.

Changes in President Coolidge's of-
 ficial family, following closely one up-
 on the other, brought Friday the an-
 nouncement of the resignation of C.
 Bascom Slemph of Virginia as secre-
 tary to the president, and the selection
 of Everett Sanders, a member of the
 house from Indiana, as Mr. Slemph's
 successor.

One man was killed and five were
 imprisoned and are believed to be dead
 as a result of an explosion late Friday
 in Diamond mine No. 1, near Provi-
 dence, in Webster county, according
 to reports received in Henderson, Ky.
 A "windy shot" is said to have caused
 the explosion. The mine is operated
 by Palmer Brothers and works a force
 of 125 men.

Herbert Hoover, who two years ago
 declined the interior secretaryship
 from the hands of President Harding,
 has refused an offer of the agricultural
 department portfolio from President
 Coolidge. Mr. Hoover intends to re-
 main in the cabinet but prefers to stay
 at the head of the commerce depart-
 ment rather than direct the activities
 of the department of agriculture.

A line of demarcation as to unem-
 ployment, running between industries
 carried on under shelter and those car-
 ried on out of doors, was disclosed in
 the mid-January survey of conditions
 made by the United States employ-
 ment service. In nearly all parts of
 the country factory and mine employ-
 ment was on the increase, while con-
 struction work was said to have less-
 ened demand for workers.

Although the Southern Pacific bud-
 get for 1925 has not been completed,
 Julius Kruttschnitt, chairman of the
 executive committee, estimated Satur-
 day that the expenditures for material
 and supplies would total \$70,000,000,
 as he prepared to start on an inspec-
 tion of his road. Throughout the
 year the Southern Pacific will proceed
 with its improvement programme,
 which includes the rehabilitation of
 old lines to the extent of about \$15-
 000,000; \$4,500,000 to complete double
 tracking of the mountain division by
 next fall; \$14,000,000 for the new line
 through Phoenix, Ariz., in connection
 with the El Paso & Southwestern mer-
 ger; and more work on the \$14,000,000
 Klamath Falls-Eugene line.

**NORTHWEST BUILDING HUGE
 Program for 1925 Expected to Exceed
 All Other Years.**

Portland. — Four thousand homes
 costing \$14,000,000 will be erected in
 Portland this year, according to an-
 nouncement Monday by John A. Kelly,
 district director of the United States
 department of labor employment ser-
 vice of San Francisco. In addition, sev-
 eral large office and commercial build-
 ings are scheduled at a cost approxi-
 mately \$5,000,000, besides about \$1-
 500,000 to be spent on new factories
 and enlargements to some now in op-
 eration.

In most of the cities of Oregon suffi-
 cient building is planned for 1925
 to keep busy all the resident building
 trades labor every working day of the
 year, except where inclement weather
 interferes.

Salem building projects include sev-
 eral churches and office buildings. It
 was announced, and Eugene anticipa-
 tes a fair sized amount of general
 construction. Marshfield's 1925 pro-
 gram is reported to be on a greater
 scale than in 1924, including projects
 carried over from last year.

The department of labor forecasts
 as to building in Washington during
 this year is that it will exceed per-
 formance in 1924 in many of the larger
 centers of the state. Generally build-
 ing labor will be actively employed on
 projects already under way and on
 such as are planned to be started in
 the near future.

In Seattle the major part of con-
 struction will consist of factory and
 other industrial buildings. Everett,
 Yakima, Wenatchee and Ilwaco
 have planned enough construction to
 keep employed practically all the
 local skilled labor during the year, it
 was stated. The outlook for the north-
 west part of Washington and in the
 Spokane section was declared ex-
 cellent.

The forecast made by the depart-
 ment of labor for California as to con-
 struction of buildings makes cheerful
 reading for Oregon and Washington
 lumbermen. Building construction in
 California cities in 1924 exceeded the
 very active year of 1923, and the de-
 partment of labor said that the pro-
 gram for 1925 promised to surpass
 either of those years.

**Trotsky Is Ousted
 By Soviet Council**

Moscow. — Leon Trotsky Monday
 was relieved of his duties as chair-
 man of the revolutionary war council
 by the central executive committee of
 the communist party.

The communist party is the most
 powerful political body in Russia.
 The retiring war minister also is
 threatened with expulsion from the
 communist party and from member-
 ship in all the important political
 bureaus unless he conforms to party
 discipline and renounces his attacks
 upon the principles enunciated by the
 late Nikolai Lenin.

The once powerful war chief has
 bowed to this severe edict of the party
 in a strikingly humble and apologetic
 letter in which he virtually invites
 the central committee to relieve him
 of his duties at the war department
 and pledges himself to work loyally
 "at any work in any place and under
 the fullest control of the committee."

The letter was written from the
 seclusion of his room in the village
 of Archangelskoye, a suburb of Mos-
 cow, and gave illness as the reason
 for his non-attendance on the sittings
 of the central committee. It is con-
 sidered certain, however, that he real-
 ized it would be futile for him to ap-
 pear before the committee in the face
 of the overwhelming opposition
 against him in the communist party,
 of which G. S. Zinovieff, M. Stalin and
 Leo Kameneff are the leading mem-
 bers.

M. W. Frunse will continue as ex-
 ecutive head of the war commissary.

Hot Tallow Burns Man.

Albany, Or.—Clinton O. Straney, an
 employe in the Nebergall packing
 plant, was seriously burned about the
 neck and shoulders by hot tallow when
 a rendering tank at the plant explod-
 ed Monday. Mr. Straney was stand-
 ing on the platform some distance
 from the tank, but the force of the ex-
 plosion knocked him to the cement
 floor. He was taken to the general
 hospital suffering intense pain, but
 was expected to recover.

Norwegian Plan Lauded.

Washington, D. C.—A proposal in
 the Norwegian parliament to prevent
 ships from that country aiding in rum
 running to the United States was
 praised in the senate Monday by
 Chairman Borah of the foreign rela-
 tions committee as a "most admirable
 manifestation of good will."

Senator Jones, republican, Wash-
 ington, expressed a hope that other
 countries would follow the ex-
 ample.

Bridge to Span River.

Washington, D. C.—The house Mon-
 day passed the senate bill authorizing
 construction of a bridge across the
 Columbia river at Kettle Falls, Wash.
 The house also passed a bill which
 was sent to the senate to authorize
 construction of a bridge across the
 Columbia at Chelan Falls, Wash.

**DEBT IN 10 YEARS
 MAKES RAPID GAIN**

Nation's Figures Multiply 7
 Times, Report Shows

OREGON STATE LEADS

Increase of 39 Millions in Bond Issues
 Is Noted Between 1912
 and 1922.

Washington, D. C.—The public debt
 of the United States, including that of
 the federal government and all of its
 subdivisions, multiplied nearly seven
 times between 1912 and 1922, it was
 shown Saturday in census bureau
 figures. At the end of December, 1922,
 the total was \$30,845,626,000 while at
 the same period in 1912 it was but
 \$4,850,460,000.

While the greatest increase appear-
 ed in the federal debt, because of the
 war, the debt increase of states was
 nearly three-fold and that of munic-
 ipalities and other sub-divisions doubl-
 ed.

The federal government in 1912
 owed \$1,928,564,000, while in 1922 it
 owed \$22,155,856,000. The total of state
 indebtedness in 1912 was \$345,942,000,
 while in 1922 it was \$935,544,000. Other
 civil divisions owed \$3,375,954,000 in
 1912 and \$7,754,196,000 in 1922.

All the figures represented net
 debt, the bureau explained, sinking
 fund and cash assets in possession of
 the indebted units of government hav-
 ing been subtracted from the total of
 their obligations outstanding.

The debt total in 1922 made the per
 capita obligation of each citizen of the
 United States, adult or child, \$283.70.
 In 1912 the indebtedness per capita
 was \$49.97. Apportioning out the
 items of per capita indebtedness, the
 report said that in 1922 the federal
 government's obligations were respon-
 sible for \$203.73 of the total, the debt
 of states for \$8.64 and the debt of the
 municipal subdivisions to \$71.32.

The greatest proportionate debt in-
 crease was in the state accounts of
 Oregon, where the increase of \$39,
 952,000 in bond issues represented
 129.495.3 per cent. The next greatest
 percentage increase was in the debt
 of drainage districts and other munic-
 ipal subdivisions of Florida, which
 amounted to 12,498.3 per cent.

The report held that the citizen of
 the District of Columbia bore the
 lightest burden of the public debt,
 other than national. The figure was
 36 cents. The citizen of Oregon was
 at the other end of the scale and had
 a per capita debt of \$170.69. The New
 Yorker was next, with a total of
 \$158.15, while the Californian owed
 \$142.81.

Opposes Arms Parley Now.

Washington, D. C.—Conditions in
 Europe still preclude any move by the
 United States toward another arms
 conference, in the opinion of Presi-
 dent Coolidge.

The Washington government con-
 sequently is making no further move
 toward the calling of such a confer-
 ence.

The White House Saturday author-
 ized a flat denial of published stories
 that an arms conference would be cal-
 led early in the spring.

Mr. Coolidge still feels that the Uni-
 ted States should await the outcome of
 the move made by the league of na-
 tions to bring about limitation of arm-
 aments, and should do nothing in the
 matter until the success or failure of
 that move is developed.

\$260 Buys Trolley Line.

Grass Valley, Cal.—Three and seven-
 tenths miles of right of way and a car
 barn site of the defunct Nevada Coun-
 ty Traction company were sold here at
 a commissioner's sale Saturday for
 \$260, the purchase being made by a
 local attorney. The coaches, trolley,
 rails and all equipment of the line
 were bid in by N. Davidson of Stock-
 ton for \$5100.

The sale was held to satisfy a judg-
 ment of nearly \$70,000 held by the
 Mercantile Trust company of San
 Francisco, representing the bondhold-
 ers of the concern. The line has not
 been operated for more than a year.

Boat Upsets; 4 Drown.

Cotter, Ark.—Four persons were
 drowned when an overloaded rowboat
 was upset in White river Saturday.
 It was learned here Sunday. Three
 others in the boat were rescued. The
 dead are Rush Shew and his brother,
 Tom Shew, Miss Billings and G. W.
 Hawkins, Alva Johnson, a member of
 the party rescued James Shew and
 Miss Georgia Bearden. None of the
 bodies of the four who were drowned
 has been recovered.

Repeal Bill Is Passed.

Washington, D. C.—The house Fri-
 day passed and sent to the senate a
 bill to repeal the land entry act of
 January, 1922. The committee report
 said the 1922 act was designed to re-
 lieve settlers who under a supreme
 court decision were subject to have
 their entries canceled and to give them
 time to institute their patents in cases
 where such patents had been issued
 to others than the original entrymen.

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