

# NEWS OF THE WEEK

CONDENSATIONS OF GREATER OR LESSER IMPORTANCE.

## A BOILING DOWN OF EVENTS

National, Political, Personal and Other Matters in Brief Form for All Classes of Readers.

### WASHINGTON.

Secretary Bryan and Sir Cecil Spring-Rice, the British ambassador, exchanged ratifications of the arbitration treaty which will continue for another five years.

Senator Shively, acting chairman of the foreign relations committee, introduced an administration bill to raise the legation to Chile to an embassy. A similar bill is pending in the house.

Consideration by the senate committee on interoceanic canals of the proposed repeal of Panama canal toll exemption for American ships, was interrupted by lack of witnesses and further formal discussion of the issue was postponed.

Major General Leonard Wood, chief of staff of the army, sent out to school superintendents all over the country a letter endorsing the student military instruction camps to be held during the coming summer. He alludes to the fact that these camps have the hearty endorsement of President Wilson and former President Taft as well as leading educators.

The joint congressional banking and currency rural credits sub-committee began considering the first tentative committee draft of the rural credits bill. H. Parker Willis of New York, expert employed by the committee to draft the bill, will meet with the committee and the measure probably will be made public next week.

The only standard gauge railway ever built and operated by the United States government was run at a profit in 1913. Figures given out by the reclamation service show the road—the Boise and Arrow Rock of Idaho—had net earnings of \$9,721 last year. It is twenty miles long and is run in connection with the Arrow Rock dam, which is to be the highest in the world.

Democrats of the house were denounced for extravagance by Chairman Fitzgerald of the appropriation committee, when over the protest of the committee, an item was added to the pending legislative appropriation bill to continue the assay office at Helena, Mont. He reviewed the expenditures of congress this year and declared "whenever I think of the horrible mess I shall be called upon to present to the country I feel like quitting my post."

Secretary of Labor Wilson is opposed to some features of the safety at sea convention recommended favorably by Secretary of State Bryan and now pending before the senate foreign relations committee and as a result the question will be discussed by the cabinet next week. The convention is being fought by the Seamen's International union and other labor organizations, representatives of which argue that if the convention is adopted the United States will be prevented from building up its merchant marine.

### DOMESTIC.

Four hundred thousand dollars for the expenses of the New York state's participation in the Panama-Pacific exposition became available when Governor Glynn at Albany signed the bill appropriating \$200,000 and re-appropriating a like sum for the purpose.

A record breaking winter wheat crop is in prospect this year, the Department of Agriculture estimating on a conservative basis that the yield may exceed 551,000,000 bushels. The condition of the crop April 1, was 95.6 per cent of a normal or 11.5 per cent better than the average April 1 condition for the last ten years.

Recommendations that the rural school teacher be employed for life or during good behavior and that each be furnished with a house and plot of land for his own and experimental uses were made by P. P. Claxton, United States commissioner of education, at a session at Louisville of the Conference for Education in the south.

Governor Dunne of Illinois, in overalls will work with pick and shovel on the Aurora-Elgin highway, the first state aided road, April 15, with hundreds of distinguished men as fellow laborers.

Wellesley college at Wellesley, Mass., received a gift of \$750,000 from the Rockefeller foundation toward restoration of facilities lost in the recent destruction of College hall by fire, conditional upon the raising of \$2,600,000 before the first of next January.

Five hundred city police and detectives swept from all sides into a mob of men and women in Union square, New York, when union and non-union labor opposed one another at mass meetings.

Pittsburgh this year will spend \$2,281,000 for new school buildings.

Springfield, Mo., has for the second time within a year defeated commission government proposition.

The seventh annual conference of governors will be held at Madison, Wis., beginning June 9.

Dr. Edward F. Lake, a physician of Denver, and past grand master of the Fraternal Order of Eagles, was operated on at Baltimore in an effort to prevent death from cancer. It was said that it would be some time before the result could be determined.

The Rockefeller institute for medical research in New York has announced that John D. Rockefeller has added \$1,000,000 to the general endowment fund of the institution, to be devoted to the study of animal diseases, and that James J. Hill has pledged \$50,000 to be used specifically for the investigation of hog cholera.

A movement seeking a pardon for members of the structural bridge and iron workers convicted at Indianapolis of illegally transporting dynamite in interstate commerce has begun at Chicago. Petitions to President Wilson, charging that the men were rushed through their trials, were circulated at the meeting of the Chicago Federation of Labor.

Harry Erz pleaded guilty at Chicago to using the mails to operate—in the words of Federal Judge Humphrey—"One of the meanest swindles invented." Erz told the court he watched newspapers for reports of deaths of ministers or priests and would send bills for books on religious subjects which he asserted he had sold the relatives. A false bill was paid in nearly every instance, a postal inspector said.

Unless dissatisfaction with action of scale committee of United Mine Workers in withdrawing demands for higher wages should unexpectedly develop among the ranks of the miners and the referendum vote to be taken April 14 should repudiate that action, high officials at the mine workers' headquarters at Indianapolis believe the other differences between the miners and operators in the bituminous fields will be amicably adjusted, with the possible exception of Ohio.

Nearly 300 grain dealers, members of the association convened in the fourteenth annual meeting of the Western Grain Dealers' association at Cedar Rapids, Ia. Deliveries on futures was a subject which occasioned great interest, the association taking the stand that futures should not, for convenience, be required to be unloaded on the last day of the month, but had better be left on track, to avoid hints of a corner, which are prevalent at the last of each month.

### FOREIGN.

The widow of Thomas Henry Huxley, the celebrated English biologist, died at East Bourne, England.

Paul Johann Ludwig von Heyse, German poet and novelist, died in his eighty-fifth year. He was awarded the Noble prize for literature in 1910.

The Italian chamber of deputies and senate has reassembled. The new cabinet under the premiership of Signor Salandra made known to both houses its legislative program.

James Gordon Bennett, proprietor of the New York Herald, is steadily recovering at Carlo from his attack of bronchitis and expected to leave soon for Alexandria. At that port he will board his yacht Lysistrata and sail for the Riviera.

Emil Schwyer, an animal trainer in a circus, was attacked and torn by a leopard at St. Louis while trying to make the animal perform. The leopard tore the flesh from the trainer's left arm and shoulder. Circus attaches beat off the leopard with iron bars.

M. L. Woods, former vice president of the State National bank of Fort Worth, charged with wrecking that institution, was sentenced to six years' imprisonment in federal court at Fort Worth. Woods' defalcations, which extended over several years, amounted to \$165,000.

The guillotine has made its appearance in Mexico and a new form of execution confronts the enemies of the constitutionalists in the state of San Luis Potosi, it has been learned. At Concepcion Deloro, a home-made guillotine has been erected. It was built by rebel mechanics in the corps commanded by General Eulalio Gutierrez. Already the new instrument has been tested, and, as the general says, "It works splendidly." The test was made with a lamb as the victim.

Four of the statues in the celebrated Avenue of Victory in the Tiergarten at Berlin were mutilated, among them that of Frederick The Great. In each case the beaks of the eagles surrounding the pediments were broken off.

Wireless trans-Atlantic service under the system developed by Dr. Valdemar Poulsen of Copenhagen will be open early in June. The station in Canada is ready for service and the station at Bally-bunian, in Ireland, is nearing completion under the direction of an American engineer.

# LEADERS TO CONFER

VILLA AND CARRANZA WILL HOLD CONSULTATION.

## TRANSPORT GOES TO TAMPICO

The U. S. Transport Hancock Ordered to Proceed Immediately to Scene of Battle.

Washington.—Rear Admiral Mayo, commanding the American squadron at Tampico asked several days ago that an army transport be sent to the besieged port to take care of refugees who have been flocking aboard the foreign warships to save themselves from the shells and bullets of the federalists and constitutionalists.

The War department was not inclined to "loan" one of its vessels for this purpose so the navy is making use of the Hancock, its only transport. The hospital ship Solace already had been ordered to Tampico, but the department has made no announcement as to the movement of the Hancock.

Two Important Meetings. Washington officials and diplomats were speculating upon the outcome of the two conferences to be held during the coming week, one in this city between the president and his personal representative in Mexico, John Lind, and the other at Torreon between General Venustiano Carranza, first chief of the constitutionalists, and General Villa, victorious leader of the Mexican rebels in the field.

About the time Mr. Lind is making his report to the president, the Mexican rebel leaders will be meeting for the first time since the days of Madero and upon this conference much is believed to depend. Officials here think that a face to face talk between Carranza and Villa will result in a clearer understanding concerning the rights of foreigners in Mexico and especially their privilege of pressing claims through American consular officers.

### Bryan Favors Repeal.

Washington.—Secretary Bryan in a statement made public reviews at length the Panama tolls question, and in the course of the statement declares that the repeal of the tolls exemption in the Panama canal act "can not be construed to be a construction of the Hays-Pauncefote treaty," but is "simply a refusal on the part of the United States to raise that question in that way."

Mr. Bryan discusses various features of the subject—the limiting of debate in the house of representatives, the Baltimore platform and the effect of repeal on the treaty.

Claim that the opponents of the repeal had seized upon the charge that the president was "surrendering to England," Mr. Bryan declared that the opposition to the repeal had attempted to appeal "to prejudice rather than to reason."

### Will Go Through Canal in July.

San Diego, Cal.—United States warships of the Atlantic fleet will steam through the Panama canal early in July, speed up the Pacific coast to San Diego, and return to Hampton Roads by the same route, according to Franklin D. Roosevelt, assistant secretary of the navy, who inspected San Diego harbor and made preliminary arrangements for the reception of the battleships. The purpose of this early jaunt through the canal, he said, was to prove to the world that the big waterway is even now in readiness to accommodate shipping.

### Saw Wreckage of Sealer.

St. Johns, N. F.—Floating wreckage, believed to have come from the missing sealer, Southern Cross, has been reported by the sealing steamer Bloodhound. The Bloodhound passed a large quantity of wreckage about 100 miles southeast of this port. It had apparently been washed from a sealer's deck, but as the crew of the Bloodhound had not heard of the loss of the Southern Cross no effort was made to identify it.

### Breaks Beachey's Record.

Los Angeles, Cal.—De Lloyd Thompson "looped the loop" eight times here breaking Lincoln Beachey's record at San Francisco of seven loops. Thompson was less than 2,000 feet above the ground when he started his downward flight and made his last loop when within 500 feet of the earth.

### Mrs. Taft Joins Antis.

New Haven, Conn.—Mrs. William H. Taft, wife of the former president, has become a member of the local Anti-Woman Suffrage association, according to an announcement made.

### Former U. S. Marshal is Indicted.

Des Moines, Ia.—William Richard, former United States marshal, and Edward Gorman, a barber, were indicted by a grand jury on a charge of burglary and larceny. Richard also was indicted on a charge of carrying concealed weapons.

### Would Raise to an Embassy.

Washington.—Senator Shively, acting chairman of the foreign relations committee, introduced the administration bill to raise the legation to Chile to an embassy.

### BRIEF NEWS OF NEBRASKA

A twenty-five piece orchestra has been organized at Beatrice.

The Hastings postoffice will become one of the first class on July 1. The Wymore Coursing association will hold a meet in that city April 16 and 17.

The Hastings college glee club has started on a tour of central and western Nebraska.

The night school classes which have met at Hastings for three years have been discontinued.

Fire destroyed the Ostbloom general store at Surprise, stock and building being a complete loss.

The reunion of the Spanish War Veterans of the state will be held in Lincoln, April 22 and 23.

Thomas Osterman, editor of the Blair Democrat, has been recommended for postmaster at that place.

The Fremont manufacturers' association has voted unanimously to federate with the new Fremont Commercial club.

Mr. and Mrs. H. F. Merwin celebrated their fiftieth wedding anniversary at their home in Beaver City on March 30.

Governor Morehead has issued the following proclamation designating April 17 and 18 as fire prevention clean up days:

York, Dodge, Boone, Butler and Seward counties have about completed plans for the engagement of eight noted institute workers.

Vol Hyde and wife, former Nebraskans, were found dead under their automobile, which had overturned on the road near Cody, Wyo.

The Hickman schools opened Monday after ten days' vacation caused by scarlet fever cases. It is thought that the disease has been checked.

By a vote of 5 to 2 the Adams county board of supervisors declared against the sanctioning of Sunday baseball at any country or village diamond in the county.

The receipts of the Seward postoffice for the year ending April 1 were over \$10,000. This volume of business entitles the town to free delivery service.

Members of the Eastern Star have appealed to the city council of Fremont to stop the practice of throwing ashes in the streets of the residence section.

Mrs. J. T. Gist of Falls City, state secretary, requests the names of all state delegates to the Chicago meeting of women's clubs, June 9 to 19, in order that hotel reservations may be made.

Sitting upright at the wheel of his automobile, Dr. W. H. Horton of Florence was found dead, presumably from heart failure, a short distance northwest of that village.

Five hundred and thirty children of the Hayward school at Lincoln fled from their class rooms and out of the building in less than one minute after a fire alarm was sounded.

James G. Russel, Lincoln's 100-year-old citizen, oldest showman in the country and oldest civil war veteran in Nebraska, died Sunday at his home in that place. He was 100 years old March 1.

Dr. W. S. Fast, superintendent of the institute for the feeble minded at Beatrice, is suffering from typhoid fever. Authorities deny that there is danger of the fever spreading to the inmates.

Hastings was chosen as the place for the next annual meeting of the District Odd Fellows convention by the 200 fraternal members present at the banquet which marked the close of the 1914 meeting.

Chris. Deines was buried beneath several tons of coal at the power plant of the Burlington shops at Havelock and smothered to death. It was thought he had a fainting spell and fell into the coal feed chute.

Lloyd Hoop, four years old, was seriously injured when the tines of a manure spreader struck him on the head, penetrating the brain. He was following the machine on his father's farm near Schuyler.

There is a decided movement in extreme western Nebraska to abandon dry farming and take up dairy work.

The main issues in the coming spring election at North Platte are the saloon license and electric light franchise questions. The electric light company wishes its franchise extended for twenty-five years.

Luther Abbott, a well-known Nebraska boy, and former resident of Fremont, died at Colorado Springs from hemorrhage, as a result of an operation for the removal of a gold crown of a tooth from his lungs three months ago.

David Ridenour, an 18-year-old Fairbury boy, was dangerously wounded when a .45 caliber revolver he was examining was discharged, the ball penetrating his abdomen.

Valentine Feathers, eleven years old, narrowly escaped drowning when he fell through a rotted curbing into a fourteen-foot cistern at Lincoln. He was badly bruised and scratched up.

Mr. and Mrs. Flynn Fields of Nebraska City died within an hour of each other Saturday. They are survived by thirteen children. The father was afflicted with an abscess of the brain and the mother with pneumonia.

There are sixteen cases of smallpox in four families at Kearney, but it is believed that danger of the spread of the disease has been obviated.

Charged with the desertion of his wife and nine-days-old baby, Arthur E. Brooks, a blind piano tuner, is being sought for by Sheriff Hyers of Lincoln.

At a meeting of the board of directors of the Gage County Holstein-Friesian association it was determined to make an effort to guard against the importation of inferior Holsteins, or other black and white cattle, in the state and county, and disposing of them as thoroughbred stock.

# GOVERNOR ISSUES

## PROCLAMATION

SUGGESTS SUITABLE OBSERVANCE OF FIRE PREVENTION DAY.

## GOSSIP FROM STATE CAPITAL

Items of Interest Gathered from Reliable Sources and Presented in Condensed Form to Our Readers.

Western Newspaper Union News Service. A few years ago our legislature created the office of fire commissioner in order that the great loss annually sustained by fire might be reduced to the minimum. It has been the custom, since the creation of this office, to designate two days each spring as fire prevention—"clean-up days"—and in accordance with this custom I so designate April 17 and 18, 1914.

I request all the citizens of the state to co-operate with the fire commissioner in his efforts to reduce the loss of property and the danger to life, by having removed from their premises all trash and useless inflammable material. I also suggest that the teachers in our schools have some suitable exercises on these days and that they lend hearty aid and assistance to the commissioner.

Given under my hand and the great seal of the state of Nebraska, this second day of April, 1914.

JOHN H. MOREHEAD, Governor.

### Tax Levy Higher than Previous Year.

Taxes for all purposes in Nebraska averaged about 40 1/2 mills for the year 1913, according to a compilation made by Secretary Gaddis of the state tax commission, and this was 2 1/2 mills more than in the previous year. The state tax levy is blamed for the difference, having been boosted in 1913 from 5.2 mills to 7.8 mills, as a result of special levies voted by the legislature. The tax commission has figures from twenty-five counties giving the 1913 county tax, the highest levy in any city, and the total for all purposes in such cities. The gross tax in these cities ranges from 41.3 to 94.5 mills, the latter being a very extreme figure for Furnas county. Estimating the average tax for all communities, rural as well as urban, the tax commission thinks 40 1/2 mills to be about right.

### Discuss New State Reformatory.

The question as to whether the new reformatory created by the last legislature shall exist as a part of or separate from the state prison has called out varying opinions. A number of views have been expressed along the line of a proposal made by A. L. Weatherly. His argument has been that the penitentiary is reformatory enough. Warden Fenton and others with the other side of the story, a side that has heretofore been given little publicity, take exception to any impression at large that reformatory ideas have not already crept into the prison. It is a reformatory along general lines with but one idea uppermost—the training of men to better fit themselves to be useful members of society. He favors the establishment of a sort of junior reformatory, but thinks it should be under a separate head.

### To Advertise Nebraska Resources.

Sweeping campaigns for collection of a fund to advertise Nebraska's resources at the Panama-Pacific exposition are to begin at once. The committee named to initiate the movement met and organized by electing Peter Jensen of Beatrice, chairman; John L. McCague of Omaha, vice-chairman; and George Wolz of Fremont, treasurer. The seven executive state officials are to serve on the committee as members ex-officio.

### Dr. Bessey Returns from Arizona.

Dr. Bessey, senior dean and head of the department of botany of Nebraska university returned last week after spending a month in the desert region surrounding Tucson, Arizona. He made a special study of the cactuses and other spiny plants, and will prepare papers to be given before several scientific organizations in the near future.

### May Meet Competition.

Railroads of the state are entitled to charge 2 cents a mile for passenger fares in this state, despite short line competition between any two cities. Where the carriers elect to meet competition and make a lower rate, that is within their prerogative, but the railway commission cannot order it, according to a statement by Chairman Clarke. The question was raised as a result of the commission's action in allowing the Northwestern to charge for the full mileage between Omaha and Fremont on all passenger traffic.

C. L. Rein, secretary to Chancellor Avery, has delivered a strong box containing some three thousand signatures to the university location petition to the state house. This completes the work of securing signatures and the question will be ready for submission to the voters at the November election. These last signatures cover the 2,877 which were stricken off by the secretary of state because of lack of county certification, many of the petitions designated as coming from certain counties being in reality from several counties.

# NEWS FROM STATE HOUSE

Reappraisal of 89,000 acres of school land of half a dozen counties of the state will be undertaken at the order of the board of educational lands and funds. The largest amount is in Keya Paha county, where 35,000 acres will be reappraised.

The school of pharmacy at the state university is planning to devote a week—the second in May—to showing its development. A program of convocation, a banquet tendered to the state pharmaceutical association, and other activities of the students will go to make the week notable.

The Nebraska state banking board has granted a charter to a company of Alliance business men, incorporated with a capital stock of \$50,000, for the purpose of doing a general banking business under the name of the First State Bank of Alliance.

A collection of specimens gathered by Archaeologist Robert F. Gilder of the state museum and Professor Sterns of Harvard university has been shipped to the university by the Omaha man. Practically all of the relics were gathered in mounds opened in Sarpy, Washington and Douglas counties.

Nebraska women will take part in a series of big suffrage rallies which are being held in a number of eastern cities, New York, Boston, Springfield, Philadelphia and Pittsburg. No women will go in person from this state to take part in the demonstrations, but several reels of moving pictures of the Nebraska campaign have been sent there to be part of the show.

From now on Nebraska will have ninety-three instead of ninety-two counties. The legality of the organization of Arthur county has been determined by the state supreme court. The act of the 1913 legislature was validated and authority given for Arthur county to maintain an existence separate from McPherson county, with which it has been connected for twenty-seven years.

Officers of the Monroe Telephone company, which recently bought out the Bell at that place, called on the railway commission and asked permission to increase the rate on 125 business phones to \$2.50. They were told by Commissioner Hall that this appeared to be a high rate for a town of that size, and the company would have to make a showing to justify it before the increase would be allowed.

A petition signed by 102 residents of Keith county has asked the state prison board to recommend a pardon for William Swan, who is serving an indeterminate sentence for killing a steer belonging to George McGinley. Swan has a wife and three children. Edward Deque, also convicted on the same charge, has a wife and eight children. He said the steer was killed because the family needed food.

Farmers in eastern Nebraska are preparing to make extensive use of the weather and precipitation service of the weather bureau during the alfalfa season. By means of the telephone, they will keep in touch with the centers of information and supplement the forecasts in the newspapers with special information. This matter has been taken up by government experts and announcements doubtless will be made next month.

Commissions have been issued by the national guard headquarters to the following newly chosen company officers: Beaver City, Company I, Fifth regiment, Captain James Axtell; Second Lieutenant C. F. Cadwallader; Blair, Company F, Fourth regiment, Captain Charles Gaidou; First Lieutenant F. W. Jones and Second Lieutenant G. B. Willsey; Norfolk, Second Lieutenant C. L. Anderson, quartermaster Third battalion.

Secretary Shahan of the state prison board, gets monthly reports from the convicts who have been released from the penitentiary on parole. There are 106 of these now enjoying conditional liberty. Most of them write that they are getting along well, and a number are earning fair wages. One man says that he had to visit a saloon on business for his employer, but that he asked to have his duties changed so he would not have to go there again and his request was granted.

Hoping to recover damages for the corn which he alleges a large flock of Canada geese and pintail ducks have eaten in his fields, J. M. Calkins of Bayard has written the game commission for information as to how he shall go about it to obtain his money. The situation is a hard one to solve, because the new federal game law prevents the farmer from shooting the fowls. An attorney here suggested that the ducks and geese might be considered in the light of trespassers, and as such could be shot at in the event that they did not depart.

State Treasurer George's monthly report shows that the total balance in the state treasury decreased from \$746,256.41 to \$577,876 during the month of March. The receipts were \$224,645.86 and the disbursements \$383,025.27. From the permanent school fund, \$12,554 was paid out for bonds bought as an investment. The treasurer now carries \$166,256.56 of general fund warrants as an investment for the university building fund. This swells the total investment of the state of \$9,648,465.29.