



1—American Falls at Niagara frozen over for the first time since 1900. 2—Members of house judiciary subcommittee listening to Attorney Clarence Darrow's argument for the McLeod bill abolishing capital punishment in the District of Columbia. 3—Statue of Dr. Crawford Long of Georgia, discoverer of sulphuric ether as an anesthetic, made for the Hall of Fame.

NEWS REVIEW OF CURRENT EVENTS

President and His Critics Accuse Each Other of Playing Politics.

By EDWARD W. PICKARD

PRESIDENT COOLIDGE, personally in conversation with the Washington correspondents and then through a White House spokesman, told the country last week that the critics of his administration were "playing politics" and should not be taken too seriously. Mr. Coolidge alluded apparently to the investigations of the Department of Justice for failure to proceed against Secretary Mellon's aluminum company, to charges by Senator Norris that the President exerted questionable influence to keep the tariff board from making sugar tariff recommendations before the election of last fall, and to attacks made on the federal trade commission. Mr. Coolidge said these charges were unfounded, that the government was not derelict in enforcing the law and that such attacks were seasonal, coming in years in which Presidential elections were held.

No sooner were these statements made public than Senator Pat Harrison of Mississippi arose in the senate to express his great indignation at them. He described Mr. Coolidge as a "matchless politician" and said: "It does not become a resident of the White House to tell the country that all the speeches here are to have a political tinge. There are political speeches made here, and we invite the President to make his political speeches, whether he makes them to the farmers in the West or the chamber of commerce in New York. He has not made a single speech from that in New York to the fly-by-night journey to Chicago but that was an effort to win favor with the people—playing politics in his speeches. When he persuaded some gentlemen on the other side of the aisle to change their views with respect to international peace in the world he performed one of the seven wonders of the world."

AMONG the important statements of the President's attitude, emanating from the White House are these:

The President is disappointed by the postponement by the League of Nations of preparations for a disarmament conference, and if the league's conference does not materialize, Mr. Coolidge will return to his original plan to convene in Washington another conference on further reduction of naval armaments.

Mr. Coolidge is still as much opposed as ever to the United States joining the League of Nations, believes the country still overwhelmingly determined to stay out, and regards our entrance into the World court not a step toward the league, but a demonstration of our care to avoid league entanglement.

The President condemns publicity statements emanating from the War and Navy departments charging deterioration of our national defenses, characterizing them as misrepresentations, designed to obtain larger appropriations. Mr. Coolidge regards the condition of the army and navy as satisfactory.

GERMANY'S application for membership in the League of Nations probably will have reached Geneva before this is published and it is expected that Sir Eric Drummond, the secretary general, will convene an extraordinary session of the council at once to act on it. The next procedure will be a special meeting of the assembly, probably in March, to take Germany in formally. The foreign affairs committee of the Reichstag by a vote of 18 to 8 decided to apply for membership and the presidents of all the German states were summoned to Berlin for a final discussion of the form of application. Germany will be the fifty-sixth member of the league.

Occupation of the first zone in the Rhineland by the allies came to an end when the last British troops

marched out of Cologne, the French evacuated Bonn and the Belgians moved out of Moers, Dusseldorf and Aix la Chapelle. Thus 2,500,000 returned to the sovereignty of the Reich. It was said in Paris that the occupation forces would be reduced to 60,000 as soon as Germany entered the league. But the official view in Berlin is that after Germany has entered the league and all the provisions of the Locarno pact and the Dawes plan are carried out, any occupation of the Rhineland will be an incongruous obstacle to general pacification.

FAIRLY rapid action marked the senate's consideration of the tax bill last week, and on the controversial features the "regular" Republicans and Democrats voted together, sustaining the finance committee's action and defeating the efforts of the radicals to amend the measure. Toward the end of the week the proposed repeal of the estate tax and of the publicity provision of the present law were the most interesting features remaining to be acted upon. It is believed the house will accept the senate's changes which make greater reductions in the middle brackets.

THE house received from committee the War department appropriation bill, which calls for an army of approximately the existing strength and recommends the expenditure during the next fiscal year of \$339,581,000. This is nearly \$7,000,000 more than last year's appropriation and \$1,087,000 above the budget estimates. Of the total amount military activities would be given \$261,081,000, or an increase of \$1,223,000 above current funds and \$864,000 above budget figures. Nonmilitary activities would receive \$78,500,000, an increase of \$5,741,000 over current funds and \$223,000 above the budget.

SMUGGLING operations along the United States-Canadian border are to be thoroughly investigated by a special committee of the Canadian parliament as a result of sensational charges made by H. H. Stevens, minister of trade and commerce in the former Conservative government. After asserting that the smuggling during the last year had caused the Canadian government a loss of \$200,000,000 in revenues, Mr. Stevens declared that a notorious crook, perjurer, thief and smuggler had been promoted to be chief customs officer at the port of Montreal though the cabinet ministers knew of his activities.

George H. Boivin, minister of customs and excise, told parliament he was willing to institute the investigation demanded. He said the immense smuggling of silk, cotton goods, cigarettes and tobacco into Canada, with return cargoes of whisky, was not confined to the Quebec border. Conditions at Toronto, Windsor and right through to Vancouver needed the thorough probing which the government was prepared to give. Conservative leader Arthur Meighen expressed entire accord with the proposal to hold a wide open public inquiry.

ANOTHER attack on the dry laws, from a rather unexpected source, came last week. Rev. Dr. James Empringham, national secretary of the Church Temperance society of the Episcopal church, announced that a poll of the 20,000 members of the society showed an overwhelming preponderance in favor of modification of the Volstead act. Consequently Dr. Empringham reported to a meeting of Episcopal clergymen in New York that the society as a whole was in favor of such modification, for these reasons:

- "1. Because the effect of prohibition has been to put an end to scientific temperance teaching.
 - "2. It has discouraged the consumption of wine and beer and increased the demand for distilled liquors, which today are mostly poisonous.
 - "3. It has resulted in increased drinking among young people.
 - "4. It has brought about disrespect for all laws.
 - "5. It is class legislation, discriminating in favor of the rich.
 - "6. In our survey we found intemperance increased."
- The society has no official connection with the church and many of the Episcopal clergymen are not in ac-

cord with its new policy concerning prohibition.

KENTUCKY authorities gave an exhibition of efficiency last week in protecting a prisoner from would-be lynchers and this was followed by the swift melting out of justice to the offender. Edward Harris, a negro, was accused of murder and an attack on a woman, and when a mob gathered at Frankfort, where he was confined, a thousand National Guardsmen with all equipment, including tanks, were called out, the threatening crowds were dispersed by tear gas and Harris was safely transported to Lexington. There he pleaded guilty to the criminal attack and was sentenced to death on the gallows on March 5.

WILLIAM M. WOOD, millionaire resident of Andover, Mass., and former president of the American Woolen company, committed suicide near Daytona, Fla. He had been in poor health for several years and had been despondent since his son was killed in an automobile accident in 1922. He also had grieved over the partial abandonment of his plans to build a model village for the thousands of employees of the woolen company. His associates did not approve of the expenditure of millions for this philanthropic purpose. He retired from the presidency of the company in March, 1925.

WILLIAM A. CLARK, former senator from Montana, who died last March, left a fortune of some \$50,000,000. The other day three women appeared in Butte, Mont., as claimants to a share in this estate, asserting that they were Clark's daughters by his alleged marriage to a woman in Missouri in 1869. Attorneys for the Clark estate say they know nothing of these women or of the alleged marriage.

GRADUALLY some of the truth concerning the renunciation of Crown Prince Carol of Rumania is leaking out. The stories coming from Bucharest reveal a palace scandal that reflects seriously on Queen Marie and Prince Babu Stirbey, her favorite, whose power in the government the opposition party has been trying to destroy. Gregoire Philpescu, a deputy, has been issuing a series of posters lampooning the prince and the latest report is that Babu has fled from the capital and that the queen has followed him. Philpescu's paper accuses Prince Babu of robbing the Rumanian deputies and of falsifying the parliamentary reports to deceive the people.

ANOTHER gallant rescue of sailors on the storm-swept Atlantic marked the week. The crew of the sinking Dutch steamer Alkaid was taken off by the men of the Hamburg-American liner Westphalia in mid-ocean, the rescuers displaying great bravery. Captain Fried and his men of the President Roosevelt, who saved 25 men from the British freighter Antioch, have been awarded gold, silver and bronze medals by the British government, the British board of trade and Lloyd's.

PORTUGAL had another of its turbulent revolutions the other day under the leadership of Col. Justiniano Esteves. But the government put it down with neatness and dispatch and the leader and his lieutenants were arrested while they were attempting to capture the barracks at Campolindo. The day before two batteries of artillery revolted and were shelled into submission by the fortress of San George.

In Greece a communist plot to assassinate Premier Pangalos and other government leaders was uncovered by a raid on a Communist center.

FINANCE MINISTER DOUMER of France announced that the government was ready to receive offers from any American syndicates for the purchase or lease of the operation of the telegraph and telephone system and the monopolies in tobacco and matches. An American group, reported to be backed by the American Tobacco company, recently offered approximately \$1,000,000,000 for a 99-year monopoly on the sale of matches and tobacco. A syndicate has been dickered for a long time to take over the operation of telephones and telegraphs.

Pennsylvania News in Brief

The Susquehanna is gorged with ice that forms a wall 25 feet high almost across the river at Herndon.

A movement to establish a university in Scranton was launched at a meeting of the Chamber of Commerce.

Michael McClelland, aged forty-five, was burned to death when an overheated stove set fire to his home in Bellevue.

Snow drifts caused by high winds have closed a number of road sections in western Pennsylvania, officials at the department of highways announced.

Directors of the Central Pennsylvania Odd Fellows' Orphans' Home, East Sunbury, planned a fire department among the older of the more than 200 students.

A \$250,000 contract for relocation of about a mile of track and the construction of a 600 foot tunnel and four concrete bridges for the Montour Railroad Company has been awarded to the John F. Casey Company.

Snow drifts from four to eight feet deep have stopped traffic on all highways in Fayette county, except the National road section between Uniontown and the Maryland state line. The snow storm in the mountains is the worst within the memory of the oldest residents.

Against every effort being made by the objectors to stop them, eight veterinarians from the state department of agriculture, in charge of Dr. R. L. Clarkson, began testing cattle in four townships in the lower end of Chester county for tuberculosis. It was stated that about 50 herds had been given the initial tests.

The United States Supreme Court in Washington granted to the state of New Jersey permission to file a petition for dismissal of the suit instituted by the commonwealth of Pennsylvania to determine whether New Jersey is legally bound to proceed with the authorization of new contracts for the Delaware river bridge regardless of the question of tolls.

A chance shot fired by Homer Miller, aged nineteen, during a scuffle with three bandits who murdered his father in an attempted hold-up of the Miller gasoline filling station at Revere, resulted in the death of one of the bandits. The body of a man found next day and at first believed to have been a victim of robbers has been identified as that of one of the hold-up men.

On what was to have been the wedding day of Mary Rounds, aged fifty-five, of Hazeltown, near Kane, County Detective J. J. Allison and Sheriff L. W. Barton called on her and found a gallon of moonshine and 25 bottles of beer, so the wedding is postponed, as Mary was held under \$1,500 bail for her appearance at court to explain possession of liquor. George Brown, aged thirty-five, of Kane was to have been the bridegroom.

Announcement was made at Reading by John P. Brock, general manager of the Lebanon plant of the Bethlehem Steel Company, that the Reading plant of the company had been consolidated with the Lebanon plant. Work of dismantling the Reading plant will begin at once and the property will be sold. Track bolts and rivets were the principal items manufactured there, and about 250 men were recently employed.

Fourteen women are on the jury lists for the first 1926 term of Bucks county court.

Many guests helped to celebrate the fifty-sixth wedding anniversary of Mr. and Mrs. Alpheus Peterson of Edgely. The term fee of Allegheny College at Meadville was increased to \$250 at the mid-winter meeting of the board of trustees in the William Penn hotel, Pittsburgh.

Money obtained from the drive just closing at Morrisville will enable the directors to wipe out all the indebtedness upon the Community House and its equipment except the heating plant.

The last official act of Judge Arthur C. Dale before retiring from the bench of Center county was to grant an application for the incorporation of the village of Port Matilda into a borough. The application was signed by 26 freeholders.

Approximately \$25,000 is wasted annually in Philadelphia on elections by the excessive number of voting divisions in the central section of the city, which have been practically denuded of their populations by the encroachment of business.

It was announced in Annapolis that the annual Army-Navy football game will be played this year on November 27 at Soldiers' Field Stadium, Chicago. This being sesquicentennial year, by all rights the game should have gone to Philadelphia. One of the reasons for building the great stadium on the sesquicentennial exhibition grounds was with the understanding that the West Point-Annapolis classic would be staged there.

Presenting the appearance of a great Arctic ice field, swept by wintry blasts, the Allegheny river is frozen from Brandon to above Oil City, more than 20 miles. The great gorge has so lengthened out that it appears more potentially perilous than ever when warm weather comes.

The head of Miss Anna May Dietrich, whose dismembered body was found in the woods near Media, was discovered beneath the ties of the Pennsylvania railroad bridge over Naylor's creek near Bywood, a suburb. There were no marks on the head to indicate how she had been killed.

GOOD ADVICE ON CARING FOR CAR

Preventive for Every Ill That Cold Weather Brings to Driver.

There is a preventive for every ill that cold weather brings to automobiles. Unfortunately, many owners do not realize that by taking ordinary care of their cars, they can save much trouble and expense.

One of the greatest inconveniences is found in battery failure due to cold. This is caused by failure to prepare the battery for the extra load that zero weather is bound to put on it. The battery should be kept fully charged and filled with water. After filling, the engine should be run for an hour or so before being left out in the cold to insure the acid and water becoming thoroughly mixed. Otherwise there is a chance of the fresh water remaining on top and freezing. A weekly inspection of the battery in winter is not too much. The charging rate should be increased slightly to compensate for the extra load.

Lightens Battery Work.

The work of the battery can be lightened by using any of the winter gasoline, marketed by most oil companies. These fuels start easier than the ordinary gas used in the summer. The oil should be changed more frequently than in warm weather, to prevent crankcase dilution. This evil is caused by the sweating of a cold engine, which allows moisture to gather inside the cylinders and drain into the oil. Dilution is caused also by too free use of the choke, which shoots raw gasoline into the cylinders. This gasoline finds its way into the crankcase and further thins the oil. If too much water forms in the oil reservoir, it remains at the bottom of the crankcase where the pump is located, and may freeze, stalling the oiling system and resulting in serious damage to the engine.

Anti-Freeze Mixtures.

The anti-freeze mixture in the radiator should be kept at the proper proportions to prevent freezing. The solution drains away or is lost from various causes, and must be renewed at regular intervals.

The experience of the service station should be utilized by every owner in preparing his car for cold weather driving. The lubrication in the transmission should be lightened, the carburetor should be adjusted, the engine oil should be changed and possibly a lighter grade used. These few precautions will keep the car operating at its highest efficiency during cold weather. The wise motorist will attend to these things.

Cracks Permit Current Leakage in Spark Plug

The most common trouble with spark plugs is caused by cracked insulators, which then allow of current leakage, causing a poor spark or none at all at the gap. Often one cannot tell by examining the outside whether the insulator is cracked, because the trouble may be in the hidden portion. The only safe way is either to dismantle the plug if it is not of the one-piece type, or test it by laying it on the cylinder head with the plug cable attached. Then by cranking the engine, the gap may be watched for a good spark. Cracks, except hidden ones, may at once be noticed if the engine is operating in a dark area; sparks will be seen on the outside of the insulator.

Cranked Car With Wheel Helps in an Emergency

The real test of motoring qualifications comes with the unexpected situations. Recently, observes a writer in the Scientific American, an owner driver stalled his engine on a busy New York street crossing. When he kicked his starting motor pedal the engine cranking mechanism failed to operate, due to a run-down storage battery. The frantic search that followed failed to disclose a hand starting crank in the tool box or under the seat. In disgust the traffic officer helped to push the crippled machine to the curb.

Just then a young man stepped out of the crowd and offered his assistance. "If your engine is all right," he suggested, "I think I can start it for you." "Go ahead if you can," urged the owner dubiously.

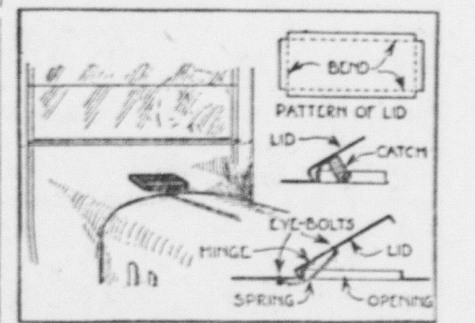
Picking up a jack the young man raised one rear wheel from the ground and threw high gear into engagement. Then he turned the jacked-up wheel in a forward direction, being careful to pull up and lean away from the car. In an instant the motor was humming, and, after throwing the gears into neutral position and removing the jack, the friend in need smiled his appreciation of the owner's copious thanks and went his way.

It was a simple plan, as most successful mechanical adaptations are when demonstrated.

Early last summer a New England motorist found himself on the road several miles away from any garage with a flat front tire and no jack. Noting a flat fence at the side of the road, he selected a straight, sound piece of timber. Next he built a solid pile of stones two and one-half feet high in the road in front of his car. Then he laid the rail on the pile so that it made an angle of about 15 degrees with the road, and ran his car up against the incline with sufficient force to raise the damaged tire clear of the road and permit an exchange of rims. Having his wheels on solid ground, it was a simple matter to back off from the improvised jack when the repair was completed.

Gain Access to Ignition Coils by a Ventilator

Some enclosed cars require the removal of the coil-box and the detaching of the wiring in order to remove the coils from the box to replace ignition points or for truing these up. To avoid the work necessary to remove the coils, a rectangular opening in the cowl over the coil-box will



Access to the Coil-Box is Greatly Facilitated by an Opening Provided in the Cowl Above the Box.

permit of instantly taking out the coils from above. This opening can be closed with a hinged cover and makes an especially desirable feature for ventilating this compartment of the car in warm weather.

The illustration shows the details of the hinged cover, which is also useful for giving access to coils and ventilation on converted Ford speedsters using a low cowl extending rearward. —G. A. Luers.

REDUCE APPALLING NUMBER OF FATALITIES



Splendid Type of Hard-Surfaced Road in New York.

More careful driving and the elimination of railroad crossings will lessen the appalling number of fatalities due to motor accidents, is the opinion of B. E. Wait, formerly of the New York state highways department and an authority on highway construction. He also believes it is now necessary in the designing of roads to build them wider, do away with sharp curves, high crowns, and use a material which will give a nonskid surface.

"Skidding," continued Mr. Wait, "is the cause of many of the serious accidents, and while some of these accidents are caused primarily by careless driving, the innocent traveler, who gets hit, can be protected to a great extent if the pavement has a low crown and a nonskid surface."

"Highway engineers, in general, now realize the advantages of such a type of pavement and are now building quite extensively of reinforced concrete. This gives them a gritty surface on which the automobile tires obtain great resistance in skidding, and this material, not being affected

by water lying on its surface, can be built with a lower crown than most of the other types of road construction.

"By the use of concrete the necessity for oiling and covering is eliminated, which does away with many accidents as well as damage and depreciation on cars.

"When we consider," continued Mr. Wait, "that over 11,000 lives were lost last year, enough to populate a small city, it is apparent that drastic measures are immediately necessary and I am sure that the public in the future will be protected by the highway engineers of the country, as far as possible, by the building of wider and better-class pavements.

"At the same time it will be necessary for the public to interest itself in providing money for the elimination of railroad crossings, for the building of sidewalks in suburban communities so that school children will not have to walk on the roadways, and in taking measures to curb the careless driving."