



1—Parade in New York in honor of Capt. George Fried and the crew of the President Roosevelt for their rescue of the Antiope's crew. 2—Earl of Craven photographed in Montreal, where he fled to avoid deportation from United States. 3—Attaches of the Cuban embassy in Washington laying on the anchor of the Maine the wreath sent by the president of Cuba.

NEWS REVIEW OF CURRENT EVENTS

Congress Fairly Liberal in Appropriations for the National Defense.

By EDWARD W. PICKARD

UNLESS congress changes its mind, the army and navy, and especially the air services, are to be well provided for in the appropriation measures. Last week the senate passed the naval supply bill carrying in round figures \$321,000,000, this total including \$26,000,000 for aircraft and naval aviation. The same day the War department appropriation bill went through the house. This measure carries \$339,500,000, of which \$15,250,000 is to be expended for aviation. Incidentally, this house bill provides for a lump sum appropriation of \$50,000,000 for rivers and harbors work.

These two measures are intended to carry the army and navy only through the next fiscal year which begins July 1, but the house committee on naval affairs recommended the adoption of a five-year naval aircraft building program which calls for the construction of 1,000 new planes at a cost of \$85,000,000. Administration leaders were confident this would be passed during this session. Rear Admiral Moffatt's plan called for the expenditure of \$250,000,000 in five years, but the more conservative program was all the committee cared to recommend in view of President Coolidge's position on economy.

The committee proposes the construction of 235 airplanes at a cost of \$12,285,000 in the fiscal year 1927 in addition to 78 planes at a cost of \$3,300,000 under other legislation. In addition the committee proposes the construction of two rigid airships costing \$8,000,000 to be begun prior to July 1, 1927, and an experimental metal-clad airship costing \$300,000.

The pending naval appropriation bill contemplates the expenditure of not more than \$9,000,000 on new aircraft in the fiscal year 1927. Under the program recommended the requirement for 1927 would be between \$13,000,000 and \$20,000,000. Representative French, in charge of naval appropriations, said that the additional amount of from \$4,000,000 to \$11,000,000 would not be appropriated for 1927 unless the budget bureau should recommend it. This puts the realization of the naval aircraft construction program up to the Executive.

INSPECTOR GENERAL HELM-LICKS' investigation, ordered by Secretary of War Davis, disclosed that two officers of the army air service had been guilty of "objectionable activities in attempting to influence air service legislation." Maj. Henry H. Arnold, information officer in the office of Major General Patrick, chief of the air service, was declared the more culpable and in addition to being reprimanded he will be transferred by General Patrick to a station less pleasant than Washington. Maj. Herbert A. Dargue, chief of the war plans division of the service, escapes with a reprimand. The severer discipline is imposed on Major Arnold because he has been long conspicuous in the propaganda for a separate air service. He is described by many officers as having been "the eyes of Colonel Mitchell" in the air service during the months which intervened between Mitchell's removal from the post of assistant chief of air service and the close of his court-martial.

The intimations that the inquiry would involve General Patrick were shown to be unfounded when he was permitted to assist in it and to announce its findings.

TWO of the army's most eminent aviators, both of them members of the round-the-world flight, have announced that they are about to resign from the army in order to attempt to fly over the North pole this summer. They are Lieut. Leigh Wade and Lieut. E. H. Ogden, and they will be first and second in command of the expedition, respectively. They and their associates are backed by a group of

alumni of several big universities, and will use five Douglas planes equipped with 220 horse-power motors. They plan to start from Seattle June 8 and to establish their main base at Point Barrow.

Alan Cobham, British aviator, has just accomplished the feat of flying from London to Cape Town, South Africa, being the first to do this in one plane. Starting November 16, he passed in his route over the deserts of Egypt, the swamps and forests of central Africa and the great karoo of South Africa. Much of the way he had to fly at a very great elevation, and he had many narrow escapes, especially over Victoria Falls, where his engine stopped.

CONFEREES of the house and senate devoted the week to the tax bill, but the results of their labors were uncertain. Messrs. Green and Garner of the house were firm in their determination to retain the estate tax knocked out by the senate. They said there was no chance for adoption of a conference report providing for the complete repeal of this tax, and that the house would not yield on this point.

Federal Judge Hand in New York decided last week that the federal tax on gifts is unconstitutional when it is applied to donations not made in contemplation of death. The government will appeal, and unless the Supreme court reverses the decision Uncle Sam will have to return several millions of dollars already paid into the treasury.

BOTH the house and senate took steps toward amending the Constitution so that the inauguration of the President and vice president would take place in January instead of on March 4 and so that a new congress would meet two months after its election instead of thirteen months as is the case now.

FRANCE'S demand that Poland, Spain and Brazil be given permanent seats in the League of Nations council when Germany is admitted is still worrying the other league members, for there is fear that Germany will withdraw her application for membership if Poland is admitted on equal terms. France asserts she wants Poland admitted to the council so she (France) will be freed from the duty of supporting Poland and thus will be able to cultivate better relations with Germany.

CAPT. GEORGE FRIED and his brave men of the liner President Roosevelt, rather embarrassed by the fuss that has been made over their rescue of the crew of the Antiope, were given a royal reception in New York. The big guns of Fort Jay fired a salute, the air was full of planes and the streets were crowded with shouting people as the city officials greeted the heroes. Next day congress voted them the thanks of the nation. Modest Captain Fried says: "I'm awfully grateful, but it was just part of our jobs. And, anyway, you can't say too much for the men who actually manned the boats. They did it—not I. But they, too, feel they only did what was expected of them."

ONE of the attacks on Secretary of the Treasury Mellon by his political enemies, which also was an attack on the Department of Justice, has fallen through. Mr. Sargent's department reports that after full investigation it has reached the conclusion that contempt proceedings against the Aluminum Company of America—in which Mr. Mellon is heavily interested—cannot by any possibility be successfully maintained.

JUSTICE STAFFORD of the District of Columbia Supreme court has sustained the validity of the conspiracy indictments against Albert B. Fall, Harry F. Sinclair and Edward L. Doheny in the oil-lease scandals. This action of the court, unless a special hearing is granted, means that the defendants will have to stand trial under the criminal indictments which charge them with conspiracy to defraud the government of the United States by trickery, deceit and bribery.

NOTABLE deaths of the week include those of Henry Holt, New York publisher, and Archbishop J. F. Copleak of Poland, who was once sentenced to death by a Russian tribunal but was released and came to America last November.

Thousands of workers went back into the pits, and the 125 producing companies planned to spread their product so that a little would go to everybody rather than all to a few. The maximum output will be reached about the end of the month.

After the contract between the United Mine Workers and the operators had been signed John L. Lewis, president of the union, said it was the greatest contract ever drawn up in the history of organized labor, involving wages aggregating a billion and a half dollars in five years.

"TO ALLAY popular anxiety" and as a "precautionary measure," Premier Pangalos of Greece ordered the arrest and deportation of former Premier Papanastasiou, former Minister of the Interior Kondilis and ten other officers. The dictator said he hoped the investigation would not reveal anything serious, but, if it did, exemplary punishment would be meted out. All firearms, except those used for sport, have been ordered delivered to the police authorities before March 30. Though the country seems calm, Pangalos evidently fears a counter-revolution.

CALLES' government in Mexico has just ordered the closing of all colleges, schools and asylums in the country that are conducted by the Roman Catholics. Some foreign nations are rather peeved by this measure, but probably can do nothing about it. At present the most distressing result of the order is the throwing out of the streets of thousands of little children who had no other home than those now closed. Also the school facilities of the republic are greatly diminished, at least temporarily. Presumably the government will take steps to meet both these conditions.

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The Twentieth Amendment



Provides for Important Changes in Mechanics of U.S. Government

By JOHN DICKINSON SHERMAN

DO you know that the Constitution of this land of the free and home of the brave is likely to be enriched during the Sixty-ninth congress by the Twentieth Amendment? No? Well, you need not feel lonesome. There are others, many others, who have never even heard of this Twentieth Amendment. In fact, it would be hard to find in a day's search a corporal's guard of average citizens who have.

No; it is not an amendment prohibiting the broadcasting by radio of jazz. It does not forbid the buying of an automobile on the installment plan. It does not take away short skirts and cigarettes from the flapper. It is not that kind of an amendment at all.

This impending Twentieth Amendment is as different as possible. It has nothing to do with the life, liberty and pursuit of happiness of Mr. and Mrs. American Citizen. It is concerned wholly with the mechanics of the government of the United States of America. Perhaps this is why it has no publicity agent and why no propaganda has cried its merits.

Yet this Twentieth Amendment is an extremely important amendment. Its effects may be far-reaching beyond all calculations of the experts in government. It is, in a way, a political experiment which may or may not prove of benefit to this nation dedicated to representative government. The proposition embodied in the amendment is far from being new. It is an old, old proposition that has increasingly engaged the attention and consideration of congress for at least a century, as the railroad and the telegraph have annihilated distance and time, and the press has diffused knowledge of current events.

The Twentieth Amendment, in short, is intended to establish the principle of immediate legislative responsiveness to current popular opinion by doing away with the gap—called by some a hiatus—between the election of members of congress and the seating of the elected members.

Those supporting the amendment point out that congress does not actually begin, under the present arrangement, until thirteen months after the members have been elected. It thus not infrequently happens that issues upon which they have been elected have been either settled or complicated by the old congress. The shortness of the second session often prevents the passage of important measures. Congressmen defeated for reelection vote without responsibility. Election contests are seldom decided before the expiration of at least half the term, with the result that the district is misrepresented, and Uncle Sam pays duplicate salaries.

Those opposing the meeting of congress within a short period after the election admit the force of these points. Their opposition is based mainly upon the theory that deliberation is an essential factor in good legislation and that there is a certain danger in the making of laws by members fresh from the excitement of the campaign. They also hold that in case a presidential election is thrown into the house, it is better to have the

The "Wee Bit"

I have elsewhere quoted the profound remark of the Russian artist Bryulov on art, but I cannot here refrain from repeating it. Once when correcting a pupil's study, Bryulov just touched it in a few places, and the poor study immediately became animated. "Why, you only touched it a wee bit and it is quite another thing!" said one of the pupils. "Art begins where the wee bit begins," re-



AN INAUGURATION DAY SNOW STORM

members of the preceding congress determine the choice—they see the possibility of two congresses competing for regularity.

The Constitution (Art. I, Sec. 4) provided that congress should assemble March 4, 1789, and thereafter "in every year . . . on the first Monday in December, unless they shall by law appoint a different day." Up to and including May 20, 1820, eighteen acts were passed providing for the meeting of congress on other days of the year. Since that year congress has met regularly on the first Monday in December.

Several joint resolutions providing for this Twentieth Amendment have been introduced in this congress. Representative Benjamin L. Fairchild, for example, introduced this joint resolution on the opening day:

Joint resolution (H. J. Res. 12) proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States fixing the commencement of the terms of President and vice president and representatives in congress and the terms of the assembling of congress; to the committee on election of President, vice president, and representatives in congress.

What these proposed constitutional amendments purpose to do is indicated by the constitutional amendment before the Sixty-eighth congress. March 14, 1924, the senate voted on this amendment. Note the vote: Yeas, 63; nays, 7. The amendment did not come to a vote in the house. This apparently was not due to any particular opposition to it. It simply got lost in the shuffle of a short session. It is difficult to see why, in view of the practical unanimity of the senate vote, it should not have passed the house, had it come to a vote. The amendment, as passed by the senate:

Section 1. The terms of the President and vice president in office at the time this amendment takes effect shall end at noon on the third Monday in January and the terms of senators and representatives then in office at noon on the first Monday in January of the year in which such terms would have ended if this article had not been ratified, and the terms of their successors shall then begin.

Section 2. The congress shall assemble at least once in every year and such meeting shall be on the first Monday in January unless they shall by law appoint a different day.

Section 3. If the house of representatives has not chosen a President, whenever the right of choice devolves upon them, before the time fixed for the beginning of his term, then the vice president chosen for the same term shall act as President until the house of representatives chooses a President, but if the house of representatives has not chosen a President before noon on the fourth day of March next following, then the vice president shall become President during the remainder of the term; and the congress shall by law provide that in the event the vice president has

not been chosen before the time fixed for the beginning of his term, what officer shall then act as President, and such officer shall act accordingly until the house of representatives chooses a President, or until the senate chooses a vice president.

The many attempts to change the time of the sessions of congress have usually included a provision for a change in the date of inauguration day. Two grounds have been advanced for the proposed changes in the date of inauguration day: One is that inauguration day should come at a season more likely to give pleasant weather. The other is that the President's term should fit logically into the plans for changing the beginning and ending dates of congress.

Is a constitutional amendment necessary to change the date of inauguration day? The Constitution itself fixes no exact date for the inauguration. The constitutional sharks appear to be at variance on this point. Some hold that the amendment is necessary. Others hold to the contrary. The argument in favor of the necessity of a constitutional amendment is briefly this:

The Constitution fixes the term of the President at four years. A change in the inaugural date would result in an extension or curtailment of that period. That extension or curtailment can constitutionally be effected only through an amendment to the Constitution. The yeas appear to have it.

Anyway, since 1876 more than fifty attempts have been made to change the inaugural date. In 1876 the date fixed by a proposed resolution was May 1. Ten years later an attempt was made to fix it on the anniversary of George Washington's first inauguration at New York—April 30.

The weather likely to obtain on inauguration day is a factor that has been much discussed. Custom has made this inauguration of the President an out-of-doors pageant which the weather can largely make or mar. When President Coolidge was inaugurated March 4, 1925, the weather was ideal and the vast crowd of spectators packed the entire space inclosed by the east face of the capitol, the congressional library and the senate and house office buildings. And with the powerful amplifiers used every word of the President's inaugural address was distinctly heard by every person.

William H. Taft's inauguration day, March 4, 1909, was a complete contrast. It was so stormy that the ceremonies had to be held indoors.

Senator Hoar of Massachusetts in 1898 sponsored a resolution fixing the last Wednesday in April as inauguration day. But weather bureau reports showed that from 1873 to 1897 the weather was little, if any better, on the later date.

applied Bryulov, indicating by these words just what is most characteristic of art. The remark is true of all the arts, but its justice is particularly noticeable in the performance of music.—Tolstoy, in "What Is Art."

Robins Stand on Rights

The robin has lived so long in the company of man that you will seldom find it far from a human dwelling. In the suburbs of towns one pair of birds will have three or four gardens which they look upon as their own

preserve, and if another robin attempts to enter their domain a fight takes place. The stranger is often driven away, but sometimes the newcomer is victorious, and then the first pair have to seek fresh grounds.

"Czar" of Latin Origin

The Slavic word czar or tsar ultimately represents the Latin Caesar, but came, according to Miklosich, through the medium of a Germanic language in which the word had the general sense emperor.