



1—First successful launching of an airplane from the turret of a battleship, the plane being fired by powder explosion from the battleship West Virginia at Los Angeles. 2—George A. Akerson, Washington correspondent, made assistant to Secretary of Commerce Hoover. 3—View of Bardizag, one of the towns destroyed by the Armenian earthquake.

NEWS REVIEW OF CURRENT EVENTS

President Coolidge Links American High Wages and Prosperity.

By EDWARD W. PICKARD

PRESIDENT COOLIDGE, addressing the American Association of Advertising Agencies, and, through the radio, many millions of other citizens, declared that our system of high wages is one of the chief factors in the nation's prosperity. He said it has brought about the "greatest distribution of wealth that the world has ever seen and provides the enormous capacity for the consumption of all kinds of commodities which characterizes our country."

"If we proceed under our present system," he added, "there would appear to be little reason to doubt that we can continue to maintain all of these high standards in wages, in output and in consumption indefinitely and, with our home markets as a foundation, increase our foreign commerce by a greater exchange of those commodities in which we are peculiarly favored for the commodities of other nations in which they have a special advantage. But nothing would appear to be plainer than that this all depends upon the maintenance of our American scale of wages, which is the main support of our home market."

The Chief Executive made an appeal for exact truth in advertising, and complimented the advertising profession for its contribution to a happy and prosperous country, adding that without constant publicity modern business could not be conducted on its present gigantic scale.

SALE of the Chemical Foundation, Inc., of German patents seized during the war, is declared by the United States Supreme court to have been in accordance with the law, authorized by acts of congress and of President Wilson, and therefore valid. The government in its suit had alleged that the price paid for the patents—\$271,000—was wholly inadequate and should have been at least \$7,000,000. The court finds the Chemical Foundation was properly formed as in effect a public trust for those whom the patents would benefit and for the promotion of American industries and that in the sale of the patents no conspiracy, fraud or deception was established by the government.

IF THE federal trade commission does not object, one of the biggest industrial combinations of recent years probably will be consummated soon. This is the merger of Sears, Roebuck & Co., and Montgomery Ward & Co., the huge Chicago mail-order houses. It is understood an outline of the plan already has been laid before Secretary of Commerce Hoover and that he said his opinion was that the government would consent to the merger. The tentative plan is said to be the formation of a new corporation to absorb the present companies and an exchange of stock of the concern for that of the old ones. The proposed corporation would have assets of about \$230,000,000, and an annual business volume approximating \$450,000,000. It is estimated the merger would effect a saving of ten to fifteen millions a year in operating expenses. The largest interest in Sears, Roebuck & Co. is held by Julius Rosenwald of Chicago and in Montgomery Ward & Co. by the J. P. Morgan-First National bank group of New York.

AS FURTHER information comes concerning the recent earthquakes in Armenia the disaster stands out as one of the worst of recent times. The death list increases steadily and may run into the thousands. The city of Leninakan and numerous smaller towns were ruined and probably 100,000 persons were rendered homeless. The Near East relief forces in the Caucasus under the direction of Dr. Joseph Beach are caring for many of the destitute, and the government of Russia has sent a

large sum of money for relief purposes. None of the Armenians there were killed or injured, and the thousands of orphans for whom they care also escaped unhurt.

PROSPECTS for international reduction of armaments in the near future are mighty poor, and it may be the proposed plenary conference for that purpose will not be held. In the preparatory conference at Geneva last week the delegations of nine of the seventeen nations represented made an official declaration that commercial fleets, trained reserves of armies, navies and air services, and war materials in reserve belong to "war potentials" and therefore are incapable of limitation or disarmament. The nine nations are France, Italy, Japan, Belgium, Poland, Czechoslovakia, Yugo-Slavia, Rumania and Argentina. Opposed to them, but in a minority, are Great Britain, the United States, Spain, Germany, Chile, Finland, Sweden and Holland. Both views will be presented to the plenary preparatory committee which is expected to meet in February or March.

EFFORTS of Lawrence Dennis, American charge d'affaires in Nicaragua, to bring peace to that country seem of no avail. The conference of leaders which he called broke up when the Liberals walked out with the declaration that they would continue their revolutionary movement with the aid of Mexico. The United States naval men returned from Corinto to the warship Denver, having been assured that there would be no reprisals against the Liberals there. A permanent neutral zone was established at Bluefields and El Bluff to protect American business. Meanwhile there were several "battles" at as many places between the opposing factions. Mr. Dennis is said to have demanded that General Chamorro, de facto president, quit immediately and that congress be called to install a new president, probably Adolfo Diaz. Revolutionists in Honduras released a lot of penitentiary convicts and with their aid seized the town of Seiba from government forces and burned the courthouse.

BELGIAN money went on a gold basis last week with the creation of a new monetary standard, the belga, which is equal to five paper francs. Supporting the Belgian stabilization program, the United States absorbed half of a \$100,000,000 international loan, and, through the federal reserve banks, participated in a credit of \$35,000,000.

SENATOR REED was not satisfied with the information concerning the Klan and Indiana's senatorial campaign which he obtained in Chicago and Indianapolis, so in St. Louis he resumed the inquiry, seeking especially more facts concerning a conference of high Klan officials in Washington last January which, it has been asserted, was attended by Senator Watson. It was at this meeting that Walter F. Bossert resigned as grand dragon of Indiana because, according to several witnesses, he would not support Watson.

D. C. Stephenson, former grand dragon who is serving a life term for the murder of Madge Oberholzer, has not yet made public the alleged proofs of political corruption and Klan control in Indiana, but his appeal from his sentence has been filed and his attorney says there will shortly be developments in the case of a startling nature.

PREMIER MUSSOLINI is not having things all his own way in Italy, as has been generally supposed. The opposition to reform the senate which was a part of his plan for a "Fascist state" is so strong that it has been abandoned and the senate will be left unchanged. Instead labor and capital will have representation in the legislative branch through appointments to the chamber of deputies. Three hundred such deputies will be chosen, and the rest of the chamber will be elected by a plurality system. The voters will be given two lists of candidates, one from the Fascist party and one from the united opposition. Representatives of the Fascist corporations as they become experienced in government would become eligible to appointment to the senate.

QUEEN MARIE of Rumania, denying the repeated rumors that her royal husband had ordered her to return home, continued on her merry way through America. After reviewing the cadets at West Point and admiring Niagara Falls, she moved on into Canada and was enthusiastically received by Toronto, Montreal, Quebec and other cities. One discordant feature was the attitude of the Ukrainians who are numerous in the Dominion. In Toronto they presented a petition protesting against the treatment accorded Ukrainians in Rumania, and in Winnipeg they made formal objection to participation by the Manitoba government in the reception to the queen.

ONE long standing dispute between the executive and the legislative branches of the government was ended last week when the United States Supreme court in a majority opinion upheld the authority of the President to remove executive appointees without the consent of the senate. The court ruled that federal statutes cited to the contrary are void and denied to congress the constitutional right to restrict the President in the removal of officers from posts it created.

The opinion is the result of a suit brought by Frank S. Myers, former postmaster at Portland Ore., who was removed by President Wilson and who sought to recover back salary on the ground that his removal was illegal without the consent of the senate, which had ratified his appointment. Justices Holmes, Brandeis and McReynolds took radical exceptions to the opinion of their colleagues, and in a separate opinion Justice McReynolds declared that the majority views are "revolutionary."

GREAT BRITAIN announced new regulations restricting the export of rubber from Ceylon and Malaya for next year, to go into effect on November 1. By these regulations it appears probable that the coming quarter will see a reduction of the exportable allowance from the present 100 per cent to 80 per cent. The average price of rubber for the current quarter up to October 20 was 20,149 pence (about 40 cents) and the average must exceed 21 pence to justify continuance of the 100 per cent standard of exports.

It is recognized in the rubber market in London that the situation still is dominated largely by the United States and depends to some extent on the growth of the motor industry in America, and that, although in the current year production exceeded consumption by roughly 40,000 tons, such surplus would be none too high if the American motor industry developed as expected.

Everett G. Holt, chief of the rubber division of the bureau of foreign and domestic commerce in Washington, says in his annual report that defensive measures in the United States against British rubber control have resulted in large savings to the American people.

A ROUSED by repeated robberies of the mails, accompanied often by the killing or wounding of postal employees, the government has again put the mails under guard of the marines, who have orders to shoot to kill whenever they see any hand. Furthermore the "devil dogs" have been armed with the new Thompson machine gun that already has been adopted by the gunmen of Chicago in their gang warfare. It is a formidable weapon, easily handled and capable of firing 400 aimed shots a minute.

REPRESENTATIVES of the United Spanish War Veterans of the Middle West met in Chicago and made plans for a unified legislative program to be presented to the state governments of Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Michigan, Wisconsin and Missouri. The legislatures are to be asked for payment of a bonus to every living veteran of the Spanish war and the expeditions to the Philippines and China on the same terms as the bonus to veterans of the World war; the appointment of state commissions of war veterans to administer state institutions caring for war veterans, and the establishment of state military cemeteries. Tax exemption up to \$2,500 for veterans will be asked.

Need Standards for Live Stock

Complete Set of Names and Terms to Describe Groups Desirable.

(Prepared by the United States Department of Agriculture.)

The need for standard market classes and grades of live stock is emphasized by the United States Department of Agriculture in a bulletin which sets forth a standardization program.

"Even since the establishment of central live stock markets," says the bulletin, "there has been considerable confusion, much disappointment, and untold loss and waste, because of the difficulty in describing market transactions in such a way that the producer on the farm or on the range, the slaughterer at some distant packing center, the trader on another market, and the student in his classroom, may understand exactly what happened on the market."

Have Own Standards.

"Practically every live stock market has its own standards, its individual preferences, and its own methods of doing business. All these matters are thoroughly understood by those on the market daily, but when an attempt is made to describe market transactions to some one at a distance, or to one who is unfamiliar with practices prevailing at that particular market, difficulties are encountered."

"Much of the confusion," the department continues, "arises from the fact that a certain set of names and trade terms are rather generally used to describe live stock at all markets. The meaning of the names and terms, however, varies between markets, between individuals on the same market, and frequently with the same individual on the same market at different times and different seasons."

"One result of this variety of definitions of terms and shifting of standards is that producers having shipped live stock to a certain market in the belief that prices were highest there, frequently are disappointed to find that prices actually are higher at some other market which they might have patronized. Frequently live stock is forwarded from one market to another because the shippers believe the second market is higher than the first, when subsequent events show the opposite to be the case. In most instances of this kind the difficulty is due, not to any intention to deceive on the part of anyone, but merely to the fact that the same or similar terms carry different meanings on different markets and when used by different individuals."

Desirable Conditions.

"In view of such conditions it would seem highly desirable to have a complete set of terms and names with which to describe the various groups into which live stock is sorted at central markets and, for such names, definite and fixed definitions which can be understood and interpreted in the same way by producers, shippers, commission men, traders, packer buyers, or anyone else connected with the industry. Such an arrangement must facilitate live stock marketing and tend to eliminate disappointment, loss, and waste."

The set of standards and definitions for the leading kinds of live stock are published in full in Department Bulletin 1360-D, "Market Classes and Grades of Live Stock," copies of which may be obtained, as long as the supply lasts, by addressing the United States Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C.

Soy Beans Prove Great Value as Swine Forage

Ten years ago soy beans were little known in Missouri. At that time the college of agriculture was experimenting with hundreds of strains and varieties, trying to determine the economic possibilities of the crop for Missouri farmers and trying to select out of this large number the best strains and varieties.

Today Missouri farmers grow 350,000 acres of soy beans for seed and forage and 500,000 acres in corn for hogging down and for silage. Eighty-five per cent of this great acreage is seeded with four varieties determined by the experiment station to be the best among the hundreds tested.

Man likes a variety of foods and a change in the menu. This applies also to pigs. Change to fresh pasture occasionally.

Farm Hints

Fire buckets should be kept handy for emergencies.

Silos should be tight enough to keep the juice in and the air out.

A good rotation of crops is necessary to maintain soil fertility economically.

Cement makes a good floor for the chicken house. It is economical, easy to clean, rat proof and durable.

It is desirable to thoroughly renovate and disinfect the laying pens in the fall before pullets are transferred to them.

A good way to store seed corn so it will dry well is to nail woven wire fencing on the studding in the barn and tie the corn by the husks to it.

Use Acid Phosphate to Increase Alfalfa

Tried With Satisfactory Results in All Cases.

(Prepared by the United States Department of Agriculture.)

Farmers visiting the Yuma reclamation project near Bard, Calif., have been impressed with the results obtained by the United States Department of Agriculture in its investigations to determine the causes of the apparent decline in yield of alfalfa hay during the last few years. Simple fertilizer experiments indicated that where alfalfa was making unsatisfactory growth on the Yuma project acid phosphate could be used to very good advantage. Furthermore, preliminary tests indicate that seed production may be materially increased through the application of acid phosphate.

The farmers have tried acid phosphate on their own fields with such satisfactory results in practically all cases that the demand for the fertilizer has increased each year. Approximately 250 tons of 16 per cent acid phosphate was sold to the project farmers in 1924. This is equivalent to 250 pounds per acre on 2,000 acres.

All the tests showed a marked improvement in the growth of alfalfa from applications of acid phosphate. There seemed to be little preference between 16 per cent and 44 per cent acid phosphate, providing equivalent quantities of phosphoric acid were applied. This being the case, says the department, it would appear that the farmer should use which ever form is the cheaper, based upon the relative proportions of this element.

Great Preventable Loss in Using Common Sires

A great preventable loss in American animal production is in the low quality of the sires used, says the United States Department of Agriculture. In no other phase of animal husbandry is it possible to make such direct, such marked, and such profitable improvement at such slight cost as in the use of superior pure-bred sires.

Records of the beef-cattle breeding work at Sni-Bar farms, Jackson county, Mo., furnish examples of the value of a good bull. Common cows in calf to common bulls were purchased as foundation stock for the demonstration farm. These cows were later bred to pure-bred beef bulls. The first-class steers brought \$2 a hundredweight more than the common steers.

Since the dams of the two lots were essentially the same and the methods of feeding and marketing were identical, the difference of \$2 a hundredweight in their value may be fairly attributed to the superiority of the pure-bred sires used for the first cross as compared to those used on the farm from which the foundation cows were purchased.

At the average of 1,000 pounds live weight for the animals, an increase of \$2 a hundredweight in the value at marketing time of the offspring of a pure-bred bull brings an increased value of \$240 a year on a crop of 12 calves if it is assumed that the heifers improved equally with the steers.

Lack of Potash Cause of Poor Clover Crops

Investigations in Wisconsin have shown that one of the causes for the decline in various clover crops is lack of sufficient potash. Alfalfa and all of the clovers use large quantities of potash, and cannot do their best when there is a shortage of this element. One of the indications of potash starvation in alfalfa is tiny white spots the size of small pin heads appearing on the leaves, while the same thing in clover is indicated by similar yellow and brown spots.

The Wisconsin College of Agriculture, pointing out that it takes four tons of farm manure to supply the potash needed by one ton of alfalfa or clover, says that it is more economical to use a potash fertilizer than to depend upon farm manure to keep up the supply of this element. From one hundred to two hundred pounds per acre of a potash fertilizer is sufficient for clover; alfalfa requires three hundred to five hundred pounds per acre. This may be applied as a top dressing in the spring or fall after the crop is started.

Manure Allowed to Pile Up Loses Its Fertility

There is always a loss when manure is permitted to pile up—be it summer or winter. The loss in the warm months is apt to be heavier than in the case of winter-stored manure except where the latter is held with no protection from the weather. But in summer, whether manure is kept under cover or not, it is certain to lose considerable of its fertility through heating. This is a purely bacterial and chemical change. The most effective way to check it is to keep the waste slightly moistened. But better than this is to get it to the fields if possible. It is no failure in economy to fertilize grass plots which one plans to plow in the fall or following spring. If manure be applied directly to the grasses in small amounts and thinly spread no loss of fertility elements will occur. Distribution is always better than allowing the waste to pile up, although if properly protected it can be held for short periods without serious loss.



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LIQUID VENEER

Early Golf Reminiscence

The first golf club used on the first golf course built west of the Mississippi river is to be enshrined in a place of honor at the Wichita Country club. Prof. C. P. Clark, now of Hanover, N. H., who was responsible for the first course to be established at Wichita, has given the country club the stick, Professor Clark, who came from Massachusetts in 1857, says he never will forget the sensation created the first time he appeared on the streets of Wichita attired in knickers, a sweater and a cap.

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