



1—Four million-dollar Royal Hawaiian hotel to be opened at Waikiki Beach, Honolulu, on February 1. 2—New York's armored motorcycle squad formed to combat bank robbers and hold-up men. 3—Spanish war memorial of the Seventy-first regiment of New York. Just unveiled on Sa Juan Hill, Cuba.

NEWS REVIEW OF CURRENT EVENTS

President Asks an Income Tax Rebate—Fight on New Maine Senator.

By EDWARD W. PICKARD

CONGRESS convened for the short session, received President Coolidge's message and budget statement, and got down to work on the appropriation bills. The opening session of the senate was enlivened by an unusual incident. Four newly elected senators, Stewart of Iowa, Hawes of Missouri, Robinson of Indiana and Gould of Maine, marched down the center aisle to be sworn in when Senator Walsh of Montana stopped the proceedings by offering a resolution calling for an investigation of charges that Mr. Gould had presented officials of New Brunswick, Canada, with a gift of \$100,000 in a railroad deal eight years ago. The resolution provided that Mr. Gould should be permitted to take the oath of office, so that ceremony proceeded. Next day the senate voted, 70 to 7, that the privileges and elections committee should inquire into the charge. Mr. Gould merely asked that the investigation be speedy, asserting that it would vindicate him. He says the New Brunswick officials sought to hold him and his associates up in a railroad franchise grant and that he counseled resistance, but his associates came across.

On Wednesday congress was officially informed of the death of Senator William B. McKinley of Illinois, and both houses adjourned in respect to his memory. Vice President Dawes and Speaker Longworth appointed committees to attend the funeral in Champaign.

President Coolidge in his message made numerous recommendations for legislation, although it is admitted that there will be time to do little more than pass the necessary appropriation bills. The President asked the house ways and means committee to introduce a bill granting a reduction of income taxes due in March and June, 1927, stating that the surplus of government revenue for the current fiscal year which could be so applied was about \$383,000,000. He said he did not think any change in the special taxes or any permanent reduction was practical at this time. The Democratic leaders have indicated that they will demand a permanent reduction.

In the matter of farm relief legislation Mr. Coolidge reasserted his opposition to anything in the nature of price fixing by the government, but suggested that something might be done to solve the surplus problem by supplementing the operations of the co-operative marketing organizations. As for the cotton growers, he said they must reduce their acreage for the coming year by about one-third. Corn belt leaders in congress answered this clause of the message with the announcement that the McNary-Haugen bill would be reintroduced at once.

Mr. Coolidge recommended that the Philippines be transferred from military to civil rule as soon as possible, but said the islands should not be given complete independence until the natives are "politically fitted for self-government and economically independent." He added the assurance that the United States would always bear some responsibility for the defense of the islands.

Concerning prohibition the message called for reform of abuses in enforcement and said congress should speedily enact such supplementary legislation as the Treasury department might ask to strengthen the Volstead act. The first of the treasury measures was introduced in the house Wednesday and it included the appropriation of \$500,000 for "advances to be made by special disbursing agents," which means the purchasing of evidence. Several members of the committee refused to vote for this, and others said they would fight it on the floor of the house.

ANOTHER angle of the prohibition matter was presented Wednesday when the Chief Executive trans-

mitted the budget estimates of expenditures for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1928. Here is what he said: "For the enforcement of prohibition nearly \$30,000,000 is provided in the budget by direct and indirect appropriations. The coast guard has been enlarged and strengthened to enable it to prosecute effectively its part of the campaign of enforcement, while the other enforcement agencies have been amply financed."

"Whatever is necessary to put into effect the expressed will of the people as written into the eighteenth amendment and the will of the congress as expressed in the Volstead act will be done. Whatever funds may be necessary to vindicate the law and secure compliance with all its provisions should be provided. The constitutional duties of the President and the congress make any other course indefensible."

Naturally the wets didn't like this at all, and they were reinforced by the advocates of strong national defense when the budget figures for the army and navy were read. For those branches it is proposed to expend in the coming year more than \$7,000,000 less than in the 1927 fiscal year. Though the coast guard fleet is to be increased, the navy will have to place some of its 300 ships in reserve and it is alleged the fleet is undermanned and suffering deterioration for lack of funds. The decline in the personnel of the army already had been called to public attention by army officials. The budget provides for \$574,000,000 for national defense, and the President said this was "a very considerable amount to spend for protection in time of peace."

Mr. Coolidge called attention to the fact that no provision is made in the estimates of the Navy department for commencing construction of the remaining three of the eight light cruisers which the act of December 18, 1924, authorizes to be undertaken prior to July 1, 1927. He expressed his approval of this omission. Against this "interference" the house naval affairs committee promptly revolted. Secretary of the Navy Willbur and his chief aids were called before the committee and told that of the eight cruisers mentioned, which were scheduled for completion in 1927, only two have been started and they cannot be completed before 1929. Chairman Butler then declared that so far as he and most of the majority members of the committee were concerned, no more navy proposals will be approved until assurances are received that, once authorized, the programs will be pushed to completion in accordance with the legislation.

Under a special order the house passed the senate bill providing for increases in the salaries of federal judges in the Supreme, Circuit, District and other courts.

REVERTING to the agriculturists, the American Farm Bureau Federation was in session in Chicago and apparently got the Middle West and the South together on a proposed program of farm relief. They adopted the ideas of Frank O. Lowden and outlined a surplus control measure which they will ask congress to pass. Briefly, it will do these things:

Provide a federal farm board, administering an adequate revolving fund, with whose help surpluses can actually be handled by co-operative agencies created by the farmers.

Distribute the costs of managing surpluses just as broadly as the resultant benefits are distributed, that is, over each marketed unit of a particular commodity through the equalization fee.

The federation adopted a long list of resolutions on matters vital to agriculture, and elected these new directors: Central section, Hugh Harper, Lancaster, Wis.; eastern section, E. B. Cornwall, Middlebury, Vt.; southern, Frank Demnick, Shuteston, La.; western section, M. S. Winder, Salt Lake City. Re-elected officers were: W. H. Settle, Indianapolis; J. F. Porter, Columbus, Tenn., and C. S. Brown, Mesa, Ariz.

ITALY'S recently signed treaty with Albania has stirred up a great fuss in the Balkans and in some European capitals there were fears that it would lead to another war. The Serbs were especially angry, feeling that it was directed primarily against them, and

Foreign Minister Ninichich resigned, and was followed out by the entire Jugo-Slav cabinet. This was a surprise to the Italians for they had considered Ninichich their good friend. Officially, Mussolini's government declared the treaty contained no secret military clauses and could in no way be considered injurious to peace in the Balkans. It was, said the Italians, merely a pact of friendship and arbitration between Italy and Albania, insuring peace, guaranteeing absolute sovereignty and territorial integrity to Albania, and confirming and emphasizing the principles upheld by the League of Nations.

PREMIER MUSSOLINI, by a decree in law, has imposed a tax on all bachelors in Italy between the ages of twenty-five and sixty-five. This is another step in his campaign against birth control. The tax is progressive according to income, and the proceeds will be turned over to the National Institute for the Protection of Motherhood and Childhood. Unmarried women are not subject to the tax.

MOST eminent of those taken by death last week was Claude Monet, the French painter. He was eighty-six years old and the last survivor of the great impressionist group of the 80's which included Manet, Renoir, Pissarro and Sisley.

ACTIVITIES of the administration in behalf of Adolfo Diaz, president of Nicaragua, seem fated to prove decidedly injurious to the prestige of the United States in Latin America. Juan B. Sacasa, who was the candidate of the revolutionary liberals, has set up his government in Puerto Cabezas and has been formally recognized as president by Mexico. This lead is expected to be followed by Salvador, Guatemala and Panama, while Costa Rica and Honduras are awaiting developments. Guatemala sent an offer of mediation, but Diaz considered this as favoring Mexican intervention. However, he advised Sacasa that he would give him safe conduct to the interior to discuss peace negotiations. Sacasa's followers are confident that he will win eventually and must be recognized by the United States. Toward the end of the week it was reported that Sacasa and his cabinet were effectually penned up in Puerto Cabezas by American warships.

WHEN the League of Nations council began its December session in Geneva it was confronted by the demands of Germany that allied military control of that country be abolished and that the evacuation of the Rhineland take place speedily. Opposed to these demands was the determination of the French that France and her allies on the east first be assured against future aggression. Stresemann, Chamberlain and Briand had private conversations and reached an agreement on the military control question. The new accord provides that the interallied military control commission, with headquarters in Berlin since the armistice, will leave Germany and be dissolved by January 15 or 20. Supervision of Germany's disarmament will be placed in charge of a league commission, as provided by the covenant.

The three foreign ministers then tackled the other problem, and it was said they probably would agree on an early evacuation of the Coblenz and Mayence bridgeheads and the withdrawal of all British and Belgian troops of occupation.

THE League of Nations virtually lost another member, for under pressure from Shia Ting, representing the Canton Kuomintang government, the delegate from the nominal Peking government, Chao Hsin-chu, agreed to take no active part in the proceedings and to make no commitments regarding China. Shia said the Kuomintang, which claims to be the only real government in China, does not recognize the league and would not join it after the civil war is ended unless the powers recognized its full independence and sovereignty. He said further that China is ready to join Russia, Turkey, Persia and Afghanistan in the Asiatic league which was really started by the recent meeting of Tchitcherine of Russia and Rushdy Bey of Turkey in Odessa.

Show Value of Pure-Bred Sire

Results Given of Thirty-Year Breeding Tests With Beef Cattle.

(Prepared by the United States Department of Agriculture.)

Ten years of the thirty-year breeding demonstration with beef cattle at Sni-a-Bar farms, Grain Valley, Mo., have been concluded and the results made available in printed form to the public. The demonstration farm, which is primarily for the purpose of showing the profitable results that can be obtained by the use of pure-bred sires bred to common cows, was established by W. R. Nelson, a public-spirited citizen interested in live stock. Since his death in 1915 the farms have been operated by the trustees of his estate.

The breeding work on the farms is conducted along scientific lines, although conditions such as are found on the average live-stock farm are adhered to in the handling of the stock, feeding and marketing. Public demonstrations have been held annually and in recent years have been attended by about 10,000 visitors. The results of the progress made in the first decade are the basis for Miscellaneous Circular No. 74-M, just issued by the United States Department of Agriculture.

Foundation Female Stock.

The foundation female stock for the breeding work consisted of 200 "common red cows," showing evidence of Shorthorn breeding, selected by Mr. Nelson at the Kansas City stock yards. The cows were of fair to good quality. Judged from a market standpoint, and of good size. They were from four to five years old, most of them with calf and dry. A few had calves at side. This basis for selection insured having animals that would breed.

The equipment and arrangement of the farm were typical of what the average farmer could provide. Mr. Nelson decided that his stock should have no better feed or care than would be possible on any farm. He had a preference for roan steers, believing that they possessed superior feeding qualities. Since one method of obtaining the roan color is to breed white bulls to red cows, he selected white Shorthorn bulls to use with the red cows. Later breeding work, however, included many roan bulls. The original female stock has been added to from time to time by purchase of similar cows. By the fall of 1922 the breeding stock at Sni-a-Bar farms had increased to more than 1,000 head.

Summary of Conclusions.

A summary of the conclusions drawn from this study by the authors of this circular includes the following:

The use of pure-bred sires of acceptable quality results in successive improvement in the quality of the calf crop, as shown by conformation and market price.

The greatest single step toward improved quality, compared with common stock, occurs in the first cross. Subsequent crosses increase quality and market value still more.

Quality and the best market prices are approximately in proportion to the number of crosses of pure breeding.

After the third or fourth cross the offspring compare very favorably with pure-bred stock in conformation, and only exceptionally good sires can bring about further improvement.

Steers sired by pure-bred bulls at Sni-a-Bar farms have topped the market sixteen out of twenty times and have four times been the highest for the year to date of sale on the Kansas City market for fat yearling steves.

Early maturity is a conspicuous result of beef-cattle improvement through the use of pure-bred sires.

Steers raised at Sni-a-Bar farms as a part of the demonstration have sold consistently for about \$2 a hundred pounds more than the average of other cattle on the same market, and during the period of high prices in 1918 for as high as \$5.95 a hundred above the market average.

Showing results are in general agreement with market preferences so far as indicated by the successful showing of Sni-a-Bar stock in market classes and by sales of similar cattle on the market.

The demonstration shows clearly that breeding is a dominant factor in the production of high-quality beefes and that good feeding and management will not return best results unless the element of good breeding is present also.

In grading up farm cattle the quality of calves is approximately in proportion to the individual excellence of the sires used, hence the importance of selecting bulls possessing qualities sought for in the offspring.

Give Pullets Plenty of Ventilation and Roosts

Many pullets that weighed but two ounces in April are now trying to fit their two pounds into the same two-ounce space to roost. Such crowding is not a help in building a strong, vigorous body for the pullet to start the winter with. Give your pullets plenty of ventilation and room in the house, and shade on the range.

A good poultryman will allow his pullets to attain full growth and come into production naturally. Forced hot-house products are always tender and cannot stand cold weather. They can and will do the natural way better themselves than with the help of any arbitrary feeding. Place mash and grain in a hopper and keep it before them all the time and the pullets will help themselves as they need it.

State Activity in Forestry Movement

Urged for Main Progress in Timber Growing.

(Prepared by the United States Department of Agriculture.)

State rather than federal activity in forest conservation must be looked to for the main progress in timber growing from now on, W. B. Greeley, chief of the forest service, United States Department of Agriculture, told the meeting of state foresters assembled at Washington to confer on federal co-operation in forestry. The federal forest policy for a good many years to come, according to the chief forester, was completed with the enactment of the Clarke-McNary law in 1924, providing for financial co-operation in forest fire control between the federal government, the states and private land owners, and the chief development henceforth should be in the forestry undertakings of states, local institutions and individuals.

Fifty million acres of forest land should be acquired by the states, counties and municipalities, in addition to their present holdings of eleven million acres, said Mr. Greeley, and the federal government should add eight or ten million acres to its present forest area of eighty-nine million acres. "Perhaps the greatest single obstacle to the rapid spread of timber growing in the United States," he continued, "is the unstable ownership of forest land; and it is incumbent upon public agencies to put greater stability into our forest land situation by a vigorous extension of public forest ownership, not only as meeting an urgent problem in land utilization but as offering substantial public returns in the long run. Moreover the more demonstration we can get in all parts of the country of good forest practice and profitable forest management the more will the whole process of reforestation by all agencies be stimulated."

Select Breed of Fowls for a Certain Purpose

In selecting your breed of fowls for fattening and market purposes, it is well to remember that the mid-weight and heavy breeds, such as the Plymouth Rocks, Wyandottes, Rhode Island Reds and Whites, Orpingtons, Brahams, etc., will stand confinement better and will put on more weight than will the lighter breeds such as the Leghorns, Anconas, Andalustians, etc. These lighter-weight breeds are of a more nervous disposition and seem to fret it off faster than you can feed it on.

Many experiments prove that where a bunch of Leghorn cockerels have had a small range they made nice gains and did much better than those that were confined in the crates. There has been a great deal printed the last year or two about the low prices paid for Leghorns. On account of the rapid development of the specialty egg farms, most of which use the Leghorns, there have been a lot of Leghorns dumped on the market, more so than in years gone by.

No one will blame Leghorn breeders for wanting to get all they can for their surplus males and old hens, but there is no use trying to make a meat fowl from them that will top the market. The meat is of longer fiber, is harder, and there is not so much of it.

Profitable Sheep Flock Is Result of Hard Work

A profitable flock of sheep is the result of careful culling, selection, and breeding along a well planned program. The goal of the fine-wool sheep grower should be a lamb and a 12 to 14-pound fleece a year from each ewe. The down breeds ought to average fleeces weighing from 9 to 11 pounds and lambs marketable at five months of age.

About two-thirds of the income from Merino flocks is derived from the sale of wool and one-third from lambs. Generally, with flocks of mutton breeding, this order is reversed; one-third of the income comes from the sale of wool and two-thirds from the lambs. This emphasizes the fact that, regardless of the breeding of the sheep, heavy fleeces and a large percentage of lambs are worth while.

FARM NOTES

Every child in America should have a quart of milk a day and every adult at least a pint.

Experiments have shown that the highest-producing hens mature early. They should, however, be vigorous and have good size, too.

Artificial light will stimulate the egg production of normal hens. It makes little difference to which end of the natural day it is added.

Loading hens in the farm flock eat the profits the busy biddies make. Good poultrymen keep them just long enough to consign them to a butcher.

Use oats as a nurse crop for sweet clover rather than barley. In either case the nurse crop should be seeded at about one-half the normal rate of planting.

Clover and alfalfa have about the same effect in building up the soil. Both are good. Clover is most generally used for that purpose, because seed is cheaper and in many places is easier to get a stand of clover.

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