

1—Bibb Graves, the new governor of Alabama. 2—"Queen Marie" float in annual Mummers' parade in Philadelphia. 3—Al Smith about to take his seat in the New York gubernatorial chair at his fourth inauguration.

NEWS REVIEW OF CURRENT EVENTS

Senate Ready to Exclude Mr. Smith of Illinois—Navy Controversy.

By EDWARD W. PICKARD

FRANK L. SMITH, senator-designate from Illinois, will not be permitted to take his seat in the United States senate if the plan agreed upon by apparently a great majority of the senators is carried out. When and if he presents his credentials, they are to be referred to the committee on privileges and elections, and whatever may be the report of that committee on his qualifications, it seems certain that he will be excluded on the ground that he is disqualified for an office of public trust by his acceptance of money from the public utility magnates, whose properties were subject to the regulation of the Illinois commerce commission, of which he at the time was chairman.

This program was adopted after the senate had heard a long speech from McKellar of Tennessee, Democrat, vehemently demanding the exclusion of Smith. Borah, Deneen and some others indicated an intention of contending that Smith should be permitted to take the oath pending the investigation of his qualifications. This would permit him to defend himself before the senate, and it was said he was prepared to do this partly by telling the sources of Republican campaign funds in 1924 and arguing that he is no more disqualified for public office than is President Coolidge.

CONGRESSIONAL advocates of a bigger navy continued their efforts toward that end during the week, but the President stood so firmly on his platform of economy that their ultimate defeat was predicted. They thought Mr. Coolidge had been forced to modify his program when Representative Tilson, Republican floor leader, introduced an amendment to the pending naval supply bill for an appropriation for the construction of the three unbuilt light cruisers authorized in 1924. But the President immediately wrote a letter to Representative French declaring that his attitude advising against any construction other than the completion of the five 1924 cruisers now under way, pending the outcome of negotiations for another limitation of armament conference, remains unchanged. Representative Britten of Illinois, who had introduced an amendment for the elevation of turret guns on 11 battleships, thought the President was too optimistic about that conference. Another amendment, providing for the construction of a new dirigible, was adopted.

Of almost equal importance in the matter of national defense was the inquiry into the general state of the army begun by the house military affairs committee. Among the first witnesses heard were Secretary of War Davis and Maj. Gen. Fox Conner, deputy chief of staff. They told the committee that the budget bureau's cuts in the appropriations asked by the War department would make necessary a reduction of 4,998 in the army personnel, which already is 8,000 below the average strength of the last four years.

In the senate the demands of the "big navy" men were voiced by Senator Johnson of California, who declared it the height of folly to cripple our first line of defense at a time when our war creditors are hating us and all the world is envying our prosperity. Senator Hale of Maine, chairman of the naval affairs committee and an administration supporter in most things, followed with a speech in favor of building the American navy in all classes of ships up to the 5-53 ratio established by the Washington conference.

WETS in both the senate and the house opened up a vigorous attack on the policy of the federal government which permits the use of deadly poisons in the denaturing of alcohol as a part of the enforcement of the prohibition law. They had a long list of deaths laid to the drinking of

poisoned liquor during the holidays, and their denunciations were fierce. The senate adopted a resolution introduced by Edwards of New Jersey calling upon Secretary of the Treasury Mellon to produce whatever correspondence may have passed between the Treasury department and Wayne B. Wheeler, general counsel of the Anti-Saloon league, in connection with the poisoning of industrial alcohol to make it unfit for beverage purposes. Several members of the house introduced resolutions and other measures dealing with the use of poisonous denaturants. Mr. Celler of New York raised a storm by asserting that congressmen drink to excess and refused to retract though others declared the assertion was "an utter falsehood."

Brig. Gen. Smedley D. Butler, who fought the bootleggers and grafters of Philadelphia for many months, seems to have changed his mind about prohibition. In an address in Oakland, Calif., the commander of marines on the Pacific coast denounced the eighteenth amendment as class legislation, saying it reaped against the poor man and favored the rich one. Its principal merit, he indicated, is the manner in which enforcement has grown-out of it.

MATTERS between Cantonese forces and the British approached a real crisis last week when a mob of Chinese at Hankow, infuriated by anti-foreign harangues, attacked the British concession, looted the revolutionary buildings, hoisted the revolutionary flag and forced the foreign business houses to close. The British residents fled to the French and Japanese concessions and all the British women and children in Hankow, Kiangsi and Ichang were removed by vessels, most of them being taken to Shanghai. The Cantonese officials were appealed to by the British consul and the inadequate British forces there were withdrawn, control of the area being rendered to the nationalist commander. The British government ordered naval reinforcements from Hongkong, and American and French naval forces were held ready to land if the necessity arose. The hostility of the natives in the Yangtze valley so far is directed almost wholly against the British.

FOR the first time since their withdrawal in August, 1925, the American marines are in Managua, Nicaragua, together with some American sailors—166 in all—commanded by Capt. Julius C. Townsend of the navy. Landing from the U. S. S. Galveston at Corinto, the party went to the capital by train and was warmly welcomed by the Nicaraguan national guard and the officials of the Diaz government. It was sent to Managua ostensibly to guard the American legation and on the recommendation of Admiral Latimer, who is maintaining the neutral zone he established along the eastern coast of Nicaragua. Actually one of the important factors prompting this action by the Washington government is the determination to protect the proposed canal route across Nicaragua, for which the United States paid \$3,000,000, and also to protect our leased naval base on the Gulf of Fonseca. Support of the Diaz government is a part of this policy. Fully as important as the landing of the marines was the decision of President Coolidge to lift the embargo on the shipment of arms and to permit Diaz to get the 1,000 rifles, 100 machine guns and several million rounds of ammunition which he purchased in the United States. This was not pleasing to Senator Borah, who declared that under existing conditions it was intervention. The foreign relations committee of the senate, which has before it a resolution by Senator Wheeler calling for immediate withdrawal of American naval forces from Nicaragua, decided to ask Secretary Kellogg to explain to it this week the entire Nicaraguan situation.

TRANS-ATLANTIC radiophone service between New York and London was put in operation on Friday. The first communication was a formal one between Walter S. Gifford, president of the American Telephone and Telegraph company, and Sir G. Evelyn P. Murray, secretary of the British general post office. After that the "line" was thrown open for general service and there was plenty of that, for applications had been coming in for many days.

SOUTHERN California started in the New Year with a series of 50 severe earthquakes that, while killing no one, did a lot of damage in the Imperial valley. The effects of the tremors was felt also in northern Mexico. The heaviest losses were in Calexico and its sister town, Mexicali across the border.

can government will thus be thrown into the Supreme court. There it may wage for many months, if not for years. Meanwhile, if they continue to extract oil from the properties they occupy illegally, they face federal suits for indemnification.

TWO important manifestoes emanated from Premier Mussolini of Italy last week. In one the duke orders the prefects of all provinces to suppress ruthlessly all illegalism and violence by Fascists, especially when directed against the representatives in Italy of foreign nations. Particularly Mussolini referred to "squadristi," or little bands of Fascist strong-arm men, who, while important in the days immediately preceding the establishment of the Fascist regime, have now outlived their usefulness.

At the same time the duke announced that Fascism henceforth meant the Italian state, and, through the cabinet, further fascitized the state by extending to all employees of the public administration the law providing for the dismissal of employees hitherto applicable to the central political departments.

BRIG. GEN. RAFAEL CRAME, chief of the Philippine constabulary, died a few days ago, and another conflict over his successor is due between Governor General Wood and the Philippine senate under the leadership of Manuel Quezon. It is regarded as certain that General Wood will name an American for the post, and Quezon says the senate will not confirm the appointment of an American. General Crame, who was appointed by former Gov. Gen. Francis Burton Harrison, was of Spanish-Philippine descent. He was considered fairly efficient as chief, but the organization, which is thoroughly Philippinized except for about a dozen American field officers, is admittedly not up to the standard set when American army officers headed it.

IN A report to the President, the United States St. Lawrence river commission advocated the immediate construction of the St. Lawrence shipway as a measure of transportation relief for the Middle West. The conclusions of the commission are thus summarized:

"First: The construction of the shipway from the Great Lakes to the sea is imperative both for the relief and for the future development of a vast area in the interior of the continent.

"Second: The shipway should be constructed on the St. Lawrence route, provided suitable agreement can be made for its joint undertaking with the Dominion of Canada.

"Third: The development of the power resources of the St. Lawrence should be undertaken by appropriate agencies.

"Fourth: Negotiations should be entered into with Canada in an endeavor to arrive at agreement upon all these subjects. In such negotiations the United States should recognize the proper relations of New York to the power development in the international section."

Senator Shipstead of Minnesota introduced a resolution requesting the President to enter into the necessary negotiations with Canada. It was indicated at the White House that President Coolidge regards the reports favoring the St. Lawrence project as representing the judgment of the best experts available, but that he has not yet given his own indorsement.

BRING in all the farm machinery and store it.

Good foundations under buildings are one of the most important things about buildings.

Keep plenty of fresh water before the fattening hogs. Slop will not answer the purpose.

The man who departs from the beaten track of a good balanced ration pays for it sooner or later.

A movable brooder house with a coal stove in it is an economical means of raising a large number of chicks at one time.

Factors Fixing Price of Hogs

Percent and Prospective Supplies Are Among Dominant Influences.

(Prepared by the United States Department of Agriculture.)

Financial returns of hog producers depend to a considerable extent upon how well they adjust the volume of their production to the demand for the product, declares the Department of Agriculture as a result of a study of the factors that affect hog prices.

The dominant influences in the hog market, says the department, are the supply of hogs on the market and expected to arrive on the market within the next few months, the quantity of hog products in storage, the general price level, general business conditions, and the prices of alternative products. The general levels of demand, here and abroad, are both important, but ordinarily change only slowly.

Hog-Price Cycle.

The so-called "hog-price cycle" was found by the department to be due to the tendency of hog producers to overshoot the mark in increasing production when the relation of hog prices to corn prices was favorable, and to reduce too much when it was unfavorable. This excessive reaction, says the department, resulted from the accumulation of production changes during the interval before reduced or increased breeding began to offset market receipts and prices.

Coupling the corn-hog ratio, indicating what changes were likely to occur in breeding, with other factors indicating changes in the weight of hogs and the demands of the consumers, the department believes that very good forecasts of hog prices could have been made for the prewar period. Since the war, however, conditions have been so unstable that the purely mathematical formula has not given such satisfactory results.

Information From Surveys.

The department believes that its pig surveys have provided the hog market with much better information as to prospective supplies than were available before the World War, while the agricultural outlook reports of the department and similar information from other sources may be tending to change farmers' reactions.

Full details of the study have been published in Department Bulletin 1440-D, entitled "Factors Affecting the Price of Hogs," copies of which may be obtained from the Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C.

Diseases of Lambs Are Discussed in Bulletin

With the increase in the lamb feeding industry in Colorado diseases have made their appearance, and in some years losses have been excessive. As the winter feeding season is in full force a bulletin published by the Colorado experiment station on "Diseases of Colorado Feeding Lambs" becomes particularly timely.

This bulletin is prepared for the feeder, to whom it will furnish valuable information. It will also serve veterinarians who practice in lamb-feeding districts and to whom the feeder will naturally turn for advice and counsel.

Among the diseases which cause a loss in lambs on winter feed it deals briefly with the following: Hemorrhagic septicaemia, paratyphoid dysentery, colicidal dysentery, overeating, sore mouth, indigestion, bloating, diarrhea, pneumonia, scab, ticks and others.

Vital Plant Foods Lost When Straw Is Burned

Some small grain farmers still burn their straw stacks apparently unaware that straw is valuable.

Clean straw should be used for bedding whenever possible. It may thus add to the comfort of farm animals and later replenish the soil by its return to the land as manure. It is realized that more straw is produced on many farms than can be used for this purpose. Where a large surplus of straw is on hand it is sometimes desirable to scatter it over the land, disking it in, and plowing it under as fertilizer. Sometimes soil moisture is a limiting factor and means that the straw would remain in the soil for a long time unrotted. A good practice would be to leave the straw stack to rot and later haul the residue to the land as manure. It takes a year or more for the straw to rot, depending on the rainfall. The stack should be located where it will not seriously interfere with cultural operations.

FARM NOTES

Bring in all the farm machinery and store it.

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A movable brooder house with a coal stove in it is an economical means of raising a large number of chicks at one time.

Growers Warned to Cull Damaged Corn

Injured Ears Result in Low Grades Being Set.

(Prepared by the United States Department of Agriculture.)

Heavy losses may be sustained by corn growers this year unless damaged corn is culled from market shipments, the Department of Agriculture says in a warning to producers.

The corn crop, especially in many sections of Minnesota, Iowa, Illinois, Indiana and Ohio, contains a large proportion of damaged ears, according to reports of producers, grain dealers and grain inspection records. Market discounts will be assured unless shipments are free from damaged corn, the department says.

Damaged ears in the corn when shelled result in low grades being assigned the corn when it reaches terminal markets and is graded by licensed grain inspectors, it was pointed out. Low-grade corn takes a discount in price in approximate proportion to the quantity of low-grade-corn sent to market.

To prevent market discounts where shelled corn contains damaged kernels, corn producers and country corn dealers are urged by the department to pick out the damaged ears either at the time corn is husked in the field, when it is put into cribs, or when it is shelled. To obtain best results, the damaged ears should be removed at each of these three operations.

By removing the damaged ears before the corn is shelled, says the department, the remainder of the corn can be stored with less danger of becoming damaged, and such corn generally will grade higher by one or more grades, and sell more readily at a higher price by several cents per bushel. The damaged ears, while practically worthless on the market, will make fairly good feed on the farm.

Timothy Declared Poor Feed for Producing Milk

Clover, alfalfa and other legumes make far better hay for dairy cows and produce better milk than the best timothy, says C. C. Hayden, chief of dairy husbandry, Ohio experiment station. Yet questions coming to his department daily reveal the fact that many farmers still feed their milk cows timothy hay and corn stover.

The milk from cows fed timothy hay or stover and dry grains is low in vitamins, Mr. Hayden continues, and is not as valuable for children as that from cows fed bright legume hay. If timothy must be grown for hay it is best if cut very soon after the heads appear.

If no clover or alfalfa is coming on for use next winter, the best substitutes are soy bean hay or field peas and oats. The peas and oats are seeded together as soon as the ground can be prepared and the soy beans are seeded after danger of frost.

Value of Lime Learned by Progressive Farmers

We cannot grow legumes successfully without the use of lime, and we cannot improve our farm lands to any great extent without legumes. Furthermore, legume crops, besides drawing nitrogen from the air and storing it in soils for the benefit of other crops, and supplying organic matter which is necessary to enrich the land, furnish the very best feed for live stock.

It is an old saying that "a limestone country is a rich country." It is always a good country for producing clover and the grasses and fine cattle, horses, sheep and hogs. But any soil can be made a limestone soil by applications of pulverized limestone, and for this reason the use of lime is on the increase in all lime-lean sections where progressive farmers have learned something of its value.

Ohio Flocks Increased Egg Production in 1926

The average production of the poultry demonstration flocks in Ohio has increased from 97 eggs for the first nine months of 1925 to 111 eggs per hen for the past nine months of this poultry year.

Flock owners co-operating in this project of the Ohio State university agree to keep cost and production records. Specialists from the university help the owners to keep their flocks in best possible condition. These flocks serve as practical demonstrations of what proper methods and care will do.

Demonstration flocks are expected to double the state average production per hen this year. Last year the average hen in the state produced 70 eggs each, while the demonstration flocks averaged 138 eggs each.

William Pitt's Advice to Plant Trees Was Fit

The Aurora (Ill.) Beacon News says William Penn advised the colonists to plant trees in one acre in every five. When he said it the country was woods and not much else, and Penn's advice sounded foolish.

But today we have \$1,000,000 acres of idle land in the United States, most of it east of the Mississippi river, and are confronted with a shortage in timber.

The center of the lumber industry today is in the Rocky mountain country. For the eastern states that means big freight bills. It is not too late, even now, to take Penn's advice. We need trees.



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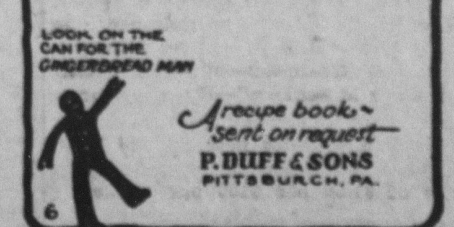
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