



1—Armed native soldiers marching through British concession in Hankow, China, for the first time. 2—President Coolidge's household goods being moved into the temporary White House. 3—Scene at Long Beach, Long Island, after the storm that swept the North Atlantic seaboard.

## NEWS REVIEW OF CURRENT EVENTS

### President Coolidge Vetoes the Farm Relief Bill—Crisis at Shanghai.

By EDWARD W. PICKARD

PRESIDENT COOLIDGE on Friday vetoed the McNary-Haugen farm relief bill, and all hope for governmental relief for the agriculturists was abandoned until the next congress shall meet. The chief executive, in one of the longest veto messages ever received by congress, repeated his already well-known reasons for considering the bill economically unsound and fallacious. He said it was a price fixing scheme indirectly and would put the government into buying and selling. He condemned the equalization fee as a tax on some farmers for the benefit of others. He asserted the plan would increase production and lower the world price to a point that would result in flooding the country with foreign farm product imports over the tariff wall. The President appended an opinion by Attorney General Sargent holding the bill unconstitutional in numerous particulars.

Whatever may be the opinion of the soundness of Mr. Coolidge's reasons for vetoing the bill or of his political wisdom in this respect, there is no question of his consistency and his courage in the matter. In the central West the immediate reaction to the veto was a definite determination to put Frank O. Lowden in the running for the Presidential nomination at the next national convention. The Democrats in congress saw an opportunity to win the farmer votes for tariff reduction.

MATTERS in China moved rapidly toward a crisis last week. Following his crushing defeat at Hangchow by the Nationalists, Marshal Sun Chuan-fang, hitherto ruler of Kiangsu province, gave up Hangchow, Kashing and Ningpo, second largest port in Chekiang province, and retired on Shanghai. At the same time the Nationalists in Shanghai started a general strike which, though nominally directed against Sun, was actually an anti-foreign demonstration and pretty effectively tied up business and traffic in the city. The Chinese officials tried to curb it by the summary execution of scores of leaders and student agitators whose heads were sliced off and stuck on poles in the streets. In the midst of the ruction Sun decided he was beaten and practically surrendered leadership of the anti-Canton forces there to Gen. Chang Chung-chang, boss of Fengtien, who entered the lower Yangtze valley with a large army. Crews of two of Sun's gunboats anchored in the Whangpoo river rebelled and began firing three-inch shells in the direction of the Shanghai arsenal. Owing to poor marksmanship nearly all the shells fell in the French concession, where several residences were struck. French gunboats speedily put an end to this performance. On Thursday the Nationalists called off the strike, partly because they were running out of funds and partly because of the terrorism of the executions. The beheadings ceased and most of the workers returned to their jobs.

Twelve hundred American marines arrived from San Diego on the transport Chaumont but not disembark. That made the total of American armed forces there about 2,300. Five American warships were at anchor in the Whangpoo and four more destroyers were on the way there. The British forces were constantly being strengthened, and the French were reinforced. All these may be needed when the expected struggle for possession of Shanghai starts between the Japanese and the armies of Marshal Thang Tso-lin which are moving from the north.

BY A vote of 208 to 172 the house accepted the senate amendment to the navy appropriation bill providing money for beginning the three light cruisers whose construction the Pres-

ident has insisted should be delayed. The house reduced the amount from \$1,200,000 to \$450,000, and the senate acquiesced in this change.

IN ORDER to provide a place of refuge for British subjects imperiled by the civil warfare in Nicaragua, the British government decided to send a cruiser to the Central American republic. This plan was adopted after the British charge d'affaires at Managua had notified the government that President Diaz and the American minister, Mr. Eberhardt, had stated they could not guarantee to protect British lives and property in case of renewed street fighting. It was stated in London that the sending of the warship does not indicate a change in the British policy in Latin America nor a change in attitude toward the Monroe doctrine. Secretary of State Kellogg in a formal statement said that "Admiral Latimer has been instructed from the beginning to protect foreign as well as American lives and property and is doing everything he can to do so."

Seemingly determined to put an end to the Sacaca rebellion, the American government sent more marines to Nicaragua and Admiral Latimer created new neutral zones for the purpose of keeping the railway in operation and of protecting the cities. Dispatches from Managua said President Diaz was about to submit to the Nicaraguan congress a proposal for a 100 year alliance with the United States which would mean practically the creation of a protectorate.

ITALY'S formal reply to President Coolidge's naval disarmament proposal was transmitted to Washington. It was a politely worded but flat rejection, and was drafted by Premier Mussolini himself. Before being a military or even political problem, naval defense is for Italy one of existence, the note says. Geography establishes characteristics which cannot be disregarded. Italy's position in Europe is determined entirely by the fact that her territorial limits are within one body of water, outlets of which are entirely controlled by other nations.

The note declares that so far as the European continent is concerned, there is an inalienable interdependence of all categories of armaments of every single power and that it is impossible to adopt the measure for only the five great naval powers.

Japan, on the other hand, has accepted the Coolidge proposal and says its delegates at Geneva will have full power to negotiate an agreement extending the limitation to all classes of fighting ships. But the Japanese reply makes it plain that the government is unwilling to extend the 5-5-3 ratio to cruisers, destroyers and submarines. For these vessels it wants a ratio nearer a parity with America and Great Britain.

SOVIET Russia has been twisting the British lion's tail too persistently, and last week it received from the British government a blunt warning that all relations between the two nations would be broken off unless it mended its ways at once. In the note, called one of the most outspoken ever formulated by the British foreign office, Sir Austen Chamberlain, foreign secretary, says that the relations between the British government and the union of soviet socialist republics "continue notoriously of an unsatisfactory nature." He declares that "there are limits beyond which it is dangerous to drive public opinion in Great Britain" and that a continuance of the breaches of the agreement sooner or later will cause a break between the two countries.

All Russia celebrated the ninth anniversary of the establishment of the Red army, and the press carried articles by leading soviet authorities asserting that the army was prepared to meet all eventualities.

WITH only a few days remaining before the end of the session, congressmen made an effort to rush through a lot of legislation. In the senate this was hampered by the filibuster carried on for the purpose of defeating the bill to dam the Colorado river in Boulder canyon. Ashurst of Arizona led this filibuster and frustrated all efforts of Johnson of California, author of the bill, to bring it to a vote. As the house steering committee had decided the measure should

not be taken up in the house unless acted on by the senate, it was considered practically dead so far as this congress was concerned.

In its intervals of real work the senate passed the house bill authorizing the veterans' bureau to make loans to veterans on their adjusted service certificates. The house passed the James bill authorizing an appropriation of \$8,491,000 for new barracks at various army posts. President Coolidge signed the radio act and the army appropriation bill.

WHEN Samuel Insull of Chicago appeared before the Reed committee in Washington he answered most of the questions concerning his contributions to the Illinois primary campaign funds, but flatly refused to tell to whom he gave \$40,000 for local political campaigns. Nor would he permit his attorney to reveal this. The public utilities magnate was instructed to return to the committee at the end of the week, and it was expected that he would persist in his refusal to reply to the question. Then, probably he will be cited for contempt, as will be Thomas W. Cunningham of Philadelphia, who would not reveal the source of \$50,000 he contributed to the Vare-Beldieman fund. State's Attorney Crowe of Chicago avoided citation by answering all questions.

SENATOR LA FOLLETTE of Wisconsin took the occasion of Washington's birthday to introduce in the senate this resolution:

"Resolved, That it is the sense of the senate that the precedent established by Washington and other Presidents of the United States in retiring from Presidential office after their second term, has become, by universal concurrence, a part of our republican system of government, and that any departure from this time-honored custom would be unwise, unpatriotic and fraught with peril to our free institutions."

In the house Representative Fairchild of New York introduced a resolution for amending the federal Constitution so that "no person shall be eligible to the office of President who has previously served two terms, whether by election or by succession due to the removal, death, resignation or inability of the President where the term of succession shall have continued for a period of two years or more."

Under the terms of the La Follette resolution, Mr. Coolidge would be ineligible for re-election next year. Under the Fairchild plan, he would be eligible.

COMMANDER FRANCESCO DI PINEDO of Italy, for the glory of Fascism, flew across the Atlantic ocean last week. He started from the Cape Verde Islands, off the coast of Africa, and flew direct to Fernando Noronha island, Brazil. He passed on with the intention of making the main land but encountered heavy seas off the coast and was forced to return to the island. After his plane is repaired Di Pinedo plans to fly to Jamaica, Cuba, New Orleans, St. Louis, Chicago and New York.

FOR two days and nights the North Atlantic seaboard was swept by furious winds and tremendous seas, and before the storm subsided it had taken nearly two score lives. Boats were wrecked, beach structures razed and sea walls smashed. Far out at sea the transatlantic shipping was crippled and the great liners were all many hours late.

COAL operators and miners in conference at Miami failed to agree on a wage scale for the bituminous field. The workers consistently refused to consider a reduction of wages. It is supposed generally that this means a strike on April 1, but authorities assert there will not be a complete cessation of production in the field.

OHIO lost one of her most distinguished sons in the death of Judson Harmon, who passed away unexpectedly in Cincinnati at the age of eighty-one years. Mr. Harmon was twice governor of Ohio, once attorney general of the United States, and several times a prominent possibility for the Democratic Presidential nomination.

## Long-Row Garden Big Labor Saver

### Greatly Increases Amount of Vegetables One Man Can Tend Properly.

One of the things that helps the American farmer produce half of the world's food supply with one-tenth of the world's man-power is the long-row vegetable garden, says B. L. Wenver of the horticulture division, college of agriculture, University of Illinois. "The chief item in vegetable production is man labor. Long rows speed to allow the use of horse or tractor-drawn tools greatly increases the amount of vegetables that one man can tend properly. If sod strips are left at the ends of farm gardens, almost all hand labor may be eliminated. For the small, long-row garden the wheel hoe will greatly facilitate cultivation.

**Enthusiasm Lacking.** "Accustomed to out-of-door tasks, the farmer lacks the enthusiasm that his city brother manifests in gardening. The farmer is inclined to look upon the garden as a necessary evil, and often confines it to a poorly chosen site of inadequate area, and leaves the care of it to the wife. The value of a garden should give it the best site available and an area sufficient to supply the needs of the family throughout the season.

"In a Missouri experiment with a large and a small garden, over a three-year period, net yearly average returns were: for the large garden, one-fourth acre, \$134.17; for the small garden, one-twentieth acre, \$47.28. On the basis of man labor, these gardens paid \$1.76 and \$1.63 respectively for every hour spent in their care. In addition to its economic value, the garden furnishes a supply of healthful, nutritious food of the highest quality available for consumption.

**Adequate Plan Essential.** "The best results cannot be obtained without an adequate plan for the garden operations. Such a plan is given in Circular 278 of the college of agriculture, University of Illinois. Approximate planting dates, the kinds and varieties to use, the amounts of seed required, and a detailed plan are given. By a little study, the plan may be adapted to gardens of varying size and shape.

"Variety selection, companion and succession cropping, good seed and good plants, soil fertility, cultivation, and insect and disease control are all factors in the making of a productive long-row garden on the farm or the city lot. Neglect of one or more of the factors mentioned will decrease the productivity of the garden. A good site, a good season, plus a little study and work assures a garden that one can be proud of."

## Some Vegetables Should Be Sown Early in Spring

The seed of certain kinds of vegetables should be sown early in the spring for best results, states W. T. Macoun, Canadian horticulturist. One should be prepared to begin operations in the garden as soon as the soil is dry enough. Those plants of which the leaves are eaten which should be started early are lettuce, spinach, mustard and cress, and there is little danger of planting them too soon. Other vegetables which are grown for their bulbs or roots may also be planted at the same time, though they are not quite so hardy as those grown for their leaves. Peas are about as hardy as these but may rot if the weather turns cold and wet. However, it usually pays to plant peas at the same time as the others, as early-sown peas give a much better crop as a rule than if sown late. Other vegetables which should be started early to get best results are cabbages, cauliflowers, tomatoes and melons. The latter will not stand any frost, hence the plants must be protected in hotbeds or cold frames or in the house until danger of frost is over. However, cabbage and cauliflower, if well hardened off before setting out, will stand several degrees of frost."

## FARM NOTES

Poor soils mean poverty-stricken farm homes.

Sow beans every ten days. The first bean crop is the best. It doesn't pay to make the same crop bear too much.

A day off occasionally to visit and study how successful farmers do it is a wise use of time even in a busy season.

Leafiness, good green color, soft stems, and freedom from weeds and trash are the best indications of high feed value in alfalfa hay.

Little potatoes are no good for seed, the Ohio agricultural experiment station says, unless you know they come from high-yielding disease-free hills.

There is an old saying that the best "catch crop" is to catch up with the weeds. That is well, but a better way is to keep ahead of them all the time.

Don't forget to plant the healthful string bean. They taste mighty good when winter comes. The Kentucky Wonder is a very prolific bean, and few, if any, excel it in flavor.

## Farm Woodlot Made to Return Profit

### Certain Trees of Low Value Should Be Cut.

Harvest time in the farm woodlot is here. Winter is the logical time for the farmer to cut his fuel, fence posts and such timber as he may need, says F. G. Wilson, extension forester at the Wisconsin College of Agriculture.

"Weeding" the woodlot should be practiced when the wood is harvested. Certain trees, such as scarlet and black oaks, ironwood, red maple and pin cherry, have such a low value that they should be considered as weeds. Cutting them for fuel and permitting other and more valuable trees to grow in their place is advised by the forester.

The farm woodlot may be made to yield a profit if given proper care, he states. For best results the woodlot must not be grazed and it should be protected from fires as much as possible. Unsound and badly formed trees should be removed and used as fuel. Overmature trees have reached or passed the point of greatest value and should be cut and disposed of to the best advantage, either as timber or fuel.

Another advantage of removing trees of inferior varieties is to prevent them from seeding in the openings. Where young growth is lacking, seedlings of valuable species such as walnut, black cherry, red oak, white oak, ash, basswood and pine may be placed in the vacant areas of these varieties seeded there.

Trees which are standing too thickly will grow spindly and many will die and decay. Thinning them, saving the best, should result in more timber of a much higher quality. Waste land, of which there is some on most farms, can be profitably utilized if timber is grown on it and given the proper care, in the opinion of the specialist.

## Sweet Clover Harmful in the Alfalfa Fields

Farmers who wish to sell a good quality of alfalfa seed cannot afford to allow sweet clover plants to remain in the crop. A few hours or days spent in removing these plants will be well repaid in the price received for alfalfa seed. The plants can be pulled or cut below the surface of the ground. Most buyers of seed object to the presence of sweet clover in alfalfa and a small amount of it may result in rejected shipments, loss of sales and various items of expense.

Buyers of certified seed expect to receive good seed and not a mixture. Sweet clover is a hindrance to the production of superior alfalfa seed. Through the extensive planting of sweet clover the seeds have become very general in the ground and it has become increasingly difficult to grow alfalfa without some sweet clover appearing in the seed crop either from volunteer plants in the field or from handling the alfalfa after sweet clover.

## Facts for Poultrymen Found in Experiments

Extensive investigations in breeding and feeding of poultry were carried on by the bureau of animal industry, United States Department of Agriculture, during the last fiscal year, according to a report of the chief of that bureau. In experiments with Rhode Island Reds and Single Comb White Leghorns for increased egg production, there was a higher proportion of 200-egg records than during any previous year.

Other experiments with poultry involved chick mortality, hatchability and fertility of eggs, inheritance of egg production, and various experiments in feeding for egg production. It was found that omitting limestone, a shell-forming ingredient, from the ration, reduced egg production 50 per cent.

## Soy Beans Are Better Protein Feed Than Corn

It is usually a good practice to sow soy beans with corn when the corn is to be hogged off, because the bean supply is a better protein feed than corn, and for this reason the soys are worth more than the corn they displace in the crop. From a soil fertility standpoint the beans would not have a high value, though there might be some. It depends on conditions a good deal. On very poor land or land very low in nitrogen and humus, the soys would have more value; but on good corn land which will grow 40 to 50 bushels of corn per acre, the beans would be the most likely to have derived about all the nitrogen they contain from the soil, and hence there would not be any new supply of nitrogen added to the soil.

## High-Yielding Pear Tree

The Bartlett pear produces most of its fruit on spurs which ordinarily live for many years. One of the requisites of a high yielding pear tree is that it have an abundance of vigorous spurs well distributed over the tree. The pruning should be of such a nature as to avoid shading the spurs by dense foliage; to keep the fruiting wood in a healthy, vigorous condition; and to provide new spurs to replace the old and weak spurs, as well as those which are injured or broken off during harvest.



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