

1.—Mount Vesuvius in eruption, a spectacle enjoyed by thousands of American tourists. 2.—Seymour Lowman being sworn in as assistant secretary of the treasury in charge of prohibition enforcement. 3.—Clarence Chamberlin about to make test take-off from runway built on the deck of the Leviathan.

## NEWS REVIEW OF CURRENT EVENTS

### Coolidge Startles Nation by Renouncing Chance of 1928 Nomination.

By EDWARD W. PICKARD

NOT in many years has the United States had a political sensation equal to that caused by President Coolidge's statement removing himself from the list of candidates for the Republican nomination next year. The statement, handed to the correspondents at Rapid City without comment, was merely: "I do not choose to run for President in 1928." Obviously this is susceptible of several interpretations. While it is generally accepted that Mr. Coolidge does not seek or desire the nomination, many believe that if his party insists on "drafting" him he will not decline the honor. However it is evident neither he nor his supporters will make a pre-convention campaign, and therefore the field is open to all.

As to Mr. Coolidge's reasons for this unexpected action, one guess is as good as another for he has vouchsafed no explanation. The Middle West agricultural group are satisfied that he became convinced that he had not won over the farmers to his views on farm relief despite his vacation among them. Others think that, being a profound traditionalist and a good judge of political trends, he became impressed with the danger of setting a third term precedent, as it might be considered, and that his popularity might wane with this; also perhaps he could foresee the end of the great reductions in public expenditures, in the probable new navy costs and in the necessity of putting out huge sums for flood relief and farm relief. In yet other quarters, especially in European capitals, it is thought that the main reason for the President's renunciation was the failure of the naval limitation conference in Geneva.

Every Republican politician who has called on Mr. Coolidge at the summer White House has assured him that the nomination was his for the asking, and to none of them had he intimated that he did not desire the honor. Mrs. Coolidge is said to have known of his intention and to have urged him to retire while at the height of his popularity and at the peak of his mental and physical strength.

Supporters of a dozen potential candidates for the Republican nomination got into action swiftly on the announcement of the President's decision. Of the possibilities, Frank O. Lowden had the best start, his friends being organized in various states. Next to him, perhaps, stands Secretary of Commerce Herbert Hoover, whose nomination is advocated by many party leaders. Both these men are popular in the South, Middle West and West, and neither is to be considered weak in the East. Vice President Dawes, an advocate of the McNary-Haugen farm relief measure, would have strong support if he went, after the nomination, his personality making him very popular. But Mr. Dawes will not be a candidate so long as Mr. Lowden has a chance. Conservative Republicans in considerable numbers might be expected to favor Speaker Nicholas Longworth or Charles E. Hughes. Senator William E. Borah of Idaho must be considered among the possibilities, and the radical Republicans of the old LaFollette group are being lined up by Senator Brookhart for Senator Norris of Nebraska. In Ohio the Coolidge following turned to Senator Simon D. Fess.

Probably the President's action will have no great effect on the contest for the Democratic nomination. However, if he is not nominated in spite of himself, the Democrats will be deprived of the "third term" issue, which might have been useful to them in the campaign.

JAPANESE delegates to the Geneva naval conference made a last hour attempt to save the parity by suggesting a compromise on cruisers and what amounted to a navy building holiday until 1931. But this was not acceptable to the British and little more so

to the Americans, so with the plenary session on Thursday the conference came to an inglorious end. Since the British would not yield in their demands, which meant continued supremacy on the seas, the American delegates, especially the naval experts, were glad to have the conference close without their having to make humiliating concessions for the sake of reaching an agreement. At the final session each delegation made a formal statement, a joint communique was issued by the conference as a whole, and the delegates left for their homes without ill feeling.

It is stated unofficially that President Coolidge will call another naval disarmament conference before his term ends, early in 1929, and that he will ask that it hold its sessions in Washington.

GOV. ALVAN T. FULLER of Massachusetts, after his long and careful investigation of the case of Nicola Sacco and Bartolomeo Vanzetti, decided that the condemned murderers should be executed on August 30. He said he was convinced that the two men were guilty of murder, that no evidence had been produced that warranted a new trial, and that their previous trial was fair and without prejudice. He could find no ground on which clemency could be claimed or granted. In reaching these conclusions the governor was aided by the advice of President A. Lawrence Lowell of Harvard, President Samuel W. Stratton of Massachusetts Institute of Technology and former Probate Judge Robert Grant. This commission arrived unanimously at a decision that was the same as that of the governor. Mr. Fuller spared no pains in his inquiry, interviewing the condemned men, the witnesses, the jurymen and Judge Thayer, who presided over the trial and who was accused of prejudice in its conduct. He also talked at length with Celestino Madeiros, the condemned murderer who made a confession that was designed to clear Sacco and Vanzetti of the charge against them. This confession, the governor was convinced, was false. The only remaining hope for the two men was that President Coolidge might intervene, but at Rapid City it was stated that this was not expected, since the President had always held that the case belonged wholly within the jurisdiction of the Massachusetts courts.

Word of Governor Fuller's decision was sent immediately to all American consulates and extra guards were provided in foreign cities where demonstrations in favor of Sacco and Vanzetti have occurred in the past. Radicals here and abroad, who have always held the men were convicted because they were radicals, tried to stir up disturbances in various places and it was announced that a general strike would be declared throughout Argentina. The radical press in Paris was enraged and undertook to create a sentiment there against the American Legion which is to convene in Paris.

PRESIDENT AND MRS. COOLIDGE journeyed to Deadwood Thursday and 300 Sioux Indians in full war paint and feathered headdresses welcomed him as the great white father and a big chief in their tribe. They kicked up their knees and bent their heads forward as the tom-toms beat out the message into the surrounding mountains that a new chief awaited their crown of eagle feathers, and Mr. Coolidge, equally pleased over his novel experience, looked forward to talking away with him the title of "Chief Leading Eagle."

Well to the fore were Chief Chauncey Yellow Robe, his daughter, Rosebud, and Chief Standing Bear, who were chosen to perform the coronation, and with them were Chiefs Kills a Hundred and Crazy Horse with a coronation speech in the Sioux language that was translated to the assembled crowd.

The celebration which President and Mrs. Coolidge attended, of which the Indian coronation was a part, was a reproduction of the frontier days in 1878, when Deadwood was the center of the Black Hills gold rush.

FIFTEEN planes are entered in the great aerial race from San Francisco to Hawaii for the \$35,000 offered by James D. Dole. The race starts on August 12 and the prizes go to the first

two to land on the island. Three of the aviators will make the flight unaccompanied. Among the others are two women, Miss Mildred Doran of Flint, Mich., and Mrs. W. P. Erwin of Dallas, Texas.

Another attempt of British aviators to make a nonstop flight to India failed when the plane piloted by C. R. Carr and E. C. Dearth was forced down in the Danube river near Linz. Neither man was injured.

After a lot of quarreling, Charles A. Levine and Maurice Drouhin, the French pilot, reached an agreement concerning the pay the aviator is to receive for flying the Columbia back to the United States and the insurance for his wife and family. It was understood the flight to New York might be started within two weeks.

For the benefit of the air mail service, Clarence Chamberlain made a successful test of taking off from a platform constructed on the deck of the Leviathan when the vessel was 80 miles out from New York. It was demonstrated that several hours could be saved in the landing of European mails.

SEYMOUR LOWMAN was sworn in as assistant secretary of the treasury in charge of prohibition enforcement, succeeding Lincoln C. Andrews. He said one of his greatest tasks would be the curbing of the radicals, both wets and dries, indicating that he would endeavor to pursue a middle ground policy. Next day he announced a shift in the machinery of his office. Positions of five zone supervisors were abolished. Maj. H. H. White was transferred from the post of assistant commissioner of prohibition to a new position known as general supervisor of field offices. Having just completed the reorganization of the Washington office of the prohibition bureau, Major White will now undertake the reorganization of branch offices throughout the country. Shakeups in some of the districts are in prospect.

IGNORING the walls of New York, Philadelphia and other Eastern cities, Tex Rickard decided last week that the Dempsey-Tunney prize fight for the heavyweight championship should take place in Chicago. The South park commissioners there agreed to lease the Soldier Field stadium to the promoter for \$100,000 for the one night. At first September 15 was selected as the date of the battle, but Jack Dempsey said he would not be ready before September 22, owing to his wife's illness and other matters, so the latter date was agreed upon. It is expected that the fight will draw a gate of at least \$2,000,000.

GOVERNOR DONAHEY and other Ohio officials were on edge all week with the prospect of serious trouble due to the determination of the coal operators of the state to reopen their mines on a non-union basis. The authorities at all mining centers were ready to do their best to keep the peace, and the governor was ready to send troops into the field as soon as it was evident civil authority had fallen down. He urged the miners and operators to reconvene their wage conference which ended in a deadlock at Miami last spring, and asked the co-operation in this plan of Governors Small of Illinois, Jackson of Indiana and Fisher of Pennsylvania.

AMERICAN tourists in Italy had a fine time witnessing the eruption of Mount Vesuvius, and throngs of them climbed to the summit of the volcano for a closer view of the sublime spectacle. Meanwhile the inhabitants of towns threatened by the outpouring of lava were abandoning their homes, though the director of the Vesuvius observatory thought the volcano would soon return to normal.

DOWAGER QUEEN MARIE of Rumania was put on the Rumanian pay roll at \$25,000 a year by the national council. The boy king, Michael I, was granted \$110,000 a year. Smaller grants were made to other members of the family of the late King Ferdinand.

Premier Bratiano has become virtual dictator of the country, for the regency is composed of three weaklings. Politically and militarily the premier is taking the fullest measures to frustrate any plans Prince Carol might have for gaining the throne.

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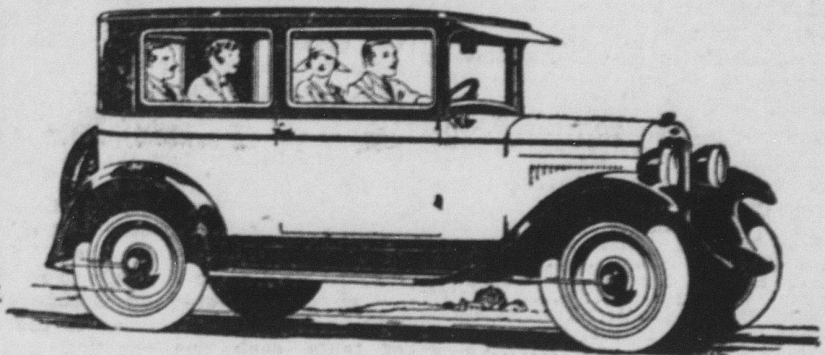
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QUALITY AT LOW COST

### Cheapside First Home of Great British Bank

How came the bank of England to be built? And why the appellation "The Old Lady of Threadneedle Street?" Mr. H. Rooksby Steele, a well-known London architect, supplies the answers in an article on the architectural history of Britain's bullion house. Many think that Sir John Soane, the wizard of Lincoln's Inn-fields, built the bank. His are the girding walls, but in the raising of the fabric three other names—those of Sampson, Taylor and Cockerell—have to be joined. Mercer's hall, Cheapside, was the bank's first home; but a quick move was made to the Grocer's hall, in Poultry, and it was not until 1752 that the foundation stone of the present bank was laid. George Sampson was the first architect, and it is curious that no building, other than the bank, can be attributed to his hand, a writer in the Cleveland Plain Dealer comments. In the cornice extending the full length of the building, Taylor sculptured an excellent figure of Britannia, some years after the completion of the building. "This carving, the 'trade mark' of the bank," writes Mr. Steele, "was probably the inspiration for that trite appellation, the 'Old Lady of Threadneedle Street.'" Taylor added to Sampson's building, and in 1870 the Gordon riots led the directors to fear that the adjoining church of St. Christopher-le-Stocks might lend itself as a dangerous vantage point for a mob, so powers were obtained, the fabric was pulled down, and more extensions were made.

### Believe That Stolen Articles Bring Luck

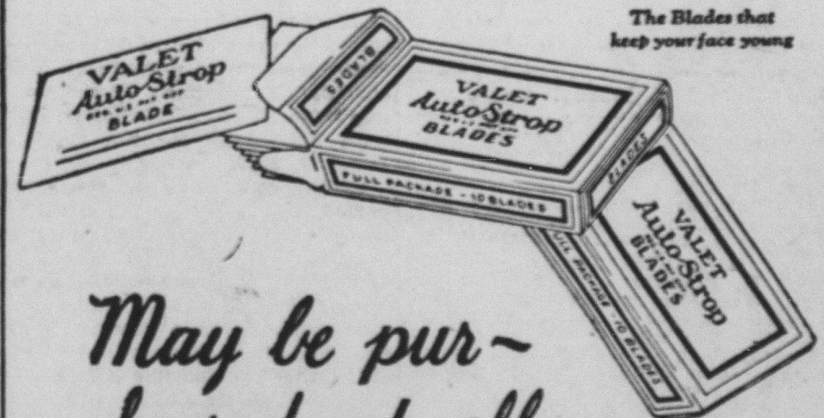
An extraordinary example of the survival of foolish superstition was disclosed in the case of a Hampshire (England) farmer who was convicted of stealing turnips from a neighbor. He explained to the magistrate that he could easily afford to pay for them, and that, moreover, he had plenty of turnips of his own, but he wanted stolen ones to make a concoction for a cow which had fallen sick, for he firmly believed no other could be so efficacious.

A similar belief is held in many parts of Germany, where practically everyone buys a ticket for one or other of the state lotteries. Many uneducated peasants will tell you they are sure of winning if the ticket they have was bought with stolen money.

In Turkey, copper rings are worn on the fingers to prevent crystal balls. If the ring has been stolen from some one else, it is supposed to answer its purpose twice as well.

Examples might be multiplied from every quarter of the earth. Most probably the superstition arose from the natural desire of the criminal to find some excuse for his delinquencies.

A Reminder!  
Valet Auto-Strop  
Blades



May be purchased at all local stores carrying shaving supplies

Valet Auto-Strop Razor

AutoStrop Safety Razor Co., 656 First Ave., New York, N. Y.

### Ups and Downs

Dr. Marvin Shie, who, at the American Medical association's convention in Washington, exposed the danger to the health of tattooed permanent flushes and tattooed red lips, said at a dinner in Cleveland:

"Our beauty doctors sometimes damage a woman's constitution as much as her bank account.

"I heard a story the other day. A man said:

"I understand that Mrs. Maturin Mayhew, the society leader, has had her face lifted."

"Is that so?" said a second man. "I don't see any difference."

"Well," said the first man, "it fell again. I hear, when the beauty doctor sent in his bill."

### Qualified Praise

"Uncle Joe" Cannon's biography, written at his own request by his secretary, L. W. Busbey, is the subject of many amusing anecdotes of American politics. Clinton Brainerd vouches for this one. Cannon was once accosted by a new member of the house who had just made his maiden speech. On being asked if he approved of it, "Uncle Joe" shifted his cigar to the other side of his mouth and answered judicially:

"You said many good things, and many new things."

"Thank you, Mr. Speaker," said the new representative.

"But," continued the venerable speaker, "the good things were not new and the new things weren't good."