

1—Longest concrete highway bridge in world being built across Lake Pontchartrain near New Orleans. 2—Jury that heard the case against George Remus, former king of bootleggers, accused of murdering his wife in Cincinnati. 3—Gen. Jose Gonzalo Escobar, who vanquished the rebels in Mexico's latest revolt.

NEWS REVIEW OF CURRENT EVENTS

New Englanders and Wall Street Eager to "Draft" President Coolidge.

By EDWARD W. PICKARD

EASTERN Republicans, political and business leaders, cannot reconcile themselves to seeing President Coolidge eliminated from the contest for the nomination next year. They never have given up the idea that he could be "drafted" by the convention, and should be, despite his expressed reluctance to run again. Last week they got very busy, especially in Wall Street and in New England, with plans to push the Coolidge boom. In Boston a chain letter petition was started by some of those who believe Mr. Coolidge should be virtually compelled to accept a re-nomination. The White House correspondents questioned the President on this matter and he told them he could not see that the circulation of the petition would serve any good purpose and he hoped it would be discontinued. This being telegraphed over the country, the proponents of the chain letter issued a statement asking that all work on the plan cease immediately.

However, the correspondents left the White House somewhat mystified and as uncertain as ever in their interpretation of the President's attitude toward the general proposition of conscripting him for another term. Many Republican senators and representatives thought nothing had been added to the Coolidge statement of August 2 and that, while the President does not want another term and does not want to be drafted, he nevertheless would not refuse to respond to the call if the party should ask him to sacrifice his personal inclinations. Others influential in the party believe he will not be a candidate under any circumstances.

The theory accounting for the sudden interest manifested by New York Republican leaders in the re-nomination of the President is that they are becoming panic stricken over the danger of losing that state in the Presidential election. That Al Smith will be the Democratic nominee is now generally taken for granted, particularly since dry Democrats have been seen throwing up the sponge in various parts of the country, and Smith has repeatedly shown his ability to carry New York state against great odds.

Unless Mr. Coolidge absolutely rejects a re-nomination before congress meets on December 5 the anti-third term agitation will be renewed, and Senator La Follette will reintroduce his resolution declaring a President should not serve more than eight years.

Frank O. Lowden's boom grew somewhat with the authorized announcement that his name would be entered in the Indiana preferential primary. Daves, it was understood, would not contest the delegation with the former governor of Illinois, and Senator Watson, who has been credited with Presidential ambitions, was advised emphatically by his friends to stay out of the race. The Lowden boomers declare their man will enter the convention with more assured votes than he had in 1920.

SECRETARY MELLON'S program of tax reduction was ripped all up the back by the house ways and means committee, which practically completed the new revenue bill. First the committee agreed upon a reduction of taxes not to exceed \$250,000,000, and then it slashed the miscellaneous taxes that Mr. Mullen wanted unchanged. The taxes on automobiles and capital stock transfers were cut in half. The exemption on admissions was raised from 75 cents to \$1, the rate on boxing matches being increased from 10 to 25 per cent on admissions of \$5 and more. The stamp tax on dealings in futures on grain and produce exchanges was repealed. The taxes on grape wines were reduced to the pre-war level. The tax on corporation earnings was cut from 13 1/2 to 11 1/2 per cent, one-half per cent more than recommended by Sec-

retary Mellon. The Mellon proposal under which corporations with net earnings of \$25,000 or less and with no more than ten stockholders would have the option of paying taxes as partnerships was rejected. In place of it the committee increased the exemption on corporations with earnings of less than \$25,000 from \$2,000 to \$3,000.

CHICAGO won a big victory in the battle over diversion of water from Lake Michigan through the Chicago sanitary canal. Charles Evans Hughes, special master for the United States Supreme court, recommended to that tribunal that the case brought by Wisconsin and other states bordering on the Great Lakes be dismissed. After holding that the complainants had presented a justifiable controversy and that the sanitary district has no authority to divert the water without the consent of the United States, Judge Hughes declared that congress has conferred authority upon the secretary of war to regulate the diversion, and that the permit of March 3, 1925, is valid and effective according to its terms, the entire control of the diversion remaining with congress. Therefore he recommended that the bill be dismissed.

TAX laws were materially clarified by the Supreme court in its interpretation of numerous questions which had worried both taxpayer and tax collector. In one case involving taxes on incomes derived by lessees of Indian tribal oil lands, the government established its right to retain approximately \$150,000,000 in revenue. In another proceeding the government lost in its contention that under the revenue act of 1924 it could tax gifts made prior to enactment of the law.

IN A case brought down from Alaska the Supreme court held invalid the drafter's provisions of the dry law of the territory prohibiting the possession of liquor in a private home even for the personal use of the owner, and declared residents of Alaska are entitled to the same protection against unreasonable searches as are given residents of other parts of the United States.

Federal Judge Killits in Toledo, Ohio, in dismissing a case against a farmer charged with operating a still, declared the law of the sanctity of the home was a higher and more sacred law than the Volstead act or any prohibition law.

HARRY SINCLAIR, William J. Burns, W. Sherman Burns, Sheldon Clark, H. Mason Day and C. L. Veitch, manager of the Burns agency in Baltimore, were cited by Justice Suddens of the District of Columbia Supreme court for criminal contempt in connection with the mistrial of the Teapot Dome oil case. They are ordered to appear before the court on December 5 to show cause why they should not be sentenced under the statutes.

REAR ADMIRAL WILLIAM H. BULLARD, chairman of the federal radio commission, died suddenly of heart disease at the naval hospital in Washington, where he had gone to rest for a slight operation. His death came at the end of a famous career, 30 years which was spent in the United States navy.

ABOUT fifteen hundred convicts in the California state prison at Folsom staged a desperate revolt on Thanksgiving day and fought the guards, militiamen and other officers with guns, knives and other weapons in their effort to escape to the hills. In the first encounters two guards and six convicts were killed and a number wounded. Two United States army tanks were sent from Salinas to help the state troops, and at this writing the convicts are under siege in the prison.

COL. NOBLE BRANDON JUDAH, well known Chicago banker and lawyer and a distinguished war veteran, was appointed ambassador to Cuba by President Coolidge. This is his first diplomatic post, and it is considered an important one, especially because the Pan-American congress is to meet in Havana in January. Colonel Judah was born in Chicago in 1884 and went to France with the Three Hundred and Thirty-second field

artillery, later becoming assistant chief of staff of the First army corps. He participated in five major campaigns and was decorated for bravery by America and France.

COL. CHARLES R. FORBES, former director of the federal veterans' bureau, who was sent to Leavenworth for two years for defrauding the government, left the penitentiary last week. He had completed his sentence and, having signed a pauper's affidavit, served thirty additional days in lieu of paying a \$10,000 fine.

WARFARE in the Colorado coal strike region broke out, as predicted, when state police and mine guards at the Columbine mine, thirty miles from Denver, opened fire on a big and threatening mob of strikers that invaded the mine property. Five of the mob were killed and more than a score were wounded. Governor Adams called out the National Guard and tank, airplane, infantry and cavalry units were sent to the trouble zone. A proclamation declaring martial law was given to Adjutant General Newlon to post if he deemed it necessary. The I. W. W. leaders of the strike rather unexpectedly did not meet the situation with arms, but instead called on all the strikers to refrain from violence. They swore out warrants for the arrest of the mine superintendent and an under sheriff on charges of murder.

RUMANIA was thrown into mourning by the sudden death of its premier and virtual dictator, Ionel Bratiano. This brought to the fore again the possible return of former Crown Prince Carol, but the Rumanian minister to Paris was instructed to warn Carol not to attempt to enter the country.

ITALY'S reply to the Franco-Yugoslav treaty was the publication of a treaty of military alliance between Italy and Albania which was signed Tuesday. The danger of hostilities was so serious that, on orders from Foreign Secretary Chamberlain of Great Britain, the British ambassador to Rome urged Mussolini not to be rough with Yugoslavia, because it is a young state and unversed in the niceties of diplomacy.

SOVIET Russia has agreed to take part in the coming disarmament conference at Geneva, and its full intentions there are a matter of much concern to the other nations. Premier Rykov said last week: "The Soviet union is ready to propose, support and carry out the most radical program of disarmament for the whole globe, and simultaneously conduct a campaign against proposals only destined to mislead and disguise preparation for a new war under a mask of pacifism." Vice Foreign Minister Litvinoff declared the Soviet delegation was going to Geneva to propose a complete and general disarmament, and he added that Moscow has no faith in the good will of "capitalist nations" or in their ability to disarm.

Leon Trotsky and his associates in the opposition party in Russia, having been ousted from the Communist party, have been put on probation for six months with plain warning that unless they cease their machinations they will be banished to Siberia or executed. Reports from south Russia said Trotsky supporters had fought the government police in Odessa, Kharkov and other Ukrainian cities and that 18 persons were killed and 30 injured. The Ukrainians want a separate republic.

GERMANY and Poland have ended their long customs war by the signing of a protocol which declares an armistice in the economic battle over coal and manufactured products on the principle that the Poles will have the right to send coal, farm products and manufactured articles into Germany while the Germans will have the right to open banks and places of business and sell manufactured articles in Poland.

SOCIALIST members of the Belgian cabinet insisted on a reduction of the term of military service and brought about the resignation of the ministry. Premier Jaspars promptly formed a new ministry which contains no Socialists.



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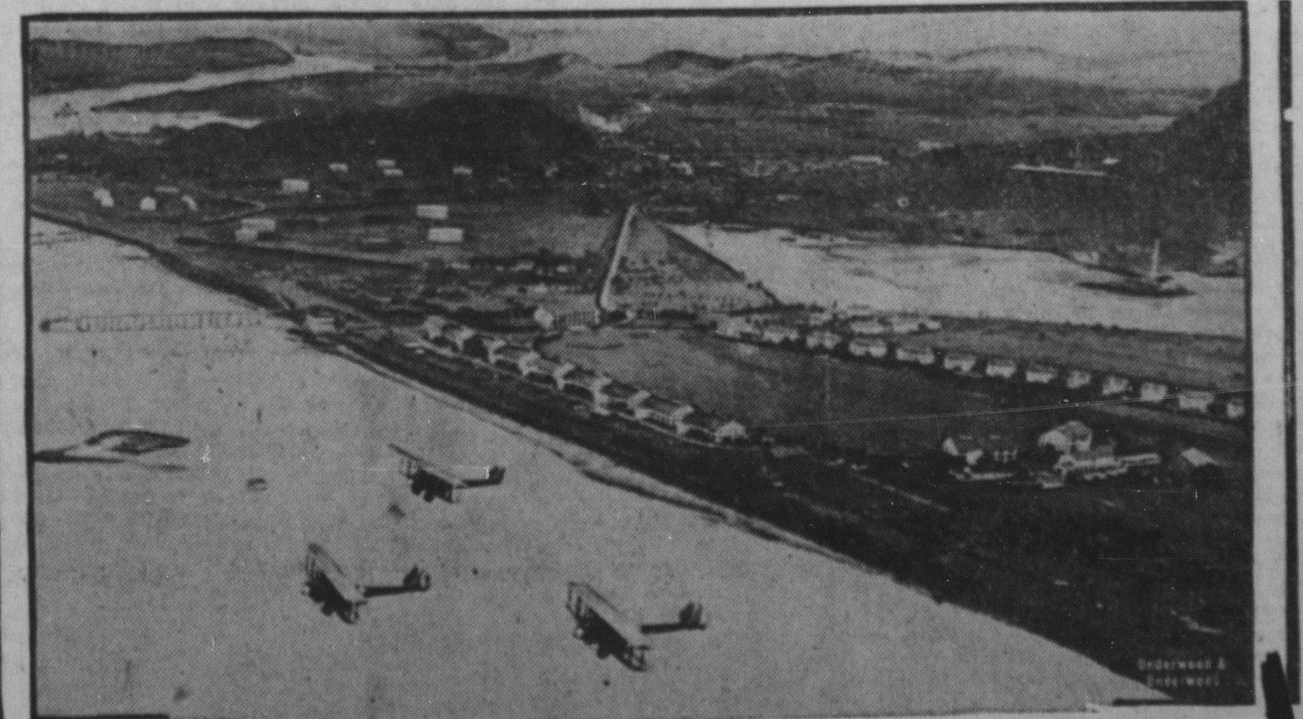
J. H. CAUM, Manager

View of the Pittsburgh Explosion Wreckage



One of the big buildings that was wrecked by the terrific gas tank explosion in Pittsburgh, Pa. Scores of lives were lost and hundreds of persons were injured, while the property losses were immense.

Fort Amador in the Canal Zone



An aerial view of Fort Amador in the Panama Canal Zone, made by an army flyer. The government is considering strengthening the zone's defenses.