



1—R-100, the huge new English dirigible, as it will appear when completed and ready to fly to the United States in June. 2—American War Mothers, many of them Gold Star Mothers, placing wreaths on the tomb of the Unknown Soldier in Arlington National cemetery while Sergeant Withey sounded taps. 3—Christopher Columbus monument, designed and donated by Mrs. Harry Payne Whitney, unveiled in Madrid, Spain.

NEWS REVIEW OF CURRENT EVENTS

Explosions, Poison Gas and Fire Kill Scores in a Cleveland Hospital.

By EDWARD W. PICKARD
 ONE of the most terrible and distressing disasters of recent times occurred in Cleveland, Ohio, resulting in the deaths of at least 124 persons and the injury of many others. Fire of undetermined origin broke out in the Cleveland Clinic and soon reached a great quantity of X-ray films stored in the basement. These, exploding, gave off deadly gases that spread through the four-story building. Patients, doctors and nurses were nearly all unable to make their way to the doors and windows, so swiftly did the fumes render them unconscious; and for a time no rescuers could enter the building unless equipped with gas masks. Even outside the structure pedestrians passing at the time of the blasts fell to the ground overcome by the gas and could not be dragged to safety until it had lifted.

Most of the victims were killed by the gas fumes, according to the authorities. Among them were many well-known citizens of Cleveland and vicinity, and a number of nationally known physicians who were in attendance on patients. Members of the clinic staff were credited with the utmost valor in their efforts to save the patients, and many of them gave their lives. The police and firemen and numerous chance passersby were no less valorous. Dr. George W. Crile, noted surgeon, founder and chief owner of the clinic, was foremost in the relief work. Fire Chief James P. Flynn was an outstanding hero. He had his men lower him time after time through the skylight on the roof and he brought out 16 living or dead.

Experts in Cleveland said the poisonous gases were due to the burning of X-ray film in large quantities. The photographic films, which have much the same composition as gun cotton, in addition to exploding with terrific force, threw off three kinds of compounds. These were camphor, carbon monoxide, and the gas of nitric oxide or other nitrogen compounds. Inhalation of the carbon monoxide resulted in death similar to the breathing of exhaust gas from an automobile in a closed garage.

THE senate passed the McNary farm relief bill, including the export debenture feature, by a vote of 64 to 33. Only two Democrats—Wagner of New York and Walsh of Massachusetts—were recorded in the negative. Twenty-one Republicans voted for the bill and 31 against it. The action of many of the latter was in protest against the debenture provision which President Hoover opposed. Leaders of the house at first were disposed to refuse to accept the senate measure on the ground that the debenture clause was revenue legislation, which must originate in the lower house. Then it was decided to send the bill to conference and kill the objectionable feature there. A special rule was adopted, however, setting forth that the house stood on its rights and that its action in this particular case should not be considered a precedent. The rule carried a rebuke to the senate for invading the prerogatives of the house. All the house conferees and three of the five senate conferees were on record as opposed to the export debenture plan.

DEBATE on the tariff bill continued in the house and the expressions of dissatisfaction with its provisions were numerous. Many requests for further increases in duties on farm products were submitted to the ways and means committee. President Hoover showed his good will toward agriculture by signing executive orders, under the operation of the flexible tariff, increasing the rates on milk, cream and flaxseed; he also approved an increase in the duties on window glass as asked by Pennsylvania manufacturers. The increased rates on milk

and cream, not as high as provided in the Hawley bill, are aimed against Canadian importation; the higher rate on flaxseed, the same as in the Hawley measure, is directed against imports from Argentina.

Speaker Longworth said last week the house, after disposing of the farm relief and tariff bills, might recess for six weeks or two months. The senate probably will recess for three weeks or a month while its finance committee struggles with the tariff measure.

DESPITE the earnest fight put up by Southern Democrats and some drys, Senator Vandenberg's bill for the 1930 census and redistricting was made the unfinished business in the senate and given right of way over other measures until disposed of. Its passage was considered certain. Favorable action by the house is a matter of course, for that body passed the reapportionment bill which was killed by a filibuster in the closing days of the last congress. Under the provisions 17 states will lose 23 members of congress and 11 states will gain the same number.

GEN. CHARLES G. DAWES, our new ambassador to Great Britain, spent a few days in Washington last week conferring with President Hoover and Secretary of State Stimson. Reporters swarmed about him asking his views on all sorts of current topics, and he evaded the queries politely until one wanted to know whether he would wear silk knee breeches at the court of St. James.

"Do you want a diplomatic answer," responded Ambassador Dawes, "or the answer that question deserves?" "Shoot," his interrogator replied. "You can go plumb to hell," General Dawes retorted; "that's my business."

IT WAS announced at the White House that President Hoover had offered the post of governor-general of the Philippines to Dwight F. Davis of St. Louis, former secretary of war, and that his early acceptance was expected unless he decided that Mrs. Davis' health precluded it. This appointment was a surprise as Mr. Davis had been prominently mentioned for an ambassadorial position, probably in Paris. However, the Philippines post would be especially acceptable to him because of its good salary—\$25,000 a year—and because he has long been deeply interested in the affairs of the islands and desired to visit them. In Washington it is now understood that the place of ambassador to France will be given to Senator Walter Edge of New Jersey after the close of the special session of congress.

THE Washington Post, having recently printed an article predicting the recall of the Belgian ambassador, Prince De Ligne, which brought an apology from the secretary of state, the Philadelphia Record came out with a story of the alleged conduct of Edward McLean, publisher of the Post, during a function at the Belgian embassy, stating he was asked to leave by Prince De Ligne, and implying that this supposed occurrence was the real reason for the attack on the ambassador in the Post. Now Mr. McLean, who is prominent in Washington society, has brought suit against the Record for \$1,000,000 damages, denying that paper's story in toto and asserting that as a result of the story he "has been and is greatly injured in his said good name, fame, reputation and credit . . . and is brought into public scandal, scorn, infamy, shame, and disgrace. . . . has suffered and endured great mental pain and anguish . . . and is subjected to great humiliation and endured great injury in his feelings, and has otherwise been permanently damaged."

PLEETING notoriety has been acquired by the otherwise rather obscure Des Moines university, a fundamentalist institution conducted by the Baptist Bible Union of North America. Dr. T. T. Shields, chairman of its board of trustees, and Miss Edith Rehman, secretary of the board, didn't seem to be satisfied with the fundamentalism of some of the faculty members, and besides they had been the objects of an attack concerning

moral behavior. The students, or a majority of them, sided with the faculty, so Shields dismissed the entire teaching staff, including President H. C. Wayman, and ordered the university closed. Meanwhile the students indulged in some rioting and drove from their midst a few Canadians whom they blamed as spies, and then the university was reopened under a court injunction. Shields and Miss Rehman carried the case to the annual convention of the Baptist Bible Union which had just opened in Buffalo, and the delegates sought a way to settle the trouble through arbitration.

COMPLAINT comes from Senator Robert M. La Follette of Wisconsin that President Hoover is not enforcing the seamen's act which bears the name of the senator La Follette. Administration of the law is committed mainly to the Department of Commerce and under Mr. Hoover's administration of that department enforcement of the law was relaxed on the plea that strict compliance with it, especially in regard to manning of ships, would make it impossible for American vessels to compete with those of foreign registry.

"I know this is the excuse for non-enforcement of the law," said Senator La Follette. "But it will not hold water. It might be that ships manned with the prescribed crews would make a little less profit, but they would still make plenty and they would be far safer for passengers and crews. If the President means what he says about law enforcement, I do not see how he can refuse to enforce the seamen's act."

POLICE of Vienna and Budapest have uncovered a plot for another communist revolt in Hungary, and have arrested a number of men on charges of forging passports and promoting political conspiracies. Documents were taken revealing that the prisoners were acting under orders from Moscow; also that Bela Kun, leader of the communist revolution in Hungary during 1919, and who was expelled from Austria last September after spending three months in prison for having entered without permission, has been visiting Vienna since his expulsion in order personally to direct preparations for the Hungarian revolt.

COMPLETELY recovered from his illness, King George of England returned last week to Windsor castle from Bognor, his place of convalescence. All along his route he was greeted by cheering thousands of his affectionate subjects, and at Windsor his motor car was showered with rose petals. The joy of the people was so genuine and sincere that the king and Queen Mary were deeply affected.

It was announced that the king would personally attend to all business connected with the calling of the new parliament and the constitution of the new government after the election. These duties may be fairly heavy if, as seems likely, no party obtains a clear majority and the king is forced to intervene to break a parliamentary deadlock.

GRAF ZEPPELIN, the big German dirigible, started on a trip to the United States last week carrying passengers and freight; but off the east coast of Spain two motors were disabled by broken crank shafts and the airship turned back to Friedrichshafen.

REPEATED earthquake shocks in Khorasan province, Persia, killed more than three thousand persons, wrecked Bujrud and other towns and laid a great expanse of territory in waste. The governor of the province called on the government for relief for thousands of injured and sick inhabitants, and supplies were sent by airplanes to regions difficult of access otherwise.

EUGENE GILMORE, acting governor general of the Philippines, has been informed in an official report that graft which may involve several millions of dollars has been uncovered in the bureau of commerce and industry, and he is asked for complete reorganization of the bureau. The director and vice director and maybe a dozen others are mixed up in the matter.

Warn Farmers on Seed for Forage

Argentine Product Is Susceptible to Disease and Winterkills Easily.

A warning to farmers against the purchase of Argentine alfalfa seed because it is not hardy, winterkills easily and is very susceptible to disease, is issued by Waldo Kidder, agronomist for the extension service of the Colorado Agricultural college. Colorado-grown Grimm or Cossack varieties of alfalfa seed are types most highly recommended.

Distinguish Argentine Seed. Argentine seed may be distinguished easily because 10 per cent of it is stained orange red, by order of the United States Department of Agriculture, as a warning to prospective purchasers that it is imported Argentine seed and unhardy.

Quite a supply of this Argentine seed has been received on the Colorado market, and is being offered for sale by certain seed dealers. It is being offered at lower prices than our home-grown or northern seed.

Prospective purchasers are warned that it is undesirable for planting in Colorado and the Rock Mountain region generally.

There is an unusual demand for alfalfa seed at this time, because 20 per cent of the alfalfa acreage in Colorado was lost through winter killing and disease during the winter of 1927-28. Farmers in the northern part of the United States suffered the same misfortune, with a loss of between 15 and 20 per cent. Part of this acreage was reseeded last year and much will be reseeded this spring.

Fair Supply of Seed. Although Grimm and Cossack varieties are high and rather scarce there seems to be a fair supply of Colorado-grown and northern-grown common alfalfa seed at reasonable prices. This common seed is much preferable to the Argentine.

Keeping Flies Away by Screens on Milk House

While experience has shown that it is not practicable to screen the cow stable, this cannot be used as an excuse for not screening the milk house. The best type of screen for the milk house windows is that which swings out, for, says the New Jersey agricultural experiment station, New Brunswick, this readily enables one to clear the room of flies during the day. The door should be double-screened if possible. Farmers who have electricity available claim that a fan blowing directly on the strainer and cooler is a most effective way of keeping flies away.

The treatment of manure heaps with commercial disinfectants will rid the barn and milk house environs of fly-breeding places. The common practice in keeping flies off the cows at milking time is to spray them with the common commercial fly preparations as soon as the cows are brought into the stables.

Modern Feeding Calling for More Mineral Matter

Poultry has a high mineral requirement. This is also true of dairy cows and hogs. Modern feeding practice is calling more and more for the addition of mineral matter to the ration. Hog feeders today are using thousands of tons of mineral mixtures annually. In the poultry feed the use of grit, oyster shell, bone meal and the mineral mixtures is rapidly expanding. The value of such material is apparent. If a farm flock of hens cannot get anything better than the mortar in the old chimney of a tumble down house, it will increase their egg production. If you could actually eliminate all of the mineral content of a dairy cow's ration, her heart would stop beating and she would die more quickly than though you took away all her drinking water and provided no more.

Agricultural Notes

It is far better to do much soil improvement before setting out the peach orchard.

Low milk yields and low profits from dairy cows are very frequently the result of poor feeding.

Not all plants need a "sweet" soil; some do better at a fairly high degree of acidity. It pays to know your plants.

Nature grows both good and poor trees, and the final crop will be composed of both kinds unless the poor ones are removed.

There is little trouble in opening the silo, but many farmers have no silos to open, and this is really their principal trouble and loss.

Buy only alfalfa seed which is known to be adapted to your locality is the warning recently issued by the United States Department of Agriculture.

To secure the greatest returns, the woodlot must be protected from fire and grazing animals, and a sound system of improvement cutting adopted. Cutting is the only practical method for the stimulation of growth of this type of crop.

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Proof

He was a cautious young man and a firm believer in eugenics, but when he met the doctor's lovely daughter he fell in love with her, and finally threw discretion to the winds and asked her to marry him.

She accepted him and he was in the seventh heaven all the evening.

Next morning, however, his natural caution returned, and he called upon her father.

"Oh, doctor!" he said, "your—your daughter has promised to marry me. I—I wanted to know—that is to say, I—came to ask if there is any—er—insanity in your family."

The doctor looked at him gravely over his glasses.

"There must be," he said.

Man Who "Never Died"

Enoch, the father of Methuselah, never saw death, according to Heb. 11:5. "By faith," the passage says, "Enoch was translated that he should not see death; and he was not found, because God translated him; for before his translation he had this testimony, that he pleased God." This passage is the basis for the popular but misleading statement that Methuselah, the oldest man mentioned in the Bible, died before his father did. Gen. 5:25 simply says: "and Enoch walked with God; and he was not; for God took him."

The Impostor

She had been to a bridge party the previous night, and to her husband it seemed likely she had had more than ordinary bad luck. At any rate, breakfast next morning found her silent and depressed.

"Have a bad time last night?" asked the husband at last.

"Awful!" she snapped, as she beheaded an egg. "And it was your fault, too!"

"My fault?" he gasped. "Why, you know I wasn't playing."

"No, but you introduced me to the man who you said was a famous bridge expert, and—"

"Well, so he is, my dear."

"Nonsense; he's nothing of the kind. He's only an engineer."

The Names of Indians

In the system of naming children in vogue among the old Indian tribes, the men, and sometimes the women, changed their names from time to time. There were two classes of names: The names, corresponding to our personal names, and names which answer rather to our titles and honorary appellations. Personal names were given and changed at the critical epochs of life, such as birth, the first war expedition, some notable feat, and elevation to chieftainship. Frequently retirement from active life by a warrior was marked by the adoption of the name of his son. True names among the Indians define or indicate the social group into which a man is born, whatever honor they entail being due to the accomplishments of ancestors. Personal names mark what the individual has done himself.

Ancient Masques

A masque was a species of dramatic entertainment which reached the highest popularity in England in the reign of James I but which also was a favorite diversion at the courts of Henry VIII and Elizabeth. The masque probably grew out of the "mummings" which are heard of in England as early as 1377. Masques were commonly played before royalty and the nobility. Rev. Ronald Bayne, writing of the masque, says, "Essential masque was the appeal of the moment to the eye, and the ear, the blaze of color and light, the mist of perfumes, the succession of rapidly changing scenes and tableaux crowded with wonderful and beautiful figures."

Talent and Prestige

Needed for "Authority"
 Throughout the ages man has striven vainly with his fellow compatriots to attain that pinnacle of abso-lution, authority over his fellows, but it has been left to Aldous Huxley, writing in Vanity Fair, to tell why a man wants to be an authority.

"What are a man's motives for wanting to be an Authority? The two necessary attributes of an Authority are in the first place talent and in the second a prestige which is a product partly of that talent and partly of causes external to the talented individual. Nobody without some sort of outstanding talent can hope to become an Authority for the world at large. At the same time, talent without prestige is unavailing. Many men of talent have lacked authority during their lifetime; authority has only come to them posthumously with a posthumous accession of prestige. In this age of newspapers the greatest source of prestige is publicity, the mere fact of being somebody who figures in the news. It is possible for any public person, whatever the nature of his success-bringing specialty, to become an Authority."

Wisest Men Have Ever

Been Slow of Speech

People are likely to set too much store by "conversation." A very large proportion of it isn't worth 2 cents. It must be conceded that there is a kind of exhilaration in talking. One can even get headache by it; showing that it has a direct offset on the tempo of the heart and on the nervous system. The popular notion that one must talk "for the sake of relief" is probably bogus; because silence, once it is learned and practiced, gives a greater relief.

Keeping still is an interesting game, to the point of being, at times, delightful; especially when employed to keep out of a furious row under full headway. It is a difficult game, therefore the more inviting to play. One may suffer from the invidious implication that it is timidity instead of good sense that keeps him from participation, but let him remember that many of the wisest men within human knowledge were taciturn—"minded their own business," and we don't know but that the slow to speech get along about as well as the wordy and impassionate; some think, better.—St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

Honoring the Dead

Annual Decoration day is most enthusiastically observed by the Lower Yukon River Indians. Late last autumn fifteen families of Indians from Nulato and other villages met together to fulfill the custom of erecting houses over the graves of those who died during the year. The shelters of the old graves were given a fresh coat of brilliant paint.

Many of the unique mausoleums have windows and floors and contain rugs and other articles that were used by the departed ones.

Every western Alaska Indian tribe has a different method of protecting the spirit of departed ones.

Rhodes' Prediction

In "Rhodes' All Red Route," by Lewis R. Freeman, this statement is attributed to Rhodes upon his first visit to Victoria falls: "Do you know that the natives claim that they can see far into the future by looking into the depths of that big rainbow? . . . I can see two lines of shining steel running from one end of Africa to the other . . . all the way from Cape Town to the Mediterranean. . . . Do you see that bar of red?" (Then the rainbow glowed a dusky rose where the light of the setting sun struck there the smoke of smoldering veldt fires). "That means it's going to be an 'All Red' railway; that it will run in British territory all the way."