



1—Scene in Houston, Texas, where vast damage was done by flood waters of the Buffalo bayou. 2—Ramsay MacDonald, Laborite, who became prime minister of Great Britain. 3—Express cruiser Mouette in which Colonel and Mrs. Lindbergh spent their honeymoon.

NEWS REVIEW OF CURRENT EVENTS

Progress of the Farm Relief Measure—MacDonald Now British Prime Minister.

By EDWARD W. PICKARD

NOW known as the agricultural marketing act, the farm relief bill came out of conference last week and was then accepted by both the house and senate. It was scheduled to be in the hands of President Hoover for signature about June 12. From the bill as modified the export debenture plan was omitted, all the conferees except Senators Norris of Nebraska and Smith of South Carolina voting for this course. On other features the measure represents a compromise between the senate and house bills, the essential points of the latter being retained. Provision is made for a farm board composed of the secretary of the treasury and eight members appointed by the President at salaries of \$12,000. The President will designate the chairman of this board. Commodity advisory committees are to be set up to advise the board on methods of dealing with crop surpluses.

Commodity stabilization corporations, all the stock of which is owned by co-operatives, are authorized to buy, store, and market surplus commodities. The stabilization corporations will be able to obtain loans from a \$500,000,000 revolving fund at the disposal of the farm board. Only such part of this fund as congress appropriates will be immediately available. The board may make loans for the handling of crop surpluses and also for the purchase of warehouses and other physical market facilities and may make advances to co-operatives for various purposes, including loans for insurance against price decline. The board may fix the terms of the loans, the interest rate being limited to an amount approximating the rate on outstanding government securities.

President Hoover let it be known that the administrator would ask congress to appropriate, before recessing, as much as \$100,000,000 from the half billion fund authorized, with a view to having it available for handling the wheat surplus. Department of agriculture experts said this immediate appropriation should be \$200,000,000, for they believed more than half that sum would be needed for wheat alone, the price of which has fallen very low. This does not mean necessarily that the entire amount will be loaned to the wheat stabilization corporation to be set up by co-operatives with the approval of the farm board. Some of the supporters of the Hoover farm relief program believe that if a stabilization corporation buys as much as 25,000,000 or 50,000,000 bushels of wheat it will have a tremendous effect on the market, provided it is known that the corporation can borrow unlimited additional funds from the farm board.

SENATOR SMOOT, chairman of the senate finance committee, announced the make-up of the four groups of subcommittees which will consider various schedules of the tariff bill. They are to hold hearings simultaneously, beginning June 13. The free list and administrative provisions will be handled by the full committee.

Paris industrial newspapers urge the French parliament to find some means of erecting retaliatory tariff barriers against United States products. Indeed, throughout most of Europe there is deep resentment against the proposed American tariff measure. The presidents of the European chambers of commerce in a report stated that the policy of the United States is incomprehensible "if one considers its financial requirements," for this country is not only Europe's creditor but also is the holder of the greater part of the world's gold; and if American ports are closed to European merchandise the debtor countries are cut off from their only means of raising money to settle their debts.

PRESIDENT HOOVER in a message to congress asked that the senate and house appoint a select committee to study the matter of concentrating

and reorganizing the bureaus charged with enforcement of the dry laws in co-operation with his special commission on law enforcement. At the same time the Treasury department announced the opening of a new drive to stop liquor smuggling in the Detroit area.

PASSAGE of the census and reapportionment bill was accomplished in the house, but only after the majority leaders had freed the measure from negro disfranchisement and alien exclusion amendments that threatened to bring about its defeat. The final vote was 272 to 105.

GERMAN reparations are now up to the governments of the allied nations and Germany, for the commission of experts has concluded its great task with the adoption of the Young plan, the main features of which were given in these columns a week ago. Seventeen weeks of nerve wracking discussion thus came to an end, and while it could not be said every one was satisfied, all at least were relieved.

"Well, are you glad it is over?" someone asked Dr. Hjalmar Schacht, the chief German delegate.

"Who would be glad over the prospect of paying \$487,900,000 in the next thirty-seven years and then not be through?" he snapped back.

The Belgian representatives at a creditors' meeting in Paris announced that they would accept the German offer for settlement of the Belgian claims for compensation of the Belgian worthless German marks unloaded in Belgium during the war. This settlement is to be negotiated directly between Germany and Belgium and must be completed before the Young plan goes into effect next September 1.

In Berlin it is thought that a political conference will be called in July to sanction the report of the experts and to take up the question of evacuation of the Rhineland.

President Hoover and Secretary of State Stimson cabled their congratulations to Messrs. Young, Morgan, Perkins and Lamont, the Americans on the experts' commission who really brought about the settlement.

RAMSAY MACDONALD, chief of the Labor party, is now prime minister of Great Britain and his cabinet has been sworn in. Stanley Baldwin handed in his resignation Tuesday and the king immediately summoned MacDonald to form a new government. He submitted the names of the principal members of his cabinet and they were approved by his majesty, who sat up in bed and chatted and joked with the new prime minister for a hour, for they are very good friends.

It was reported in London that Lloyd George was willing to give the Laborites the support of his Liberal following on condition that an electoral reform bill be introduced and no really contentious legislation, such as widespread nationalization schemes, be proposed. The question of the mining industry may present difficulties in which the Laborites and the Liberals cannot agree. The biggest matter on which they are agreed is unemployment relief. The schemes of both parties include large appropriations for building of new houses, slum clearance, drainage of land and reclamation, construction of new roads, electrification and reorganization of the railways, and afforestation on a wide scale. In foreign affairs the Laborites and Laborites are in complete accord.

THREE months in jail are not enough for the punishment of Harry F. Sinclair, the oil magnate. The Supreme Court of the United States last week unanimously upheld the decision of the District of Columbia Supreme court which sentenced Sinclair to serve six months in jail for hiring detectives to shadow the jury in the first Fall-Sinclair criminal conspiracy trial almost two years ago.

Henry Mason Day, vice president of the Sinclair Exploration company and Sinclair's personal representative in the shadowing of the jury, must serve a jail sentence of four months. William J. Burns, head of the detective agency which supplied the detectives, was sentenced to serve 15 days at the same time Sinclair and Day were sentenced by Justice Frederick L. Siddons. The Supreme court reversed the Burns sentence, but permitted a

fine of \$1,000, imposed on his son, W. Sherman Burns, secretary of the detective agency, to stand.

CHARLES G. DAVES, our new ambassador to the Court of St. James, sailed for England after a final conference with President Hoover and Secretary Stimson. On June 28 General Daves is to receive the degree of doctor of civil law from Oxford University.

COLONEL AND MRS. LINDBERGH finally were found, not by reporters but by a steamer captain who discovered the moneymongers aboard Lindy's express cruiser Mouette when he helped moor the craft at a pier at Block Island. The Mouette was purchased by the colonel just before his wedding, and he and his bride boarded it at a lonely spot on the Long Island shore. Tuesday the little craft put to sea again, apparently headed for the Maine coast, and again Lindy dodged the press and camera men by going around Cape Cod instead of through the canal. Newspaper reports said a piece of canvas was draped over the stern of the Mouette, hiding its name, and coast guards in Boston declared the colonel for this reason was incurring the danger of being fired on by their patrol boats.

WHILE the Shriners were gathering in Los Angeles for their annual meeting and joyfest, the Supreme court in Washington handed down an opinion that gives the negro organization known as the Ancient Egyptian Arabic Order of Nobles of the Mystic Shrine the right to continue the use of its name and insignia. White shriners in Texas had objected to the activities of the negro organization and to its insignia. They won in the lower courts. Justice Van Devanter in delivering the opinion, to which no dissent was announced, said the white shriners by their failure to object within a reasonable time had lost their right to act.

PORTERS and maids in the employ of the Pullman company have won their three years' struggle for higher pay, having been given a wage increase of \$5 a month and various improvements in working conditions. The agreement was reached in a conference between officials of the company and 21 elected representatives of the 12,000 porters and maids. The Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters was ignored by the company.

Big building operations in Chicago were held up for several days by a strike of the bridge and structural iron workers, in which the architectural iron workers joined. The former demanded a wage scale of \$13 a day, an increase of \$1. This was soon agreed to by the Steel Erectors' association, but the iron league held out longer.

THOUSANDS of Italians who lived on the slopes of Mt. Vesuvius were driven from their homes when that volcano indulged in another big eruption and poured rivers of lava down its sides. The property damage was immense but the loss of life was kept to a minimum by the precautionary steps of the authorities. Tourists were prohibited from approaching the danger zone.

THOUGH the Vatican and the Italian government last week exchanged ratifications of the Lateran pact, the relations between Pius XI and Premier Mussolini are not cordial. The duke addressed the parliament recently on the treaty, and the pope, in a letter to Cardinal Gasparri, characterizes the dictator's speeches as "heretical, modernistic, ponderously erudite but full of errors and inexact." The letter indicates that there may be a long period of disputes over details and expresses the church's resentment of the fact that the state's bills giving effect to the Lateran treaty are not conceived in the same spirit as that pact.

NOBLE BRANDON JUDAH has resigned as ambassador to Cuba; and Dr. Hubert Work has resigned as chairman of the Republican national committee. There were rumors that Work thought he had been ignored by the Hoover administration, but the correspondence between him and the President contained no hint of this.

Aid Strawberry With Wild Ones

Four Promising Varieties Are Found Suitable for Home Preserving.

(Prepared by the United States Department of Agriculture.)

All the strawberries in the United States and most of those of the world—that is, the tame ones—are descendants of two wild American strawberries, one a native of the Pacific coast and the other a native of the eastern United States.

There are many other wild strawberries, however, that did not take part in developing our present kinds. In the untried wild ones may lurk some valuable trait that can be bred into our domestic varieties which may make them even more desirable than they now are. At any rate, plant breeders are turning to the wild sorts for improving the strawberry, especially to develop new types better adapted to such specific purposes as canning, preserving, and candy making.

Four Promising Varieties.

George M. Darrow, who is in charge of strawberry-breeding work for the United States Department of Agriculture, has already achieved some success in this field. From the thousands of crosses made he has selected four promising varieties especially suited for preserving. They are known only by number as yet, and will need to be tested for adaptation before they can be recommended for planting. The breeding of preserving sorts is only begun, he says, and every region will need its own particular variety.

Technique of Breeding.

The technique of breeding is relatively simple, Mr. Darrow explains, but the important and difficult part is in making the selections. To breed a new kind, no matter for what purpose, two parent varieties are crossed. They may be wild or tame. The pollen from the flower of one is placed on the pistil of the flower of the other. The seed developing from such a cross is planted and every resultant seedling grown to fruiting age before selections are made. If there are three acres of seedlings in fruiting there may be 8,000 kinds, each different from the others. From this enormous number certain promising ones are saved and each is propagated in a separate short row. When they bear, if there is sufficient fruit, canning and preserving tests are made of the more promising ones by canners and preservers with whom Mr. Darrow has made co-operative arrangements.

Oyster Shell for Hens of Great Importance

Profitable poultry raising depends on the elimination of weak, unhealthy chickens, subnormal egg production and soft-shelled eggs. Of course, there are many poultry feeds which will help to keep fowls healthy but there is one mineral food which combined with a balanced ration and plenty of sunlight will do away with all three of the evils just mentioned. This is crushed oyster shell.

The best form of crushed oyster shell contains 98 per cent calcium carbonate and therein lies its value to poultry. The formation of the egg requires three distinct steps. The yolk is made first. This passes to the next stage where it is coated with the white or albumen. The final step of the process is the formation of the shell. Egg-shell consists mainly of calcium carbonate. It is therefore evident that if the hen has not a sufficient supply of this mineral in her system, fewer eggs will be produced and those that are produced may have soft shells. In other words the calcium carbonate in the crushed oyster shell supplies the egg shell material.

Much Money Is Lost by Planting Inferior Seed

Thousands of dollars are lost every year by planting seed of low vitality. Seed of all field crops should be tested for germination before planting. This is especially urgent now for corn and sorghums. One cannot tell from the appearance of seed how well it will grow. Last year 141 lots out of the 5,000 lots of seed tested at the state seed laboratory germinated from 0 to 50 per cent. This means that several thousand acres would have been planted to seed which would not grow.

Agricultural Notes

- Infertile eggs keep longest.
- Seed clover instead of alfalfa if the soil is extremely acid.
- Feed poultry yellow corn, cod-liver oil, milk, and leafy feeds for vitamins.
- Keep your lawn open for the best effect. Flower beds set in the lawn make the grounds seem smaller.
- Retailers make best profits when prices of produce are low. The farmer gets more of the consumer's money when products are scarce and high priced.

The size of the egg a pullet lays has been found to be closely correlated with the age of which she begins to lay. Selection for very early maturity in the smaller breeds is likely to reduce the size of the egg of the flock.

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Norway Maid Gorgeous in Her Bridal Finery

A wedding feast in Norway used to be an affair that stirred the imagination of the whole countryside, and there are some beautiful pictures with the bridal couple mounted on their strong mountain ponies heading the long procession of guests in painted carts and wagonettes making their way to the village church, writes Karin Lilja Whyte in the London Daily Chronicle.

On the flowing golden hair of the bride rested a crown, which was usually the property of the parish and a piece of handicraft showing the high standard of efficiency reached by the Norwegian goldsmiths.

She would wear a national costume richly embroidered in the bright colors prescribed by custom, and her snow-white skirt would be of the finest home fabric with exquisitely stitched drawn-thread work. Adorning her neck and breast were heirlooms of chains with clasps and buckles, fine specimens of filigree with semi-precious stones.

For that one day she was the queen of queens, and her stately bridegroom, more modestly attired in a dark costume, would be entirely outshone.

All Countries Readily Follow America's Lead

Through the aid of American labor-saving devices and American movies and American educational institutions, the whole world is becoming Americanized. The sanitary toilet processes of this country are being adopted abroad through the instrumentality of the movie reels. Left-hand right-of-way is being displaced all over the world in favor of the right-hand driving, which has been the rule in this country. The typewriter was adopted in offices in various parts of the world years ago and it has paved the way for accounting machines and other pieces of office mechanism. It is no source of pride that we taught the world the delights of the chewing-gum habit, but it is another case where the foreigners have followed the American lead. American griddle cakes and sirup have been successfully introduced into Japan, demanded, it is said, by students who have been in this country for their education.

To Earn His Pay

Two football teams had played a number of drawn matches and it was decided to engage a professional referee for a deciding game.

A well-known official was approached by a party of tough-looking men.

"All right," said the referee. "I'll oblige you. What fee do you offer for my services?"

"Well," said one of the men, "that depends on how badly you're hurt."

A Strike-Breaker

Mrs. Goodsole—Well! You're the first bum I've seen at my back door for several weeks. Are the rest of them working?

Percy Pikepounder—No'm, they ain't workin'. They're on strike. They demand shorter hours an' nie handouts.

Safer

The famous man was furious when he found a pile of paving stones outside his front door.

"Here, you!" he said to a navy standing near. "Take these things away at once."

"All right, gov'nor, all right," said the navy. "But where shall I take 'em to?"

"Take 'em to hell for all I care," came the indignant reply.

"Adn't I better take 'em to 'eaven, gov'nor," said the navy, helpfully. "They'd be more out of your way."—London Magazine.

Left-Handed Children Born With That Trait

From families in which one or both of the parents are left-handed we get a percentage of 17.34 per cent of the children left-handed, while in families in which neither of the parents are left-handed only 2.1 per cent of the children are left-handed. If left-handedness is not inherited we would not find more than 5 per cent of the children left-handed in any of these families, regardless of the handedness of their parents.

It is very evident that there is some sex influence manifested in the inheritance of left-handedness as shown by the larger number of left-handed boys in this population. It is also apparently transmitted differently where the father is left-handed, as note the small number of left-handed girls in these families. There can be no doubt that the trait is inherited.

Siemens presents 21 cases of apparent identical twins in which one was left-handed and the other right-handed, and cites this as evidence that left-handedness is not an hereditary factor. The probable explanation of this is mirror imaging, so often found in identical twins, or it may possibly be the prenatal position of the right-handed twin, which would prevent it from developing into a left-handed one.—Journal of Heredity.

Natural for All Dogs to "Point" Their Prey

Even before the dawn of history, dog helped man kill his game, according to scientists. The first pointers were owned by Neolithic man, who went a-hunting in skins and with a spear or a bow and arrows as his weapons, the theory goes.

Originally the "pointing" of bird dogs was only an exaggerated pause as they prepared to leap on their prey. Even today nearly every type of dog will point game after a fashion. The pause gave the Neolithic hunter an opportunity to locate his meat before it ran or flew away. It brought him a distinct advantage.

Consequently, by selection and breeding of the best "pointers," the hunting dog was evolved after countless centuries. This theory is advanced by Iroquois Dahl in Field and Stream.

Use Common Sense

In the nature of things all ordinary stunts and feats of strength are at the same time wonderful exercises for those physical culturists who are advanced enough to be able to do them. You can combine the spectacular with the practical. The human system, no matter how robust, was never intended to handle packages weighing a couple of tons. Why not leave that to the elephants? Indeed, intended record-breaking lifts of any kind, with bar-bells or other weights, are not to be regarded as exercise in the proper sense, and should only be undertaken by highly developed professionals in this field—or by amateurs who have attained professional standing by way of accomplishment.—Carl Easton Williams in Physical Culture Magazine.

Holland's Independence

An error often made is to attribute Dutch success in the war for independence too much to William and to Dutch pluck and endurance. Both these were inestimable factors in the defeat of Spain. But William died 25 years before Dutch independence was recognized and Maurice of Orange and Oldenbarnevelt must both be given their due for their work after his death.

Nor must Spanish inefficiency and poverty be forgotten. A Spanish captain once said: "If death had to come from Spain we would be sure of a long life," and twice Philip had to repudiate his national debt.—New York Herald Tribune.