



1—View of the parade with which the German city of Meissen celebrated its one thousandth birthday, the float on the float being of Samuel Hahnemann, founder of homoeopathy. 2—The Little Mayflower, luxurious 40-foot launch that is used by President and Mrs. Hoover on warm days for cruises on the Potomac. 3—Felix Hebert, the new senator from Rhode Island.

NEWS REVIEW OF CURRENT EVENTS

Huge Treasury Surplus May Bring About Another Cut in Federal Taxes.

By EDWARD W. PICKARD

SECRETARY of the Treasury Mellon announced that the treasury surplus for the fiscal year ending June 30 was \$185,000,000. Actual reduction in the public debt during the year was \$673,000,000. The surplus would have warranted a total reduction of approximately \$735,000,000, the additional amount being carried temporarily as an increase in the net balance in the general fund.

The surplus was accounted for largely by the unexpectedly large income tax receipts in March and June of this year based on abnormal profits from stock speculations during the year 1928. The huge 1928 earnings will be further reflected in the September and December income tax payments. The surplus for the calendar year 1929 may easily exceed \$300,000,000, unless it is greatly cut down by loans under the farm relief act, for which \$150,000,000 already has been appropriated.

Following Secretary Mellon's statement, President Hoover made it known that "careful study" was being made of the question of further reduction of federal taxes, and it was inferred that he probably would recommend another cut in his December message to congress. Three things, he said, must first be determined. These are the effect of legislation during the last twelve months which has increased expenditures far beyond the budget; how far the expenditures of the government in other directions can be reduced, and how far the increase in revenue is due to the temporary stock exchange activity.

The President evidently believes that it will not be necessary to wait until the March, 1930, tax returns are available before determining whether income tax revenues may be expected to continue at their present volume. The administration program for tax reduction is likely to include a greater deduction for earned income and a reduction in the tax on corporation earnings.

ALEXANDER Legge of Chicago, president of the International Harvester company, has accepted appointment as a member of the federal farm board and will be its chairman for the first year. Other members selected by President Hoover and who have accepted are James C. Stone of Kentucky, representing tobacco co-operatives; C. C. Teague of California, fruit co-operatives; C. B. Denman of Missouri, president of the National Livestock Producers' association, and Carl Williams of Oklahoma, editor of a farm paper and identified with wheat and cotton co-operatives. W. S. Moscrop of Minnesota, an official of dairy co-operatives, was offered a place on the board but at the time of writing had not accepted.

Mr. Legge, according to the President, is making as great a sacrifice as any citizen who ever entered the public service. He is surrendering a salary of more than \$100,000 a year to accept a place that pays \$12,000 yearly. It is believed he will resign after one year and return to private business, but in the meantime, Mr. Hoover hopes, he will have worked out the solution of the farm problem. During the war Mr. Legge was vice chairman of the war industries board and manager of the allied purchasing commission, doing invaluable work.

IT WAS officially announced at the White House that President Hoover will call a national conference within the next year to discuss the health and protection of children. Dr. Ray Lyman Wilbur, secretary of the Interior, with the co-operation of Secretary of Labor James J. Davis, will direct the work of the conference. Dr. Harry E. Barnard, former state health commissioner of Indiana, has been selected as executive secretary. The cost of financing the conference

will be paid out of a \$500,000 fund placed at the disposal of the President from private sources.

According to Mr. Hoover's statement, "the subjects to be covered embrace problems of dependent children; regular medical examination; school or public clinics for children; hospitalization; adequate milk supplies; community nurses; maternity instruction and nurses; teaching of health in the schools; facilities for playgrounds and recreation; voluntary organization of children; child labor and scores of allied subjects."

RUMORS spread all over the country to the effect that Seymour Lowman, assistant secretary in charge of customs, prohibition and coast guard operations, and James M. Doran, prohibition commissioner, had been or soon would be asked to resign at the instance of President Hoover. This was vigorously denied at the White House, and Secretary of the Treasury Mellon said in a signed statement: "There is no truth in these reports, and there are no facts to justify the circulation of rumors of this character, which do an injustice to two gentlemen who are performing a difficult task with a high degree of ability and devotion, and who have in full measure my confidence and support."

The American Automobile association at its annual convention in Buffalo took cognizance of the methods of quick-trigger enforcement agents which, its members said, were endangering the lives of innocent automobile tourists along the Canadian border. President Thomas P. Henry of Detroit and others dealt with the matter in their addresses.

Representative Tinkham of Massachusetts in a letter to Attorney General Mitchell demanded the prosecution of the board of temperance, prohibition and public morals of the Methodist Episcopal church for violation of the federal corrupt practices act, asserting that the board is a political organization as defined by that act and that it has failed to file itemized statements of its expenditures for the last four years. Deets Pickett, research secretary of the board, denied there was a basis for its prosecution. He stated that no expenditures had been made which he felt were reportable under the corrupt practices act, and declared that the act was not intended to curtail the right of free speech. He also reported that the board had spent less money in 1928 than the average annual expenditure of the five years preceding.

BOBBY JONES, the eminent amateur golfer of Atlanta, is again the national open champion. In the tournament at the Winged Foot club, Mamaroneck, N. Y., he fell into a bad streak of playing—that is, bad for him—and was tied for first place with Al Espinosa, professional. Each of them took 294 strokes for 72 holes. In the play-off at 36 holes Bobby had regained his form and Espinosa was at his worst, so the Atlanta won easily with 141 to 164. This is the third time Mr. Jones has captured the national open championship.

KING GEORGE'S speech from the throne, read to the British parliament by Lord Chancellor Sankey and of course representing the program of the new Labor government, was not at all startling and was far from extremely radical. The most important promises made by the MacDonald regime were that efforts would be made toward disarmament, that there would be diplomatic recognition and Soviet Russia, that unemployment conditions would be improved and that numerous industrial bills would be investigated. The address mentioned favorable conclusions of the reparations conference and preparation for a second conference of governments which may climax its work with arranging for evacuation of the Rhineland. It then said of disarmament:

"Conversations have commenced with the ambassador of the United States of America on the subject of which it is the earnest hope of my government to insure in co-operation with my governments in the dominions, the government of India and the

governments of foreign powers, an early reduction of armaments throughout the world."

One of the most important announcements was that the MacDonald government intends to tackle the liquor problem, at least by investigation, and has decided to appoint a commission at an early date to examine the whole field of legislation relating to sale and supply of intoxicating liquor. The only suggestion of real socialism in the message was a hint that the nationalization of mining royalties might be proposed after an inquiry.

FOR reasons that are decidedly obscure to Americans, Baron Tanaka and his ministry in Japan have been forced to resign after carrying on successfully for a considerable time. Yugo Hamaguchi, leader of the Liberals, was summoned by the emperor to form a new cabinet. Premier Tanaka's downfall was attributed chiefly to alleged mishandling of the Manchurian situation last year and to the government's failure to protect Marshal Chang Tso-lin from assassination at Mukden. In Tokio it is asserted that the general staff and the elder statesmen demanded that he quit after his management made a necessary severe discipline of the Japanese officers concerned in guarding the railway crossing where Chang was killed, and thus lowered Japan's military and international prestige. Lieut. Gen. Chotaro Murakoa, who commanded the Japanese army in Manchuria at the time of the assassination, has just been relegated to the reserve list without being promoted to the rank of a full general; he was succeeded by Gen. Eitaro Hata.

Tanaka also was blamed for bad handling of the ratification of the Kellogg peace pact, which was accomplished a few days ago. It was said he permitted too much opposition to develop. Just before resigning Tanaka and some of the cabinet members were decorated with honorary imperial orders.

CHINA is planning to make itself a sea power of considerable importance and will develop a modern naval base on the Chekiang river. The Nationalist government announces that it has signed an agreement with Great Britain providing for the training of Chinese naval cadets in England and has engaged a British naval mission to assist in the development of its navy. It is understood that British shipyards will receive contracts for the building of Chinese warships. Most of China's war vessels were bought from England and Germany 20 years ago, but she has lately built a good-sized fleet of light craft in her own shipyards. In 1927 President Chiang Kai-shek said it was China's intention not to be bound by any agreements pertaining to naval limitation which the powers might make.

DESPITE strict censorship, reports are coming from Italy indicating that Mussolini and his Fascist regime are having difficulties in various districts. Provincial party secretaries have been changed, and two members of the chamber of deputies have been suspended without announced reason. The Fascist police are reported to have arrested 36 former leaders of Italian Masonry following the recent decisions of Masons in Paris to re-establish contact with the Masons in Italy. The country has an adverse trade balance and in consequence economic conditions have become unsatisfactory. Premier Mussolini summoned a meeting of the cabinet for July 15 and there may be a general shifting of officials.

SPAIN'S government is taking measures to check the fall of the peseta and pave the way for a return to the gold standard. Among the relief measures are: Formation of a national council to encourage consumption of home products and thus limit importations; regulation of foreign machinery imports, particularly for public works; restrictions of imports which currently enjoy reduced customs duties; stimulation of home production of tobacco, wheat, cotton, and corn, and protection for the Spanish automobile industry.

Young Dewberry Promising Crop

Plant Is Favored Because of Its Resistance to Many Diseases.

(Prepared by the United States Department of Agriculture.)

The Young dewberry, named for R. M. Young of Louisiana, who originated it more than twenty years ago, is now becoming an important sort in both the eastern and western parts of southern United States, according to George M. Darrow of the United States Department of Agriculture, whose trials with this dewberry a few years ago showed it to be promising for the South.

Centers of Production.

The largest centers of production at present, he says, are in southern Alabama and southern California, though there are extensive plantings near Wilmington, N. C., and Houston, Texas. Evidence at hand indicates that it is hardy from Norfolk, Va., south and west to include eastern North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, and the states west of Texas, including Arkansas and parts of Tennessee and Oklahoma. In California, Oregon and Washington it is apparently adapted to a somewhat greater range of conditions than is the loganberry.

Resists Disease.

The Young dewberry is favored because of its resistance to anthracnose and leaf-spot diseases, the vigor and productiveness of the plants, and the high dessert quality of its fruit. Recent tests indicate that the fruit is well adapted to freezing for sale in the winter season, and its usefulness after freezing for preserves, pies, and the like suggests this outlet as one of the most important for this berry. No planting stock is available from the department, Mr. Darrow says, but prospective growers will find the Young dewberry listed for sale by a number of Southern nursery establishments.

Equipment Needed for Creosoting Fence Posts

The only equipment needed for the open tank method of creosoting fence posts is a tank which can be heated. A good outfit is a galvanized iron tank three feet in diameter and four feet high. The creosote may be heated over an open fire with the tank on a temporary foundation. The posts should be thoroughly seasoned before treatment. The lower half of the post should remain in hot creosote (190 degrees F.) for a period of two to four hours. The posts should then be allowed to remain in the creosote as it cools. The tops of the posts such as cottonwood and willow should be dipped in the creosote for a few minutes. A penetration of one-half inch in the portion of the post coming in contact with the ground will give good protection.

Increase Continues in Production of Oats

Oats production continues to increase in the United States despite the fact that the number of horses and mules on the country's farms is declining. That the demand for oats has been adversely affected by the substitution of mechanical power for animal labor on farms is indicated by the post-war trend in oats prices. Oats since the war have brought prices about on a level with those prevailing before the war. In comparison with the price position of other feed grains and most other agricultural commodities, this is an extremely unfavorable situation. Farm commodity prices generally have averaged about 40 per cent higher since the war than before.

Agricultural Hints

Rape pasture taints cows' milk.

Co-operation is not a sentiment—it is an economic necessity.

If conditions are favorable, rape will make a good pasture crop five weeks after seeding.

On soils containing sufficient lime the most productive grazing crop known today is sweet clover.

The home gardener may extend his growing season in the fall by the use of hotbeds and cold frames.

By treating their seed carefully grain growers can save hundreds of thousands of dollars, which are lost annually through plant diseases.

Lime can be spread and disked in ahead of oats, corn or soy beans, or it can be applied after the corn or soy beans come through the ground.

Sudan grass belongs to the sorghum family and for that reason is a hot weather plant. It should not be seeded till the ground is well warmed up.

Prepare for the control of insects by having on hand spraying and dusting equipment together with such insecticides as arsenate of lead, nicotine dust, and nicotine sulphate.

Besides conserving moisture and keeping down weeds, cultivation tends to break up the harbors of mice, add plant food to the soil, and make more available the plant food already in the

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Deposit of Travertin Uncovered in Florida

An industry that flourished 2,000 years ago, and which continues to produce great wealth for Italy, is undergoing development in the United States. Extensive deposits of travertin in Manatee county, Florida, have furnished a new and unexpected source of supply.

It was travertin that the Romans used in the Coliseum and other structures of ancient times which stand today in whole or in part. Wherever destruction has taken place it was the hand of man and not the elements that destroyed. In later centuries Italy's travertin quarries continued to supply stone for some of the great monuments of Rome, notably St. Peter's and other large churches. The medieval builders knew the beauty and wearing qualities of travertin no less than did the ancients. But travertin was a material used only in Italy and to a limited degree in the rest of Europe until the era of our great buildings began.—New York Times.

Owe "Dailies" to War

The Civil war revolutionized the habits of the people, writes Warren F. Spalding in the Boston Transcript. All their movements, mental and physical, were quickened. Having had the news of the war day by day, they never returned to the old ways. The daily newspaper was the child of the Civil war. People became accustomed to having news every day. They found that other things were interesting, and they must have the news about everything every day; the daily newspaper had become indispensable.

Guard Against Icebergs

The international ice patrol was organized on an international basis as a result of the international conference for the safety of life at sea, in London, 1913. It resulted from a universal demand for a protection of steamships against icebergs in the North Atlantic area after the loss of the Titanic, in April, 1912. The United States was asked to undertake the management of this service, and agreed to send two vessels to patrol the danger area during iceberg season, March 1 to July 1. Each of the contracting parties consented to bear a share of the cost in proportion to its shipping tonnage.

Literary Gems in Heap

When the late Sir Edmund Gosse, whose valuable collection of English plays of the Restoration period was so well known among scholars, once was searching the shelves of a Soho bookshop he found a stack of old plays, of which the bookseller was anxious to get rid. "There were," said Gosse, "treasures lying in that innumerable heap, and if I had only had in my pocket what a single one of those plays would fetch today, I might have got off laden with spoil. There were things lying there which, in all the 30 years since, I have never cast my eyes on again. I emptied my poor purse, however, to its utmost penny."—Detroit News.

Working at 61

The man who thinks he is too old to work at sixty-one might profit by the example of Halley, the great English astronomer who discovered the comet. When Halley was sixty-four years old he made up his mind to observe the moon through a complete revolution of her nodes—a task which requires 15 years. His friends remonstrated with him for undertaking so long and serious a task but, as sometimes happens with our English friends, he thought his own ideas much better. He proceeded to prove this by living and completing his 15-year task, and then lived several more years and did several more pieces of work to boot.—Detroit Free Press.

Sauerkraut Traced to Asiatic Wild Tribes

Sauerkraut, once an alien in this country, has been completely naturalized and adopted by the nation, as evidenced by the fact that the figures show that during the last year this nation made and consumed 18,000,000 gallons of sauerkraut. This represents a valuation of \$3,500,000. It is no longer looked upon as a dietary of a foreign land. While the Germans are given the credit of originating sauerkraut, the charge is not well founded. There is evidence that it has been made in Holland and in Alsace from early times. One writer traces it to Asia, showing how the Tartars first passed on a sauerkraut recipe to the Slavic peoples of eastern Europe, who in their turn gave it to the ancient Germans. From Germany, it is conceded, the delicacy was brought here by immigrants, who as they increased in numbers spread its popularity as a food.

Many Books on Weather

The weather bureau at Washington has in the course of its existence accumulated a library of more than 47,000 books all relating to the weather. This library is frequently resorted to for the purpose of answering the thousands of questions which are constantly being received. The department endeavors to answer all such inquiries but sometimes finds itself stumped for it appears that there is a great deal that is not known about the weather.

How Perfectly Awful!

"The average blue law," says a writer in the Vancouver Province, "is usually the result of the impact upon a minority mass psychology of an urge to sacrifice inherent in a truly vivid and full nature that has been warped by centuries of damnable teachings originally induced by material poverty. I had no idea it was as bad as that!"—Detroit News.

Longest Lived Animal

A giant tortoise that was an inmate of the great Napoleon is still living on the island of St. Helena, says T. G. Boulienger, director of the London Zoo, in Animal Mysteries. Tortoises attain a greater age than any other animal. Several of these creatures, weighing over 500 pounds each, owned by Lord Rothschild, the banker, were close on three centuries old when scientific claims put an end to their protracted existence.

No Editorial Comment

When the Daily Courant, London's first successful daily newspaper, appeared in 1702, it consisted of a single page of two columns and professed to give only foreign news. It assured its readers that it would not give any comments of its own, "supposing other people to have sense enough to make reflections for themselves." The Courant came to an end in 1755, when it was absorbed in the Daily Gazette.—Detroit News.

Da Vinci, Man of Science

The spiral spring hinge that shuts your screen door was invented by Leonardo da Vinci, the fifteenth century painter, whose "La Belle Ferroniere" was the subject of an extended lawsuit. Leonardo's fame as a painter has obscured his reputation as an inventor and a trail blazer of science. Yet he stated scientific laws that four centuries of experiment have not altered and many of his simplest inventions have become part of our daily lives. He devised the wheelbarrow, the rotating smokestack that turns with the wind, and the flexible roller chain used on bicycle sprockets.—Edwin W. Teale in Popular Science Monthly.