



1—Senate finance committee laboring over the tariff bill while the rest of congress is on vacation. 2—General Gouraud of France, guest of the Rainbow division, laying wreath on Tomb of the Unknown Soldier in Arlington National cemetery. 3—David Hunter Miller of New York, appointed editor of treaties by Secretary of State Stimson.



NEWS REVIEW OF CURRENT EVENTS

China and Soviet Russia Near War—Wickersham Stirs Wets and Dries.

By EDWARD W. PICKARD

CHINA and Russia came to the verge of war, and whether they would push each other into the gulf was an open question. Surface indications pointed to an armed conflict in the immediate future, but optimistic individuals, like former Secretary of State Kellogg, believed a peaceful solution of the trouble would be reached, inasmuch as both nations signed the Kellogg pact outlawing war.

Russia, enraged by the seizure of the Chinese Eastern railway in Manchuria and the expulsion of numbers of Russians, sent an ultimatum to China demanding that within three days the Nanking government arrange for an amicable settlement of the crisis, immediately release the citizens of the Soviet republics and cancel all "illegal orders." Unless this were done, Moscow threatened, the Soviet union would resort to other means to defend its rights. In response China said an envoy was being sent to Moscow to discuss matters, and also demanded that the Soviet release all Chinese imprisoned in Russia and adequately protect Chinese nationals in Russia from aggression and repression.

The Soviet government, declaring the Nanking note was unsatisfactory in content and hypocritical in tone, announced that all its diplomatic and consular official and commercial representatives would be recalled from China at once, all means of reaching an amicable settlement having been exhausted. It placed the entire responsibility for all consequences on the Chinese government.

During this exchange of notes, and indeed before it began, both nations were concentrating large bodies of troops along the Manchurian-Siberian border, cancelling the leaves of their army officers and otherwise preparing for armed conflict. With these Chinese, on border duty, were the former Russian Imperialist White Guard forces. Dispatches from Nanking quoted a member of the central executive committee of the Nationalist party as saying that the Chinese government would resist to the very end any Russian threats growing out of the taking over of the railway in Manchuria. And President Chiang Kai-shek was reported to have told a gathering of party leaders that the seizure of the railway was only the first stage of the Nationalist policy toward Russia. He was quoted as adding: "After this first stage we will go further. The Imperialist powers are greatly excited over our coup against the Russians and fear that their interests may be involved. But so long as we Chinese are united, we need not fear oppression from the outside."

Aside from the quarrel over control of the railway in Manchuria, the row between these two huge nations is directly traceable to the everlasting urge of the Russians to spread their Red Communist doctrines in other lands by means of insidious propaganda. They seem convinced that all the world shall be turned to Sovietism. Only last week 20 of their agents were sentenced to prison in Turkey for disseminating Communist propaganda and attempting to undermine the existing government.

SOME idea of the prevailing confusion of mind among American citizens concerning prohibition enforcement may be gained from the response to the suggestion which George W. Wickersham, chairman of the Hoover law enforcement commission, made to the conference of governors in session at Groton, Conn. In effect the Wickersham proposition, made in a letter to Governor Roosevelt of New York, is that the prohibition laws be changed to turn "wholesale" enforcement over to the federal government, and "retail" enforcement—against saloons and speakeasies—to the states. Both wets

and dries both praised and denounced the suggestion. In the governor's meeting the notably dry executives sought to have it indorsed as a move toward greater co-operation of the states with the federal government in fighting the demon rum; and the dries, led by Governor Ritchie of Maryland, rallied to prevent such indorsement. Senator Caraway of Arkansas said in Washington that Mr. Wickersham's letter was the "worst blow" ever leveled at prohibition, branding the Vested act as unenforceable and lending encouragement to the criminal world, and he insisted that Mr. Wickersham should resign from the chairmanship of the commission. Wet leaders generally agreed with Caraway that the letter was an admission that the dry law could not be enforced, and consequently chuckled contentedly. But representatives of the W. C. T. U. and other dry organizations took the view that it was really a call to duty on the part of such states as have been remiss in aiding in the enforcement of the Eighteenth amendment.

Among the week's developments was a statement from Prohibition Commissioner Doran that he would issue to all prohibition administrators a drastic order barring the employment of armed volunteers in liquor raids conducted by federal agents. This is a result of the killing of two Oklahoma farmers allegedly by a volunteer aid of a dry agent.

WHAT promised to be an exciting airplane race across the Atlantic, from Paris to New York, ended in tragic death and failure. The Polish plane Marshal Pilsudski managed to reach the Azores and, making a forced landing on the small island of Graciosa, overturned, rolled down an embankment and exploded. Maj. Ludwik Idzikowski was burned to death and his co-pilot, Maj. Casimir Kubala, was badly injured. Kubala said their motor failed them. The French plane Coste and Jacques Bellonte, slowed up by dense clouds and strong head winds that forced the consumption of too much gas, flew almost to the Azores and then turned back, reaching Paris in safety.

Williams and Yancey flew to Paris from Rome last week, saw the sights of the gay capital and then crated their plane and started for home by steamship.

"Untin" Bowler, the Chicago Tribune's amphibian plane that was trapped by weather conditions on Hudson strait on its way to Greenland, Iceland and Berlin, came to grief when ice floes broke up, carrying the plane out to sea where it sank. The crew was safe ashore.

WITH all but one member appointed, the federal farm board was started on its way toward agricultural relief with an address by President Hoover at its initial meeting. In his charge to the board the President said its chief task was the creation of farmer-owned and farmer-controlled marketing agencies. He continued: "I am deeply impressed with the responsibilities which lie before you. Your fundamental purpose must be to determine the facts and to find solutions to a multitude of agricultural problems, among them to more nearly adjust production to need; to create permanent business institutions for marketing, which, owned and controlled by the farmers, shall be so wisely devised and soundly founded and well managed that they, by effecting economies and giving such stability, will grow in strength over the years to come. Through these efforts we may establish for the farmer an equal opportunity in our economic system with other industry."

After this first meeting Chairman Legge expressed the belief that, while the board was created to deal with the whole agricultural situation, it was probable the wheat surplus, generally considered the most urgent phase of the question, would receive the board's immediate attention. Next day following an executive session Mr. Legge announced that the board would do everything possible to work with existing co-operative organizations and to build up new farmer groups for co-operative marketing. By effecting a better organization of farm marketing facilities and bringing the farmer in more direct contact with his market, Mr. Legge said the board

feels that increased profits will accrue to the producer without placing too great a burden on the consumer.

Later Mr. Legge gave out the statement that the board would not attempt to displace private banking institutions and the federal intermediate credit banks in financing co-operatives engaged in marketing farm commodities. The board expects the co-operatives to exhaust the lines of credit which may be obtained at reasonable rates from other institutions before calling on the board for assistance. For the present no loans will be made out of the board's funds, though a great many applications already have been received.

The ninth member of the board, not yet named, is to represent especially the wheat growers. Incidentally, reports of severe crop losses in the American and Canadian Northwest sent wheat prices on the boards of trade up in great leaps and bounds, and other grains advanced sharply in sympathy.

TWENTY-THREE banks in the part of Florida around Tampa closed in two weeks, fifteen of them on one day last week. The Atlanta Federal Reserve bank sent \$5,000,000 to Tampa with the promise of one of its officials of "all the money needed to meet the situation," and this helped the Florida bankers and business men to restore public confidence. The state controller said the failures were caused primarily by "unnecessary withdrawals, propaganda and a financial depression through the state, which has been accentuated by the effect of the Mediterranean fruit fly and quarantine."

LOUIS B. SELTZER, editor of the Cleveland Press, and Carlton K. Matson, the paper's chief editorial writer, were sentenced to serve 30 days and pay fines of \$500 each for contempt of court in printing an editorial denunciation of Common Pleas Judge F. P. Walther, of Cleveland. The judge himself brought the charges, heard the case and pronounced sentence. Newton D. Baker, former secretary of war, defended the newspaper men and filed an appeal and they were released on bail after an hour in jail. The case will be watched with great interest by all members of the journalistic fraternity, for it involves the freedom of the press and the privilege of criticizing public officials, according to Mr. Baker.

OLD times on the river were revived, to the delight of thousands of spectators, when the veteran paddle wheelers, Betsy Ann and Tom Greene, raced 20 miles up the Ohio from Cincinnati to New Richmond for the championship won many years ago by the Betsy Ann. The steamers ran neck and neck for most of the distance, but young Tom Greene finally pushed his boat ahead and won the exciting race by a scant five feet.

DURING a terrific storm on the coast of Chile the Chilean army transport Abtao was sunk off the port of Valparaiso and all but two of the crew of 43 were drowned.

A Rock Island passenger train west-bound from Chicago, plunged through a weakened bridge over Landsman creek near Stratton, Colo., and one of the pullmans was submerged. The loss of life was reported to be nine. Floods in the Trebizond district on the Black sea have taken a toll of perhaps a thousand lives. Many villages were engulfed and 50 square miles of crops destroyed.

KING GEORGE of England underwent another operation, and for a few days his subjects were very anxious. But he came out of it well and was reported to be recovering rapidly. The surgeons found it necessary to remove parts of two ribs to facilitate drainage of the abscess on his majesty's lung.

VETERANS of the Rainbow division, A. E. F., held their annual meeting in Baltimore and their parade was reviewed by President Hoover, General Gouraud, war-time commander of the Fourth French army with which the division fought in France, French Ambassador Claudel and other notables. General Gouraud is honorary president of the division's association and came over especially for the reunion.

Open Herdbooks to Best Cattle

Dairy Associations Overlooking Means of Improving Their Breeds.

(Prepared by the United States Department of Agriculture.)

Dairy breed associations in the United States are overlooking an important means of improving their respective breeds in keeping their herd books closed to the many unregistered high-producing cows of excellent type, according to O. E. Reed, chief of the bureau of dairy industry, United States Department of Agriculture.

Speaking before the annual convention of the Holstein-Friesian association in Philadelphia, Mr. Reed suggested the desirability of the national breed associations giving "some study to setting up a system of registry which will permit entering in the herd books unregistered animals that have reached a high degree of purity for a high level of production."

Seems Like Rank Heresy.

Mr. Reed admitted this suggestion might seem like "rank heresy" to those who have not thought the proposition through, but he called attention to the fact that all cattle now registered sprang from the common herd. Moreover, he cited figures showing the very slight difference existing between the production of unregistered and registered commercial herds today.

Of 100,000 cows tabulated by the bureau of dairy industry, 70,000 were grades and 30,000 were registered. The grades, he said, produced 7,124 pounds of milk and 254 pounds of butterfat a year on the average, while the registered cattle averaged 7,578 pounds of milk and 303 pounds of butterfat, a difference of only 754 pounds of milk and 19 pounds of butterfat in favor of the registered cattle.

New System is Favored.

There are many unregistered animals of great productive capacity and excellent type in the United States today that could be made use of in our breeding operations with profit, he said. A system of registering such animals has plenty of backing, and it can be made genetically sound. Great Britain, Holland, and other countries famous for their fine herds and flocks have used such a system in the past and still follow the practice of admitting animals that have three to five top crosses of registered sires. In discussing the plan, Mr. Reed pointed out that it would not mean an immediate wholesale registration of grade cattle. If only three top crosses were required for the registration of females and all first calves in the crosses were females, which is improbable, he stated, it would take ten years to get a female registered in the herd book.

Preventive Steps for Poults and Blackhead

Such tragic stories as come in about "poults the size of quails." "They get a yellowish or greenish color droppings"; "they begin to walk slow"; "they go light until they die," etc. "This is the old enemy 'blackhead.' The preventive measure is to rear the turkey poults on ground that is not pastured by chicks; to give them all the sour milk they will drink, and every third week to give epsom salts in the proportion of a teaspoon each per old bird, and a half teaspoon for poults.

The droppings of a flock affected with blackhead should be kept cleared away and burned or buried. Make sure that the fowls are free from mites and lice.

Do not keep as breeders birds that have been cured of blackhead.

Food for Goslings.

Bread and milk, cornmeal and bran mash are all good food for goslings. One thing that tends toward profit in geese-raising is that but little food is required after the first few days when grass is plentiful. But because goslings are not always careful as to diet they sometimes eat poisonous weeds, principally young cocklebur, and unless timely aid is given they die. It is best to feed them at least once a day, and to include a little lard or grease skimmed from lard in which vegetables have been boiled and seasoned, to overcome the effects of such poisons.

Agricultural Notes

Feed a dry mash. Hoeling is the life of peas. Give them plenty of it. Sudan grass used for pastures is not nearly so hard on the land as sudan grass used for hay. One of the latest devices is a conveyor and self feeder for baling straw directly from the threshing machine. Vegetables will not develop satisfactorily if the plants are thick, hence judicious thinning is very important.

Don't forget to take a daily lookout for bugs and give them a shot of poison. One bug can produce a big family in short order. Unless turnips are thinned just at the right time they will be disappointing. Get them pulled to reasonable distances to permit growth.

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Destructive Fires Set by Terror-Ridden Cats

Two stories from Paris tell of two cats, each of whom burned a house down. From Montbellard, in the east, comes the tale of a cat which, in the absence of its mistress, crawled up on the mantelpiece to reach a chunk of meat that hung above. It lost its footing and fell into the fire. Crazed with fright and pain it streaked out of the window and to its usual haunt, the granary. Its blazing fur set fire to the building, which burned to the ground. The other tale came from Lorient on the west coast. There a cat had been plagued by two small girls, who had been left at home alone. The elder of the two snatched a coal from the fireplace and put it on the cat's back. The animal rushed from the room into the adjoining bedroom and leaped into the bedclothes. When the resulting blaze was finally perceived by the girls it had grown to overwhelming proportions. The girls rushed out of the house and the building was burned down.

Something Omitted

Modeling in clay, now taught to children in many elementary schools, is taken very seriously by some of the young sculptors, judging from a story told by Mrs. Laura Knight, A. R. A. A friend of hers was one of a party who were inspecting the works of various pupils, and they had gathered round to look at a statuette of a little old lady which a child of five or thereabouts had just finished. "I wonder what the old lady is thinking about?" somebody said. "Oh, she can't think," replied the tiny sculptor, "I didn't make her any brains."

He Really Lived

Good King Wenceslas, who peeked out of the window at the celebration of the feast of Stephen, is usually regarded as a mythical person. He is said to have really lived, however, and the thousandth anniversary of his birth is about to be celebrated. In Polish his name was Vaclav, which somehow got transformed into the German Wenzel and so became Wenceslas. There are many other stories told about his goodness besides that of the Christmas carol.

Trumpeter's GUILT

A trumpeter during a battle ventured too near the enemy and was captured by them. They were about to proceed to put him to death when he begged them to hear his plea for mercy. "I do not fight," said he, "and indeed carry no weapon; I only blow this trumpet, and surely that cannot harm you; then why should you kill me?" "You may not fight, yourself," said the others, "but you encourage and guide your men to the fight." Words may be deeds.—Aesop.

Large-Brained Ancients

Scientists believe they have found the remains of a finely developed, large brained race of men who lived in Africa in prehistoric times. One is never quite sure whether the human race has been going forward all these years or backwards. Perhaps it's a matter for the individual to decide for himself. Do you think you are improving? Do we think better and believe better than we used to? Deep questions, these.—Copper's Weekly.

Odd English Bird

Pied wagtails are attractive birds, with bold, swinging flight, says Nature Magazine. Their call is somewhat like their relatives, the pipits, as they fly, then alighting beside a stream or stagnant pool to feed, while constantly wagging their long tails. These pied wagtails of England are clad in contrasting black and white; the white wagtails, more common on the continent, are gray and white.

Phosphorescence

Occasionally the humble but useful potato, when stored in a dark cellar, becomes luminous, much to the astonishment and consternation of the observer.

Many a story of a weird specter, or ghostly visitant from another world, has had its origin in some phosphorescent display. There are many forms of more or less luminous fungus which live in woods and forests, caves and churchyards, and their mysterious bluish-green light, shining out in the hours of darkness, would doubtless fill the superstitious mind with awe and fear.

Sneezing Superstition

Ancient rabbinistic tradition asserts that from the time of Adam to Jacob sneezing was a sign of death. Jacob thought long on these things. He finally went into prayer for a repeal of the law. So successful was he in his petition that the phenomenon of sneezing ceased to be a sign of death and became an infallible sign of life. After Jacob's day, when children came into the world, they announced their arrival by sneezing. So that when the son of the Shunamite was called to life by the power of Elsha, "The child sneezed seven times and the child opened his eyes."—New York Times.

Ancient Surgical Tools

Like Those Now in Use

Surgeons of 2,000 years ago used instruments similar in shape to those of today. This was shown by probes and forceps uncovered in the buried city of Pompeii, and recently exhibited in London. The large number of probes in comparison to other instruments of the collection suggests that cutting was a large part of surgical work before the year 79, when the eruption of Vesuvius buried the city. While the shapes of the instruments in some cases are almost identical with those of the modern surgical tools, their steel is less flexible. The absence of saws from the collection indicates amputations were rarely attempted, largely because of lack of knowledge about circulation of the blood, says Popular Science Monthly.

Surgery is known to have been practiced at an early date. When Alexander the Great invaded lands east of the Mediterranean in 300 B. C., he found it being practiced by the natives with great skill. There is evidence that surgery was in use in Egypt as early as 5,000 or 6,000 B. C.

"Waste o' Siller!"

A heavy gale was blowing and the steamer was making very heavy weather of it. After a huge sea had swept the deck, a Scottish passenger went up to one of the officers and asked him if he really thought the ship was going to sink. "I hope not!" said the officer, "but surely an old man like you is not afraid to die?" "It's no that exactly," said the passenger, "but ye see I just purchased a plot o' ground in a local cemetery an' it seems to me as if it's going to be a terrible waste o' siller!"—Detroit Free Press.

Dog's Double Life

An interesting trait is the Jekyll and Hyde existence led by many sheepdogs, always regarded by us as gentle, man-serving creatures. These, when they take to sheep killing, develop a cunning so extraordinary that they remain by day the perfectly faithful servants of their masters, carefully shepherding his flocks; yet, at nightfall, they transform themselves into vildains and steal forth to murder their victims, returning before dawn. Strange to say, a "killer" dog, never slaughters sheep of his own flock. He always ravages the neighbors'.