



1—Telephoto picture of wreckage of big passenger plane which crashed at Oceanside, Calif., killing sixteen persons. 2—Frau Dorothea von Velsen of Germany, Mrs. Tsune Ganntlett of Japan, Miss Kathleen D. Courtney of England and Mme. Marie Louise Puech of France, principal speakers at a public meeting held in Philadelphia for the furtherment of international peace. 3—Henry Wharton Shoemaker, historian, appointed American minister to Bulgaria to succeed H. F. Arthur Schoenfeld.

NEWS REVIEW OF CURRENT EVENTS

Naval Parley Starts With Good Chance for Success — Young Plan Signed.

By EDWARD W. PICKARD

EVERYTHING except the physical atmosphere of London was auspicious for the opening of the naval limitation conference on Tuesday, and every one connected with the parley seemed optimistic concerning its results. King George, making his first public appearance since he fell ill on Armistice day, 1923, started the proceedings with a warm but brief address of welcome to the delegates gathered in the royal chamber of the house of lords. He was followed by the heads of the five delegations, all of whom made appropriate speeches full of generalizations and hope.

Significant extracts from these five addresses are:

Prime Minister MacDonald of Great Britain: "If we are not careful we shall be once more involved in feverish competition such as heralded the outbreak of the war in 1914. . . . The way of Great Britain is on the sea. The stock of its people came from the sea; its defense and its highroads have been the sea; its flag is a flag of the sea. Our navy nowhere is superfluous to us. It is us."

Secretary of State Stimson of the United States: "I feel it is more important to emphasize the fact that we do not look upon this effort toward disarmament as final. Naval limitation is a continuous process. We regard disarmament as a goal to be reached by successive steps. . . . We sincerely hope that increased feeling of security may enable still more drastic reduction in the future."

Premier Tardieu of France: "Our needs are determined, as Mr. MacDonald has justly observed, by our geographical position, our historical position, our economic, maritime, colonial, political and defensive situations. Taken altogether they define what is called a nation."

Reijiro Wakatsuki of Japan: "It is the unanimous desire of the Japanese people that peace should be lastingly established. . . . I see no insuperable obstacles in our path."

Dino Grandi of Italy: "The fascist government is desirous of securing real and tangible results in the fields of disarmament and security. . . . The problem is one calling for courageous action. . . ."

FROM their public expressions and the information that came from their private conversations with one another, it appeared the representatives of the five naval powers had at least reached a unity of opinion on five broad principles. They were agreed upon the necessity for a naval holiday in the sense that competitive building of war fleets should cease. They admitted that the public opinion of the world demanded economy in naval expenditures and relief for the peoples from financial burdens. They believed it advisable that any agreements arrived at by the conference should be for a comparatively short period so they might be revised and improved in later years. As to the last point, it was said the British and probably the Americans favored revision of agreements in 1936 and the French wished the term to be about twice as long.

The three highest hurdles the conference will have to surmount probably are the British determination to bring about a sharp reduction in battleships with their possible elimination in the future; the contest between France and Italy for control of the Mediterranean and the Italian demand for parity with France on that sea; and the desire of the French that any agreement reached shall be advisory to the League of Nations' disarmament commission.

When the question of the method of limitation comes up, the Americans and British, who prefer restriction by categories, will probably make concessions to the French and Italians, who advocate the theory of global restrictions, and offer to accept an ar-

angement of global limitation by which 10 per cent of tonnage may be transferred from one category to another on one year's notice.

Business sessions of the conference began Thursday, but it was the opinion of Mr. MacDonald that it would be two weeks before the delegates got to the point of putting their sea strength estimates into terms and figures. In formal meetings he urged them not to be too hasty in getting down to statistics and categories and lists of tonnage, believing the problem should be attacked slowly and piecemeal. The three hundred journalists gathered in London from all parts of the world were bitterly disappointed when it was announced that the "plenary" sessions of the conference would not be open to them for the present. Their exclusion, however, did not prevent their sending many columns of speculation and gossip to their papers every day. It is good reading but the wise reader accepts their statements with reservation.

WHEN on January 29 the delegates of nineteen nations signed the revised and amplified Young plan at The Hague, the World war actually came to an end. Twenty separate agreements, fourteen annexes and fifteen special clauses were signed and presented to Premier Jaspard of Belgium, chairman of the second reparations conference, and he thereupon declared the conference adjourned. After ten years of discussions, quarrels, military occupations and parleys, the final act of liquidating the war had been performed.

The Young plan as modified and accepted requires Germany to pay about \$9,282,000,000 from April of last year through 1966. The system of annuities is little changed. The sanctions clause that was added implies that military occupation can ensue if The Hague tribunal holds that Germany has wilfully defaulted. The international bank will be merely a clearing house for the payments.

The first concrete result of the adoption of the Young plan will be the withdrawal of 20,000 troops of occupation left in the Rhineland. This already is under way, for the French are moving out of the forts in the Rhine valley and the Germans are blowing up those fortifications in accordance with the evacuation agreement and the Versailles treaty.

CONGRESS has elevated the American legation in Poland to the rank of an embassy, and President Hoover has nominated Alexander P. Moore of Pennsylvania to be ambassador to Warsaw. Similar action, of course, was taken by the Polish government, Tytus Filipowicz, the Polish minister in Washington, being named ambassador.

The nomination of Edward E. Brodie of Oregon to be minister to Finland was also sent to the senate by the President. The senate confirmed the nominations of four ministers. They were Gilbert Baker Stockton of Florida, to Austria; John Motley Morehead of New York, to Sweden; Ralph H. Booth of Michigan, to Denmark, and Henry Wharton Shoemaker of Pennsylvania, to Bulgaria.

IF ANY citizens still thought the Wickersham crime commission intended to take up the question of the desirability of prohibition, they were undeceived last week by Mr. Wickersham himself. In a radio address that was broadcast to the nation the chairman of the commission made it quite plain that that body was concerned only with the enforcement of the dry laws, and he appealed to congress and the people to aid the authorities in making the country arid.

"The Eighteenth amendment is a part of the Constitution and it is the duty of congress to enact adequate laws for the enforcement of its provisions," said Mr. Wickersham. "The detection and prosecuting agencies of the government should be properly organized and there should be tribunals properly constituted to deal promptly and efficiently with violations of the law. These would seem to be elementary principles not requiring argument."

Secretary of the Treasury Mellon and Prohibition Commissioner Doran appeared before the house committee on expenditures in the executive de-

partments in behalf of the Wickersham commission's bill for the transfer of the prohibition bureau from the Treasury department to the Department of Justice. The wet members of the committee tried in vain to lure Mr. Mellon into giving his personal opinion of prohibition and the possibility of enforcing it.

In the house of representatives the wets had another chance for sarcastic oratory when five bills to relieve overcrowding of federal prisons were under consideration. But they got nowhere and the bills were passed.

Federal Judge J. W. Woodrugh at Omaha declared unconstitutional that part of the prohibition act which permits personal injunctions against habitual violators of the law.

SECRETARY OF COMMERCE LAMONT announced that, on the basis of statistics compiled by the new construction division of his department, it seemed certain there would be in 1930 an expenditure of almost seven billion dollars on construction and maintenance of public works and public utilities. This total, Mr. Lamont said, does not include residences, commercial and industrial structures and other private operations which last year totaled more than three billion dollars.

Programs for betterments to plant and equipment, announced by public utilities, railroads and telegraph companies represent expenditures of \$3,250,000,000, divided as follows: Class A railroads, \$1,050,000,000; electric, gas and street railway companies, \$1,400,000,000; American Telephone and Telegraph company, \$700,000; independent telephone and telegraph companies, short line railroads and privately owned waterworks, \$100,000.

Complete returns from the governors of 26 states indicate probable expenditures of \$1,778,742,901 for public works and this combined with conservative estimates based on partial returns from the remaining 22 states aggregating \$1,275,000,000, it was stated would give an indicated total of \$3,053,742,900 for public construction by the various states. When federal construction is included, this total for public construction, it is estimated, will be increased to \$3,325,000,000.

FOURTEEN passengers and two pilots lost their lives in what was called the worst tragedy in the history of aviation, near Oceanside, Calif. A big tri-motored plane that was bringing passengers back to Los Angeles from the race track at Agua Caliente, Mexico, got out of control and as the pilots were attempting to make a landing on the beach the machine burst into flames and crashed. Every one on board perished, their bodies being burned beyond recognition. Eight women were among the victims.

TWO Latin American quarrels reached a somewhat dangerous stage last week. While negotiations were under way for peaceful settlement of the border dispute between Bolivia and Paraguay, there was a clash between troops on the frontier with some casualties. Bolivia said the Paraguayans were the aggressors and were defeated. Paraguay blamed the Bolivians and both complained to the League of Nations.

The government of Honduras ordered a mobilization of troops to dislodge Guatemalan forces that were alleged to have occupied Honduras territory. The foreign minister at Tegucigalpa in a statement disclosed that military movements on the Guatemalan border had threatened the life of the joint boundary dispute conference which is now seeking a solution of the problem. The status quo note was restored, however, and the conference resumed its work.

MRS. WILLIAM JENNINGS BRYAN, widow of the "Commoner," died of arthritis in Los Angeles at the age of sixty-eight years.

Other deaths of the week included those of Stephen T. Mather, former director of the national parks system; James Dahlman, mayor of Omaha; George Le Maire, well known comedian; D. A. Boody, one of the veteran brokers of Wall Street, and Viscount Escher, one of the most influential of British peers.

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Soy Beans Make Popularity Bid

Comparatively New Crop Rapidly Gaining Favor in Many Sections.

Soy beans are making a cross-country race into popularity among the farmers. Last year the northern states increased their soy bean acreage 25 per cent. The total acreage of soy beans in the country was 534,000 acres in 1924 as against 452,000 in 1923. Some states, such as Missouri, showed a 50 per cent increase.

Seedsmen are racing in their test laboratories and testing grounds to catch up with the rush of the soy bean. It has been found necessary to test this comparatively new farm crop both for climate and for soil, the varying strains being somewhat national as to their territory if they are to flourish. Although first known in the United States in 1804, so far as records show, the soy bean has not been a commercial product of importance in this country until the last few years, in fact it is chiefly a development since the war.

What They Are Good For.

To the layman, the natural question appears to be: "What are soy beans good for that they should be spreading over the country?" One of its chief uses is for forage in this country. It is one of the great oil vegetables and in times of failure of the cotton crop the soy bean is called into service. It makes a very fine oil. It is also an article of food for human beings, although much more highly esteemed in the Orient to date than it is here where its use as a food is practically unknown.

Soy bean meal is an important fertilizer as well as food for stock. A "vegetable milk" is made from the bean as well. The oil is used largely in the manufacture of soap and in paint manufacture. The vines make good hay.

Good Fertilizer.

Being a legume and having the trick of secreting its own nitrogen on its roots in small lumps or nodules, it is also valuable to grow and plow under for fertilizer and as a follow crop to keep the land in proper condition. The soy bean has earned the popularity it is achieving.

Essential for Success

That Bees Have Honey Every owner of bees should open the hives early in the spring and assure himself that the necessary stores are available for maintaining the bees until blooming time when they can gather their own food (pollen and nectar) in the field. The bees must have at least two or three frames of good sealed honey in the hive at all times in order to be protected against starvation.

An abundance of good honey enhances the excessive brood rearing in early summer and late spring. This essential cannot be overlooked if the hive is to be strong enough to make large quantities of honey. If the honey stores are rather short in the early spring, the bees will delay brood-rearing until they have had time to gather sufficient stores from the blooms. This precaution on the part of the bees will naturally decrease the size of the hive, and colony will be considerably weakened and will not develop to full strength by the time of the main honey flow.

Controlling Gophers by Poisoning During Spring

Poisoning one pair of gophers this spring will be equal to killing six or more next fall. It is suggested that alfalfa growers give every infested field a thorough "once over" treating with poisoned wheat as soon as the ground is dry enough to work. One bushel of strychnine poisoned wheat should kill 600 or more pocket gophers. On a basis of six gophers per acre one bushel of poisoned wheat should clean up 100 or more acres of infestation.

Early spring is breeding and littering time for pocket gophers. Poisoning during early April will be most effective in controlling the 1929 gopher crop. Gopher mounds may be dragged down to prevent the killing of alfalfa plants by smothering.

Agricultural Hints

Either red or alsike clover is more valuable for hay than timothy.

Asparagus is one cultivated crop that will grow when a comparatively heavy application of salt has been made.

From early spring to the latter part of May is the best time to seed sweet clover. Weeds are less troublesome with the later seeding.

When planting seed in the garden care should be taken not to get the seed too thick since this will increase the amount of thinning necessary.

Experience and laboratory tests both show that fuel wood will not give maximum heat in either stove or fireplace unless it has been properly seasoned before being burned.

Don't be afraid of making your garden too rich, especially for cabbage, lettuce, spinach, cauliflower and beets. For enriching it there is nothing better than fine well-rotted stable manure.

Home-Grown Wood Is Excellent for Fuel

Makes Cleaner and Quicker Fire Than Coal.

With over 50,000,000 cords of wood available for use this year, R. W. Graeber, extension forester at North Carolina State college, asks the question, "Why not use home-grown fuel in North Carolina homes?"

"Any wood makes a cleaner, quicker fire than coal, is free from gas and odor and compares very favorably with coal in heating value," says Mr. Graeber. "Two pounds of dry wood has the same heating value as one pound of coal and many of the heavy woods, such as hickory, oak, ash, birch, beech, elm and long-leaf pine, weigh 4,000 pounds to the cord, making a cord of this wood equal to a ton of coal. The lighter woods such as poplar, cypress, white pine, basswood and many others weigh only 2,000 pounds to the cord and it would therefore take about two cords of this wood to equal one ton of coal in heating value."

According to Mr. Graeber, the economic value of using wood is twofold in that all the money spent for wood remains in the state and the cutting and hauling would furnish work for many that would otherwise be objects of charity. At an average price of \$4 a cord, the wood that is now available, if sold, would add \$200,000,000 to the wealth of the state. As it is, two-thirds of the money spent for coal leaves the state to be divided between the railroads, the mine operators and the miners.

To use this wood would not deplete the forests of any marketable timber as it could be harvested from the over-mature, crooked, crippled and diseased trees and from forests that are over-crowded. This would aid also in making room for trees of better quality and more desirable species for future timber production, states Mr. Graeber.

Expert Advice on Time for Beginning Garden

If you are planning a garden this spring, you will be interested in this expert information on planting time for the various vegetables offered in the Farm Journal.

"When planting in the open ground, smooth peas, radishes, spinach and onions can be planted just as soon as the ground can be worked.

"When the peach and plum trees are in bloom, it will be safe to plant beets, cabbage, lettuce, carrots, Swiss chard, parsley, salsify, turnips, kohlrabi and watercress. As soon as it warms up enough that there is no freezing at nights, plants of cabbage, lettuce, beets and broccoli can be set out, if they have been hardened off properly. Some of the early plants set out in the ground may require protectors.

"Early potatoes, according to tradition, are to go into the ground on Saint Patrick's day, whether the weather man decrees it or not. Before planting, treat the seed with a good disinfectant. The new organic mercury disinfectants are not only most effective against tuber borne diseases, but they are convenient to use."

New Vegetable Entered Illinois Family Garden

A new vegetable has entered the family garden at the University of Illinois. It is called Italian broccoli, a plant closely related to cauliflower. The new vegetable has the ability to produce two or three crops a season. It is as easy to raise as cabbage and has a delicate flavor as cauliflower, according to Lee A. Sommers of the university. It is a hardy plant and can endure far greater temperatures than cauliflower. About 60 to 70 days after the plant is set in the field the main stem enlarges and flower buds break forth. The buds form the edible part of the plant. The plant looks somewhat like cauliflower but it is green.

After the first main head is removed smaller heads form and are soon ready to cut.

The common method of serving the vegetable is similar to cauliflower.

Utilizing Sweet Clover for Different Purposes

Sweet clover may be utilized as hay pasture, and for soil improvement purposes. As a hay crop, however, it is not equal to alfalfa or red clover. As a pasture, a good stand of sweet clover in its second season will furnish more grazing than any other plant known. It is also an excellent crop for soil improvement, and fortunately it will serve both as a pasture and a soil improving crop at the same time. In some sections it has been found that the increased yields of sugar beets due to sweet clover were practically the same when the crop was turned under after being pastured as when the entire crop was turned under.

Provide Honey Supers

It is easy to lose part of the honey crop, and some of the bees as well, if care is not taken. This is particularly true of the farmer beekeeper, because he falls very often to provide sufficient supers for the bees to store their honey.

The amount of nectar varies with the year and in some is more abundant than in others. Some years the nectar comes with a rush and if the bees do not have room to store their surplus, they either loaf or become crowded and as a result swarm and the honey crop is lost.

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