



1—Statue of Henry Clay, "father of pan-Americanism," which was presented to Venezuela by the United States and unveiled in Caracas on December 9. 2—Scene in Paris during the recent floods that made some streets impassable. 3—Mail sorters in the New York post office neck deep in Christmas packages that were mailed early in response to the appeal of postal authorities.

NEWS REVIEW OF CURRENT EVENTS

President and Senate in a Wordy Warfare—Relief Measures Passed.

By EDWARD W. PICKARD.

PRESIDENT HOOVER and the senate, or part of that nominally august body, came to verbal blows over legislation. The Chief Executive, who seemingly doesn't feel so restrained now that the election is over, was vexed because of the introduction of measures which would impose an expenditure far beyond the sum he had recommended, "and mostly under the guise of giving relief of some kind or another," as he said to the White House correspondents. He directly accused some members of congress of "playing politics at the expense of human misery."

The President obviously referred to the proposal for immediate payment in cash of the soldiers' bonus and the Shipstead plan, a \$500,000,000 bond issue for river and harbor work. His statement also was regarded as directed at Senator David I. Walsh of Massachusetts, who had criticized Mr. Hoover for the inadequacy of his relief program.

When this statement reached the senate the war broke out fiercely, and the President was bitterly attacked by Senators Robinson, Caraway, Glass, Harrison and other Democrats. Next day in a prepared speech Senator Mc Kellar of Tennessee scathingly assailed Mr. Hoover for what he called his tirade of abuse and declared the President owed an apology to every member of the senate. His reputation and his sincerity were impugned.

Senator Reed of Pennsylvania alone came to Mr. Hoover's defense, and he showed little enthusiasm in his task. The senate on Tuesday passed, without a record vote, the drought relief loan fund bill amended to appropriate \$60,000,000, which is more than twice what the administration considered necessary and which in that form provided not only for seed purchase loans but also for loans for the purchase of food for the distressed farmers. To this latter feature Secretary of Agriculture Hyde had objected on the ground that it was "perilously near the dole system," and this elicited caustic comments from the anti-administration senators.

WITHOUT opposition the house passed the bill appropriating \$110,000,000 for an emergency public construction fund, which is the administration's chief step in the relief of unemployment. It had been revised to meet the objections of the Democrats, who opposed the granting of blanket authority to the President in the expenditure of the fund, so that he could only transfer funds from one of the specified purposes to another. The senate removed even this authority, added \$8,000,000 to the total, and passed the bill. Of the total, \$80,000,000 is for advances to the states for federal aid highway projects and is to be paid back within five years by deductions from federal contributions. Rivers and harbors gets \$22,500,000.

SOME leaders in congress, both Republicans and Democrats, expressed a fear that the submission of the world court protocols to the senate would result in a legislative jam that might make necessary the calling of an extra session of the new congress in the spring. In his message transmitting the protocols the President asked for early consideration of the question. He said that the protocols as revised "free us from any entanglement in the diplomacy of other nations" and urged that the United States "lend its co-operation in this effort of the nations to establish a great agency for pacific settlements."

It may be the appropriations legislation will be completed in time to give the senate a few weeks to take up the world court matter before March 4, but the radicals are likely to filibuster unless their pet measures

are acted on also, and thus an extra session might be forced. FRANK B. KELLOGG, former secretary of state, received the Nobel peace prize for 1929 in Oslo, Norway, Wednesday. In the presence of King Haakon and a distinguished gathering. At the same time the peace prize for 1930 was handed to Dr. Nathan Soderblom. Mr. Kellogg, in acknowledging the award, asserted there was no indication of war in the world, but rather the prospect was for continued peace. Should there be a war, however, he gave warning, western civilization could not withstand it.

Among the other Nobel prizes handed out was that for literature to Sinclair Lewis, American novelist, who received it in Stockholm from the hands of King Gustav of Sweden.

HAVING adopted an outline of a general disarmament treaty, the preparatory disarmament commission of the League of Nations ended its sessions at Geneva. This draft convention will be the basis for the deliberations of a world conference that probably will meet early in 1932. Ambassador Hugh Gibson, who represented the United States, in a closing statement told his colleagues that the outline treaty "falls far short of our hopes and expectations," failing to include the various methods which Americans regarded as essential to real disarmament. He said, however, that the scheme adopted would permit at least the stabilization of armaments, the setting up of machinery to receive and spread information on armaments, and "to prepare systematically for the work of future conferences."

MR. HOOVER transmitted to the house of representatives a formal request for the immediate appropriation of another \$150,000,000 to the federal farm board from its \$500,000,000 revolving fund. The money is needed, he said, "in order that important operations of the board, now in prospect, may be carried through promptly," and it was understood this meant further outlays for the stabilization of wheat prices.

OPERATION of Muscle Shoals by a co-operative organization of farmers was asked by the American Farm Bureau federation at its convention in Boston. It also voiced opposition to amendment of the agricultural marketing act at this time.

The federation also recommended stricter regulation of grain and cotton exchanges; that funds be loaned to farmers in the drought area be made immediately available; that congress appropriate money to insure immediate carrying out of the authorized development projects, and that the federal treasury have a revolving fund to be used exclusively to stabilize federal land bank bonds.

TWO hundred men and women representing thirty-three dry organizations held an annual conference in Washington and asked that congress provide more men and more money for enforcement of prohibition. A convention of wets also was held in the National Capital and agreed on a unified substitute plan for prohibition.

HERE is one record of achievement to brag about. The forest service reports that fire damage to national forest lands this year was held down to \$237,370, a reduction of nearly 95 per cent from last year. This despite the fact that the season has been the driest on record. Forest area burned over amounted to 195,965 acres, only one-fifth of last year's acreage.

PROPERTIES of the Chicago & Alton railroad, which since the time of the Civil war has operated 1,028 miles of track in Illinois and Missouri, were sold at public auction in foreclosure proceedings of the federal court, the sale taking place at Wilmington, Ill., the first station outside of Chicago actually owned by the company. The railway, valued at \$100,000,000, was purchased by the Baltimore & Ohio railroad, which owned a majority of the Alton's bonds. The Alton company had been in receivership for eight years, brought to

that condition by financial difficulties that started with the failure to pay dividends on mortgages imposed by the Harriman interests in the '90s. Strikes and bad business in the bituminous coal region helped the company on the downward path.

RUSSIA'S picturesque trial of eight engineers accused of an anti-Soviet conspiracy in which foreign nations and notabilities were declared to be involved ended as expected in the conviction of all the defendants. It could not be otherwise, since all had confessed. Five of them were sentenced to death and three to ten years in prison, and all the Communists applauded. Next day the central executive committee of the Union of Socialist Soviet Republics commuted the five death sentences to ten years' imprisonment, and two years were taken off the other sentences. The press of London and Paris looks on the whole affair as a put up job.

NO SATISFACTORY explanation has yet been given of the "poison fog" which killed 67 persons in the Meuse valley of Belgium and France. The Belgian authorities tried to belittle the affair but Queen Elizabeth ruled otherwise and appointed a commission of physicians to make an investigation.

HENRY CLAY now stands, in marble, in the center of a wide plaza in Caracas, the capital of Venezuela, and he is labeled the "Apostle of fraternity" between the countries of America." The statue is the present of the United States to Venezuela, given in return for one of Gen. Simon Bolivar, hero of South American independence, which was unveiled in New York in 1921. It was dedicated on Tuesday by James R. Sheffield, former ambassador to Mexico, and received by the high officials of the Venezuelan government.

In his address Mr. Sheffield said: "In speaking to the people of Venezuela, I am trying to interpret to all the republics of South America the friendly attitude of my country and its faith in the complete triumph of free institutions and governments in the western world. We aspire to no leadership in your affairs. We only wish to help you in attaining the highest development of your national consciousness and sovereign rights."

SECRETARY of the Navy Adams in his annual report points out the perils in the administration's policy of reducing navy enlisted personnel to a minimum. He says that during last year there were not enough enlisted men to man fully all types of ships in the navy. To operate the navy with the remaining 79,800 men it will be necessary to decommission a number of vessels.

Appearing before the house naval committee, Mr. Adams asked that congress approve a \$34,000,000 construction program designed to start our country on the way to having such a fleet as is authorized by the London treaty. Chairman Britten of the committee thereupon introduced a bill authorizing the construction of seven new cruisers and submarines and one aircraft carrier, the only vessels on the navy program not now authorized.

THE annual report of the internal revenue commission shows that ten states with an aggregate population of less than one-half of the total for the country pay more than three-fourths of the federal tax bill. These states, in their order, are: New York, North Carolina, Illinois, Pennsylvania, California, Ohio, Michigan, Massachusetts, Virginia and Missouri. Few of the southern and western states, except those with large industrial cities, paid tax percentages approaching their population percentages.

The total international revenue receipts for the fiscal year were set by the report at \$3,040,145,733, of which \$2,410,250,230 was paid in income taxes and \$629,895,502 in miscellaneous taxes.

LEE S. OVERMAN, veteran senator from South Carolina, died in Washington after a week's illness. He was seventy-six years old and had served in the senate since 1902. (By 1930, Western Newspaper Union.)

Community Building

Color Important Point in Community Centers

In decorating the social rooms of the community center or the social rooms of the modern church the important thing to keep in view is that the background must be made to appeal to young minds, which are especially attracted by pleasant surroundings. While grown-ups participate in the activities of the social center, religious or civic, the primary reason for its existence is to provide legitimate recreation for young people. The browns and tans, which have long been accepted as the best wall colors for any kind of public rooms, are giving place to more cheerful though no less dignified color. And while colors should be subdued and conservative, especially in the social rooms of the churches, they can nevertheless be cheerful and gracious. A little study of the principles of decoration will help to make them inviting and hospitable looking.

As cheerfulness depends so much upon color, only light colors should be used. If the social or community room has a northern exposure, a light, warm color, such as a very pale grayed orange, a sunny yellow, a deep ivory or very light apricot, will make it seem warm and pleasant even on dreary days. Cooler colors, light greens, grayed light blues or blue greens, are satisfactory for the room with a southern exposure.

Duty of Community Is Keeping Up With Times

Yes, sir. It's not the same down on the farm that it was when I was a boy, say fifty years ago, W. A. Weygrand writes in the Cleveland Plaindealer.

There has been a right smart change in about everything, I must say. It came gradually, but surely, hardly perceptible from year to year, but from decade to decade quite noticeable as one looks back.

The country roads have changed, the schools have changed, the landscape has changed, the villages have changed, the public has changed in its attitudes, its habits, its pleasures, its community activities. There has been the same test of ability, of capacity, of endurance, of equality, that the city man and woman have had to meet in the past half century; namely, to keep up with the times. Thus it is that one community or one farm may show neglect or lack of community spirit, a run-down aspect, while another may have an air of forwardness, neat, well-painted buildings, clean premises, mowed lawns where in days past a lawnmower was unknown, fences painted or at least clear of weeds, high grass and shrubbery.

Centralizing Schools Kingsville, a little village on the lake shore, midway between Ashland and Conneaut, in Ashtabula county, has the honor of being the scene of the first attempt at rural school centralization, not only in Ohio, but in the whole Middle West.

It was in 1894 that a law was enacted authorizing Kingsville township to use school money to pay the expense of transporting pupils of the sub-districts from their homes to the Kingsville high school, writes J. H. Galbraith, Ohio historian. This, it will be noticed, was something quite different from what is meant now by centralization of schools; still the germ of the thing was there. It proved a success and never was abandoned.

Pays to Remodel Remodeling or modernizing of old houses has increased amazingly in the past few years. Worn, weather-beaten homes and are still in desirable locations are being given new beauty and greatly prolonged life at a cost that is well within the added value created.

Contractors and builders who formerly gave little or no attention to this end of the building industry are now in many instances specializing in modernizing work, with the result that many homes that really detract from the value of the lots they occupy are now being remodeled into modern face-brick homes or apartments at a fraction of the cost of new construction.

Garden Effects That beautiful garden effects may as easily be obtained from a great number of small blooms of good color as from a number of large blooms is well known to experienced gardeners. There is no garden material giving such effective and brilliant sheets of color as the small spring bulbs. This color comes, too, at a time when the garden is bare.

Look Up Assessments When buying a home or home site be sure the assessments are such as you can carry. The ultimate owner pays these charges anyway, so in total sum it makes no difference whether improvements are assessed or already paid for.

Wants Roadside Signs Taxed Schoenbrunn grange of New Philadelphia, Ohio, will ask the general assembly to place a tax on roadside signboards.

Twelve-Month Calendar Used by Ancient Race

Those who propose a revised calendar are 4,000 years behind time, according to Prof. Arthur Pomansky, a German authority on obscure civilizations of the ancient world.

On a broad plateau touching the boundary line between Peru and Bolivia and overlooking Titicaca, the largest lake in South America, there lived, 4,000 years ago, a mysterious people who raised enormous temples and adjusted their lives to a calendar for 12 months each year, divided into three 10-day weeks, says Popular Science Monthly. The actual calendar as written by the savant priests of the ancient race has been discovered by Professor Pomansky, who is in Bolivia exploring the relics of the Tiahuanacans.

Although the Tiahuanacans are believed to have flourished at the same time as the Egyptians, it is difficult to trace their history, since they were unknown to contemporary Peruvians. The colossal stone structures built by the strange races are filled with huge monuments and statues and enhanced by elaborately carved doorways. The remains are considered in many respects to be among the most interesting of archaeological records discovered in America.

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