

News Review of Current Events the World Over

Congress Passes Veterans' Bonus Loan Measure, Despite Hoover and Mellon—Chairman Legge to Leave the Farm Board.

By EDWARD W. PICKARD



Speaker Longworth

FOLLOWING the lead of Speaker Nicholas Longworth, nearly all the Republican members of the house of representatives deserted the administration and voted with the Democrats for the passage of the bill increasing maximum loans on bonus certificates held by World War veterans from 22 1/2 per cent to 30 per cent of their face value.

The repudiation of the strongly held views of President Hoover and Secretary of the Treasury Mellon was decisive, the vote being 363 to 39. The opposition votes were all cast by Republicans. Longworth's activity in behalf of the measure was exerted in bringing about an agreement in the ways and means committee.

As soon as the bill was handed up to the senate its proponents in that body took steps to hold up nearly all other legislation in order to get it through before Friday night. They were determined that it should not be killed by a pocket veto, which would be possible if speedy action were not obtained. Smoot, Reed and other administration senators sought delay in the hope of finding a compromise that would make the measure acceptable to the President, but in vain.

The bill was passed by the senate by a vote of 72 to 12, all the nays being Republicans.

Administration leaders in both houses admitted that there was no hope that a veto by the President could be sustained. Secretary Mellon's arguments against the bill and the figures he gave as to its cost to the government were vigorously disputed by many representatives and senators. In the last year Andy has lost much of his prestige as a financial prophet.

The house followed up its passage of the bonus loan bill by passing without roll call a bill authorizing the expenditure of \$12,500,000 for construction of veterans' hospitals and a bill authorizing the expenditure of \$2,800,000 for additional facilities at national soldiers' homes. The hospital bill is designed to furnish about 3,300 additional beds.

The house veterans' committee reported favorably a bill for pensions for widows and children of deceased World War veterans. The bill is estimated to cost \$18,000,000 the first year and \$131,000,000 over a period of five years. The administration has sought to prevent action on this legislation at the present session.

ENACTMENT by congress of the Interior department appropriation bill carrying the \$20,000,000 drought relief loan and its official approval by the President removed most of the danger of a special session, despite the controversy over the veterans' bonus loan. The passage of the compromise relief measure was scored as a victory for Mr. Hoover and his policy of opposition to any federal appropriation that could be interpreted as a dole. In the senate the vote on the bill was 67 to 15; and in the house a formal vote was not even taken on the conference report.

SENATE and house conferees agreed on a compromise resolution which provides for government production, transmission and sale of power at the Muscle Shoals plant, as in the original Norris resolution. That measure is changed only in the part concerning the nitrate plant. By the compromise resolution the President is given one year to negotiate a lease of the nitrate plant to a private corporation, failing which the government is to begin operation of the plant. Unless President Hoover abandons his former stand he will veto the bill.

SOON after March 4 next, Alexander Legge, chairman of the federal farm board, will retire from that body and hand over his multitudinous troubles to another. It is believed in Washington that his successor will be James C. Stone, now vice chairman of the board and formerly an assistant secretary of commerce. Mr. Stone represents especially the tobacco interests. Mr. Legge will resume the presidency of the International Harvester company. When he resigned that office in July, 1929, to head the farm board at the urgent request of President Hoover, he said he could not absent himself from the company for more than one year. However, the exigencies of the farm board work have prevented his leaving it before this.

At least three other members of the board may drop out before long, it is understood. They are: C. C. Teague, fruit and vegetables representative, Samuel R. McKelvie, wheat member,

and William F. Schilling, the dairy member.

Almost from the day Mr. Legge took up his duties as chairman of the farm board, he has been the center of attack from political and grain trading quarters. While he met these onslaughts with a vigorous defense of the board, it is conceded that his decision to relinquish his duties with the government was influenced by the violent controversy his policies aroused.

For almost a year Mr. Legge's service has been directed toward stabilizing the wheat market. Opposition arose in Washington and in parts of the grain belt to the purchasing by the government of millions of bushels of surplus wheat to steady the market and maintain prices.



Postmaster Gen. Brown

POSTMASTER General Walter Brown was the center of a series of somewhat acrimonious discussions during the week. In the first place, he called air mail operators into conference and told them they would have to increase service and readjust rates to meet a deficit estimated at \$150,000,000 for the next fiscal year. He said schedules were not being met, connections at junction points not being completed and average speed not kept up to standard. As for rates, the operators were warned that unless they revised them, congress would do it.

In his speech to the operators, Brown warned they could not look for support from military branches of the government since these "were not at all enthusiastic about any part civil aeronautics might play in any preparedness program," but spoke of such aid "with some contempt."

This brought from Rear Admiral Moffett, chief of the navy bureau of aeronautics, the statement that he was sure no one in naval aviation ever had spoken with contempt about civil or commercial pilots and airmen or what they have accomplished. "We have the highest respect for them," he added, "and believe that they would be of tremendous value to the country in time of war."

About the same time some senators learned that Mr. Brown and the interstate commerce commission were contemplating making increases in the parcel post rates. Declaring this would cost the American people \$7,000,000, Senator McKellar, of Tennessee, offered a resolution asking Mr. Brown not to make the changes until they have been approved by congress. McKellar and Senator Norris of Nebraska contended the raise would be in the interest of the express companies which they said would get much of the business now handled by the parcel post. McKellar added the increases would be a heavy burden on the farmers. The resolution was adopted.

PRESIDENT HOOVER put his signature to the bill providing for a 44-hour week for postal employees, which becomes effective July 1 and will affect 150,000 letter carriers, office clerks and railway service men. The President then announced that he would ask congress to authorize the appointment of a special commission to investigate ways and means of placing the Post Office department on something like a paying basis. In disclosing his intention to take steps to cut down the annual postal losses the President pointed out that the Post Office department faces an estimated deficit of \$100,000,000 for the next fiscal year.

SENATORS, mostly Democrats, gave considerable of their time for several days, to debating the wet and dry question. Millard Tydings of Maryland, wet, obtained the adoption of a resolution calling on the Wickersham commission to forward to the senate the testimony on which the commission based its recent report on prohibition. Tydings and some of the dry senators from the South engaged in acrimonious discussion in the course of which Morrison of North Carolina said some most uncomplimentary things about Chairman Rascoe of the Democratic national committee.

Next day Senator Wagner of New York delivered a prepared speech calling on the Democratic party to lead the way to prohibition reform and attacking the President for "throwing away" the opportunity offered by the Wickersham report "to lead a grateful people out of the morass of criminality, corruption and hypocrisy in which we have been bogged for eleven years."

The method of bringing about im-

proved conditions which the commission did not discuss was, he said, that of state option under federal control. He offered a plan under such a method. He would have repeal, but with a joint agreement between federal and state governments, as part of the state's repealing action, to guarantee state control without the saloon.

ETHELBERT STEWART, commissioner of labor statistics, presented to the senate committee on food costs a mass of government statistics showing a wide discrepancy between the prices paid by consumers for milk and dairy products and the prices received by farmers. He said the figures showed a very apparent failure of retail prices to follow the decline of wholesale prices in milk. The average price of milk in 51 cities is 13.3 cents a quart, Stewart said, and the farmer is receiving an average price of a little less than 4.5 cents.

Representatives of the dairy industry testified the consumer was receiving the full benefit of reductions in the wholesale prices of their products. But Chairman Capper showed that one of the companies had averaged profits of about 20 per cent on its stock during the last five years, which, he said, is about ten times the profit the farmers in Kansas get.

FOUR days of political jockeying in Spain ended with the formation of a new monarchist cabinet headed by Admiral Juan Bautista Aznar. For the time being both revolution and the renewal of a military dictatorship were avoided, though the fundamental issues are not settled. Guerra and Alvarez, leaders of the opposition, both had failed to form governments that King Alfonso could accept. The new cabinet is made up of extreme right monarchists with the conservatives, liberals and Catalan independents represented.

It is believed Admiral Aznar will consent to a special session of the parliament which will make certain reforms in the constitution, leaving the powers of the throne unimpaired. Aznar is the oldest ranking officer in the Spanish navy and has not been a partisan in politics.



Vice Admiral A. L. Willard

VARIOUS problems of naval warfare, especially that of the relative value of the heavily armored battleship and the airplane, may be solved in the great war game of the navy which began at the start of the week in Panama waters. The forces were divided into the "Blue" fleet and the "Black" fleet. The former, under command of Vice Admiral Arthur L. Willard, flying his flag on the Arkansas, was entrusted with the defense of the Panama canal and of a hypothetical Nicaragua canal. It is the Atlantic or scouting fleet and was reinforced by the aircraft carriers Saratoga and Lexington and the dirigible Los Angeles; by planes from the naval air station at Coco Solo and by a big fleet of "V-4" submarines.

The attacking "Black" fleet was not nearly so strong in planes but more powerful in other respects. It was commanded by Admiral Frank H. Schofield. The "Blacks" had about eighty planes, forty from the aircraft carrier Langley and the rest from battleships and a division of new 10,000-ton "treaty" cruisers, tried out for the first time in war operations with the fleet. This division, composed of the Northampton, the Salt Lake City and the Pensacola, was assigned to Admiral Schofield's command for the war problem, though ordinarily it operates in the Atlantic.

The umpire ship was the Texas, flagship of Admiral Jebu V. Chase, commander in chief of the United States fleet and general director of the war game.

ON THE Sunday before the beginning of Lent the government of Soviet Russia declared war against religious influence in the schools, enlisting all Soviet children in the campaign. The commissariat of education in a manifesto said:

"We cannot allow the morality of our children to be degraded by religion. The churches recently had the audacity to creep into our schools. In one school tiny crosses were distributed among pupils."

The commissariat voted funds for an issue of circulars calling upon school teachers to intensify their anti-religious instruction, and it appealed to the movie trust to produce special anti-Christian films for juvenile consumption.

WHILE the alleged iniquities of postal leases are still under investigation, the house gave its approval to a program for wider federal ownership of postal facilities which has the backing of the administration. The bill passed authorizes the expenditure of \$45,000,000 for the removal of postal activities from leased quarters into government-owned substations and garages. It received a unanimous vote.

DEATHS of the week included those of Louis Mann, veteran comedian; Gov. Frank C. Emerson of Wyoming; W. R. Merriam, former governor of Minnesota, and Louis Walheim, movie and stage actor. Maj. Gen. Clarence R. Edwards, commander of New England troops in the World War, who died in Boston, was buried in Arlington National cemetery. (© 1931, Western Newspaper Union.)

Beekeeping Best as One-Man Task

Average Keeper Will Make Most Profit With 400 Colonies.

(Prepared by the United States Department of Agriculture.—WNU Service.)

The average beekeeper will make the most profit if he limits his business to 400 colonies, the number he can care for single-handed, the United States Department of Agriculture says. He may be a first-rate bee handler, but the temperament of a good beekeeper generally is not the temperament for managing employees efficiently.

What One Man Can Do.

One man can do practically all of the work required for 350 or 400 colonies, even during rush seasons, the department learned by studying for three years the records of beekeepers in widely separated regions of the country. With an apiary of this size, however, he will need some additional means of income. Beekeeping is at its best, generally, as a supplement to farming. One man in New York state, who farms 100 acres and cares for 70 colonies of bees learned from experience that a 70-colony apiary is equivalent to about 40 acres of land in both income and labor.

One beekeeper, who spends little time in his apiary and is an inefficient employer of labor, had a labor cost of more than \$6 per colony. He lost 53 cents a colony one year, and \$1.75 a colony the next year. But not all good beekeepers are poor managers. One who owns 1,800 colonies reported a yield of about 250 pounds of extracted honey from each colony and a total income of \$23,387 in 1928, or a net income of \$11.73 for each hour he worked with the bees. He hires labor and knows how to use it. Other beekeepers have reported returns of \$2.40 to \$5.50 an hour for their time in the apiary.

Practices Studied.

The department has studied beekeeping practices in Colorado, Wyoming, Utah, Idaho, Montana, Iowa, New York, Michigan, Ohio and Minnesota. During the next few years the department will complete its nationwide survey by studying beekeeping on the Pacific coast, on the Dakota plains, in Texas, and in the South.

Scientific High Points in Plowing for Crops

(By DR. M. C. SEWELL, Associate Professor of Soils, Kansas State Agricultural College.)

The largest item of expense in producing cereal and annual forage crops is tillage.

The most important tillage operations are plowing and cultivating.

Reduction in depth or frequency of plowing, or number of cultivations necessary for economic yields, materially reduces the cost of raising the crop.

Plowing deeper than six inches for cereals or row crops—excepting root crops—is never warranted.

Timeliness—early plowing—is the important factor in wheat tillage—July-plowed ground produced eight bushels to the acre more than September-plowed ground.

Nitrogen conservation is the thing for which the farmer plows, not moisture conservation.

The dust which is no longer considered a useful practice.

Cultivation sufficient to keep down weeds is all that is necessary—additional plowing is wasted.

Efficient tools, especially power equipment, is of utmost value in tillage in the light of discoveries as to the value of timeliness in plowing.

Soy Bean Hay Equal in Feed Value to Alfalfa

At the Indiana station soy bean hay proved to be about 8 per cent inferior to alfalfa. At the South Dakota station results from a similar test indicated soy bean hay to be 6 per cent better than alfalfa for dairy cows. At the West Virginia station soy bean hay proved to be slightly superior to alfalfa for milk production, and at the Tennessee station it was quite a bit superior. At the Wisconsin station, in one case, milk production was slightly larger when alfalfa was fed as compared with soy bean hay. The weights of the cows were also slightly better maintained on the former than on the latter. In another test at the same station the two hays were practically equal in feeding value, but more of the soy bean hay was wasted by the cows than of the alfalfa.

Thus we see that on the whole soy bean hay, when well cured and cut at the right time, is practically equal in feeding value to good alfalfa.

Intensive Campaign to Control Oriental Moth

Growers in the section in which the oriental fruit moth is already present are preparing to wage an intensive campaign to control this pest during the coming season.

As the opening gun in battle the growers will give their orchards a deep thorough cultivation. This kills those that pass the winter in the soil. This is quite a per cent of the total number that live over.

The other methods of control which are suggested by those who have worked on this insect will be used later in the season. It will be a hard battle but unless the grower wins, this year's crop in these sections seriously infected will be worth almost nothing.

Growers Can Reduce Loss of Potatoes

Careful Regulation of Temperature Is Important.

(Prepared by the United States Department of Agriculture.—WNU Service.)

Wastes and losses of potatoes in storage can be prevented in great part if growers and dealers adopt the storage methods which the United States Department of Agriculture recommends. These include careful regulation of the temperature of the storage room, controlled ventilation, and exclusion of light. Dr. William Stuart, potato specialist of the Bureau of plant industry, has just revised Farmers' Bulletin 847-F to include information developed since the bulletin was first issued in 1917.

The all-year demand for potatoes has always necessitated storage of considerable quantities of the crop, and many growers and dealers have believed that considerable waste in storage was inevitable. Scientific investigation has demonstrated that much of the loss is preventable. Storage under favorable conditions offers several advantages; it assures a more uniform market supply, preserves table quality, and protects the vitality of seed.

Doctor Stuart emphasizes the value of changing the temperature to suit the storage stages of the potato. "If newly harvested potatoes," he says, "especially those somewhat immature, are subjected to a temperature of about 60 degrees for the first ten days of the storage period in a relatively high humidity, the injured tissues will quickly heal over." After the brief period of storage at 60 degrees, the temperature should be reduced to about 40 degrees, maintained there for two or three months, and then held at about 38 degrees.

Farmers' Bulletin 847-F, "Potato Storage and Storage Houses," gives details of ventilation, temperature regulation, light exclusion, and other factors desirable in potato storage, and gives practical suggestions for construction of storage houses. It may be obtained free by applying to the office of information, United States Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C.

Early Plowing Favored for Best Soy Bean Crop

As a general rule, the ground should be plowed for soy beans, according to results of tests by the Ohio agricultural experiment station, cited by the farm crops department of the Ohio State university. "There are a few exceptions to this general rule," says one of the bulletins issued by the experiment station, "as when the soil is naturally loose and when a good seed bed can be prepared by disking."

Experiments at Wooster have yielded 10.53 bushels of grain and 1,895 pounds of straw to the acre on disked corn stubble land, while plowed corn stubble land yielded 15.79 bushels of grain and 2,052 pounds of straw.

Early plowing is recommended as the better practice, since it gives time for the seed bed to settle and opportunity to kill one crop of weeds before the soy beans are planted. Late plowing in a dry season may leave the soil so loose and dry that germination will be poor and the early growth of the soy beans stunted. Many growers prepare the seed bed for soy beans before that for corn, but do not plant the soy beans until the corn is in the ground.

Check Machinery Before Opening of Season's Work

With the severe conditions under which chains operate on most farm machinery they should be carefully checked before the opening of a new season's work. Proper alignment of sprockets should always be maintained in order to prevent side-pull causing excessive wear on the sides of sprocket teeth. Worn sprockets should be replaced when new chains are placed on drivers to prevent a difference in pitch giving improper chain action and causing excessive strains on chains.

Proper adjustment and oiling are also essential. Too much tension places unnecessary loads on the bearings and chain. Rusty chains should be cleaned with kerosene or light oil. When running they should be lubricated occasionally with a good grade of oil.

Agricultural Hints

Kale can be picked in the garden all winter. You might try a few plants another year.

Forest trees have just as many insect and fungus enemies as orchard trees and field plants.

Red raspberries are the hardest of the brambles, blackberries being most susceptible to adverse climate.

Look over the garden tools and give them a coating of oil so they won't be dull and rusty when you want them.

To get better pollination in a single variety pear orchard, top-work some trees to Bosc, Kieffer, Anjou, or Clapp Favorite.

In planning next year's work, try a system which will include several of the crops most profitable in the region over a period of years.

EXCESS ACID SICKENS—GET RID OF IT!

Sour stomach, indigestion, gas, usually mean excess acid. The stomach nerves have been over-stimulated. Food sours in the stomach.

Correct excess acid with an alkali. The best form of alkali is Phillips' Milk of Magnesia. It works instantly. The stomach becomes sweet. Your heartburn, gas, headache, biliousness or indigestion has vanished!

Phillips' Milk of Magnesia is the pleasant way—the efficient way to relieve the effects of over-acidity. Phillips' Milk of Magnesia has been standard with doctors for over 50 years. 25c and 50c bottles at drug-stists.

Now the Fox Rustler

The cattle rustler may be passing, but another form of rustling has developed in the West—fox rustling. Idaho fox growers have been troubled by thieves who cut their way into pens and steal foxes worth thousands of dollars. The latest and largest theft was that of fifteen silver foxes and seven blue foxes, worth \$3,000.

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and coughing stops at once! Relieves where others fail. Contains nothing injurious—but, oh, so effective! GUARANTEED.

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His Task

Child (to young man who has called)—Sister told me to entertain you till she comes down.

Young Man—Oh, she did, did she?

Child—Yes; and I'm not to answer too many questions.

Dr. Pierce's Pellets are best for liver, bowels and stomach. One little Pellet for a laxative—three for a cathartic.—Adv.

Marine Marvel

The mighty cuttlefish has arms long enough to encircle a whale's body.

He is a gentleman because his nature is kind and affable to every creature.—Barnfield.

WE ARE OPEN TO MEN
WHEN Washington's Dodge Hotel (formerly the Grace Dodge) opened ten years ago men were not accepted. So many women liked the hotel and wanted to bring their husbands, brothers, fathers, uncles and sons that six years ago the doors were thrown open to both men and women. Since then thousands of men have stayed here, including several senators, some bankers, and a few Governors. The Dodge is popular with both men and women because of its non-tipping policy, its cheery, comfortable guest rooms, its spacious lobbies, its garden setting and its convenient location near the Capitol, the Library of Congress, and the Senate Office Building. Accommodations for 400. Room and bath from \$3. Write for Complimentary Booklet "A Week in Washington".

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