

News Review of Current Events the World Over

Nicholas Longworth's Death Ends Long and Honorable Political Career—Senator Bingham's Taxation Idea—Cabinet Changes Unlikely.

By EDWARD W. PICKARD



Nicholas Longworth

NICHOLAS LONGWORTH, speaker of the house of representatives, veteran Ohio congressman, and son-in-law of Theodore Roosevelt, died of pneumonia at Alken, S. C., where he was spending a spring vacation.

Although admitted to the bar, he did not practice to any extent. Instead, he became interested in civic affairs and soon was immersed in politics in the city over which "Boss" Cox then held sway.

A six year term as speaker culminated the service of Nicholas Longworth in the house of representatives during thirteen congresses.

But three speakers in the history of the house occupied longer the chair to which Mr. Longworth was elevated by his Republican colleagues after twenty years' apprenticeship as a "boy" representative from Ohio, distinguished service on the powerful ways and means committee and one term as majority floor leader.

He was the Republican candidate for speaker of the next house, in which that party now holds a majority of only one.

AN IMMIGRATION case which may develop into national importance with wide consequences has arisen through the application of Miss Ella Young, Irish author and authority on ancient Celtic mythology, for admission to the United States with the intention of becoming an American citizen.

Miss Young, who in recent years has lectured at Vassar, Smith and Mills colleges, made application for a visa in November, 1930, at Victoria, B. C.; where she is now living, but it was refused or held in abeyance on the ground that she had not demonstrated satisfactorily to the American consulate that she might not become a public charge, based upon the view that Miss Young, being sixty-six years of age, without independent means and a writer, might not always be self-supporting.

Notwithstanding appeals from prominent educators, financiers and lawyers the State department refused to take cognizance of the case. It simply stated, what it has said without exception since the immigration act of 1924 was amended in 1927, that the American consul who passes upon applications for visas is the court of first and last resort in such matters.

Miss Young was a resident of this country from October 15, 1925, until November 18, 1930. She arrived upon a visitor's permit which was repeatedly extended, upon suitable bond being posted, but left the country at Seattle on November 18, 1930, although her permit had been extended to July 1, 1931, and went to Victoria.

It was her intention to make her permanent home in California and write a book on Irish mythology. In addition, friends were arranging for a chair in Irish mythology to be established for her at some California university.

THE earl of Bessborough, Canada's new governor general, comes to the Dominion heralded as the wealthiest man ever to hold the office. He is also the first governor general to be chosen by the Canadian government.



Earl of Bessborough

By degrees, however, governors general came to take a less active part in politics. Only once in recent years has a governor general acted against the advice of the premier. When W. L. M. King was defeated in the house of commons a year after a general election, Lord Byng declined to dissolve parliament and called on Arthur Meighen to form a government. When Meighen was defeated within a week an election had to follow. The constitutional issue—the right of a governor general to decline the advice of the premier to dissolve parliament—was one of the main features of the campaign and the return of Mr. King to office made it certain that never again would a governor general reject a premier's advice.



Sec. Arthur M. Hyde

OFFICIAL denial that Arthur M. Hyde, secretary of agriculture, would resign, and that President Hoover would shortly reorganize his cabinet, seemingly vets at recent widespread reports of disension in the President's official family, since the denial also extended to Dr. Ray Lyman Wilbur, secretary of the interior, William D. Mitchell, attorney general, and Andrew Mellon, secretary of the treasury.

For the last year there have been rumors that Hyde was desirous of getting out of the cabinet, as the duties of secretary of agriculture have placed a severe strain on his health. There also have been reports he would become chairman of the Republican national committee, and that he planned to run for senator in Missouri next year. To his friends he has denied both reports.

Wilbur's leave of absence as president of Leland Stanford university expires this year, it is understood, but undoubtedly it will be extended. Mitchell has been reported to be considering a New York law partnership, and also has been mentioned as a possible appointee when the next Supreme court vacancy occurs.

Since Hoover entered the White House, Secretary Mellon has been reported to be preparing to resign and Henry M. Robinson of Los Angeles selected as his successor. Mellon is the only holdover of the Coolidge cabinet.

PRACTICALLY every disaster affords a test of the heroic mold of its participants. It is heartening to reflect that the test usually is met. In no instance of tragedy in recent years has there been a better display of courage, presence of mind and intelligent action than in the Colorado school bus catastrophe, which meant the death of five children from exposure to the severe cold. All of the fifteen children who survived this terrible ordeal must have been possessed of unusual endurance; but the behavior of one alone, of thirteen-year-old Bryan Untiedt, was most heroic and admirable. It is worthy of all the attention it has attracted, including the invitation received by Bryan from President Hoover to visit the White House and the citation of his record to the Carnegie hero fund. But greater than any recognition that may come of the event is the reminder the example affords to humanity everywhere that, in spite of all its weakness and seeming helplessness at times, there is within it an element of the heroic.

THOSE who expected that Adolf Hitler would arise in offended might and defy the recent dictatorial decree of President Paul von Hindenburg were not fully acquainted with Hitler. The Fascists are enraged both at being suppressed and at being classed with the hated Communists as national nuisances that must be abated. There are many fiery young men among the Fascists; indeed, one is almost led to believe that the majority of them are fiery young men. A word of encouragement from their leader would doubtless be sufficient to send them on the warpath in defiance of the Presidential decree.

But Hitler gives no word of encouragement. Instead, he issues a strict and emphatic command for all Fascists to be good and to obey Hindenburg to the letter. He has announced from the start that his followers will keep strictly within the law, but that they will do all in their power to destroy or change the laws. And so now Hitler declares that he is preparing to go before the German courts with a strong argument that the Hindenburg decree is unconstitutional and ineffective.

When Fascism gets a hearing in court there would seem to be a fine

chance for the safe broadcasting of propaganda.

THE conviction of Albert B. Fall, secretary of the interior in the Harding administration, on a charge of accepting a bribe in the oil lease scandals, has been upheld by the Court of Appeals of the District of Columbia.

At the same time the court sustained the conviction of Harry M. Blackmer, oil operator, for contempt of court in refusing to leave a self-imposed exile in France to testify in the oil trial. Unless the United States Supreme court permits Mr. Fall to take an appeal to its bar, the mandate of the District court will be handed down within 15 days and the former cabinet officer will be taken into custody to serve a one-year prison sentence and pay a fine of \$100,000. Mr. Blackmer's sentence is a fine of \$90,000.

Told details of the court's action in upholding the one-year imprisonment and \$100,000 fine assessed against him for bribery in connection with the California naval oil leases, the former secretary of the interior said his final decision in the matter of another appeal would not be made until he had received a copy of the court's opinion from his lawyers in Washington.

Mr. Fall is now in seclusion at his ranch at Three Rivers, N. M., the same ranch on which he spent \$100,000 cash received in a sachel from Edward L. Doheny, wealthy oil man, almost ten years ago. Mr. Fall collapsed during his last trial and is supposed to be in feeble health.

SENATOR BINGHAM'S remedy for "governmental extravagance" is more taxation. He would re-visit nuisance taxes and slap on other levies so thick that the people who are now demanding always greater government expenditures, which they fondly think some one else is paying for, would realize that some of the money is coming out of their own pockets. Then, Senator Bingham thinks, they would call a halt and taxes could be reduced.

The senator admits he realizes his proposal will be "extremely unpopular," but he thinks that at the bottom of federal, state and municipal extravagance in this country is the feeling of a large element in the electorate that when it votes taxes it votes away some one else's money. As long as that feeling exists, there is no incentive, Senator Bingham believes, on the part of those who entertain it to curb their demand for tax-breeding services.

Leaders of congress look with little favor on Mr. Bingham's proposal. He is the first, in discussions of the approaching \$700,000,000 deficit, to suggest tax demands be made on smaller incomes. Some legislators said they would favor increasing the levies on bigger incomes, while leaders of both parties and in both houses have insisted greater taxes will not be necessary.

President Hoover believes an increase will not be necessary if congress restricts appropriations. Republican Leader Tilson of the house thinks an increase is not now needed and should not become mandatory. Members of both major parties have promised to co-operate to keep down expenditures at the next session, thus eliminating a need for more money through increased taxation.

REAR ADMIRAL Thomas C. Hart has been appointed superintendent of the Naval academy, succeeding Rear Admiral S. S. Robison, retired. Admiral Robison has had a career of 43 years in the navy. His official retirement starts June 1, but in the meanwhile he has planned to take a vacation at his recently purchased home on the South river near Annapolis.



Rear Admiral Thomas C. Hart

The regiment of midshipmen gave the retiring superintendent a round of cheers in front of his home. Regret at his passing was expressed by Maurice Hilschmann, regimental commander, and a delegation representing the Annapolis city administration and various civic organizations presented a resolution praising him for coming to the relief of the city during the severe drought of last summer.

PRIME MINISTER LANG, of New South Wales, in Australia, is extremely anti-English and he could scarcely have chosen a more pointed way to indicate his antipathy than by scoring the solid English virtue about paying one's bills. There was general consternation in London when recently he repudiated the payment due to be made in that city at once of interest charges amounting to \$3,645,000. London's consternation has been changed to something like exultation by the announcement of Prime Minister Scullin, of the Commonwealth government, that his government would take over the New South Wales, obligation and bring suit against the state to recover.

Mr. Lang is seemingly taking a leaf from the book of some southern American states which, many years ago, were guilty of a number of repudiations.

Substitute for Stable Manure

Specialist Is Developing Synthetic Compost for Mushrooms.

(Prepared by the United States Department of Agriculture.—WNU Service.) With the horse population steadily decreasing, mushroom growers of the country have been looking to the United States Department of Agriculture for a satisfactory substitute for stable manure, the standard medium for growing this crop. To meet this need Dr. Edmund B. Lambert, mushroom specialist of the department, is developing a synthetic compost which has given promising results. In a general way the procedure used in making this compost is based on the process for making artificial manure that was developed and patented by English scientists in 1922.

Synthetic Compost Tested. The artificial compost was first tested in 1928, and three crops of mushrooms have been harvested from it. The mushrooms grown on the synthetic material were normal in every way and fair yields were obtained, but as yet they do not compare favorably with yields obtained by commercial growers. The experiments are being continued, however, and the product is being steadily improved. Wheat straw, cut into short pieces, forms the base for the synthetic compost. Different sources of nitrogen, such as dried blood, cyanamides, and urea, were added in varying amounts, as well as various mineral foods, to determine the ratios that produce the best crop. The material is handled in the same way as ordinary compost, and no change is made in the usual cultural practices.

Industry Is Growing. The mushroom industry in this country has made a remarkable growth within the last 20 years, according to Doctor Lambert. This has resulted, he says, from the development of pedigreed spawn, or propagating material, and the use of special houses instead of caves for growing the crop. The use of pure culture spawn is a big factor in the control of insect pests and diseases, and the grower can control temperature and moisture conditions in the houses.

Goosefoot Weed Weakens Disease of Sugar Beets

A weed which is good as well as bad has come to the attention of the United States Department of Agriculture. It is the nettle-leaved goosefoot.

To all outward appearances, this weed in a sugar-beet field concentrates all effort on robbing the crop of its plant food. But Dr. Eubanks Cansler, of the office of sugar plants, observed that it may compensate for its evil by weakening the virulence of the curly-top disease of sugar-beets. The disease is less destructive to beets after it has first passed through the gooseleaf.

C. F. Lacker, also of the office of sugar plants, discovered that another weed, the wild chickweed, may restore the virulence of curly-top disease if the disease passes from gooseleaf to the chickweed. Neither weed is a practical factor in curly-top control in the sugar-beet belt yet, but plant pathologists think this relation of weeds to the virulence of diseases of nearby cultivated crops, discovered or the first time by these Department of Agriculture scientists, may have a practical bearing on some crop diseases.

Insects Prove Useful in Controlling Weeds

The popular idea that nearly all insects are injurious to man in one way or another is entirely wrong, according to entomologists of the United States Department of Agriculture. In some parts of the world insects have been imported for the sole purpose of controlling weeds which have threatened to crowd out useful plants.

Entomologists of the Hawaiian Sugar Planters' association have introduced from Mexico a number of insects which feed on the lantana plant, a troublesome weed, and recent reports state that this plan of control is meeting with success.

Scale insects, plant bugs, caterpillars, and beetles are now being introduced into Australia to feed on the prickly pear cactus, a plant which has spread over the country at an alarming rate. A few years ago it was said that 60,000,000 acres of land in Australia were overgrown by this cactus, and the rate of increase was about 1,000,000 acres a year. After other methods of control had failed the plan of importing insect enemies was adopted, and it is proving successful, according to recent reports.

Farmers Safeguard 1931 Crops by Testing Seed

To protect themselves from unscrupulous distribution of farm seeds, farmers in many sections of Wisconsin may call into action a state law which prohibits the sale of such stocks without purity and germination tests.

While it is expected that much of the Wisconsin grown alfalfa seed will meet all legal requirements, frugal growers will not run any chances next spring by planting seed which has failed to meet these standards.

A. L. Stone, Wisconsin state seed inspector, is preparing to meet a lively call for the services of the state seed laboratory in testing this, and other, seed sold under the state law.

Minor Blemishes on Onions Hurts Value

Sun Scalds Become Dry, Slippery and Bleached.

(Prepared by the United States Department of Agriculture.—WNU Service.) Onions frequently acquire unsightly blemishes and discolorations—for the most part damaging only the outward appearance—when exposed to certain chemicals, sunlight, or some fungi. The United States Department of Agriculture says in Circular 135-C, Blemishes and Discolorations of Market Onions. "Scorched spot" and "bag print" frequently appear on colored onions that have been in damp storage for some time. The names are descriptive of the appearance of these blemishes. The chemicals in some bags print the weave of the bag on the outer surface of the onion, when the bag is moist. Ammonia fumes escaping in a storage plant or emanating from manure piled over ground-stored onions as protection from freezing often discolor onions. Ammonia turns yellow onions brown, red onions deep greenish-black or metallic black, and white onions greenish-yellow.

Sometimes the sun scalds exposed onions at harvest. The scalded tissue first becomes slippery, then dry and shrunken, and finally bleached. Sun scald frequently opens the way for destructive bacteria and fungi. Growing bulbs may develop sunburn or "greening" on exposed parts, a blemish which is self-descriptive. The greened portions are usually bitter and unpalatable, but not particularly subject to decay.

A fungus growing on Bermuda onions in California produces a dark "soil stain" in the outer scales on the bottom of the onion. It damages the onion only in appearance.

Copies of Circular 135-C may be obtained by writing to the Office of Information, United States Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C.

Climbing Peach Borer Is New Orchard Problem

Orchardists' difficulties in controlling peach-tree borers have been further complicated in recent years by the increasing numbers of the lesser peach-tree borer, a species which has a habit of working in the lower and larger branches of the tree. There it is out of reach of the deadly fumes from the paradichlorobenzene crystals customarily applied on the ground around the tree to control peach borers.

Entomologists of the United States Department of Agriculture now recommend the use of the same insecticide but in a different form. They found that paradichlorobenzene crystals could be dissolved in crude tanned oil, paraffin, grafting wax, or any highly penetrative solvent and "painted" on the bark around the borer burrows. The insecticide applied in that manner kills a large percentage of the borers.

While developing this control measure the investigators also learned how to "snare" many other borers of fruit and ornamental trees in their "dens," for the same process is likely to prove generally effective against pests of like habit.

Control Is Important in an Apple Plantation

The development of an apple plantation and the bringing to maturity of a good crop of high grade fruit depends not only upon correct cultural practices, good nursery stock, fertile soil, and favorable climatic conditions, but also upon the attention given to the control of diseases of various kinds and insects injurious to the plant division of the Missouri state board of agriculture.

Neglect of proper control measures often results in complete loss of crop, and sometimes the loss of the trees themselves. Therefore, the ability to recognize those troubles that are most common and serious, and knowing how to control them is a necessary part of the equipment of every apple grower, the plant pathologist says.

FARM NOTES

Plant Kentucky Wonder beans for the succotash season.

Don't be afraid to sink the spade when you do your garden digging.

Try some of the cucumber-leaved sunflowers for cutting—nothing finer.

Don't expect to cut a newly set asparagus bed. Give the plants a chance to get established.

When you irrigate or sprinkle, apply sufficient water to soak down to the root system of your plants.

Reports state that the San Jose scale is increasing again. Thorough control measures are necessary.

Get plenty of beet seeds, an ounce, and plant a week and a half apart until midsummer for baby beets. Same for carrots.

Experiments conducted at the Pennsylvania state college to determine the value of commercial fertilizers for use in coniferous seedbeds show that they aid in producing vigorous seedlings in the field.

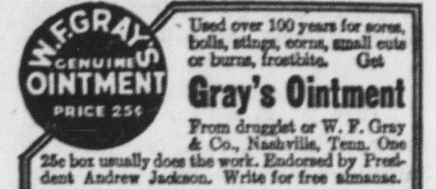
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Wolf's Meal Fatal

Camping out in the wilds of Michigan, Marshal Ostroski of Detroit impaled a piece of salt pork on the bayonet of his army rifle and roasted it over a fire and then set it up against a tree while he went in search of more firewood. When he returned his rifle and meat were gone. He was puzzled over the mystery when he heard a shot in some nearby bushes. Hurrying over, he found a dead wolf, the meat still in his mouth. What probably happened was that in dragging the meat and the gun over the ground the trigger caught on something and discharged the rifle.

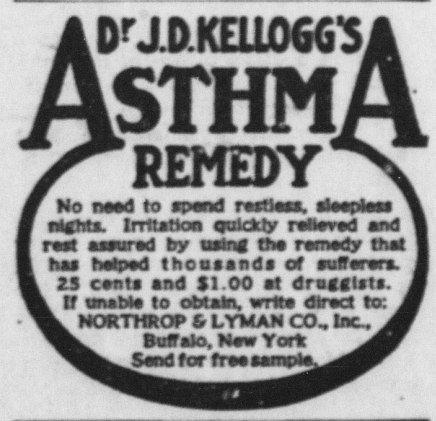
Perhaps Both Durban—Some car, I tell you! I've hit 70 in it!

Joyce—Pedestrians or miles per hour?—Detroit News.

WOMEN OFTEN PAY A DOUBLE PENALTY

for wearing this gag of unselfishness or silly pride. Profuse or suppressed menstruation should never be considered necessary. Painful periods are Nature's warning that something is wrong, and needs immediate attention.

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