

News Review of Current Events the World Over

Presidential Campaign Closed in Lively Fashion—Recovery in Industry Seems at Hand—Plan for Disposal of Farm Surplus.

By EDWARD W. PICKARD

FAST and furious were the gyrations of the candidates and their active supporters during the closing week of the campaign, and every known argument was brought to bear on the 47,000,000 qualified voters of the United States, of whom the experts believed nearly 40,000,000 would go to the polls. The electors seemed loth to yield to excitement but were dogged and determined, and probably had made up their minds long before as to how they would cast their ballots. The results of the election will be known to most of the readers of this column before it reaches them, so predictions are not in order.



Herbert Hoover

President Hoover's final effort in his campaign carried him to Springfield, Ill.; St. Louis, Mo.; Gary, Ind., and then up to St. Paul, Minn. On the route he made many platform speeches, but his main addresses were in the cities named. The tour constituted his last attempt to capture the 69 electoral votes of Illinois, Indiana, Missouri, Iowa, Minnesota and Wisconsin; and his arguments were also directed to the agricultural vote of Ohio, Nebraska, Kansas, Michigan and the Dakotas. Before leaving Washington for the Middle West the President had spoken vigorously in New York city, Philadelphia, and other points in the East, and had made an especial appeal by radio to the voters of California, his home state.

Governor Roosevelt's main speech of the week was delivered in Boston. A driving rain storm and his desire to get back quickly to Albany led him to disappoint waiting crowds in Hartford, Bridgeport, and other cities of the New England area. The final days of the campaign were spent by the Democratic candidate close to home, but he did not cease to talk to the electorate. Since his nomination he had visited 27 states, the only ones omitted being seven in the solid Democratic South and Nevada, North Dakota, South Dakota and Minnesota.



Franklin D. Roosevelt

Speaking to his 300 associates on the New York citizens committee of the emergency unemployment relief committee, Myron C. Taylor, chairman of the United States Steel corporation, declared that the general industrial situation was more promising than it had been for two years. He said it was quite evident "that recovery from the low point of last summer has appeared" and that this recovery "is definite and progressive."

His brief address was made at the committee's first meeting preparatory to the launching of the \$15,000,000 drive for funds from the public for unemployment relief.

Encouraging, too, was the news from Jefferson City, Mo., that the citizen's relief and unemployment committee of St. Louis told Governor Caffield that mild weather and an upturn in industry made it unnecessary to use any of the \$200,000 apportioned to St. Louis by the Reconstruction Finance Corporation for relief in September. E. C. Steger, a director of the committee, said unexpected increases in orders, particularly in the garment and shoe industries and in railroad shops, with much highway work in progress, made available relief funds adequate.

Just at a time when corn and wheat were selling on the market at the lowest prices on record, there was staged in Kendall county, Illinois, a demonstration of a plan that might wipe out in two years the entire surplus of farm products, according to the county farm bureau and J. J. Groaten of Aurora. It simply is the mixing of ethyl alcohol distilled from corn and other products with gasoline for motor fuel, the proportion of alcohol being 10 per cent. Besides using up the grain surplus, it was pointed out, the move would aid materially in conserving the natural supplies of petroleum in the United States, now being consumed at a rate that is "reducing the national supply at an alarming pace."

The demonstration tended to bear out research reports which have been compiled from several European countries and by the American government on the value of ethyl alcohol as a motor fuel.

Two and one-half gallons of alcohol are obtained from a bushel of corn, two and one-fourth gallons from a bushel of wheat, while barley, potatoes, beets, cantaloupes, and other surplus products produce high yields. At present the use of such alcohol, even when rendered poisonous and soluble

in gasoline, is restricted by the prohibition laws as well as by the complications of state and federal gas taxes.

Manufacture of the fuel could be done in rural communities with simple distilling plants, as it is done in Germany, the sponsors of the test declared. By adding one gallon of it at 25 to 30 cents for each nine gallons of gasoline, corn would be worth 40 to 50 cents a bushel and other crops in proportion.

CHARGES that private contractors on federal flood control projects along the lower Mississippi river were mistreating negro laborers, mentioned in this column some weeks ago, led President Hoover to appoint a committee of three negroes and one white man to make immediate inquiry into the situation. The men named were Dr. Robert R. Moton, president of Tuskegee Institute; Judge James A. Cobb of Washington, D. C., and Eugene Knuckle Jones, executive secretary of the Urban League of New York, representing the negro race, and Lieut. Col. U. S. Grant, representing the United States army.

A White House announcement of the appointment said the Chief Executive had asked this committee "to make a thorough and impartial inquiry as promptly as possible" and report the results of the investigation to him immediately.

LONG and efficient service for the State department was recognized and rewarded when the President selected F. Lamont Bell of Waverly, Pa., to be ambassador to Poland. He succeeds John N. Willys of Toledo, who resigned not long ago to resume his business duties. Mr. Bell is a veteran in the United States diplomatic corps, having served in the embassies at Peking, Istanbul, Paris, and London, and as chief of the State department division of protocols and international treaties. He resigned the latter post in March, 1931.

ANNOUNCEMENT was made in New York of the engagement of Miss Elisabeth Reeve Morrow, daughter of Mrs. Dwight W. Morrow and sister-in-law of Col. Charles A. Lindbergh, to Aubrey Niel Morgan, son of Mr. and Mrs. John L. Morgan of Brynderwen, Wales. The date for the wedding has not been set. Miss Morrow and Mr. Morgan met while her father, the late Senator Dwight W. Morrow, was attending the London naval conference in 1930. She and her mother had accompanied Senator Morrow to London. Since that time Miss Morrow has visited in England, having passed three months in the summer of 1931 in Europe.

STRICT censorship keeps from the world most of the news concerning the warfare between Bolivia and Paraguay over the Gran Chaco, but it is known that the fighting continues with increasing fury. The minister of war at La Paz has announced that Gen. Hans Kundt, German military expert who organized and trained Bolivia's modern army, has consented to lead that army against the Paraguayans. The latter appear to have competent commanders, also, and have shown no signs of yielding to their opponents. The Argentine war ministry at Buenos Aires stated that many deserters from the Bolivian forces operating in the Gran Chaco were entering Argentine territory.

GENERAL election day in Cuba was marked by many instances of violence, the worst of which was the explosion of a powerful dynamite bomb in a theater in Santa Clara. Five of the 600 persons in the building were killed and many injured. Investigators said the crime was committed by Conservatives in retaliation for what they claimed were government controlled elections.

President Machado's Liberal party candidates were returned overwhelming victors in the voting, in which two senators, 72 representatives, and officials of most Cuban cities were chosen. It was estimated that 80 per cent of the eligible voters did not vote, either through lack of interest or because they heeded the pleas of the opposition to boycott the election.

DEATH claimed two especially well known Americans. They were Horace Kent Tenney, Chicago attorney who was prominent in his profession, and Harold MacGrath, whose novels and short stories had pleased millions of readers.

THE disarmament conference, whose bureau resumed work Thursday in Geneva, does not wind up in utter failure, much of the credit will go to Norman Davis, representative of the United States.



Norman Davis

He has been exceedingly busy in European capitals, trying to reconcile the views and demands of the various powers. Especially was he interested in the new French plan laid before the bureau, which calls for the adoption of an army conscript system and the writing of new security treaties. In a conversation with Premier Herriot and Minister of War Paul-Boncour, Mr. Davis said the United States was unable to commit itself to the use of force in defense of the Kellogg pact outlawing war, though it accepted the idea of consultation in case of violation of the pact.

M. Herriot told Mr. Davis that his proposal for the substitution of professional armies with short-term conscript forces did not apply to the United States and was confined to continental Europe, excluding even England.

It was believed in Berlin that this proposal might induce Germany to resume participation in the disarmament conference provided the other powers agree that all agreements reached shall apply equally to all the signatories, including Germany.

On the naval side the French are again talking about a Mediterranean League of France, Great Britain and Italy as a prelude to a naval understanding with Italy, which would complete the London treaty and possibly lead to further American, British and Japanese reductions.

JAPAN has its hands full with Manchukuo and the Chinese irregulars that are operating there in an effort to overthrow the puppet state. The situation in the northern half of Manchukuo was reported to be especially dangerous, the Japanese hold on the important city of Taitshar being imperiled. Two bloody battles were fought about one hundred miles north of that point and though the Japanese claimed victory in both, they lost a good many men, and were troubled by the discovery that Manchukuo troops were revolting and joining the Chinese. This revolt, the Japanese admitted, was spreading.

In addition to the thrust from the north, the Japanese control was threatened from the northwest by Gen. Su Ping-wen and his Chinese irregulars, who for some weeks have occupied the city of Manchull on the Siberian frontier.

HAVING made only one campaign speech, over the radio, in which he made but one promise, to respect the constitution, Arturo Alessandri was elected President of Chile. Formerly a radical, he had shifted toward the right and was supported by the moderate elements. He obtained a large plurality over Col. Marmaduke Grove, radical candidate and three others. Alessandri's victory was a very happy one for the veteran politician whose six year election in 1920 was cut short by a revolt and dictatorship in 1924 and who lost the next general election in 1931 to Juan Esteban Montero.

Colonel Grove told his admirers that "we intend to continue the revolutionary activities, not only in Chile, but in other Latin American countries. We have sworn to unite our efforts for the formation of a Latin American Federation of Socialist Republics."

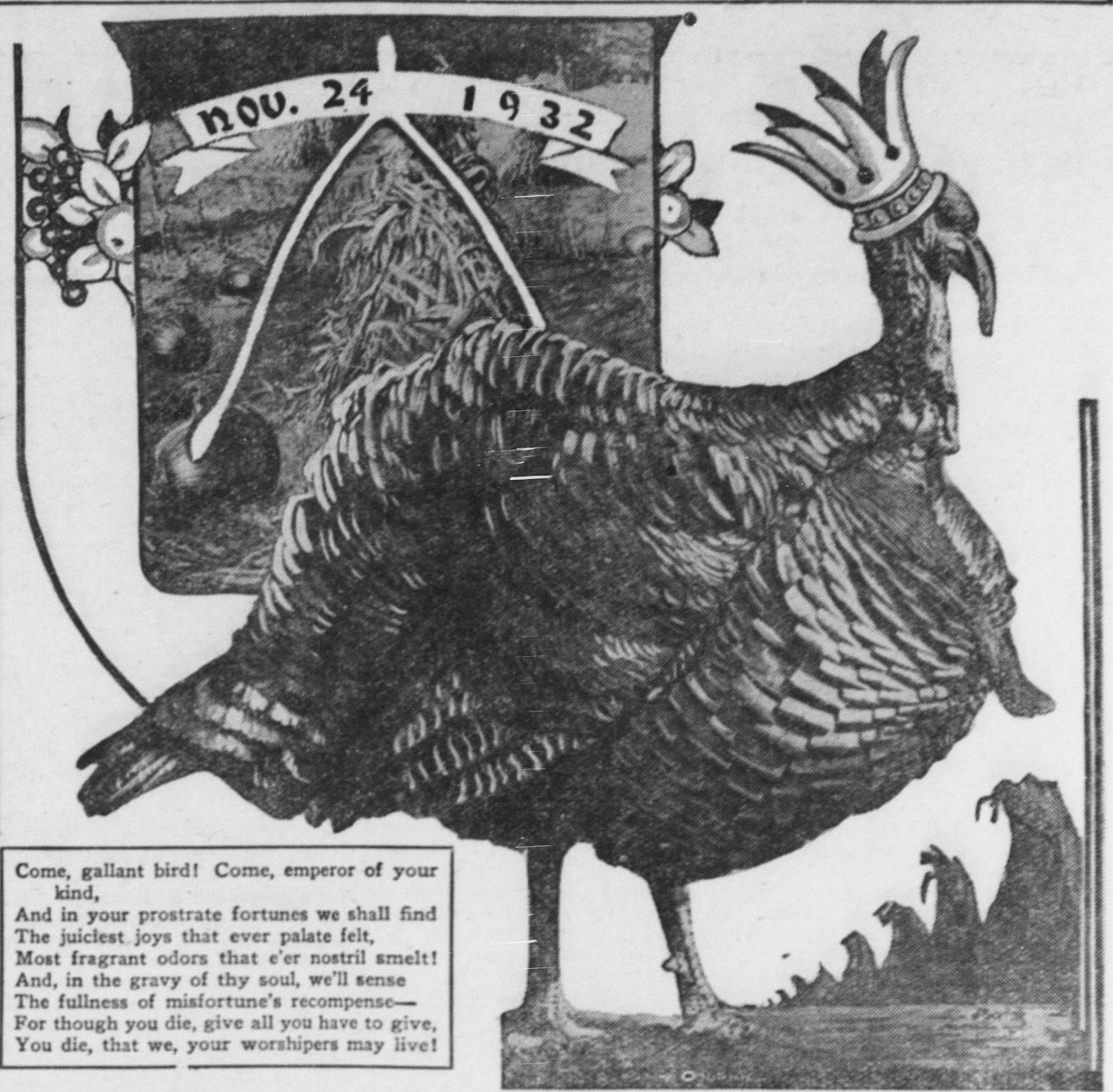
Martinez Mera, liberal, was elected President of Ecuador; and Tiburcio Carias Andino was successful in the Honduras elections.

SEVENTY-eight prominent Brazilians were sent into exile as penalty for participation in the Sao Paulo revolt that was suppressed only after three months of strenuous effort by the government. Included in the list were generals, political leaders and editors, most of whom probably will never be permitted to return. The men were loaded on a vessel at Rio and taken to another port for transfer to a steamship on which they left for Europe, most of them for Portugal. The deportation was carried out so the government might avoid long investigations and trials, and also to weaken the opposition party in the campaign preceding the assembly election next May.

POLICE forces of London had their expected troubles with the army of unemployed that gathered there to present claim to parliament. There were frequent clashes between the jobless horde and the authorities and on one occasion the "army" tried to storm Buckingham palace. It also attempted to invade the house of commons and was driven back with difficulty after desperate fighting with the police, who are armed only with batons. W. A. L. Hamington, communist leader of the hunger marchers, and several others, were arrested and locked up.

Chicago also had a parade of the unemployed, but the unfortunate men there were orderly and were permitted to submit their needs to Mayor Cermak through a committee.

AUROCRAAT OF THE DAY



GIVING THANKS IN DARK DAYS OF REVOLUTION

GEORGE WASHINGTON'S Thanksgiving day proclamation at Valley Forge took great pains to put before the soldiers "the tremendous reason for this most special acknowledgment of the divine goodness." We of today, looking back with a full knowledge of the great trials and sufferings placed upon the Continental army in that winter of misery at Valley Forge, may perhaps wonder at the faith thus unfolded. There is, however, one fact which we, accustomed to observe the last Thursday of November as Thanksgiving day, should not overlook. It is that Thanksgiving day as we know it, with a definite place upon our calendar, did not come into existence until 1863.

Thanksgiving day originated with the Pilgrims, who set aside a day for thanking at Plymouth immediately after their first harvest, in 1621. The Massachusetts Bay colony first observed such a day in 1630 and frequently thereafter until 1639, when it became an annual festival in that colony. Connecticut also had a similar festival annually from 1647 onward. Usually these days for thanking followed the harvest, and were set aside primarily to give thanks to the Lord for the blessings he had bestowed upon the Colonists. During the Revolution, the Continental Congress appointed one or more days for Thanksgiving each year, except in 1777, when not even a congressman could find any blessings to point out to his constituents as reason for rejoicing. These Revolutionary Thanksgivings were usually founded upon some military success and fortune smiled wanly. Indeed, upon the Continental army in 1777—the winter of despair at Valley Forge.

Valley Forge Observation.

Washington's Thanksgiving day proclamation at Valley Forge came after the snows and the hunger and the sufferings of that terrible winter of 1777-78 had departed and spring smiled again upon the fertile valleys of Pennsylvania. The occasion was the entrance of France into the war as an ally of the Colonies. The Valley Forge Thanksgiving May, 1778, was a military celebration, with the chaplain of brigade directed "to offer up thanks and deliver a discourse suitable to the occasion." Then there was cannon fire and huzzas, and cries of "Long Live the King of France!" "Long Live the Friendly European Powers!" and finally a general running fire and the huzzas, "The American States!"

Celebrations of Peace.

Another special Thanksgiving day was ordered by General Washington at Newburgh on the Hudson, April 19, 1783, eight years to the day from the shot fired at Lexington. Ultimate peace had been assured ever since the surrender of Cornwallis, but the question had become alarmingly acute ever since: How was it possible to keep even a remnant of the army alive to

receive the treaty of peace? Six months more of this starvation, this utter discouragement as to the use of it all—the harassed general dared not think of what his poor boys might be driven to do to end it all.

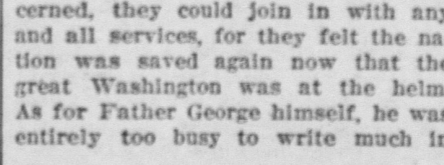
The joy with which the information was at last received from Sir Guy Carleton that a cessation of hostilities was announced can scarcely be imagined. Immediately, the commander in chief issued his proclamation and directed that a public religious service and thanksgiving should take place on



MAY 7, 1778

the same evening, April 19. This was probably the happiest Thanksgiving America has ever experienced, writes Estelle Harris in the Bicentennial News, published by the Alexandria, Va., Gazette in co-operation with the United States commission for the celebration of the two-hundredth anniversary of Washington's birth. A country gained glory and honor, and home around the bend of the road. December 11, 1783, the gloriously solemn day appointed by congress, Dr. John Rogers preached his famous sermon, announcing . . . "We have taken our place among the nations and empires of the earth."

Presidential Proclamation. The first Presidential Thanksgiving proclamation named November 23, 1789. As far as the people were concerned, they could join in with any and all services, for they felt the nation was saved again now that the great Washington was at the helm. As for Father George himself, he was entirely too busy to write much in



NOVEMBER 26, 1789

which the foundation rests, liberty, equality, integrity. For whatever else has or has not happened, the foundation of this nation still rests securely and there is much to be thankful for on Thanksgiving day. The stars have not faltered in their course and freedom still reigns. The good earth has blossomed and fruited for her overlord, man, as in 1697 and 1776, and now that autumn has marked the finish of her harvest for this year, old earth is drawing back her sash, her chlorophyll and her chemicals into her storeroom, to be covered with snowy blankets instead of green grass—conserving and renewing all her power, making ready for next summer's spread of glory.

OH, NOBLE BIRD!

Spiritual Significance.

The Thanksgiving dinner may be, as it often has been, halloved, and take on a sacramental character. It is not more than a mere feast it is wholly out of keeping with the true spirit of the day, which is one of profound spiritual significance, emphasizing as it does the relation between God and man. It is possible to spiritualize the most commonplace, and even material things, as one meal in "the upper room" was spiritualized twenty centuries ago, and has survived both as a sacrifice and a thanksgiving.—Philadelphia Ledger.



First Proclamation. The first Thanksgiving day proclamation ever issued by a President was signed by George Washington, in 1789. The original is said to be in the possession of Rev. J. W. Wellman, who inherited it from his grandfather, William Ripley, of Cornish, N. H.

the day appointed for a Thanksgiving, I went to St. Paul's chapel, though it was most inclement and stormy—but few people at church." The signing of the confederation articles was the especial occasion.

Quelling the insurrection in Pennsylvania was again a deliverance from danger, and cause for great rejoicing on the part of all the people, and a proclamation was made, appointing a day of thanksgiving, for the general welfare and stable condition of the Union. This was issued from Independence hall, and February 19, 1795, was thus set apart, on which day the nation was "with devout reverence and affectionate gratitude, to return thanks for its national blessings and implore their continuance." As with all of George Washington's papers, this proclamation abounds in patriotism and counsel of the highest order, both as worthy of emulation today as yesterday.

Much Reason for Thanks.

In looking back to these special Thanksgiving days of early American history, no patriotic heart can help feeling the beauty and appropriateness of these gatherings. Also, the part they played in keeping the little nation as one ideal family, until it could walk alone, the American fathers holding before it the truths on



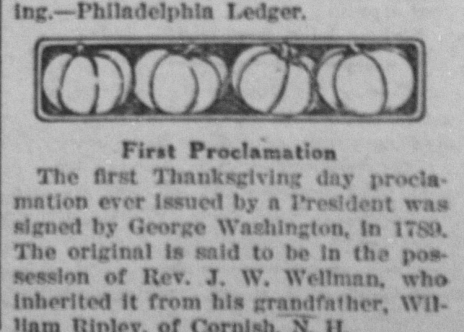
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