

# News Review of Current Events the World Over

## Congress Votes Independence for the Philippines Over Hoover's Veto—President Again Calls for Balancing of the National Budget.

By EDWARD W. PICKARD

SOMETIME between 1943 and 1946 the American flag will be lowered in the Philippine Islands and the natives of the archipelago whom we have fostered and protected since 1898 will be left to their own resources.



Sen. J. H. Lewis

The United States senate, following the example of the house of representatives, overrode President Hoover's veto of the independence bill by a vote of 66 to 23. The arguments against the measure, presented by the Chief Executive and based on the opinions of Secretaries Stimson, Hurley, Chapin and Hyde, were rejected. Therefore the act will go into effect, providing the Philippines legislature accepts it within one year. Dispatches from Manila indicate that it may be accepted, although it is far from being what the leaders there desired. They assert that in passing it congress is actuated by selfish motives, and in a way this was borne out by the argument of Senator James Hamilton Lewis of Illinois in his argument in favor of the measure.

"The United States occupies the place of danger today," he said. "It is the most imperiled of any nation in the world."

He reviewed the grievances held against the United States by Russia, China, and Japan. He predicted that British interests in the Orient and the French possession of Indo-Chinese territory would make them cold to any plea for help should this country become involved in a trans-Pacific conflict. He claimed to see the formation of an Asiatic Monroe doctrine. "They will not come to America," said the Illinois senator. "We did not go to Spain. We seized Cuba and the Philippines and told Spain to come and get them. While we hold the Philippines, these nations may seize them at any time and say to us, 'Come and get them.'"

"I place my defense of this measure," the senator concluded, "squarely upon the defense of America."

Senators Borah and Cutting, who with eighteen other Republicans helped the Democrats to override the veto, argued that the United States should redeem its promise of independence for the islands. Privately, some of these Republicans had said they would vote for the measure because a worse one might be passed by the next congress—though this seems almost impossible. Only one Democrat, Copeland of New York, voted to sustain the veto, holding that congress has no constitutional right to alienate territory once acquired.

WHAT the nation thinks of the failure of congress to balance the budget was expressed forcibly though politely by President Hoover in a special message which chided the legislators and urged them to bring about economies in government and to adopt a low general sales tax. He warned them that insolvency will follow if the budget continues indefinitely out of balance. For it is a question how much longer the banks will or can carry the government by purchasing its treasury obligations.

The President proposed that the sales tax blanket all commodities except food and cheap clothing. He said there probably would be a deficit between \$500,000,000 and \$700,000,000 for the next fiscal year, even with reduced appropriations, unless new revenues are obtained.

Since the President's criticisms concerning appropriations were aimed chiefly at the Democrat-controlled lower house, Chairman Joseph W. Byrns of the appropriations committee felt called upon to reply.

"Was there anything more amazing," said Mr. Byrns, "than that the President, who has been urging economies since the Democrats came into control, should complain that maximum appropriations and economies have not been adhered to? Do we understand that he is out in the position of saying that congress should not attempt to reduce the estimates he has sent up here? That is what the message means; it can't be construed in any other way."

"You have been President nearly four years and secretary of commerce years before that," Mr. Byrns shouted in an imaginary address to the President. "But for more than three and one-half years you have sat in the White House totally oblivious to the necessity of consolidation of government agencies for the purpose of economy."

Representative Mapes of Michigan answered this by insisting that, as secretary of commerce and reported by President Hoover, he has urged consolidation of agencies and has submitted "a dozen messages" along that line, but has been opposed by leading members of the Democratic party.

There is no indication that Mr. Hoover's message would spur this session to any commendable action.

HAVING re-written the Collier beer bill so that it would allow the manufacture and sale of beer, porter, wine and fruit juices with alcoholic contents of not to exceed 3.05 per cent, the senate judiciary committee delayed action on it for one week. Although the backers of the senate amended bill expressed confidence it would be reported out in time for passage at this session, house wets expressed apprehension that the bottling up of the measure in the judiciary committee might subject it to a filibuster by the dregs.

Monday, January 10, was the thirteenth anniversary of national prohibition, and Senator Morris Sheppard of Texas, author of the Eighteenth amendment, succeeded in breaking through the Long filibuster long enough to deliver his annual speech on prohibition.

PRESIDENT-ELECT ROOSEVELT, having had a long talk with Secretary of State Stimson on international policies, paid another visit to President Hoover Friday at the White House, and while the subject of discussion was not announced in advance, it was taken for granted that they would again study the world situation and perhaps give special attention to the war debt problem. Mr. Roosevelt also met the leaders of his party in congress, and then was to proceed to Muscle Shoals with Senators Norris, Black and McKellar to inspect that huge project.

ONE Democratic senator at least is thoroughly disgusted with the tactics of some of his colleagues of the same party. This is Millard Tydings of Maryland, who declared that if the Huey Long filibuster in the senate were tolerated much longer, and if his resolution to cut more than a billion dollars from the costs of the government were not acted on, he would resign for the remainder of the session as a protest. He would begin his new term on March 4, having been re-elected.

"I don't want my constituents," he said, "to assume that I condone or even passively accept what is going on here, that I am indifferent to the crying needs of this nation. Let some one else from Maryland come here to look on if he wants to."

The Louisiana "Kingfish" and his radical associates suspended their filibuster only long enough for the senate to vote on the Philippines bill. Then they resumed their obstructive tactics aimed at the Glass banking bill. The Democratic leaders, however, took the extreme step of filing a petition for cloture. It was signed by 22 Democratic senators. They also filed three amendments to the rules designed to prevent a recurrence of the Long performance in debate on other measures.

Senator Glass opened the vials of his sarcasm and told the "Kingfish" what he thought of him. Taking exception to remarks by Long implicating that the Glass measure had been railroaded onto the senate floor, the Virginia senator asserted the implication was "as false as any ever uttered by any human lips." He followed this with asserting that Long's attack on the bill was made up of "oratorical rubbish and misrepresentations."

FOLLOWING his intensive preparation for assuming his office, Mr. Roosevelt made the interesting announcement that he would stand by the American policy of the sanctity of international agreements. In Washington and the other world capitals this was taken as meaning that the United States, under his administration, would continue to refuse recognition of the territorial gains made by Japan in aggression against China. Tokyo was neither surprised nor agitated by this declaration of policy. A foreign office spokesman said: "We are hopeful, however, that, while the substance of the American policy will be unchanged, the manner of its presentation will be altered under Mr. Roosevelt and that irritations growing out of Washington's 'spur of the moment' judgments will be removed. That will count for a great deal."

Japanese statesmen were hopeful that the Manchurian issue would be amicably settled in Geneva, but neither their forces in the field nor the Chinese armies were helping toward that end. Japanese military planes bombed a concentration of Chinese soldiers at Kailuhsen, near the northern border of Jehol province, killing an unestimated number and doing heavy damage to the town. Japanese military headquarters in Mukden claimed that the bombardment was ordered after it had been learned Chinese troops stationed at Kailuhsen were planning to attack the town of Tungghio, which is across the border in Manchuria.

JEAN MERMOZ, eminent French aviator, and six comrades established a new record by flying from St. Louis, French port in West Africa, to Brazil, in 14 hours and 2 minutes. They breakfasted in Africa and dined in South America. From Natal the airman continued in their trimotored plane to Rio de Janeiro and thence to Buenos Aires, Argentina.

AMONG notable persons taken by death were Mrs. Jessie Wilson Sayre, daughter of the late President Woodrow Wilson and wife of Prof. F. R. Sayre of Harvard law school; and Sir Robert Jones of Wales, great orthopedic surgeon.

MANY Republican politicians expect that President Hoover will attempt a comeback and vindication in 1936 and consequently believe that he seeks to retain control of the party. The "old line" element in the party intends to stop this if possible, and hence schemed to prevent a plan to hold a meeting of the national committee before March 4, feeling that after Mr. Hoover has left office he will not so easily dominate that body. More than a majority of the committee were said to have gone on record against a meeting before the close of the administration. In Washington it was said that the national and congressional committees would be reorganized and that probably National Chairman Everett Sanders would be forced out or resign.

PENDING congressional action on the recommendation that 63 per cent of the disability allowances now received by veterans for non-service connected injuries be discontinued, administrative steps have been taken to carry out that plan.

Brig. Gen. Frank T. Hines, head of the veterans' bureau, recently ordered a complete review of all disability allowance claims, with the statement that it was a purely "routine" move. The review order, it was revealed, however, followed the adoption of changes in the disability allowance regulations, under which veterans whose claims have been allowed heretofore, no longer will be eligible for the federal benefits.

Under the old regulations disability allowance has been paid to veterans who could prove permanent disability of 25 per cent or more, and they were permitted to add up their disabilities to make the minimum. Now they must prove a single disability of 20 per cent, though the minimum remains at 25 per cent. General Hines has recommended that the minimum be raised to 50 per cent disability, stating that such a move would eliminate 63 per cent of the veterans now receiving benefits for disability in no way connected with military service, and would save more than \$51,000,000 a year.

JAMES A. STILLMAN, former New York banker whose marital troubles filled so much newspaper space ten years ago, is again in the limelight. Luc Rochefort, a French-Canadian who once ran for mayor of Montreal, accuses Stillman of alienating his wife's affections and has brought suit against him in a Brooklyn court for \$1,000,000 damages.

The suit came to light when Rochefort's attorney filed a motion in the court in connection with another suit he was prepared to file against Stillman—a \$25,000 libel action resulting from blackmail accusations.

Stillman's counsel, Malcolm Sumner, said that his client had refused a suggestion by Rochefort's lawyer that the alienation case be settled for \$25,000; that "he did not regard his relations with Mrs. Rochefort warranted any claim being made against him," and that he would fight both actions, if necessary, in open court. In an affidavit presented to the court Stillman's counsel charged the libel action had been brought "for the deliberate ulterior purpose of using and abusing the process of the court in a scandalous, improper and unprofessional manner in order to harass and intimidate the defendant, a man of wealth and prominence."

POPE PIUS XI issued the bull he promised some time ago, proclaiming an extraordinary holy year of prayer, penance and pilgrimage to Rome to bring peace and quiet to a distracted world. This holy year, the pope said, is in commemoration of the nineteenth century of Christ's redemption of mankind. He urged prayer and penance, not only for the faithful, but for "all mankind led astray by so many errors, torn by so many discords and hostility, laboring under so many miseries and fearful of so many dangers."

FINANCE MINISTER CHERON submitted his budget to the French chamber of deputies, and in it no mention was made of the war debts France owes to the United States. It was stated in Paris political circles that this does not necessarily mean the French government is ignoring them, as experts say it is always possible to introduce special enabling legislation to handle the situation on the basis of later developments.

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# WHAT'S GOING ON IN WASHINGTON

## Japanese Situation a Puzzle; Arms Export Treaty; to Revamp Bankruptcy Laws.

By WILLIAM BRUCKART  
Washington.—To a greater or less extent, one hears everywhere in the National Capital these days the question: "What about Japan?" And every attempt to answer is stilled because none can say what can be done about Japan.

While Japan has edged further into the long-time Chinese territory of Jehol, the world powers have stood by with poker faces and have given only such support as they have been forced to give to what eventually will come to be known as the "Stimson doctrine." One hears a great deal of criticism of the impotency of the United States in the Japanese situation, but this must be allowed for the United States: It attempted to do something worthwhile, and historians and students of foreign affairs in and out of the government appear to agree that the failure of the effort cannot be laid at the door of our nation.

No one seems to know what the ultimate object of Japan is; no one has been able to divine the purpose of the steady, driving force that Japan has exerted through almost two years, but everyone recognizes the dangers in the situation. Some see one set of possibilities, while others insist that another series of potentialities are more grave.

A review of the circumstances shows that Japan has set her face directly on a program of obtaining more territory into which her crowded millions can pour from the narrow confines of her island empire. The same review reveals that the civil structure of the Japanese government has had little or nothing to say about the policy upon which her armies have launched. Further, the entire course of events has disclosed probably the greatest arrogance of any nation of modern times in respect of the appeals and veiled threats of other nations.

There are rich resources in Jehol and the territory beyond the Great Wall of China, resources sorely needed by Japan.

### But Japan Goes Ahead.

The Stimson doctrine, enunciated more than a year ago, said in effect to Japan: "It will do you no good to go ahead, for we will not recognize any of the territory you gain in this way." To quote the words of that diplomatic communication which surely seems to be destined to stand out in history: "The United States refuses to recognize any situation, treaty or arrangement brought about by means contrary to the Kellogg-Briand treaty," which outlawed war.

But that has had no effect. The Japanese civil structure acted like it agreed, but the military did not. The matter got into the League of Nations because the United States virtually forced the league to consider it, and the league made something of the same formal statement to Japan. Yet, Japan, in September of last year, went right ahead and recognized Manchukuo. Thus, the Japanese displayed their conviction: they believe they have no reason to fear the consequences of their acts because, as said at the beginning, what can be done about it?

This Japanese situation is a lot closer to us than the several thousands of miles between the nations would indicate. Congress has been milling around over granting freedom to the Philippine islands. Both major political parties are committed to it, and it will happen sooner or later. That is, the Filipinos will be given the right to govern themselves barring that which now seems unlikely, an overt act towards the United States by the Japanese.

Senator Borah, of Idaho, chairman of the senate committee on foreign relations, entertains no fears of the Japanese insofar as the Philippine islands are concerned. He sees the Japanese as "headed the other way." That is, he believes their ambitions lie in the direction of far-reaching domain on the mainland of Asia, perhaps as a counter power against the great Russian bear.

Senator Vandenberg, of Michigan, another member of the same committee, says he can envision a whole bushel basket filled with possibilities. He told me that freedom of the Philippines without the strictest sort of protection and arrangements for prevention of trouble would lead directly to trouble with Japan.

So it is to be seen that the policy of the United States with respect to the Japanese invasion of China has more importance than just as it bears on seizure of Chinese territory.

### Arms Export Treaty.

Relations between governments always are matters of delicacy. It is difficult sometimes, therefore, to gain naked facts. Weatherwanes may be observed, however, and one of them is the recent proposal by President Hoover to the senate that it hurry up a bit in ratifying the international treaty forbidding export of arms and munitions of war to nations where there are situations of hostility breeding, or where there is actual war. He proposed, as an alternative, that if the senate did not see its way clear to act on the treaty, it should enact legis-

lation giving the President broad powers to lay an embargo on arms exports from the United States under the conditions set out in the treaty.

Mr. Hoover's message reached the senate one day, and on the next day, Senator Borah called his committee together to consider that message. It acted with unprecedented haste. It did the somewhat unusual thing of drafting a resolution right there in the meeting, agreeing to it formally and voting to submit it to the senate at once. It is in the form of a joint resolution which means, of course, that after the senate has acted, it still must be given the approval of the house of representatives.

It must be remembered, however, that acts of congress are of general application always, and that if the arms embargo authority be delegated to the President, he could employ it to defeat shipments of arms to the Far East as well as to rebellious elements in Latin-America.

### To Revamp Bankruptcy Laws.

Under conditions such as obtain throughout the nation, it is quite logical that government, both state and national should be searching for ways and means to make the pathway easier for those having financial troubles. That takes in about 95 per cent of the population. So it was to be expected that President Hoover should urge upon congress again, as he did a year or more ago, the necessity for revamping the bankruptcy laws, although they have served with considerable satisfaction more than a third of a century.

Mr. Hoover's message spurred new efforts on the part of two congressional groups—one from the senate, the other from the house—to work out some sort of legislation that would serve the desired ends. They have a rocky road to travel, it must be said at the outset. What they face is the problem of making things easier for the fellow who is being ground under the iron heel of the rights of another.

America's business structure has been built on the sacred rights of individuals to deal freely and to have those rights preserved. In other words, without the right to contract and to have that contract enforced in courts of law, it is recognized business would not get far. But it is significant of the trend of the times that such subjects are under consideration.

The thing at which the legislators are looking with longing eyes is a method of preventing so many individuals and corporations from having the legal stigma of bankruptcy attached to them. It is recognized everywhere that an entry "Adjudged Bankrupt" written into court records amounts to an economic death sentence, so the search is going to see whether it is possible to arrange a new order in this direction.

While the determination is to arrange for a reduction in the number of bankruptcy decrees, there is a purpose that is of more importance to the average citizen in what the two groups are doing. Basically, what they want and what everyone else wants is to see an opportunity provided for the debtor to "pay out." It is of more benefit to the debtor, to his creditors, and to the whole structure of society in the community where he does business if the debtor can be restored as a "going concern" and repay or rebuild the investment represented.

The question of revising the bankruptcy laws was given attention in the 1931-32 session of the senate, and the Department of Justice, by direction of President Hoover, made a thorough examination of court records and conditions disclosed by them with a view to shedding light on a course which might be developed into a policy. On top of this, Representative McKeown (Dem.) of Oklahoma, introduced a bill in the house at the beginning of the current session in December, which, in effect, seeks to rewrite farm mortgages. So that it is seen the proposal to do something about debtors' inability to meet their obligations is not just a fly-by-night thought.

### Give Them a Chance.

Senator Hastings (Rep.) of Delaware, who is chairman of the two sub-committees that have been working jointly on the problem, believes that genuine possibilities exist for establishing a new order in the matter of dealing with men, and with corporations, whose debts have sunk, or are about to sink, them. He points out that literally thousands of formerly sound corporations and many times that number of individuals have been driven to the wall by conditions of the last three years through no fault of their own. Obviously, bad judgment has played a part, but the fact remains that honest, hard-working persons who want to pay their debts should have that chance. And that is the purpose underlying the congressional effort.

From the current perspective, none of the legislators see a way by which they can accomplish the desire wholly to avoid bankruptcy proceedings being forced by creditors where such creditors hold written obligations to pay. Everyone is a creditor who holds the promise of some one else to pay, whether the promise be written or just in the form of an understanding between honest men. The individual who has the written promise, however, has something more, for the Constitution says that a written contract cannot be disturbed by congress. Thus, the real problem is seen to be whether those "secured creditors" can be supplied with an inducement through changes in the law that will make them willing to agree to a compromise, called a "composition" in bankruptcy, and thereby open the way for proceedings of a new kind.

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## CLASS DISTINCTIONS

Exciting news from the American Association for the Advancement of Science: If your house has hardwood floors, a furnace, a library table, magazines, large rugs, bookcases, newspapers, a piano, a radio, you and your family belong to the upper classes, the scientists announce. But they say sadly, and firmly, if you heat your house with stoves, and your floors are soft wood and your rugs are small, alas! your social position is in jeopardy. And we ask, what all that has to do with the advancement of science?—Atchison Globe.

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

Smoke and Fire  
If you "suspect" it year after year, it is likely to be so.

## Los Angeles Boy Needed Help

Leroy Young, 1116 Georgia St., Los Angeles, is a "regular fellow," active in sports, and at the top in his classes at school. To look at him now, you'd think he never had a day's sickness but his mother says: "When Leroy was just a little fellow, we found his stomach and bowels were weak. He kept suffering from constipation. Nothing he ate agreed with him. He was fretful, feverish and puny."

"When we started giving him California Fig Syrup his condition improved quickly. His constipation and biliousness stopped and he has had no more trouble of that kind. I have since used California Fig Syrup with him for colds and upset spells. He likes it because it tastes so good and I like it because it helps him so wonderfully!"

California Fig Syrup has been the trusted standby of mothers for over 50 years. Leading physicians recommend it. It is purely vegetable and works with Nature to regulate, tone and strengthen the stomach and bowels of children so they get full nourishment from their food and waste is eliminated in a normal way. Four million bottles used a year shows how mothers depend on it. Always look for the word "California" on the carton to be sure of getting the genuine.

Listen to Her  
"Wisdom crieth without; she uttereth her voice in the street."

End Serious Coughs With Creomulsion  
Don't let them get a strangle hold. Fight germs quickly. Creomulsion combines the 7 best helps known to modern science. Powerful but harmless. Pleasant to take. No narcotics. Your druggist will refund your money if any cough or cold no matter how long standing is not relieved by Creomulsion. (adv.)

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American eagle does not want to be loved; it wants to be let alone.

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HER raw nerves were soothed. She banished that "dead tired" feeling. Won new youthful color—restful nights, active days—all because she rid her system of bowel-clogging wastes that were sapping her vitality. NR Tablets (Nature's Remedy)—the mild, safe, all-vegetable laxative—worked the transformation. Try it for constipation, biliousness, headaches, dizzy spells, colds. See how refreshed you feel. At all druggists—25 cents.

### NR TO-NIGHT

Quick relief for acid indigestion, heartburns. Only 10c.

## DON'T GET UP At Night

If you are one of the millions who must get up several times a night, your trouble is probably due to an irritation of the bladder or excess acidity of the urine. Then just try GOLD MEDAL HAARLEM OIL CAPSULES. During 237 years this fine old preparation has helped millions. Insist on Gold Medal, 35c.

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