

News Review of Current Events the World Over

Hull and Woodin Head the Roosevelt Cabinet—Congress Puts Prohibition Repeal Up to the States—Japan Invades Jehol.

By EDWARD W. PICKARD

SO THAT his administration might get a running start in the negotiations concerning war debts, world economics and other related matters that are worrying the nations, President-Elect Roosevelt made public two of his selections for his cabinet. These were Senator Cordell Hull of Tennessee as secretary of state and William H. Woodin, New York capitalist, as secretary of the treasury.



Cordell Hull

These gentlemen, who, Mr. Roosevelt said, were "drafted" against their will, were at once associated with him in the preliminaries of determining the policies of the incoming administration in its relations with foreign powers. They became members of what Mr. Roosevelt has called his "unofficial" committee to advise him on world economic problems, and met with that group, which includes Bernard Baruch, Prof. Raymond Moley and others.

Mr. Hull, long considered one of the ablest men in the Democratic party, is not an orator or an accomplished debater but is studious, resourceful and has served his country ably for many years in the house and the senate. Before entering congress he was in the Tennessee legislature, and he served in the Spanish-American war as a captain of volunteer infantry. He is devoted to the policy of tariffs for revenue only, and believes that one of the basic causes of the business depression has been nationalist isolation, started by the United States in 1920 with the erection of tariff walls which other nations were quick to copy. Prohibitive tariffs, he holds, have helped stagnate trade by creating a productive capacity in excess of domestic demand.

Senator Carter Glass of Virginia was Mr. Roosevelt's first choice for secretary of the treasury but he declined the post solely because he believes he can better serve the country in the senate. So the President-Elect persuaded his close personal friend, William H. Woodin, to accept the portfolio. Mr. Woodin formerly was a Republican, but he joined the Roosevelt camp before last summer's convention and afterward was treasurer of a special finance committee that raised a large fund for the Democratic party. He has an international reputation as a manufacturer of railway equipment and as a banker and is now president of the American Car and Foundry company. His interests are not all in business, for he is an accomplished musician and composer, a numismatist and an art collector. He is sixty-five years old, married and has four children.



William H. Woodin

UNOFFICIALLY, the other members of the Roosevelt cabinet were announced to be these: War—George H. Dern of Utah. Attorney general—Thomas J. Walsh of Montana. Postmaster general—James A. Farley of New York. Navy—Claude A. Swanson of Virginia. Interior—Harold L. Ickes of Illinois. Agriculture—Henry A. Wallace of Iowa. Commerce—Daniel C. Roper of South Carolina. Labor—Frances Perkins of New York.

FOLLOWING a demand on China to withdraw its troops voluntarily from Jehol, actually by Japan but nominally by the government of the puppet state of Manchukuo, the main body of the Japanese army in Manchukuo crossed the border of the province and advanced rapidly toward Chaoyang, second largest city of Jehol. The opposing Chinese were reported to have fled, but immediately thereafter regular Chinese troops crossed into Manchukuo to join irregulars in an attack on the Japanese positions at Tungliao. The Japanese high command in Manchuria announced that it was determined to "annihilate" the 100,000 regular troops in the army of Marshal Chang Hsueh-liang, and that it might become necessary to occupy Peiping and Tientsin. As is its custom, the Japanese foreign office declared that Japan regarded the Jehol invasion as purely a local affair.

The Japanese delegation in Geneva maintained its uncompromising attitude as the assembly of the League of Nations began general discussion of the report of the committee of nineteen on Manchuria. This report is in most respects at utter variance with the claims of Japan, and the Tokyo delegates warned the League that a grave situation would arise if it were adopted by the assembly. Such action, they suggested, might upset "friendly relations between nations, upon which peace depends."

Government agents in Washington were investigating a second apparent attempt on the life of the President-Elect, following the discovery of a package addressed to him containing a crudely wrapped shotgun shell. It was mailed from Watertown, N. Y., and was found in the Washington post office. Postal inspectors thought it was the work of a crank but said the shell was wired to explode if jarred.

or struck and might have resulted fatally. SIR RONALD LINDSAY, British ambassador, immediately after his return from London held conferences with Mr. Roosevelt—Secretary of State Stimson approving—and reported to Sir John Simon, foreign secretary, that the conversations had been "useful." What was said was not revealed, but Sir John said: "The conversations are, of course, at present in a wholly preliminary stage and of an entirely general character, but it is not too soon to say that we believe that by a frank and intimate interchange of views between ourselves and the United States over the whole field of current economic problems, the way will be best prepared for the effort which the countries of the world must make together to assist in promoting world recovery."

Mr. Roosevelt also conferred at length with Paul Claudel, the French ambassador, and William Duncan Herdige, the minister from Canada. In Paris Foreign Minister Paul-Boncour said war debt negotiations between France and the United States would be resumed after the inauguration of Mr. Roosevelt, but did not explain what form the negotiations would take.

REPEAL of the Eighteenth amendment is now up to the states, for the senate's Blaine resolution submitting the action to state conventions was passed by a vote of 289 to 121, or 15 in excess of the required two-thirds of those present and voting. For the repealer were 108 Republicans, 180 Democrats, and 1 Farmer-Laborite. Against it were 83 Republicans and 32 Democrats. The action of the house was a reversal of its attitude of the first day of the session, when a resolution to submit unqualified repeal failed of adoption by 6 votes. It was in a way a personal victory for Representative Henry T. Rainey of Illinois, Democratic leader, who moved the adoption of the senate resolution and argued warmly and effectively in its behalf.

Though immediate steps toward the calling of conventions were taken in many of the states, the battle for repeal was by no means won when the submission resolution was adopted. Ratification by thirty-six states is necessary, and if this is not obtained within seven years the whole matter lapses and prohibition remains. Of course the wets are confident that repeal will win in the required number of states within at the most four years and possibly in much less time, and it may be they are right. Wet leaders assert that only Kansas, Mississippi, Oklahoma, Arkansas and Nebraska can be counted on as certainly dry, and Alabama, Vermont, Idaho and Maine as doubtful. On the other hand Bishop James Cannon, Jr., asserts that thirty to thirty-three states will refuse to validate the Blaine amendment.

Disagreement as to the method by which states' conventions may be set up may delay the functioning of the machinery of ratification. Some congressmen thought congress should prescribe the procedure, but Senator Walsh of Idaho held that all connection which congress has with prohibition repeal ended with submission of the new amendment to the states. This view also was taken by Representative James Beck of Pennsylvania, who, like Senator Walsh, is an eminent constitutional authority.

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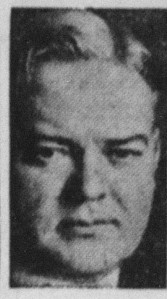
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PRESIDENT HOOVER, rather neglected in the news of late, surprised congress by sending in a special message urging action on eight subjects of legislation which he thought would aid in economic recovery. He asked that the present congress pass the bankruptcy bill, the Glass banking bill, a measure to increase the amount of Reconstruction Finance corporation funds for state relief loans, a federal farm lease bill and the repeal of the public-ity clause in the R. F. C. act.



President Hoover

The President also advised the ratification of the St. Lawrence waterway treaty, the adoption of the arms embargo resolution and the starting of study looking to the expansion of the home loan banks into a general mortgage discount system. Mr. Hoover advocated the Hyde farm leasing plan as a substitute for the domestic allotment scheme, declaring the latter seemed "wholly unworkable" and calculated to do far greater harm than good to agriculture.

The senate did take up the bankruptcy bill, which had passed the house, and it also passed the Wagner relief bill, which increases the R. F. C. funds for state relief and goes farther than the President contemplated. It was generally agreed that his other recommendations would meet with no response during the short session.

SPEAKER GARNER dropped his plan to make Roosevelt a constitutional dictator for two years, and the house accepted the senate provision of the treasury and post office appropriation bill conferring limited autocratic power on the incoming President to reorganize the administrative branch of the federal government. By its terms he may consolidate or abolish any administrative agencies and their functions, but may not abolish or consolidate entire departments.

The house rejected the senate amendment directing the head of each department and independent establishment to effect a 5 per cent reduction in expenditures from appropriations for the fiscal year 1934.

Without debate the house accepted the "Buy American" amendment sponsored by Senator Johnson of California. It provides that the heads of all government departments must buy for government use only goods made or produced in the United States or substantially composed of domestic material. Every contract for construction, alteration or repair of public buildings or public works must contain a clause requiring the contractor to abide by the "Buy American" policy.

FOR the first time the navy now has a vessel designed and built as an aircraft carrier. It was launched at Newport News, Va., and Mrs. Herbert Hoover christened it Ranger in honor of the ship of the same name that was commanded by John Paul Jones. Our other air plane carriers, the Langley, Saratoga and Lexington, were designed for other uses and were converted. The authorized design intended the Ranger to be of the "flush deck" type, but the navy is now trying to get a bill passed through congress to authorize a change in the plans to construct with an "island deck." In the first type of construction no superstructure is provided except a smokestack which swings out of the way so that the entire deck is available for taking off and landing.

The "island deck" type has a superstructure at the extreme side of the vessel, leaving practically the entire deck free for the use of the airplanes. The change, if authorized by congress, would entail an extra expenditure of \$2,000,000.

AUSTRIA was greatly disturbed by a request from France and Great Britain that a shipment of 50,000 rifles and 200 machine guns shipped there from Italy be returned or destroyed, but after some indignant protests Chancellor Engelbert Dollfus announced his government would comply with the demand and the arms returned. Sir John Simon told the house of commons that he hoped the matter might be considered a closed incident. The guns, or at least a part of them, were believed to be destined for Hungary, and the French and English were inclined to hold Mussolini responsible for the seeming violation of the peace treaty. The Italian version was that the arms were sent to Austria by private citizens merely to be repaired and returned.

MORE war for President Machado of Cuba is at hand, for the expected revolt against his rule has broken out in many widely separated parts of the island. Skirmishes between the rebels and government troops were reported at various points and there were some fatalities. Groups of armed men were said to be starting fires in the sugar cane fields and driving away the workers.

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Washington Digest

National Topics Interpreted by William Bruckart

Washington.—As discussions proceed over the question of what to do about the foreign debts, it becomes apparent that there is a great deal of confusion existing on the subject throughout the country. It seems that many persons are unable to untangle the skein or to get a clear idea of how the influence of the debt question carries on through to individuals.

I was privileged to see a letter received a few days ago by a member of the house of representatives. Because of the earnest desire of the individual who wrote that letter to learn something about the problem, I think he must be typical of a great many other persons throughout the country. "If I could understand how the debt question affects me," he wrote, "I think I might be interested in all of this argument. As it is, I confess my inability to determine whether I ought to favor or oppose readjustment of the debts."

Let me say at the outset, I believe those who favor scaling down the foreign debts are exaggerating the benefits which they are saying will result, and that those who are unalterably opposed are being a little unfair in some of the statements they make. Proponents of debt reduction by the United States claim there will be a revival of foreign trade, so the farm surplus will be saleable and the products of factories will be marketable again, if the foreign nations owing money to the United States are let off in the payment of some of it. They are claiming that American banking conditions would be improved by debt reduction, because it is well known many of our banks hold foreign government bonds in large amounts. If the debts to the United States government are scaled down, of course, the private holdings of the foreign bonds naturally become worth more because there is a better chance for their payment.

It is undoubtedly true that banking conditions would be eased here and that a great many individuals who have invested some of their savings in foreign bonds would benefit by any debt reduction. The circumstance is this: there is only so much revenue available to any one of the foreign governments, and when part of that government's obligations have been released, the chances are the others will be paid.

The same holds true as regards the revival of foreign markets. When their government's debts have been reduced to some extent, manufacturers and other lines of business in that country recognize the probability of reduction in their taxes and some greater freedom in business dealings. To that extent then those potential purchasers feel able to enter the market and buy the usual amount of goods from America. And, of course, if there is a demand for goods from our farms and our factories, prices rise, employment increases and the whole country profits.

On the other side of the picture, the opponents of debt reduction set forth an insistent cry that "reduction of the foreign debts is simply transferring those debts to the backs of American taxpayers." By that, they mean the United States government, having borrowed the money originally from its own citizens, has to pay them as the bonds become due. The government can get money only by taxation.

Opponents of debt reduction say, too, that there is no assurance of any revival of foreign trade with the United States. They point to the British empire agreement of last year, giving preference to products of their provinces and dominions, and to the trade restrictions now in effect or projected among numerous other nations.

These are the general tenor of the arguments. They vary in different sections of the country, for undoubtedly the products of some parts of the country are ordinarily in greater demand from foreign lands than are others. So it is obvious how many variations may be found.

But the stake is so great that naturally there is being used every influence available. The vast sum owed total of the debts United States owed the United States is \$11,786,271,281, an enormous sum of money and an amount constituting more than half of our own government's national debt. In other words, if the foreign debts were paid at once, our government could reduce its own national debt to about \$9,500,000,000.

Here are the names of the debtor nations and the amounts they owe:

Austria	\$ 22,752,217
Belgium	406,555,000
Czechoslovakia	165,571,922
Estonia	17,203,742
Finland	8,892,252
France	3,921,547,932
Great Britain	4,499,520,000
Greece	32,120,386
Hungary	1,994,077
Italy	2,007,496,125
Latvia	7,055,454
Lithuania	6,383,612
Poland	218,239,815
Romania	43,809,560
Yugoslavia	61,625,000
Russia	327,583,071
Armenia	19,617,102

With respect to Russia and Armenia, hope of gaining repayment long since has faded away. There is no Armenia any more, and the Russian Soviet has repudiated all debts made by the Czarist and de facto governments preceding the present type of control in Russia.

Publication of the agenda, the things to be talked about, at the international economic and monetary conference, shows that the rest of the world, or its experts, considers the same thing paramount that is fostered as the highest hope in this country. It is the desire for higher prices of commodities. And these prices, it may be added, necessarily revolve around the values of the products of the farm. Thus it is demonstrated again that the farm question is basic.

The conference program, necessarily prepared two or three months in advance of its use in the conference, treats of tariff readjustment, readjustment of international debts, abolition of trade restrictions, the stabilization of currencies on the gold standard to which the United States has adhered so tenaciously, and steps to balance the budgets of whatever governmental units there are.

Of course, the discussion already has been initiated on the question of debt readjustment. It had to start with the United States. Our nation is the creditor of all of them. Every one here with whom I have talked, agrees that the theory is right. The debtors, who are creditors of other nations, must know to what extent they are going to be let off before they feel free to let somebody else off. So it is a circle which can be unlocked by the United States.

But there is another side. It is in the other side that the trick lies. The question is: "Will the debtor nations to whom the United States makes concessions carry those concessions through to the ultimate debtors?" If they do not, the experts here say there is nothing to be gained by making concessions.

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To state the problem another way, unless such concessions as are made by the United States are reflected all along the line, the United States will have been just a plain sucker. Uncle Sam again will have been played as the victim in the shell game. There was no pea under either shell when the game began.

From these facts, it becomes perfectly obvious why consideration must be given to the program of the international economic and monetary conference alongside of the discussions now going on between the United States and those powers to whom it loaned money during and after the World war.

Sponsors of the agenda for the conference decline to admit it, but unbiased views hold that the program for the conference is too complex to be worked out at one series of meetings. The experts take the position, however, that because the problem as a whole is so complex, it cannot be dealt with by pieces. They say that when the pie has been cut, none of the pieces will serve the ends desired if taken singly. That was the attitude of some of the leaders in the Hoover administration; it is, furthermore, the attitude of Mr. Roosevelt and his associates now.

There is reason to believe, therefore, that we are going to see a continuing series of international exchanges of views for quite some time.

It is necessary here to call attention to another factor in the whole situation that has begun to loom on the horizon. The situation that confronted Woodrow Wilson who, as President, sought to gain senate approval of the Treaty of Versailles. The treaty had the League of Nations covenant as its heart. The senate refused to wear the halter. There were a number of senators who became balky horses. They were called the "irreconcilables."

Whether their position was wrong or right is of no moment in this article. The fact is that the irreconcilables blocked American adherence to the League of Nations. Now, there is another group of them. Several senators remain in the senate from that original group. They are restating their views these days, some publicly, others privately. They are insisting that the United States retain its "sovereignty," and remain isolated from the entanglements which they say they foresee in the debt discussions and the international conference.

Conservatives and radicals alike agree on one thing: Mr. Roosevelt has a tremendous job ahead of him as he settles himself in the White House. A very great many of them are going to stick by him, even though some of the things he does may taste like sour milk, because they recognize the magnitude of his job. It will be fortunate, indeed, for the President, if a sufficient number of both factions accept the responsibility and stand by the President until the urgent job of getting the country on the road to recovery is done.

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German Chemist Cites Benefits of Massage

The common theory that massage eases pain, promotes sleep, and limbers stiff muscles by stimulating the circulation may be true enough, according to Dr. H. Ruhmann of Berlin, but it does not explain how the circulation is stimulated.

Doctor Ruhmann's theory is that the stretching and pressure of the skin sets free in the blood a chemical known as acetylcholin, which has a tendency to counteract the exciting effects of the gland chemical known as adrenalin.

Acetylcholin enlarges the capillaries so that they hold more blood, which carries away the toxins causing the aches and pains. When the chemical is set free from the skin it quiets the nerves, which accounts for the sleep-promoting qualities of massage.—Pathfinder Magazine.

Dr. Pierce's Pleasant Pellets are the original little liver pills put up 60 years ago. They regulate liver and bowels.—Adv.

Must Be Encouraged One can't feel important, if he isn't treated as if he were.

To improve Any child's APPETITE

A sluggish appetite means a sluggish colon. Correct this condition called stasis, and see how quickly a listless, drooping boy or girl begins to eat—and gain! The only "medicine" such children need is pure, unadulterated fig syrup.

California syrup of figs is doing wonderful things for ailing, sickly children all over the United States. If your baby, boy or girl, is bilious—pale-faced and dull-eyed from constipation—breath bad mornings, tongue coated all the time—don't give cathartics that weaken twenty feet of bowels! Instead, a little syrup of figs that doesn't disturb either stomach or bowels, but does act on the lower colon—where the trouble lies.

Nature never has made a finer laxative for children; they all love the wholesome, fruity flavor of the real California syrup of figs. It's purely vegetable, but every druggist has it all bottled, with directions. Begin with it at once. Your child will soon be eating better and feeling better. Keep on with the syrup of figs a few days and see amazing improvement in appetite, color, weight, and spirits.

Children who get syrup of figs, now and then, keep well and avoid colds. NOTICE: The bottlers of California Syrup of Figs respectfully warn mothers that the promises made here apply only to the genuine product in bottles plainly marked CALIFORNIA.

One Sure Way to End Coughs and Colds

Persistent coughs and colds lead to serious trouble. You can stop them now with Creomulsion, an emulsified creosote that is pleasant to take. Creomulsion is a new medical discovery with three-fold action; it soothes and heals the inflamed membranes and inhibits germ growth. Of all known drugs, creosote is recognized by high medical authorities as one of the greatest healing agencies for persistent coughs and colds and other forms of throat troubles. Creomulsion contains, in addition to creosote, other healing elements which soothe and heal the inflamed membranes and stop the irritation and inflammation, while the creosote goes on to the stomach, is absorbed into the blood, attacks the seat of the trouble and checks the growth of the germs. Creomulsion is guaranteed satisfactory in the treatment of persistent coughs and colds, bronchial asthma, bronchitis and other forms of respiratory diseases, and is excellent for building up the system after colds or flu. Money refunded if any cough or cold, no matter how long standing, is not relieved after taking according to directions. Ask your druggist. (Adv.)

Children Need Cuticura

To keep skin and scalp clean and healthy, and to lay the foundation for skin health in later life. The Soap protects as well as cleanses, the Ointment soothes and heals rashes, itchings and irritations. Soap 25c. Ointment 25c and 50c. Proprietors: Potter Drug & Chemical Corporation, Malden, Mass.

Take it from GRANDMA

Fads in laxatives may come and go, but Grandma knows the quickest, gentlest way to cleanse the system is with a natural laxative like Garfield Tea. Try it and see why. You'll thank us! You'll thank Grandma. (All All Druggists).

GARFIELD TEA

A Natural Laxative Drink

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