

News Review of Current Events the World Over

Al Smith Joins "Tories" Who Demand Sound Dollar—Opposition to Roosevelt's Monetary Policy Grows—Californians Lynch Two Murdering Kidnapers.

By EDWARD W. PICKARD

MORE loudly every day is heard the demand for a return to the "sound money" by the increasing number of those whom the President has termed "Tories"; for, as the time for the assembling of congress nears there is a fast growing fear that the inflationists in that body will move for the starting of the money printing presses. Between the "Tories" and the inflationists stands Mr. Roosevelt, still seemingly unperturbed, insisting on carrying out further his gold trading plan for devaluing the dollar and thus increasing commodity prices, with some form of stabilization to follow—either a gold standard devalued dollar or a commodity price index paper dollar.

That the dispute over the President's monetary policy is not partisan is emphasized by the stand taken by Alfred E. Smith in an open letter written for the December issue of the New Outlook but released to the press in advance.

Mr. Smith expressed his disbelief that "the Democratic party is fated to be always the party of greenbacks, paper money printers, free silverites, currency managers, rubber dollar manufacturers, and crackpots."

He added that if this is to be so "the issue is more than a partisan one, because we are dealing today with the party which actually holds responsible government office, which is not merely advocating cure-alls in a campaign, but which has in its hands the present welfare of 130,000,000 people and the future of our most cherished American institutions."

"What we need in this country is absolute dependability in our money standards. It is the only thing which will restore confidence. The latest fiscal moves of the administration have undermined public confidence. They have created uncertainty. Uncertainty paralyzes business, discourages private initiative, drives money into hiding, and places the entire burden of sustaining the population on the central government."

"In the absence of anything definitely known to be better, I am for a return to the gold standard. I am for gold dollars as against baloney dollars. I am for experience as against experiment. If I must choose between private management of business and management of a government bureaucracy, I am for private management."

"I am ready to go through a certain amount of deflation if the choice is between this and outright money inflation. If I must choose between the leaders of the past, with all the errors they have made and with all the selfishness they have been guilty of, and the inexperienced young college professors who hold no responsible public office, but are perfectly ready to turn 130,000,000 Americans into guinea pigs for experimentation, I am going to be for the people who have made the country what it is. And I say this with full knowledge of the fact that there are many things in the old order of society which I should like to have changed and which I do not applaud or even condone."

PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT himself made no comment on Mr. Smith's letter, but it drew from General Johnson, NRA administrator, who was at Warm Springs, a characteristically violent burst of denunciation. The general also made an unwarranted attack on Professor Sprague, calling him a "hitherto obscure professor" who "by a dramatic resignation obtained his little hour or two to strut across the stage." This of a man whom the Bank of England had been paying \$25,000 a year to act as its adviser until the President persuaded him to come home and serve our treasury in a like capacity for \$10,000 a year.

IT WAS announced by the War Department that the low bid for trucks for the conservation corps was made by Chevrolet Motor company with an offer of \$52,119 per unit.

The next lowest bidder was Northwest Motor company of Bethesda, Md., a Ford dealer, whose bid was \$67,110 per unit delivered at Detroit, \$686,110 for deliveries at Chicago and \$687,600 on deliveries at Louisville, Ky.

The Chevrolet bid was for six-cylinder trucks and that of the Ford dealer for eight-cylinder trucks. The specifications of the War department provided for not less than six-cylinder motors.

R. L. Sabine, head of the Ford agency who was low bidder on a recent truck offer of the Department of Agriculture but complained recently that new bids had been asked for trucks of not less than six-cylinder motors, said Ford deliveries could be made with such promptness that the government would save money and declared that if he did not receive the order he would appeal to Comptroller General McCarl.

FIRST of the big employers to suffer for alleged violation of the President's re-employment agreement is

Loft, Inc., which operates a chain of restaurants and candy stores throughout the country. General Johnson ordered the company to remove the Blue Eagle from its stores in Washington, and charges made against it by the New York compliance board were under investigation. President C. G. Guth of the company denied the accusations.

THOUSANDS of furious Californians stormed the jail at San Jose, fought a desperate battle with the police and dragged out Jack Holmes and Thomas Thurmond, confessed kidnapers and murderers of Brooke L. Hart, the young son of a prominent merchant, and hanged them to trees in the city park. Fifteen thousand persons, many of them women and children, witnessed the lynching and cheered on the mob. That any of the lynchers ever will be punished is highly improbable. The crime of the two victims was peculiarly diabolical and cold-blooded and it is likely even the authorities, unofficially, welcome this reversion to old-time vigilante methods of dispensing justice. Gov. James Rolph had refused to send troops to help the sheriff, and later when told of the lynching said:

"This is the best lesson that California has ever given the country. We showed the country that the state is not going to tolerate kidnaping!"

ROGER TOUHY and three companions, tried in St. Paul for the kidnaping of William Hamm, Jr., fared better than did the California kidnapers and murderers. The four Chicago gangsters were acquitted by a jury. It was the first defeat for the federal government in the kidnaping cases in which it has figured since passage of the so-called Lindbergh law at the last session of congress.

The Touhy crowd, however, were still to be tried in Chicago for the kidnaping of "Jake the Barber" Factor.

MISSOURIANS followed the example set by the San Jose Californians and resorted to lynch law to punish the negro assailant of a young white woman. A mob at St. Joseph battled with the police and National Guardsmen and took Lloyd Warner from the jail and hanged and burned him. Gov. Guy B. Park declined to comment.

Governor Ritchie of Maryland sent state troops to Princess Anne and they nabbed four alleged leaders of the crowd that lynched a negro. The local authorities had failed to act in the matter and the governor took it into his own hands. The prisoners were taken to Baltimore after a mob had fought to release them from the soldiers. But almost immediately they were returned to Princess Anne on habeas corpus writs and the court there released them on the ground that the evidence was insufficient.

FRANCE has a new premier and a new ministry. Camille Chautemps has succeeded Albert Sarraut, who was overthrown by the chamber of deputies, and has formed a government that includes fourteen of the former ministers, among these being Paul-Boncour, Daladier and Sarraut. In other respects his selections, it is asserted in Paris, bear the stamp of the influence of Edouard Herriot, and many believe the new cabinet is designed to prepare the way for the return of that veteran Socialist. Herriot was turned out of the premiership a year ago because he wanted to pay the war debt due the United States, and has refused to take part in the government until after December 15—the anniversary of his downfall and the date when another installment is due. After France has repeated its act of repudiation, Herriot probably will again become premier.

Chautemps was unable to persuade the dissident Socialists and the left Republicans to enter his cabinet, so it is made up of so-called radical Socialists.

THE Co-operative Farmers National Grain corporation, which has been fighting for years for full membership in the Chicago Board of Trade, proposed an amendment to the grain exchange code which would compel the board to grant it and other co-operatives full trading and clearing privileges.

Gov. W. I. Myers of the federal farm credit administration, in a letter to Farm Administrator George N. Peek, which went into the record, gave the full support of the government to the amendment.

Two other governmental spokesmen, Dr. J. W. T. Duvel of the grain futures administration and Wendell Hyrd, special assistant to the attorney general, likewise approved the Farmers' National proposal. In view of these manifestations of federal sanction, it was regarded as virtually certain that the amendments would be approved despite the serious opposition of the exchanges.

PHYSICISTS of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology are now ready to proceed with their attempt to smash the atom, for the huge generator designed by Dr. R. J. Van De Graff successfully passed its test at Round Hill, Mass.

A 7,000,000 volt direct current bolt of man-made lightning split and cracked from the two giant aluminum cylinders which act as terminals of the generator and flashed between each other and to the roof and walls of the converted hangar which houses it. This first test, witnessed by a handful of distinguished scientists and the anxious designers and makers of the generator, more than fulfilled the hopes of physicists who believe that when it is in operation to its full capacity of 10,000,000 volts it will tear the veil from the innermost secrets of nature.

PRESIDENT WILLIAM GREEN of the American Federation of Labor says that unemployment in the United States reached 10,078,000 in October, an increase of 11,000 over September, but that this increase was exceptionally small for that time of year. He gives warning that unstinted co-operation of the citizenry will be necessary to keep the number of jobless from growing much larger during the winter, but he sets forth these favorable factors:

Average wages increased slightly from September to October, amounting to \$1.20 a month, or 1.4 per cent. Cost of living rose only one-half of 1 per cent, slightly reducing the individual worker's loss of real income since March, bringing this down to 1.1 per cent.

Dollar buying power of workers in October was \$900,000,000 per month above March.

Real buying power—that is, increased wages reduced by increased cost of living—rose 23.1 per cent above the March level.

GEN. DOUGLAS MACARTHUR, chief of staff, in his annual report to Secretary of War Dorn, declares that the army's strength is "below the danger line." He warns that our military standing is seventh in world relative strength, and speaks of the "obvious state of unrest now prevailing throughout the world."

The general's recommendations for increasing the army's efficiency include:

A boost in regular army enlisted strength from 120,000 to 165,000, with immediate exemption of the enlisted man from the 15 per cent government pay cut.

An expenditure of nearly \$200,000,000 on aircraft, modernization and motorization of the field artillery, mechanization, anti-aircraft equipment and general motorization.

Maintenance of the National Guard at existing strength with 48 drill periods and two weeks' active training annually.

At least 120,000 reserve officers with two weeks' annual training for at least 30,000. At present there are 119,000 reserve officers but only 87,000 are eligible for active duty training.

Restoration of the 1932 instruction and personnel scale for the R. O. T. C. and C. M. T. C.

The chief of staff said the army's mobilization of the civilian conservation corps was in striking contrast with the 1917 mobilization and gave "renewed evidence of the value of systematic preparation for emergency."

But he added, the heavy drain on the army's 12,000 re-alar officers in marshaling these 300,000 men "has brought regular army training in the continental United States to a virtual standstill and has almost destroyed the readiness of units for immediate and effective employment on emergency duty."

LEUT. COL. ABELARDO HERREIRA, the hated chief of the Matanzas military district under the regime of former President Machado of Cuba, and four other former officers paid with their lives for the many murders of which they were accused. They were taken from San Severino castle at Matanzas, shot up before masked men and lined to death with machine guns. The five men had been prisoners since August 12, the day Machado was driven from the island. Chief of the crimes attributed to them was the killing of the five Alvarez brothers, prominent anti-Machado revolutionists, in 1932.

ROBERT LEY, trade union commissioner under the Hitler government of Germany, has announced plans for the reorganization of Germany's labor unions into a giant group to which employers and foreigners also will be eligible.

The changes will become effective January 1, it was indicated, and meanwhile unions will not be permitted to accept new members. Under the reorganization scheme, every employer must join in his own name rather than in that of a firm.

Washington Digest

National Topics Interpreted by William Bruckart

Washington.—History shows that many years are required for the accomplishment of a **Realignment of Voters** in party groups are seldom, if ever, brought about in the span of a lifetime. Yet, those alignments appear now to be very near, so near, in fact, that astute political observers of national politics are looking for a shakeup that will have been virtually completed when the time arrives for another national election.

Because things move so slowly in political transitions, I believe we are generally prone to dismiss each little incident as without particular significance. Nevertheless, each one counts, and in the aggregate, if we pause to collect them, the minor changes constitute the web or pattern of a great movement. Hence, circumstances of the last few weeks necessarily must be weighed, for in those circumstances is seen that which may verify prove to be the beginning of the final stage in a national realignment of voters. And, as has been the case in some other political changes among voters in the United States, money is the focal point, the center about which the whole thing revolves.

There is developing, according to the best political judgment available in Washington, a definite trend among party men and women toward affiliation with one party or the other solely on the basis of economic views of the party chosen. In other words, there are those who believe in attempting new things in government and in its relationship with commerce and industry, and there are those who believe in allowing private initiative to lead the way and develop the changes as human nature demands. Roughly, the two types like to describe themselves as "liberals and conservatives" in accordance with the respective views set out above. So the political observers who study those things day after day and interpret their meaning are of the opinion that important changes are coming.

The conclusions reached by many of these observers is that perhaps as early as the national campaign of 1936, there will be shifts from Republican rolls to Democratic rolls, and shifts of others from Democratic rolls to Republican rolls in sufficient numbers to have established one of the parties as distinctly liberal and the other as distinctly conservative. The Roosevelt campaign last year developed enormous shifts; that is, it developed a transfer of voters from Republican ranks to those of the Democrats for permanent residence. In pointing to the fact, I do not include the "protest" vote that went to the Roosevelt candidacy. Much of that will be back home in the Republican ranks if and when Mr. Roosevelt makes the race for President again. Excluding that protest vote, there were thousands who had checked the Republican ballots heretofore who will never do so again.

That brings me to the present situation, the circumstance that has come over the question of what sort of money we shall have. Mr. Roosevelt's monetary policies have found favor in vast areas of the country and they have met with an objection as vehement and as bitter as peace-time views can be. The result of all of this is an issue has been so sharply drawn that a decision by the country cannot be avoided, barring one thing. That one thing is a return to prosperity at a rate much faster than is possible to expect.

When I said there would be partisans leaving their old political haunts to ally themselves with what had been their opposition party, I cannot include such men as Alfred E. Smith, former governor of New York and 1928 Presidential candidate of the Democratic party. Nor can it be expected that Senator Carter Glass of Virginia will desert the affiliation of his lifetime to turn Republican, even though both the former governor and the senator strongly espouse sound money. But they serve as illustrations of the point I am trying to make: if those two men were not so high up in party councils they might leave the party. Thousands of less consequence will do it.

Observers here contend that it is quite possible that the La Follette group of Wisconsin and its step-children in other states and the Norris faction in Nebraska with its kindred, the Brookhart group in Iowa and the Johnson Republicans of California, among others, might logically be expected to transfer their allegiance to the liberal party. They have been Republicans only in part for some years, and Senator Norris campaigned for Roosevelt, as he did for Smith in 1928. While these factions and "wings" of the Republicans may be looked upon as available timber for the anticipated liberal party, there are a great many Democrats who are Democrats almost solely because they happened to have been born, or located later, in a thoroughly Democratic area. They are conservative by birth and instinct and by judgment.

It would seem to be a situation, therefore, in accordance with the way

seasoned observers size it up, namely, that the Republican party eventually will be the completely conservative party and the Democrats will carry the banner of the liberal thought of the country.

Pursuing this reasoning further, it is made to appear that eventually we may see the party divisions formulated sharply in accordance with the type of commerce and industry in each section of the country. For example, the manufacturing cities of the East may be expected to be hide-bound conservative as one extreme, while hard-driven farm areas in the Middle West may as naturally be expected to go liberal, if not radically liberal. Liberal and conservative thought obviously divide on economic lines. The stage seems to be set for consummation of that which has been in the making since the "Bull Moose" days when Theodore Roosevelt bolted the Republicans.

General Johnson, the national recovery administrator, burst out with a new threat the other day, and the **Johnson's Threat** chorus of chortles that it evoked leads me to believe he has moved out on the wrong foot. The general, once a hard-bolled cavalry officer who remains hard-bolled, says that the federal government is going to "police" business unless business polices itself under the codes of fair competition. All of which is possible, of course, but in my wanderings around the capital city and in conversations with business men from other parts of the country, I feel that the general would be biting off more than he can chew if he proceeds far on the program implied by his announcement.

There can be no honest doubt that "chiseling," as Mr. Roosevelt described it, is taking place in almost every community to a greater or less extent. It is evident to anyone talking the trouble to look about him. There are hundreds of businesses that have signed the codes of fair competition with their fingers crossed. They knew it would be dangerous to refuse to sign and so they signed in order to get the famed "blue eagle" insignia, but they had no intention of living up to their obligation. It is a sad commentary, yet it is true, that a certain element of business, and quite a large element at that, cannot be trusted.

So, as I see the problem, perhaps General Johnson is right in demanding that business be policed. The weakness of his plan, however, is inherent in the scheme for controlling business. Federal control necessarily means that the national government has to inject itself into the private affairs of all, and that is the sort of thing that led up to repeal of the Eighteenth amendment. People resented interference from the government in their personal affairs.

Then, there is another phase of the problem, a difficulty as applicable to prohibition as it is in General Johnson's plan. Thousands of persons will be required for this policing job, just as thousands were used in prohibition enforcement. There will be as many, or more, "meddlesome matties" get into the Johnson police as were found in the prohibition police, and there will be some few straight-out crooks get jobs. The meddlesome individuals, either through fanaticism or through a misguided sense of duty, will stir up more fuss in a few minutes than they ought to stir up in a year. Crooks, if any get in, will "bleed" business which will be forced to pay for protection, exactly as occurred in the case of prohibition.

Washington newspaper correspondents who devote their time to writing of financial affairs in the treasury have lately come through a brisk, although brief, battle with the new acting secretary, Henry Morgenthau, Jr. No sooner had Mr. Morgenthau, who is only forty-two years old, been installed as acting secretary, than he sought to curb the rights of the correspondents by forbidding his subordinates to talk with the writers. It was censorship, if ever censorship was attempted. The writers rose up in righteous wrath and with an announcement that there would be no compromise on the principle.

The battle lasted, as a matter of fact, only three days before the acting secretary called the correspondents to his office to invite them to "agree" to a modification of his gag rule. He was met with an absolute refusal to "agree" to any proposal unless that proposal contemplated freedom of the writers to seek and obtain factual information that was a matter of record and properly available to the public. The new head of the treasury was in a tough spot and he yielded on all points which the writers demanded as their privilege, except that he requested they avoid seeking information on treasury policies from the subordinate officials. Since the correspondents never have been willing to take information on the framing of policies from anyone in official life excepting those who decide questions of policy, namely, department heads, the writers felt they had won, and were satisfied.

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Sweet Clover to New High Record

Varieties and Strains for Almost Every Condition and Purpose.

Prepared by the College of Agriculture, University of Illinois.—WNU Service.

Illinois farmers already have adjusted their crop acreages to the point where they are growing almost eight times as much sweet clover as they were thirteen years ago, but this crop may be expected to spread to new prominence under the wheat program of the agricultural adjustment administration, according to a new bulletin, "Sweet Clover in Illinois," which was recently released by the experiment station of the College of Agriculture, University of Illinois.

As a soil improvement crop for the acres which will be retired from wheat production, sweet clover has no superior among the legumes, according to the authors of the bulletin.

Experimental work started by the University of Illinois College of Agriculture in 1905 helped pave the way for an increase in the state's sweet clover acreage from 48,000 acres in 1919 to 850,000 acres in 1932. It is pointed out in the bulletin. These studies have been expanded and continued up to the present. The new bulletin reports the results of experiments made as early as 1917 and as late as 1932.

With new demands being made upon the sweet clover crop by the agricultural adjustment program and other farm developments, varieties and strains are being developed and adapted to almost every condition and use, according to the bulletin. Of the more than twenty-five known species of sweet clover grown in various parts of the world, more than half have been tried in the United States. The biennial white-flowered sweet clover, *Mellilotus alba*, is the most important and constitutes more than 90 per cent of all the sweet clover grown in the corn belt.

Another reason why sweet clover is expected to play a leading role in the agricultural adjustment program is the fact that the culture of it is easier than that of the other common legumes. The usual dates of seeding are the latter part of February and the first of March in southern Illinois, and the latter part of March and the first of April in northern Illinois. Early seeding is important. Unhulled seed may be sown in wheat as early as December.

A large proportion of Illinois farmers use sweet clover both for pasture and soil improvement. The crop can furnish more grazing than almost any other common corn-belt pasture plant.

Complex Mineral Feeds Needless Farm Expense

Farmers can economize on the feeding of complex mineral mixtures to livestock without any danger of cutting down their returns, according to a circular, "The Feeding of Mineral Supplements to Livestock," issued by the College of Agriculture, University of Illinois. The publication is an up-to-date revision of a previous circular on the same subject by H. H. Mitchell, chief in animal nutrition.

Carefully conducted experiments have failed to show any need for complex mineral mixtures in general practice, the circular points out.

Minerals should be used in the feeding of livestock only as supplements to rations that have been properly balanced in other respects, particularly in respect to protein. Mineral supplements, therefore, need contain only a few minerals in which farm feeds are known to be deficient. These can be supplied cheaply and mixed on the farm.

All mineral mixtures should contain common salt and a calcium supplement. As a measure of safety some form of calcium phosphate may be used, particularly for dairy cows and for growing animals subsisting mainly on pastures grown on poor soils.

Down the Lane

Insects devour one-tenth of the world's crops.

Oats rank third among the important cereal crops of the United States.

Land formerly planted to rice in the Hawaiian islands has yielded a big potato crop.

Forty per cent of the United States tobacco crop has been exported, on an average for the past several years.

Hall losses paid by the Montana board of hall insurance were heavier in 1932 than in any other year since 1917.

In experiments by University of Minnesota agriculturists to determine best crops for peat soil, corn gave the highest acre values.

Garbanzo, a Spanish bean or pea, has been successfully introduced into the lower Rio Grande valley of Texas.

This year more than ever, it will pay the dairymen to get rid of unprofitable cows and to feed liberally the high producers.

Spread manure, with about 60 pounds of superphosphate added to the ton of manure, promptly on the fields that are to grow corn, beans, or cabbage next season.