

# News Review of Current Events the World Over

## Deaths of Army Pilots Embarrass the Administration—President's Plans for Continued Relief—Emperor of Manchukuo Crowned.

By EDWARD W. PICKARD

DEATHS of five army aviators killed in operations connected with the carrying of the air mail have supplied the Republicans with ammunition for attacking the administration that they are not neglecting. President Roosevelt himself is distressed by the casualties, and it is believed his supporters will hasten to offer in congress a bill giving the air mail contracts back to private companies. Postmaster General Farley has had to shoulder the greater share of the blame, if blame there is, and though he has steadily defended the cancellation of the contracts, he probably would be glad to see the army air corps relieved of its new task. There is no question as to the courage and ability of the army flyers, but it is evident they have not had the peculiar training to fit them for carrying the mails, and their airplanes are not suitable for the work. Of course, the weather has been against them, but little attention is paid to that fact by those who are making political capital out of the deaths of the five.



J. A. Farley

Mr. Farley, appearing before the senate committee investigating air mail affairs, declared that no one deplored the fatalities more than he, but that the Post Office department had felt it must cancel the contracts and had acted on the basis of the law and the conditions under which it found the contracts had been made. He assured the committee that as rapidly as possible the department would work out a new policy in the public interest with respect to the air mail and would take into account the interests of the operators.

The postmaster general had been summoned especially to confront his predecessor, Walter F. Brown, and to consent to Mr. Brown's repeating a remark he said Mr. Farley had made to him about Senator Hugo L. Black, chairman of the committee. This was: "He's just a publicity hound. But don't tell anybody I said so, because I've got to get along with him."

Mr. Farley immediately denied that he had said any such thing, and, scarlet faced, he departed for New York amid roars of laughter. His denial was necessary, doubtless, but it didn't seem to impress anyone.

Speaker Rainey says the army air corps is inefficient and poorly trained, and for this he blames the three previous Republican administrations. He indicated he would support a resolution already approved by the house rules committee calling for investigation of War department methods. Maj. Gen. Ben Foulois, chief of the Army Air corps, defended his men warmly.

HOW the President proposes to carry on the relief program was revealed at a press conference. In addition to continuation of the CWA in cities, relief of distressed families in rural regions is to be placed on a new basis, and the government is to undertake the transportation of entire communities from non-operating coal mine localities and similar centers of unemployment to the subsistence homestead colonies which are being created with \$25,000,000 of public works funds.

In rural regions families in distress are to be helped to raise enough food for subsistence and to get part time employment in industries and on road building and other public works.

Communities of miners, out of work because of the closing down of coal mines, the President calls "stranded populations." They were left stranded when work gave out and there is no prospect of a resumption of mine operations. In most cases the mines have been exhausted. The President said the undertaking would be to move an appreciable number of such families to localities where they can maintain themselves on small tracts of land with incidental industrial employment, which is the subsistence homestead idea now being tried out at Reedsville, W. Va.

Concerning that Reedsville plant, a pet of Mrs. Roosevelt's, it is interesting to read that the house refused by a margin of 165 votes to approve the construction and operation there of a factory to make post office furniture. The project was denounced as "a plunge into state socialism."

PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT in a special message asked congress to create a new federal commission to regulate the wire, cable and radio communications systems. He proposed that the new commission take over the duties of the federal radio commission and the functions of the Interstate Commerce commission which deal with telegraph and telephone regulation.

Mr. Roosevelt said the new body should be given "full power to investigate and study the business of existing companies and make recommendations to the congress for additional legislation at the next session."

This means that if the President's desires are carried out, as they undoubtedly will be, the question of com-

munications mergers will go over for determination next year.

Senator Schall of Minnesota, Republican, was aroused to strong protest against the proposed commission, asserting that it meant the newspapers would be subjected to censorship by the administration and that "not one word of the skulduggery committed in Washington could reach the people of the United States."

THERE are signs indicating that the administration is going to modify its stand and that of its predecessors concerning the war debts. Some Republicans in the senate tried to put through a resolution offered by Robinson of Indiana asking the President, if not incompatible with public interest, to inform the senate by what agreements he had accepted taken payments from Great Britain, Italy and Czechoslovakia and had recognized them as not in default. It also asked what steps, if any, have been taken to induce defaulting nations to pay; whether any understandings have been reached concerning revision; and whether any assurances have been given linking debt payments with tariff concessions.

The Democratic leadership in the senate succeeded in having the resolution sidetracked into the foreign relations committee. Senator Robinson of Arkansas made a speech openly referring to the necessity for some further concessions on the part of the United States if any further payments are to be obtained, but he denied that negotiations looking to revision had taken place yet.

The vote on the motion to commit the resolution showed there has been a considerable change from the opinion held in the senate in December, 1931, when the Hoover moratorium resolution was passed successfully only after it had been amended to include a reservation reiterating congress' unalterable opposition to revision or cancellation of the debts.

THREE export-import banks are to be set up to help American exporters to finance shipments abroad, and George N. Peek announced, after a White House conference, that he would be the head of these institutions. The banks will all be owned by the government. One will deal with Russian business, one with Cuban, and the third with credits for all other foreign countries.

THERE'S a new emperor in the world and a new dynasty has been founded. By direction of Japan, Henry Pu-yi, who in his infancy was the "boy emperor" of China, and who has been the chief executive of Manchukuo, has been enthroned as emperor of that puppet state.



Emperor Kang Teh

The young man—he is twenty-eight—assumed the name of Kang Teh, which being interpreted is "tranquillity and virtue." He probably is virtuous, but the tranquillity is problematical in view of the way Japan and Russia are snarling at each other, for if those nations go to war the scene of the conflict will be the newly established empire which used to be Manchuria.

Great preparations were made for the coronation ceremony, but Henry's Japanese sponsors were so apprehensive of attempts on his life that the public was not admitted to the rites in Hsinking, the capital. The emperor rode the five miles from the palace to the "altar of heaven" in an American bullet-proof automobile and the route was protected by barbed wire stockades and lined with thousands of troops. For every three Manchukuan soldiers in the lines there was one Japanese soldier, and also there were swarms of secret police.

Simultaneously with the elevation of the new ruler, his invalid wife, Yueh Hua, was vested with the dignities of queenhood, although her health precluded her participation in the ceremonies.

JAPAN and soviet Russia are now quarrelling over military airplane flights over each other's territory, and have exchanged sharp notes of protest. Though the situation seems to be tense, an official spokesman for Japan denied that hostilities are imminent.

"The world need not be afraid that Russia and Japan are on the verge of war," he said. "All of these protests and the noisy fuss are a good sign that the danger of war is far away. When both sides are silent, look out."

OUTWEIGHED by 86 pounds and with ten inches less reach, Tommy Loughran was unable to capture the heavyweight title from Primo Carnera in the fight at Miami, Fla. The Philadelphia boy fought gamely and more skillfully than the giant Italian, but lost the decision to eleven of the fifteen rounds.

SECRETARY OF WAR DERN, probably following the ideas of General MacArthur, chief of staff, told the military affairs committee of the house that he was decidedly opposed to congressional plans for an independent and greatly enlarged air corps. He was arguing against two bills introduced by the committee providing for the purchase of 4,384 military airplanes and for the separation of the army air corps from the jurisdiction of the general staff, and the granting to officers and enlisted men of the air corps special compensation and rank.

Mr. Dern held that the air corps was only a co-ordinate part of the army, that its flying officers and men were not heroes of glory any more than the infantry and the artillery, that the whole army organization must proceed in balance and that the air corps has had more than its rightful share of progress in recent years.

ONCE more the tariff comes up as a leading issue, for the President has sent to congress a request for new powers permitting him to fix the tariff within wide limits. The legislation he asks is designed to expand trade and would give the Chief Executive authority to shift the tariff up or down by as much as 50 per cent so that reciprocal tariff treaties with other nations may be negotiated. Furthermore, these treaties would not have to be confirmed by the senate, and the tariff commission would not be consulted. The new authority would be limited to three years and no article could be placed on the free list or removed from it. It was predicted that many Republicans and some Democrats would oppose the scheme, but that it would get through congress after long debate.

UNDER the management of Gen. Hugh Johnson, the NRA opened a series of public hearings in Washington, open to all individuals and organizations that wanted to present suggestions or complaints concerning policies or administration of the NRA codes. The possible benefits from such hearings appeared to be lessened by the restrictions decreed by General Johnson. He ruled that all speakers should be considered as "witnesses"; that only facts might be presented, and that no argument would be permitted.

General Johnson opened the proceedings by admitting NRA had many faults that he hoped would be corrected. Then came the flood of complaints, starting with those of small business men who assert the codes have operated against them and in favor of the large concerns. Mrs. Pinchot, wife of the governor of Pennsylvania, unexpectedly appeared and declared the government had been defeated by the "steel trust," and she was supported by Edward F. McGrady, assistant secretary of labor. Mrs. Pinchot said that in the cases of the big steel companies the workers had been betrayed by the NRA, and she made a bitter personal attack on General Johnson. Next day the cause of labor was brought more prominently to the front by Mr. McGrady and others who declared employers had been evading the code provisions at the expense of their employees.

ENGLAND is proverbially lenient with agitators of all kinds, but when thousands of unemployed from all parts of the country marched into London and were reinforced by other thousands of the idle in the metropolis and hordes of Communists, the police took steps to prevent dangerous outbreaks. The throng held meetings in Hyde Park and 3,000 Scotland Yard men were on hand to keep them curbed, while the entire police force was mobilized at its stations. At first only two men were arrested, for making seditious speeches. They were Tom Mann, veteran Communist, and Harry Pittitt, of the same ilk. An icy rain helped the authorities to preserve order during the great mass meetings in the park, but serious trouble was anticipated late in the week.

The demonstrators wanted to call on Prime Minister MacDonald, but he refused to receive them, explaining that the house of commons was handling the unemployment situation. The marchers were protesting against the condition of the unemployed generally and also against certain features of the bill before parliament. Their orators attacked members of the royal family but were careful not to mention the king. They sang the "international" and were dominated by the Communists.

NRA and the Ford Motor company are tangling up in another fight. The company was charged by workers with having refused to bargain collectively with their representatives at the Edgewater, N. J., and Chester, Pa., plants, and William H. Davis, national compliance director, arranged to hear the arguments of both sides at a meeting in Washington. Secretary Craig of the Ford company sent Davis a long letter denying the concern had violated any provision of the automobile code or the national recovery act, and refusing to send a representative to the meeting. The NRA thereupon notified President Edsel Ford that it would investigate the charges "without his co-operation."



Henry Ford

The automobile industry was disturbed by widespread labor troubles and the threat of a general walkout. Difficulties over union organization and demands for pay increases are at the bottom of all the row.

# Washington Digest

National Topics Interpreted  
by William Bruckart

Washington.—The Department of Agriculture has laid down another barrage of accusations against a group of the large meat packing concerns, but the fight thus started promises to transcend the charge of crookedness on the part of ten corporations cited. From the undercurrent of information around Washington, one can readily believe that questions of policy may become the focal point of the current controversy. While the packers may fold up their tents, admit some of the charges and not fight back any further, the situation is fraught with possibilities of politics that lead directly to an attack on Roosevelt administration New Deal policies. Fundamentally, these questions involve determination of how far the people want their national government to manage business affairs.

It is unfair, of course, to hold that the ten big packers are guilty of combined effort at manipulation of prices or machinations to drive out competition in certain sections of the country, solely because some officials of the Department of Agriculture made the charges. It is likewise unfair to hold the packers have clean records because the charges were made by some of the officials of the department that was described by members of congress as being "full of Communists." It is a fact that the packers have been dragged into court before on similar charges, and it is also admitted that there are some officials in the Department of Agriculture who are so radical as to be desirous of seeing private business destroyed.

With these facts in mind, it will recall also that in the last several months there has been smoldering sentiment that the federal government is going too far in directing the affairs of private individuals. A good many observers here believe that the charges now renewed against the meat packers, after fifteen years of comparative quietude in this direction, will precipitate a political fight over the main question of how far the government ought to go. That is to say, some think the packer controversy will bring the larger question to a head.

There was a plain disposition on the part of most persons to withhold criticism of the Department of Agriculture all through the early months of President Roosevelt's administration. Whether one agreed with the New Deal program or was definitely opposed to it, the disposition was to avoid attacks on the Department of Agriculture because of the sad plight of the industry it was supposed to help. But differences have arisen among the farm leaders and among the members of congress from agricultural districts as to the way things have been run at the Department of Agriculture, and these differences are not concealed any longer. Consequently, it appears just possible that Secretary Wallace and the professors on whom he has leaned so heavily may soon find a swirling storm around their heads, which, once started, surely will go beyond just that phase of the President's New Deal program.

For instance, there is a bill pending that proposes to make the federal government supervisor of the security exchange. Far-reaching of the security exchange changes, the stock markets. It is far reaching; of that, there can be no doubt. But differences of opinion are sharp, and, generally speaking, they may be traced back to one's basic belief as to the extent the federal government should go in managing your business and mine. It is held by all observers to be a perfectly normal and natural line of cleavage.

This legislation would attempt to control the sales of all shares of stock and bonds whether on the floors of the trading exchanges or across the counters of brokers. The operations would be directed from Washington through the Federal Trade commission. Its scope and the fact that administration of this phase of business, like so many others, would be centered in Washington causes concern among that school of thought which clings to the idea of a policy permitting individuals to conduct their own business without having to bow and scrape before a bureaucrat in Washington.

The activities of some of the NRA leaders in dictating business policies and practices is well known, but those opposed to them are none the less opposed because they made less noise in the last few months. They will join in any movement that promises to overturn the program of business dictatorship that has been set up. The same is true respecting the attitude of business men and women on numerous other phases of the New Deal. It is an opposition that thus far has not been allowed to blow off steam.

Thus, in many quarters of Washington and from many business leaders who have to come to Washington these days to iron out even small details with the numerous administrators, commissions, big dictators and small dictators, and other governmental agencies, I hear the expression that the battle with the meat packers may result in an alignment of those forces who end the New Deal to have dealt them

a hand with a ten-spot as the high card. In reporting that circumstance, however, it seems to me one should call attention to the possibility that the Department of Agriculture may have "the goods" on the meat packers. If that be the case, it is obvious that opponents of the New Deal will have to look elsewhere for a peg on which to hang their hats.

Further, it is apparent here that if the President succeeds in his plan to get congress out of town before it reaches the stage where it has idle hands, the chances of a frontal attack on his program seem materially less.

When the legislation for control of the security exchanges passes, as, of course, it will pass since it is an administration proposal, the Federal Trade

commission will be placed in the position of virtual supervisor of all transactions in the issue and sale of securities, whether they be stocks or bonds, notes or any other form of corporate indebtedness. The circumstance has directed considerable attention lately to the relationship between that federal agency and business interests, as well as the treatment business may expect from the commission as now made up. Accordingly, I have done some digging around to find out what the feeling is.

Through the period in which I have watched Washington, the commission distinctly has had its ups and downs. I believe that, in most instances, business has looked upon the commission with more or less favor respectively as it has pursued an economic policy of reasonableness or radicalism. In other words, as the commission has tried to work out satisfactory policies by negotiation with business, it has retained the confidence of business. Conversely, when radicals have been predominant in the commission and it has sought to "crack down," as General Johnson says in NRA affairs, business has not failed to throw bombshells at the commission wherever the opportunity presented.

Passage of the law that required registration of all security issues with the commission before they were offered for sale—the so-called truth in securities act—was expected by many to place in the commission's hands a weapon which it would use in carrying out many radical ideas. There was doubt, and still is doubt, as to the efficacy of such legislation. There were claims, and still are claims, that passage of the law cuts down the availability of funds for corporate financing and, consequently, restricts business development.

The information available to me seems to indicate there is some truth in those claims, but there is also some truth in the assertion that restrictions were necessary in order to protect investors from unscrupulous individuals who issue and sell fake stocks and bonds. Thus far, however, the commission seems to have given a rather satisfactory administration of the securities law.

Each group probably will be found to be partially wrong after the commission starts on its new job. I hear comment, however, to the effect that the commission must watch its step in selection of personnel in connection with stock exchange supervision. That job will be highly technical, and the danger that has been pointed out is that untrained theorists may be appointed to do much of the work. It is hardly necessary to say that most theorists enjoy trying out their ideas at other people's expense, and surely administration of the country's trading marts is no place to "try it on the dog." The stake is too high.

Through some eight or ten years past, the commission has followed a course of citing a business for alleged violation of fair practice rules and offering no statement except the charges. The result was a stigma on the particular business. Oftentimes, complaints were made by competitors just to gain the advantage of that stigma. Last month, however, that policy was changed and hereafter, the commission will issue their citations and will tell why the action was taken, thus affording full publicity for anyone to examine the case. It is an action that probably will reduce the number of mischievous complaints, because competitors won't attempt so freely to gain an advantage by smearing the reputation of another business when their own part in it is disclosed.

My conviction is that adoption of a rule of that kind may have the effect of fending off some of the fire that the commission naturally must expect from the school of thought opposed to the principles upon which the agency was founded. And, it is well from the commission's standpoint for it to watch out! Its present state of recrudescence, after a period when its appropriations were cut to the bone and its life threatened, may not go on as now if it leans too far to the radical side. Business interests are not radical and they are not going to co-operate with any agency, governmental or private, that is radical.

by Western Newspaper Union.

## Bows Feature of Purse and Muff

### Home Worker May Make Her Own Decorations, if She Desires.

Bows and muffs are both featured this season in unusual models and styles. For example, hand bags have bows for ornaments, purses are combined with muffs, or muffs have bows as trimming. Occasionally, all three features are found in a single accessory, the muff purse or the purse muff, whichever you prefer to call it. In the previous vogue of muffs, some years ago, purses were not infrequently let into muffs in a convenient way. No fumbling about in a bag or pocket was necessary to produce the purse, for it was on the outside of the muff, generally so well hidden in the fur that it was scarcely discernible. In the present combination the purse is sometimes the chief item, with finger-tip muff portions intriguingly introduced. The convenience is as satisfying as formerly.

Favorite materials for purses with bows, and muffs, are satin, silk, velvet, soft suede, or its imitation in fabric-suede. It is easy to see why these are chosen, since the materials are so soft and flexible that they lend themselves admirably to gathers and folds of bows. It is of interest to the home worker to know of these materials, since she can fashion her own purse in one of these latest models if she so chooses.

A length of one of these textiles six inches in width or more can be interlined, and then lined with satin, and have little inside pockets made of gathered or flat satin sewed to lining. The strip is then folded twice. The outside fold is shorter than the other two parts, and forms the flap. The sides of the folded edges beneath are sewed together for the bag portion of the envelope purse. It is advisable to fit the outside flap with snap fasteners for security.

It is the trimming of the bag which supplies the novel feature. On the flap is sewed as smart a bow of the material as the worker can fashion. Or she can match the color of the bag in heavy ribbon and get the sales person at the ribbon counter to make the bow, which the woman can, herself, sew to the flap.

A bag that is minus a bow can be made in latest style by sewing a bow on the outside. It is not always that by such a slight addition a last year's bag can be brought up to the latest vogue.

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