

News Review of Current Events the World Over

President Cleans Desk for Hawaii Cruise—Drouth Relief Funds Allocated for Middle West—Federal Reward for Dillinger's Arrest.

By EDWARD W. PICKARD
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PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT, back from his brief trip to New Haven, New London and his home in Hyde Park, put in a busy week clearing up his desk for his departure on the long planned cruise through the Panama canal to the West coast and Hawaii. All those who have had occasion during the last generation to call at the White House are glad to learn that Rudolph Forster was selected by the President to make the voyage with him. Since the days of McKinley this able and courteous gentleman, now executive clerk in charge of the White House executive offices, has been on duty and never before has he accompanied any President on a trip. Now Mr. Forster is going to have a real vacation, and Secretaries Howe, McIntyre and Earle will remain behind to take care of the White House. There will be no other civil officials aboard the cruiser Houston.

On the way down to the canal Mr. Roosevelt will visit Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands. From Panama City he will go to the Hawaiian Islands, first making a brief stop in Colombia. Returning to the Pacific coast early in August Mr. Roosevelt will travel overland by rail, and there is a possibility he will make some speeches, probably in Minneapolis and Green Bay, Wis., where the tercentenary of the Badger state will be celebrated.

IMMEDIATE relief for the drouth stricken areas in the Middle West was decreed by the President in an executive order which allocated \$56,250,000 for direct aid. The remainder of the first distribution of federal relief for the drouth area included \$43,750,000 for purchase of seed, food and live stock; \$25,000,000 for seed and feed loans; \$12,500,000 for purchase of lands in the drouth regions, and \$12,500,000 for establishment of civilian conservation camps in the stricken region.

FINAL settlement of the questions in dispute between the steel masters and their workers is expected and the threatened strike probably will be averted. The President, invoking his new emergency powers, named a three-man board to arbitrate the industry's troubles, and both sides indicated they would accept its decisions. The members of the board are Admiral Henry A. Wiley, James Mulenbach of Chicago and Judge Walter Stacy of the North Carolina Supreme court. The two latter have had long experience as labor mediators. Under the emergency law this group can order and police elections in all steel plants to determine which union shall represent the men in collective bargaining. The board can also hand down decisions on all complaints brought by either workers or employers.

President Roosevelt ordered the board to report to him from time to time through Secretary of Labor Frances Perkins.

IT MAY be necessary to resort to the emergency labor legislation to put an end to the street car strike in Milwaukee. A minority of the company's employees went out and by violence forced the suspension of service. The mobs fought the police and attacked the company's electric plant and its cars.

The American Federation of Labor unions are trying to compel the company to recognize their representatives in dealing with employees instead of the company union with which it has had a labor contract for 16 years.

Rev. Francis J. Haas, formerly of Milwaukee and now chief conciliator for the national labor board, was sent to the Wisconsin city with full authority to act. Mayor Hoan, a Socialist, held the company responsible for the strike and ensuing riots.

FEDERAL JUDGE J. P. BARNES of Chicago gave one phase of the New Deal a rap by granting an injunction restraining the government from enforcing the provisions of the AAA milk licensing agreement against the independent milk dealers in the Chicago area. In effect, the judge ruled that the government, through the AAA, has usurped powers which under the Constitution it had no authority to assume.

The AAA officials in Washington declared they would seek to have Judge Barnes' ruling set aside. Jerome Frank, general counsel for the AAA, admitted that if the decision were upheld by higher courts, the fifty marketing agreements now in force under the farm act and hundreds of the codes under the NRA would be without constitutional sanction.

HARRIMAN hosiery mills, the concern that was deprived of its Blue Eagle last April, has been forced to close down, and its 653 workers are out of jobs. The little city of Harri-man, in Tennessee, depended largely

on the mills and the company had the support of practically all the people there in its dispute with the NRA. The officials of the company sent to Administrator Johnson—and to President Roosevelt—a vigorous protest, asserting the concern had been unjustly and unfairly deprived of its property rights in the Blue Eagle.

"We would like to know," said the letter, "if the Blue Eagle is the property of the law-abiding citizens of the United States or if it is a plaything to be held over the heads of honorable and decent employers as a cudgel to browbeat and bulldoze them into surrendering their constitutional rights for the benefit of outside agitators whose only purpose is to exploit labor for their own personal gain."

General Johnson's reply was in effect that the company could stay closed forever if it wished to, but it must comply with the NRA regulations to get back its Blue Eagle.

The dispute started last October, when about 300 employees went on strike with the claim that the company would not reinstate twenty-three workers who had joined the United Workers' Textile union.

Fred Held, vice president of the American Federation of Hosiery Workers, went to Harri-man after the mills closed, but was taken from the train by a band of armed men, taken some distance in an automobile and released on promise not to return.

POSTMASTER GENERAL FARLEY and Secretary of the Treasury Morgenthau came forward with an announcement of their plans for the spending of \$110,000,000 in the construction of new post offices and federal buildings.

In all, 626 communities in every state and four territories have been selected for new federal buildings, according to the announcement. Half of the program—302 buildings—will be undertaken with \$65,000,000 authorized for that purpose in the recently enacted deficiency-emergency appropriation bill. It was explained that 324 buildings will be constructed with "funds already available from other sources."

UNCLE SAM is determined to get John Dillinger, the country's most notorious desperado. A few days ago Attorney General Cummings offered a reward of \$10,000 for the capture of the murderer and bank robber, and half as much for information leading to his arrest. At the same time the attorney general offered \$5,000 for the capture of Lester M. Gillis, alias "Baby Face" Nelson, Dillinger's right-hand man. Information leading to Gillis' capture will be rewarded with \$2,500.

This action was followed up by consideration of plans for co-ordinating federal, state, and local efforts to catch Dillinger. It was understood that plans using the army and National Guard in the offensive were under discussion.

The federal charge against Dillinger is transporting a stolen automobile across the state line. Nelson is wanted in connection with the murder of W. Carter Baum, Department of Justice agent, near Rhinelander, Wis., April 23.

In addition to the federal prize, the person who can catch Dillinger will receive \$1,000 reward from each of five states—Indiana, Illinois, Michigan, Ohio and Minnesota.

SITTING in his White House study, President Roosevelt talked over the radio directly to millions of his fellow countrymen, seeking to reassure those who have been alarmed by the frequent allegations that the New Deal is becoming radical. He rebuked his critics as "doubting Thomases," "prophets of calamity" and "theoretical diards," and by implication defended the brain trust. He highly praised the departing congress for its work in the lines of relief for the distressed, recovery and "reform and reconstruction."

Mr. Roosevelt told his listeners the simplest way they could judge recovery was to consider their own situations.

"Are you better off than you were last year?" he asked. "Are your debts less burdensome? Is your bank account more secure? Are your working conditions better? Is your faith in your own individual future more firmly grounded?"

SOMETHING like a hundred thousand Americans and Canadians gathered in Detroit for the good will celebration which was held on the Ambassador bridge under the auspices of the American Legion and the Canadian Legion. The bridge, which links Canada and the United States across the Detroit river, was turned into a huge playground and customs and immigration barriers were lifted for the day.

GIVING up hope for a disarmament pact at Geneva, the British government has under way extensive plans for strengthening its air force for defense of the country. This was announced to parliament by Lord Londonderry, secretary for air. He turned down a suggestion for an imperial air force for the defense of the empire, but said there would be close co-operation with the air forces of the dominions.

IN a note to Secretary of State Hull, the British government rejects his suggestion that the war debt might be paid in kind, holding that such a procedure would be impractical and dangerous to Anglo-American trade. The British expressed a wish for settlement of the debts problem "whenever it may appear that the present abnormal conditions have so far passed as to offer favorable prospects for a settlement."

NAZI storm troops in Germany have demanded that the Stahlhelm, or Steel Helmets, composed of war veterans, be banned by the Hitler government. But the leaders of the organization reply that it shall not be suppressed or absorbed in the storm troops. The existence of the Stahlhelm, they assert, is guaranteed by President Von Hindenburg, Chancellor Hitler, and other Nazi chiefs.

ON THE twentieth anniversary of the assassination of Archduke Franz Ferdinand at Sarajevo, the event that precipitated the World war, there were bombing outrages throughout Austria directed against the Dollfus government and possibly instigated by the Nazis. Certainly the disorders were political in nature. Power plants, railway lines, and one newspaper office were blown up.

WITH congress adjourned and the President preparing for his Hawaii cruise, Miss Margaret Le Hand, confidential secretary to Mr. Roosevelt, decided to take a vacation, so she sailed for Europe.

Now comes from Paris the positive statement that Miss Le Hand is to be married to William C. Bullitt, American ambassador to Russia, and that she was making the final arrangements in the French capital. The young lady would say nothing in confirmation or denial except to declare that she was not going to Russia, but the correspondents were sure the plans were well advanced for what it had been hoped would be a secret wedding. It was understood that Cornelius Vanderbilt, Jr., a close friend of the President, would act as best man for Mr. Bullitt. Mr. Vanderbilt is in the Riviera, and Miss Le Hand also was booked to go there before returning to America late in July.

Ambassador Bullitt is a widower and has a young daughter who is now with him in Moscow.

INFORMATION was given the house committee investigating War department expenditures that prices quoted the government on automobiles have jumped since the issuance of the executive order excluding Henry Ford from bidding until he certifies compliance with the NRA. Representative Kvale of Minnesota said he had evidence to back up this charge, and that the situation has cost the government thousands of dollars already.

"For Henry Ford to submit a certificate of compliance," Mr. Kvale said, "would mean he would have to secure 5,000 certificates of compliance from those who furnish parts and products for his cars. That is obviously impossible."

The committee called on War department officials to reply to this accusation.

HERE is more woe for President Mendetta of Cuba. The A. B. C. society, strongest of the secret political associations in the island, has announced that it would no longer support the Mendetta government. The reason given was "the lack of firmness displayed by the government in dealing with terrorists, especially with men responsible for the assault on the A. B. C. parade June 17."

The A. B. C. manifesto said the society would continue to work for the good of Cuba against terrorism and other forms of "gangsterism" which "are directly traceable to the influence of Moscow gold."

A crisis in the cabinet resulted and several members, who belong to the A. B. C., offered their resignations, as did 600 employees of the treasury department.

A committee of conciliation was set up to work on the government's troubles and it was reported that it might suggest a parliamentary form of government headed by a prime minister. The A. B. C. leaders would agree to this if the premier were chosen from their ranks.

BILATERAL conversations on naval strength, being conducted in London by the United States, Great Britain and Japan preparatory to the coming conference, did not appear to be getting anywhere. The British submitted a plan whereby the United States should sink its battleship fleet and Britain should be permitted to build a large number of small cruisers, airplane carriers and airplanes, and they, the proposers, were frightened by their own temerity. Meanwhile the Japanese delegate told the American representative that his government was increasingly suspicious of an understanding between Britain and America that would work to the detriment of Japan.

Washington Digest

National Topics Interpreted
by William Bruckart

Washington. — Armed with more power than any President of the United States, or the head of any democratic government, ever has had, President Roosevelt has started what he hopes will be the final drive for economic recovery. He has all of the weapons in his own hands. There can be no mistake that he is prepared to use them.

When the second session of the Seventy-third congress adjourned, the work it had done together with the enactments of the first session, completed the transfer to the Chief Executive of more authority than any congress ever before had delegated to the head of the government. In fact, a survey of the acts seems to indicate that congress delegated to Mr. Roosevelt at least 50 per cent of the power ordinarily reserved to the legislative branch alone. Some of the grants were of a temporary character, of course, but nevertheless the President has them and they cannot be taken away until after the first of January, 1935, irrespective of their nature, unless exigencies should arise under which Mr. Roosevelt will call the congress back for an extraordinary session. Those exigencies do not now appear on the horizon.

The above paragraphs are a necessary prelude to the further statement that for the coming six months, at least, the country will have a distinctive one-man control. Ordinarily, we are prone to consider this government of ours in a little different manner because, in a period when congress is in session, the restrictions which its enactments embody serve to circumscribe the powers of the executive branch of the government. In the forthcoming six months, however, the executive branch may operate with all of the freedom discretionary authority carries in the New Deal legislation.

Because of the great speed which characterized passage of the New Deal legislation for which the President asked, its full meaning was overlooked temporarily in many cases. Now that congress has gone, however, appraisals are possible in the light of the relationship existing between various items of the New Deal, and this has occasioned more than the usual amount of discussion in Washington.

One line of discussion frequently heard is that Mr. Roosevelt has placed himself in a spot where he can claim full personal credit for the success of his program. By the same token, and since success is not yet assured, he is on the spot where he must accept full responsibility for failure of any part of the program to accomplish the job which he has outlined. From what I hear around Washington, there seems no disposition anywhere to take away any of the credit. The politicians on the President's side dare not seek any of the credit, for their records show them to have been wholly subservient to his will. Anti-administration politicians are continuing to play dead, for their strategy is apparently one of allowing the calf all of the rope. If failure attends any units of the program, they will make great capital of it. If success is complete, they can do nothing about it anyway, thus they are in a blind alley for the time being.

This position, I am told, does not mean that the Republicans and other anti-administration groups will not fight back. I have explained in earlier letters that they are going to foment trouble by attacks on various of the policies to show vulnerable points.

As I said at the outset, the story of the Seventy-third congress is the story of the broadest loan of power ever given. It must be described as a loan of power, because congress can take it back at any time by mustering sufficient votes for repeal of the laws it enacted. But it must be remembered that, under the so-called Norris amendment to the federal Constitution, the recently adjourned session of congress was the last session. In other words, when adjournment was voted, it was an adjournment sine die. It was finished. It cannot be reconvened without a call by the President and that, as I reported above, is hardly within the realm of possibilities. All of which is by way of saying that Mr. Roosevelt will have the use of these loaned powers completely and unequivocally until next January.

It might be added that he will have most of them for much longer because, although congress can exercise its right to take them back, recovery of the grants of power is not as easy as it may seem. For example, normally, repeal of a law is accomplished by a majority vote in congress. But one must stop to consider here that Mr. Roosevelt will not want to give up the authority vested in him. He has the power to veto an act of congress. Then, to get those powers back congress must override the veto. To override a veto it is necessary under the terms of the Constitution that two-thirds of each house shall have voted in the affirmative.

I am making no assertion that any such attitude will be taken by the President. None can make it for none knows what the President's attitude

will be when the time comes for a decision on the point. It is worthy of thought, in my opinion, however, that here is a condition where the system of checks and balances between the legislative, judicial and executive branches of the government have placed a powerful whip in the hands of the Executive. Students of the Constitution tell me that it is a very unusual condition. Frankly, as I see the situation at this time, it will take an overturning of public sentiment equal in magnitude to the landslide by which Mr. Roosevelt was elected to force a return of that power to congress were the President desirous of retaining it.

When Mr. Roosevelt came into office March 4, 1933, the congress, according to the Constitution, held the power to levy and collect taxes, to borrow money, to regulate foreign and domestic commerce, to coin money and regulate its value and to govern its relation to foreign coin, to combat counterfeiting, to set up inferior courts, to declare war and grant letters of marque and reprisal, to raise and support the army and the navy and control calls for the militia, to define and punish piracy, guard the copyright of creative work, and to make all necessary laws for carrying out these various powers.

What has congress retained of these vast powers, given it by the Constitution because it represents the people? There is a divergence of opinion. Surely, however, there has been delegated to the President some of the most important of those powers, and some authorities like Senator Borah of Idaho, and some of the Democratic conservatives claimed the delegation has been illegal. Whether that contention is true, of course, is a matter for the courts.

To examine just a few of the things done by congress will illustrate the extent to which it went in granting authority to the President. Take the laws creating the Agricultural Adjustment administration and it will be seen that the authority to levy and collect taxes was granted and at the same time a big handful of control over interstate and foreign commerce was given to the Executive. Production control under the so-called Bankhead cotton control law is just that. An important control over interstate and foreign commerce was given the President also under the national recovery act. General Johnson, administrator, exercises that authority, of course, but he does so under executive direction.

While the power is circumscribed to an extent, congress gave the President authority to change the value of the dollar. He cannot vary it greater than between fifty and sixty cents, as we used to measure cents, but the power to coin money and regulate its value rests with Mr. Roosevelt to that extent. The implications go much further. The treasury has an immense fund of gold which it can use in maintaining the relationship between our dollar and foreign coins.

Under the present set-up, congress gave away temporarily the right to make laws, or a part

U. S. in Many of that authority. In nearly all of the acts of the New Deal congress, much discretionary power to draft regulations and rules for administration of the new laws was accorded the Executive. Anti-administration leaders contend that in using this discretionary power, the executive branch has put government into countless businesses. Through the Reconstruction Finance corporation, for example, the government owns or has influence in through the medium of loans such businesses as banking, dairying, cotton and wheat and other grain stocks, in the mortgage field, railroading and in the various fields of commerce and industry such as those touched by the Tennessee Valley experiment.

In the charity field, the government has gone a long way. It is providing work in numerous ways. Various experiments are being worked out with these funds, voted by congress for distribution under the President's direction. Some of the money is being used, for example, for the building of whole towns in conjunction with a government-owned manufacturing plant.

Through NRA, it is to be mentioned also, the anti-trust laws were virtually, if not wholly, suspended. The recovery act made the anti-trust laws inapplicable where corporations signed the codes and complied with the blue eagle requirements. Under that same set of laws, too, the government virtually became a partner in all businesses, since it exercises authority over their manufacturing practices and policies as well as their methods of production and distribution.

Finally, it ought to be mentioned that no longer can an individual sign a contract by which he will agree to make payment in gold. All such contracts entered into heretofore, if they are still in effect, mean nothing because they cannot be enforced as to payment in gold. The treasury has become the owner of all monetary gold within the confines of the United States.

Late Onions Need Careful Culture

Long Growing Season Before Hot Weather Is Found Big Advantage.

By Prof. J. E. Knott, New York State College of Agriculture.—WNU Service.

New York state leads in the production of late onions with a total crop each year that ranges from 2,500,000 to 3,500,000 bushels, and this crop is often worth about \$5,000,000.

Four major muck sections produce more than nine-tenths of the crop. The remaining one-tenth of the crop comes from smaller areas scattered throughout ten counties.

One of the most important points to remember in the production of onions is that the larger the plant grows before it begins to form a bulb at the base, the larger will be the yield. The first thing that is to be considered is the time of planting. The earlier the onions are started, the longer time they have to grow before warm temperature and a long daylight period combine to start bulbing in early summer. Fall plowing helps to get an early start.

Other suggestions to increase the yield of onions on muck are: avoid the use of nitrogen on newly cleared woody muck, and plant enough seed to get a good stand, but do not crowd the plants; supply available nitrogen to onions, when four to five inches high, on muck in use ten years or more; give shallow cultivation often enough to keep the weeds under control; and control insects and diseases as much as possible.

Asparagus Harvest Time Shown by Actual Tests

Asparagus, which ranks as one of the leading truck crops of Illinois with a total value of more than half a million dollars in 1930, should not be cut severely until the second year after the plantation is set, and in some cases not until the third year, according to a seven-year experiment conducted by the College of Agriculture, University of Illinois.

Severe cutting of asparagus is injurious both to yield and market quality. The injury increases in proportion to the severity of the cutting. A prolonged cutting season lessens the growing period of the tops and thereby restricts the food supply that is manufactured in the tops and stored in the fleshy roots. With a limited food supply there is a reduction in the yield the following season.

Comparing the yields of the experimental plots, the plot cut heavily the first year returned only 320.09 pounds of asparagus during the seven-year period, while the plot cut lightly the first season gave a total yield of 431.51 pounds.

Starting the harvest the second year proved advantageous with a total yield of 434.21 pounds for the seven years from the plot harvested rather severely, but the maximum yield of 531.53 pounds was gained from the bed cut only lightly the second year and medium the third season. The plot on which harvest was not begun until the third year gave a total of 467.83 pounds.

If an asparagus plantation has made a poor growth during the first and second years after setting, it is suggested that the first cutting be delayed until the third year, or at most that the cutting be very light the second year. Ordinarily, however, there is no need for delaying at least a partial harvest until the third season.

Uruguay Has Problems

The problems of agriculture in Uruguay are attacked in a new way. The agrarian ministry has decided to confine the production of each farmer to one crop, that for which his land is the best suited, and which he is best qualified to raise. In some cases farmers will be allowed a rotation in crops, thus assuring yearly diversified harvests, enables each agriculturist to obtain for his product higher grades of other produce.

Agricultural Notes

Foresters find that evergreen seedling trees do best in Ohio when they are three years old at planting time and once before have been transplanted.

Many of the most serious cabbage diseases can be controlled by hot water treatment of cabbage seed. Many seedsmen now treat most or all of their seed.

New York potato growers are planting 4,000 acres this year, or 2 per cent more than in 1933, according to a recent estimate.

Live stock breeders advise that calves be fed whole milk the first two weeks to assure them a good start in life.

Live stock experts say grazing on green grass is essential to the development of hogs.

Wool production in 20 northern and southern hemisphere countries which produce 80 per cent of the world total was 8 per cent less in 1933 than the record production in 1932.

While farmers on the north side of the Rio Grande are being paid to reduce their acreage, growers in the Mexican valley have put in a record crop of about 50,000 acres.

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