

United States Mobilizes for War on Crime

By WILLIAM C. UTLEY
THE United States has declared war on crime. Federal agents got John Dillinger. They got "Pretty Boy" Floyd. And at the cost of two of the most promising young men in the Department of Justice secret service, Samuel A. Cowley and Herman E. Hollis, they got "Baby Face" Nelson. Now with Federal bullets having stilled forever the heartbeats and having destroyed for all time the brains of these arch-criminal "big shots," and with federal bars securely crippling the one time power of the biggest shot of them all, Mr. "Scarface Al" Capone, America feels that the time is ripe for an organized and concerted mobilization of all of the forces of society in an irresistible drive not only to track down all of the murderers and criminals in the land, but to strike at their very breeding places and cauterize the open sores of society where the criminal pestilence is born.



J. E. Hoover.

This was the reason for the recent national crime conference called by the President and Attorney General Homer S. Cummings. President Roosevelt himself, addressing the conference at its opening, declared that two things were immediately necessary in girding the land for the opening battles of the war.

"First, I ask you to plan and to construct with scientific care a constantly improving administrative structure—a structure which will tie together every crime-preventing, law-enforcing agency of every branch of the government—the federal government, the 48 state governments, and all the local governments, including counties, cities and towns," said the President.

"Your second task is of equal importance. An administrative structure that is perfect will still be ineffective in results unless the people of the United States understand the larger purposes, and co-operate with these purposes."

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There are few limits to where the science of crime detection may carry the experimenter. Here is a process known as moulage, which Mr. Keeler and his associates have developed to an amazing degree of perfection. It is the art of making casts of any object from the entire head or torso of a dead body to small tool marks in wood or metal. This can preserve the evidence for an indefinite period.

Experts in Ballistics.

The Northwesterners are especially adept in their study of ballistics—bullets and firearms. They can make identification of any caliber or type of bullet, tell what kind of powder fired it and what kind of a weapon it was fired from. In the case of a suspected weapon they can determine whether or not it fired the bullets submitted in evidence.

But it is in the art of discovering deception in a suspected witness that the laboratory excels any similar bureau in the world. This is done through Mr. Keeler's own development of the polygraph, or, as it is popularly and somewhat erroneously termed, the "lie-detector."

The polygraph registers the subject's blood-pressure and respiration over a period of time when he is being questioned. He is asked a great many questions, a large part of them entirely irrelevant to the crime of which he is suspected. Whenever a relevant question is slipped in, it is noticed from the blood pressure and respiration charts that these will fluctuate distinctly when he attempts to practice an intentional deception. While the machine has never been admitted in court as evidence, it has been especially useful in breaking down a suspect's resistance and facilitating confessions. It eliminates plenty of useless questioning and saves time by weeding out the suspects. Its use has been employed to secure confessions in a number of cases.



Leonarde Keeler (Left) of Northwestern University Using His Polygraph (Lie-Detector) on a Suspect.

later abandoned. Other medicolegal courses are available at San Jose, in California, Columbia in New York city, the University of Wichita (Kan.), the University of Cincinnati and the Medicolegal Institute of Paterson, N. J.

Northwestern's laboratory has accomplished much in the field of scientific crime detection. Its services are frequently sought by the Chicago police department, whom it serves without charge, and other police departments to whom it makes a charge commensurate with the work carried on.

Bright star of the school is its Leonarde Keeler, director of psychology, who has developed much of its laboratory. A pleasant young man who looks hardly thirty but must be more than thirty-five, Mr. Keeler is thoroughly in sympathy with the suggestion of a West Point for police, and more than obliging if you ask him to show you through the Northwestern laboratory.

N. U. Well Equipped.

This itself is a combination of schoolroom, business office and exhibit. The first thing you encounter is the fingerprint exhibition, worked up to a perfection attained by few organizations. Here, Mr. Keeler explains, the men are shown all of the little tricks of enlarging finger prints by photography to a point where every little detail may be carefully studied. The laboratory has solved several important cases in this manner.

Next, Mr. Keeler's pointer leads you to the cabinet devoted to secret and code messages, showing the various means in which ultra-violet light and chemicals are used to detect hidden messages written into seemingly harmless notes with milk or other substance.

Photomicrography—the art of photographing and studying objects as tiny as a cross-section of hair—is the next exhibit. By means of this science, hair left on the person of an attacked victim, for instance, may be examined to discover its nature and source, as may fingernail scrapings or dust deposits.

"Now here are a few bombs and high explosives that have been confiscated in bombings and fires," says Mr. Keeler, laying his pipe on a shelf next to a few bottles and tubes marked "High Explosive" or "Dangerous," while you squirm and hope to heaven he knows his business. "By studying these bombs

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What may be accomplished if a comprehensive school and larger laboratory are set up for the Department of Justice bureau of identification, was hinted at by J. Edgar Hoover, young head of the bureau and one of the leading spirits of the crime conference, when he revealed the fact that the bureau has on hand 4,700,000 fingerprints of known criminals, or more than ten times as many as the famed Scotland Yard. The department has a record of 94 convictions out of every 100 arrests. The main difficulty in administration seems to be that it is not making enough arrests and, because of lack of co-operation and co-ordination with local bodies, not nearly enough social work and education is being con-



Samuel A. Cowley.

duct to stop the early development of criminals and criminal organizations.

Perhaps the national school is one of the most important immediate steps. Certainly it is one of the most imaginative. Can you picture the sport writer's glee at being assigned to "cover" a football game between the team of the "West Point for police" and the excellent eleven from Sing Sing prison?



Herman E. Hollis.

"West Point" or "Annapolis" for the training of policemen, founded on the premise that while we have these world-leading institutions for the training of those men who are to protect the nation from onslaughts by foreign powers, there is nothing resembling such an institution for the training of the men who are every day protecting the same nation against equally serious and important invasions against the social order within the nation's borders.

Such a school would undoubtedly furnish highly trained and skilled police-

Washington Digest

National Topics Interpreted
by William Bruckart

New Deal Publicity

Washington.—It begins to appear that the country as a whole may have a chance to know how many laws and executive orders issued thereunder have come out of the New Deal in its twenty-one months of life. President Roosevelt has determined upon publication in an official manner as the means of informing Mr. Average Man what he is not supposed to do under the New Deal. It has not been determined yet whether there will be an official government newspaper for publication of all of these laws, executive orders, codes, regulations and other means of official expression, but everything points that way.

Courts have always said that ignorance of the law excuses no man. It remained for the Supreme Court of the United States, however, to say that when the average man was deluged with hundreds of orders of inhibition and prohibition from Washington, he was or is quite likely to be unable to comprehend what it is all about.

It was almost unprecedented for criticism to come from a member of the Supreme Court of the United States. But Associate Justice Brandeis, one of the outstanding liberals of the highest tribunal, made no effort to conceal his grievance when, in the course of presentation of an NRA case to the court, he learned to his amazement that there had been no publication of the numerous orders, regulations or rules in a manner that could conceivably reach the country as a whole. Of course, the newspapers have attempted to keep the country informed but there seems to be no doubt that the number of official pronouncements was too great for any newspaper, however large, to keep track of and publish them all. Consequently, the Associate Justice gave voice to a feeling that has prevailed among newspaper correspondents in Washington for a long time, namely, that the bulk of the citizens of this country were uninformed concerning the vast number of new regulations forthcoming under the New Deal.

unless careful supervision over such a publication is maintained, some unscrupulous individuals may take advantage of this new avenue of publicity for selfish means. It is to be assumed that Mr. Roosevelt will protect against this potential danger, but I find in many quarters expressions of a fear that the thing may get out of hand unless the President is fully forewarned so that he can be forearmed.

President's Shrewd Move

Much significance attaches to the President's projected plan to take the profits out of war. It is looked upon by those who know as a very shrewd move, affecting both domestic and international politics. It will be some time before its full import can be pieced together in one picture but when that time comes, wisecracks tell me, among the things to be seen will be:

1. Notice to congress that the President is not going to allow the legislative body to run away with things that gain publicity, if the scheme is one in which he desires to participate.

2. Notice to the world that the United States is not going to surrender leadership in world affairs even though the London naval conference has failed and even though Japan has renounced her signature to the Washington arms limitation treaty of 1922.

It is too early to make a guess whether the senators who militantly fought back after Mr. Roosevelt's pronouncement will get anywhere. Those senators were the leaders in the senate committee's munitions investigation. Senator Nye, the committee chairman, with all of the breeze of his North Dakota plains, accused the President in effect of trying to stop the munitions inquiry. Senator Vandenberg of Michigan challenged the President's right to interfere. Each thought, as did some of the other members of the committee who did not become vocal, that Mr. Roosevelt was trying to steal the show because it is a fact that the committee was on the front pages day after day during the investigation.

Some observers here are inclined to the opinion that Mr. Roosevelt will be able to lull the recalcitrant members of congress into a kindly feeling toward his program which is designed to draft far-reaching legislation and that they will eventually hush-up. At this writing I am unwilling to agree fully with that belief.

One must not be unkind in discussing this little controversy that it can become of great magnitude or it can sink out of sight easily. My own thought is that Mr. Roosevelt's control of congress is not going to be seriously disturbed by it. It is possible, however, that there are enough dissatisfied members of the house and senate to constitute a bloc which will speak its mind collectively as well as individually. If that should come about, there will be fun.

Weighty Problem

The magnitude of the problem with which the President has now determined to deal was suggested recently by a committee of the American Bar association which estimated that in the first year of the NRA alone more than ten thousand pages of such "law" were written by executive authority without adequate provision for notifying the public.

"The total legislative output by or in connection with this one administrative agency," the committee declared, "actually staggers the imagination."

The committee added that any calculation involved guess-work and it concluded after something more than a superficial investigation that between four thousand five hundred and five thousand methods of business conduct were prohibited by the codes and supplemental amendments to codes promulgated by the National Recovery Administration in its brief period of life.

Washington a Lobbyist?

Every once in a while some one discovers some new letters written by George Washington. Such a circumstance has just developed. The Chesapeake and Ohio railroad, preparing to celebrate the one hundred and fiftieth anniversary of the original corporation from which it came, has found a letter signed by General Washington which, authorities tell me, represents among the first petitions ever filed with a legislative body in behalf of private interests in this country. In fact, if the Washington letter in question were to have been presented to the present-day congress, undoubtedly those in opposition to the general's plan would have described him as a lobbyist. H. O. Bishop, a noted writer and historian here, found in the Library of Congress that General Washington had sought legislation in the general assembly of Virginia in behalf of the Jamestown company, a corporation which in later years was to become the Chesapeake and Ohio Railroad company. General Washington interceded with the Virginia assembly on the ground that if the United States ever were to become of consequence as a nation in this world there must be expansion westward and if there were to be expansion there had to be means of transportation.

The general, according to the Library of Congress records, personally surveyed a westward route over which the Jamestown company was to operate. That is the route now followed by the line of the present railroad.

Disclosure of the Washington letter has brought again to the forefront the question of what constitutes lobbying before a legislative body. There are those in this administration, the same as there have been in numerous preceding administrations, who accuse anyone attempting to present his side of the story to a legislative body of being a lobbyist. I believe, however, that the bulk of the people look upon that sort of thing as an exercise of the right of petition.

It will be interesting to note how when the efforts of General Washington in behalf of the Jamestown company are generally known, his exercise of the right of petition will be accepted. Surely even the most ardent reformers will not desire to call the Father of our Country a lobbyist.

Cornstalk Fields May Kill Horses

Rotten and Molded Ears Are Dangerous as Feed for All Live Stock.

By Dr. Robert Graham, Chief in Animal Pathology and Hygiene, University of Illinois.—WNU Service.

Heavy death losses among horses and mules threaten the farmer who tries to save feed this winter by turning work stock out on cornstalk fields. It is true that feed supplies are the shortest on record. Unfortunately, however, it will be especially dangerous this year to try to get horses and mules through the winter by pasturing them on stalk fields. Some of the worst corn-ear-worm damage that the state has ever had, coupled with heavy rains, has caused much rotting and molding of the ears.

Reports are reaching the University of Illinois animal pathology laboratory of the widespread occurrence of a disease resembling the old-fashioned cornstalk disease so prevalent about 15 years ago. The malady, however, is not caused by eating the cornstalks but by consuming the low-quality corn. Cattle also seem to be susceptible to the disease, although not so much as horses and mules. Even horses pulling husking wagons have been known to develop the malady. Thus, farmers might well pay safe by using nose baskets on the horses while they are being used in cornfields.

If cornstalks are used for feed, as they must be on many farms, hogs and cattle can be pastured in stalk fields with less danger than any other farm animals. Even then, the cattle should be pastured only a part of each day and thoroughly inspected each night for possible symptoms of the disease. When feeding the low-quality corn, farmers should hand-select the ears for horses, mules and cattle.

The first symptoms of the disease are likely to be nervousness, sluggishness or sleepiness on the part of the horse, although the symptoms are not easily detected without careful observation. When these mild symptoms do appear, however, a veterinarian should be called immediately, for only by prompt treatment in the early stages of the disease can the affected animals be saved. As the disease develops, the horses begin to walk in circles, stagger and press against their mangers or fences. These symptoms indicate a brain disturbance that is much easier to prevent than to cure.

This disease should not be confused with hydrocyanic acid poisoning which some farmers feared might develop from feeding drouth-damaged cornstalks, or from feeding frosted millet, sorghum or sudan grass.

Dairymen Take Interest When Records Are Kept

Dairymen members of the New York dairy record clubs make profitable use of their club records, says I. F. C. G. Bratt of the New York State College of Agriculture.

Returns from 165 club members indicate, he states, that the records lead to culling unprofitable cows, to more efficient feeding, and to the selection of the best calves for herd replacements. Sixty-five per cent of those who reported said that the milk they delivered at milk plants had shown, by tests there, a higher content of butterfat.

Club members also said they took greater interest in their cows because they kept records, and that the service saves waste on grain feeding, since cows are fed according to the amount of milk and butterfat they produce. The records of the clubs also helped dairymen to avoid the raising of calves from cows which were low in milk and butterfat production.

Sheltering Insects

"The farmer who shelters insects throughout the winter has only himself to blame if these pests board with him next summer," says J. H. Bigger, assistant state entomologist for Illinois. Burning fence rows on dry days, gathering up plant refuse and burning it, and in other ways destroying sheltering places will cut down on crop injury next year. In central Illinois there are large numbers of chinch bugs, and unless the winter is severe many of these are likely to live over if hiding places are available.

Proteins in Soy Beans

The live stock feeding value of soy beans is determined to a large extent by the type of protein which they contain and varies substantially for different varieties, chemists of the United States Department of Agriculture find. Preliminary tests showed, for example, that the Illinois variety of soy bean has a protein which makes it valuable as a supplement for such feeds as corn and oats. To supplement such feeds as cowpeas, lentils, and peas, the Chiquita and Manchu soy beans contain the best protein.

Feeding Potatoes to Cattle

It makes little difference whether potatoes are cooked or fed raw to cattle. It is well to take the precaution, however, of slicing them to avoid the danger of choking, as cattle are apt to swallow potatoes or roots whole. Potatoes will not be quite as useful as turnips, though in small amounts they may replace the latter feed. Cows in milk should not be fed over 20 pounds per day, larger amounts tend to make poor quality of butter. Potatoes are not usually satisfactory horse food.