

What Irwin S. Cobb Thinks about

Magazine Solicitors.

HOUSTON, TEXAS.—What has become of all the struggling collegians, ranging in age up to fifty-five, who used to solicit magazine subscriptions so they could spend another semester at dear old Bushwah?

We counted that day lost whose low descending sun didn't find us signing on the dotted line. And sometimes we got the wrong magazines and sometimes we didn't get any magazines at all and once in awhile we got the magazines we'd ordered and then didn't like them.



Irwin S. Cobb

But our consolation was that we'd aided all those earnest undergraduates to complete the education for which they panted as the hart panteth after the waterbrook.

Can it be that the gallant army packed the campuses until vast numbers got crushed in the jam? Or is it that many of them are getting too old to travel around? Lately there has been an unaccountable falling-off in the business. We are bearing up bravely, since now we have more time in which to lead our own lives.

P. S.—I have on hand a complete file for 1935 of the Northwestern Bee Raiser which I would like to trade for a ukulele.

Matriarchy's Approach.

SOME inspired philosopher—and not a woman either—declares that within a century women will dominate every imaginable field of human endeavor.

What do you mean, within a century? If the prophet will leave out the ancient science of growing chin-whiskers and the knack of making a sleeping car washroom look like a hurrah's nest I'm saying that women are already away out in front everywhere.

Since Henry the Eighth, the two greatest kings England had were both queens—Elizabeth and Victoria. Men thought up war and improved the art of war and now are hoping to perfect it to the point of exterminating the species, but 'twas in the midst of bloody warfare that Florence Nightingale laid the foundations and Clara Barton built the structure of mercy by method and life-saving by skill and tenderness and sanitation.

Take this country at the present moment: for energy, for readiness of speech, for range of interest, for versatility in making publicity and, incidentally, acquiring it, for endurance under strain, what man amongst us is to be compared with the first lady of the language, Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt?

Banishing Sectionalism.

ON ONE stretch of road down here—and it is not a main-traveled highway and this not exactly the tourist season—I saw cars bearing license tags of nine separate states, ranging from New Hampshire and Florida to Utah and Oregon, besides one from Hawaii and one from Puerto Rico. And next summer Texas cars will be boring into every corner of this Union and the folks riding in them will be getting acquainted with their fellow-countrymen and finding out that, when you know the other fellow, he's not so different, after all.

Like most evil things, sectionalism and parochial prejudices and with Vermont neighbor to Virginia and the Dakotas talking it over with the Carolinas, there's seed being sown which inevitably must sprout a finer yield of Americanism than any our land ever produced—if only we keep the tares of communism and the chaff of snobbery out of the crop, only make patriotic service a thing of elbow-grease and not of lip-movements.

What price, then, the wearers of the black shirts and the white sheets; the parlor pinks, the yellow internationalists and the red flag wavers?

Freedom of the Press.

DICTATORS invariably cancel freedom of the press and curb freedom of education. Otherwise, they fail.

Although he uttered the words over 250 years ago, Governor Berkeley of Virginia spoke for all the breed of political tyrants when he said: "I thank God there are no free schools, nor printing, for learning has brought disobedience and heresy into the world, and printing has divulged them."

Foulness in drama or literature, like a skunk penned under a barrel, eventually destroys itself by just naturally choking to death on its own smell.

Control of the newest medium of publicity, the radio, is easy. But information put in type keeps on traveling. No people ever stayed free once the press—and the school-teacher—had been muzzled.

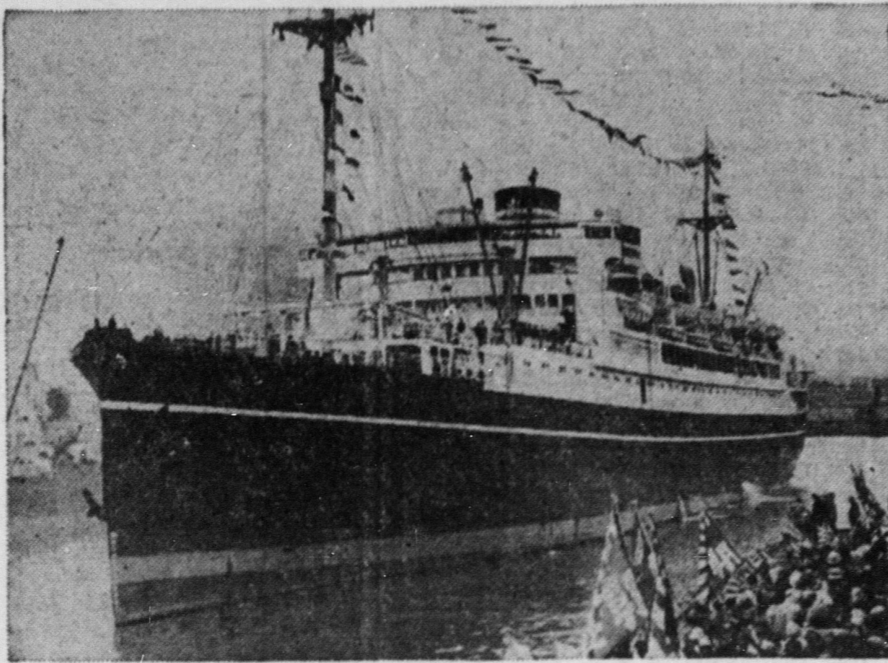
IRVIN S. COBB.

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News Review of Current Events

30,000 LOSE THEIR JOBS

General Motors Reduces Its Working Force . . . President May Ask for Additional Warships



This is the Japanese liner Tatsuta Maru which was raided by custom agents just before she sailed from San Francisco for the Far East. The agents garnered a sheaf of letters, supposedly connected with operations at the Bremerton navy yard on Puget Sound.

Edward W. Pickard SUMMARIZES THE WORLD'S WEEK

Auto Workers Let Out

GENERAL MOTORS CORPORATION starts off the New Year by reducing its working force by approximately 30,000 in its various plants in the United States. The bad news was announced by President William S. Knudsen. He said, however, that 205,000 men would still have their jobs and that the monthly payroll would be more than \$24,000,000.

Mr. Knudsen said that in order to spread the work as far as possible the corporation's plants would be operated on a three-day week for the present.

"The corporation has kept its men employed up to very recently by reducing the hours given per man in order to help the general economic situation in the communities where plants are located," Knudsen said. "The inventories, both in the field and at the plants, accumulated through this policy, have, however, reached a point where adjustments must take place, as it is impossible to carry larger stocks than the demand makes possible."

"Purchasing power is down, and the used car market is at the bottom. This came about with the increased unemployment situation. And without the old car market, there can't be a market for new cars. When general employment falls off, there's nothing we can do."

In making his announcement at a press conference, the General Motors head said that in his opinion one of the main reasons for the current business recession was the fact that the price level rose too fast in the spring of 1937 and that the nation could not digest it.

Commenting on the bad news about General Motors, Senator Van Nuys of Indiana declared that congress should act immediately to restore business confidence. Revision of the tax on undistributed profits and the tax on capital gains so that they would be more favorable to business would have an immediate beneficial effect, he said.

The continuing trade recession, together with fears that another administration attack on business was impending, sent stocks plunging downward on Wall Street.

May Ask Bigger Navy

CONCERNED by the general international situation, President Roosevelt notified Chairman Taylor of the house appropriations committee that he might soon ask funds for the building of additional warships; and he told the Washington correspondents he also was considering increases of the army.

At the same time the Navy department announced the departure of four American cruisers to Australia. The asserted purpose of this is to participate in the celebration of the sesquicentennial of the Australian commonwealth, and the vessels are sent at the request of the British government. The cruisers are the Louisville, Trenton, Milwaukee and Memphis. They will go to Sydney via Hawaii and American Samoa.

In his letter to Representative Taylor the President said:

"The preliminary estimates submitted by the director of the budget to the naval subcommittee were prepared some time ago and called for appropriations to commence during the fiscal year 1939 two battleships, two light cruisers, eight destroyers, and six submarines."

"Since that time world events have caused me growing concern. Under the Constitution the President is commander in chief of the army and navy and has, therefore, a very specific duty to safeguard the defense of national interests."

Mr. Taylor, fully indorsing the

President's position, said, "We must be prepared to lick hell out of anyone jeopardizing our safety." He added that he also favored substantial increase in the strength of the army and navy air corps, "offensive and defensive."

Dodd Leaves Berlin

WILLIAM E. DODD, who resigned as ambassador to Germany, and Mrs. Dodd sailed from Hamburg for the United States. His departure from Berlin was unceremonious in the extreme. His relations with the Nazi government had been strained and, at his own suggestion, the German foreign office omitted the formal farewells usually accorded a departing envoy.

Ireland Now "Eire"

THE Irish Free State went out of existence as its new constitution went into effect, and now its 26 counties are officially known as Eire in Gaelic and Ireland in English. Religious and military ceremonies throughout the country marked the change which its sponsors hope will be followed by complete separation from Great Britain.

Eamon de Valera, who has been head of the Free State, has the new title of taoiseach, or prime minister. A president is yet to be elected.

Sentenced for Bombings

THIRTY-SIX men, convicted in the mine bombing conspiracy case in Illinois, were sentenced by Federal Judge C. G. Briggie at Springfield to four years imprisonment and fines of 20,000 each. This was the maximum penalty. The defendants, nearly all of whom are members of the Progressive Miners of America, were found guilty by a jury of conspiring to halt interstate commerce and delay the mails through train and mine bombings during the war between the two factions of miners.

Boomlet for Ickes

FROM Chicago comes the interesting news that friends of Secretary of the Interior Ickes have started a small boom for him as the favorite son candidate of Illinois for the presidential nomination in 1940.



Harold Ickes

It is said Democratic leaders in Illinois have been approached with the plan to enter Mr. Ickes in the presidential primaries. So far there has been no enthusiastic response to the proposal for the leaders would prefer to wait for the development of other candidacies. Besides that, the secretary has been notably independent of party organization control.

Unemployment Grows

ACCORDING to the Works Progress administration, 2,000,000 persons have lost their jobs since September 1 and 1,000,000 more may be out of work by the end of February.

The estimate was made by Leon Henderson, consulting economist, while a staff of federal employees was speeding compilation of the mailman census of the unemployed made more than a month ago. It was conceded that if the unemployed are increasing at the rate indicated in the Henderson estimate the post card census will be worthless as a basis for attacking the unemployment problem.

Don Marquis Dies

DON MARQUIS, one of the country's well known humorists and poets, died at his home in Forest Hills, N. Y., after a long illness, at the age of fifty-eight years. He was one of the pioneer newspaper columnists and the creator of "Old Soak," "Archie the Cockroach," "Mehitabel the Alley Cat" and many other highly amusing characters through which he expressed his wit and philosophy.

Byrd in Battle Early

ONE of the big fights scheduled for the regular session of congress is to be over the President's reorganization bill, which aims, among other things, at abolishing the office of comptroller general, popularly known as the "watch dog" on federal spending. This officer is the agent of congress in seeing that expenditures are made only in accordance with law.

Senator Harry F. Byrd of Virginia, one of the Democrats who insist on economy, projected himself into the battle over this measure early by issuing a public statement in which he pointed out that the new auditor established in the measure would report to congress only after money had been spent.

This would be like locking the stable after the horse is stolen, Senator Byrd declared.

"This proposal to give the spending branch of the government a free hand with upwards of \$8,000,000,000 a year strikes viciously at the vital elements of good government, good business and the general welfare," said the senator.

"In the committee hearings," he continued, "the only complaint of consequence against the comptroller general was that this official at times delayed the quick spending of public money and compelled the department heads to show that the funds were to be disbursed in accordance with the laws enacted by congress. No proof, however, was given that any expenditure was prevented when authorized by congress and made legally."

Jap Pledges Accepted

JAPAN has promised that there shall be no recurrence of the Panay outrage, and if her pledges are kept the incident may be considered closed. But Uncle Sam is going to keep close watch to see that there are no further attacks on American life and property in the war zone in China.

Ambassador Joseph C. Grew handed to Foreign Minister Koki Hirota a note from Secretary of State Hull accepting in the main Japan's amends for the destruction of the Panay and three American merchant vessels.

The American note, however, refused to accept Tokyo's explanation that the bombing of the Panay was the result of a "mistake," preferring to rely on the findings of the naval board of inquiry. The report of the board said the identity of the Panay and the three American oil tankers was unmistakable; that the attack was deliberate; that the weather was clear and the visibility perfect; that the Japanese naval planes swooped down and released their death charges on the ships flying the American flags and then fired on them with machine guns; and that Japanese river craft directed machine gun fire on life boats carrying the wounded from the Panay and other vessels.

Under a Japanese decree establishing strict regulations for the conquered areas in China, Americans and other foreigners were made subject to the death penalty for crimes against the armed forces of Japan. This seems to raise the question of treaty rights of foreign powers in China.

Monopolists Blamed

BLAME for the business slump was placed at the door of monopolists by Assistant Attorney General Robert H. Jackson, and he uttered a warning that government spending would be increased unless prices are brought more in line with consumers' income.

Jackson, head of the Justice department's anti-trust division, said that the impression that steep price increases are traceable to wage boosts resulting from the growth of labor unions is "not accurate—or at the most, only half accurate." As an example he cited the steel industry, where wages, he said, were increased 10 per cent and prices were tilted 21 per cent from December 1, 1936, to March 1, 1937.

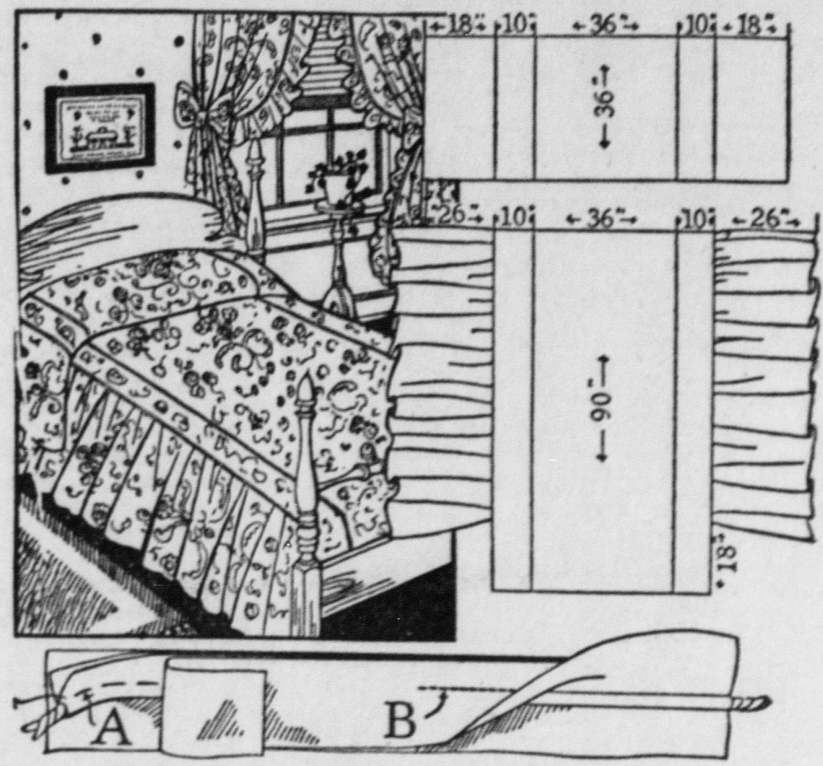
Newton D. Baker Is Dead

NEWTON D. BAKER, one of the World war men who did a tremendous job well, died at his home in Cleveland, Ohio, of coronary thrombosis at the age of sixty-six years. Called to Washington in 1916 to be secretary of war in President Wilson's cabinet, Mr. Baker accomplished the great feat of mobilizing the huge American army and getting it across the Atlantic in time to be the decisive factor in winning the conflict. It was he who selected General Pershing to command the A. E. F., and counseled him to keep the American army intact.

Mr. Baker was eminent as a lawyer and a close student of international affairs. Though always a Democrat, he turned against the present administration mainly because of the Tennessee Valley authority projects and the usurpation of state rights.

HOW TO SEW

by Ruth Wyeth Spears



Making a Chintz Bed Spread With Corded Seams.

WOULD you like to make a chintz bedspread to match your curtains? Of course, such a spread must have seams in it, for most chintzes are only 36 inches wide, while the average double bed is about 54 inches wide. But seams need not detract from the beauty of the spread.

Eleven and a half yards of 36-inch-wide chintz will make this spread and pillow cover for a double bed. In the diagrams at the right I have given the dimensions for cutting these for a 54-inch-wide bed. It is best to cut the center portions first; then cut the 18-inch side sections for the pillow cover; then the 10-inch strips for pillow cover and spread. This leaves a long 28-inch-wide strip for the side ruffles of the spread.

Cable cord for the corded seams

may be purchased at notion counters. Prepared bias trimming may be used for the cord covering. Baste the covering over the cord, as shown here at A; then place the covered cord in the seam, as shown, and stitch as at B, using the cording foot of your machine.

Every Homemaker should have a copy of Mrs. Spears' new book, SEWING. Forty-eight pages of step-by-step directions for making slipcovers and dressing tables; restoring and upholstering chairs, couches; making curtains for every type of room and purpose. Making lampshades, rugs, ottomans and other useful articles for the home. Readers wishing a copy should send name and address, enclosing 25 cents, to Mrs. Spears, 210 South Desplains St., Chicago, Illinois.

AROUND the HOUSE Items of Interest to the Housewife

Suede Shoes.—Never let them get too dirty and they'll wear for ages. Brush off any mud with a wire brush, but to remove shiny marks rub them lightly with fine sandpaper or an emery board from a manicure set. This roughs up the "pile" and makes the surface dull again.

Burned Cake.—If a burned cake is allowed to stand until it is thoroughly cold and then scraped with a lemon grater, the burned part can be almost entirely removed, leaving the cake smooth and ready for icing.

The Telephone Mouthpiece.—Wash the mouthpiece of the telephone frequently to keep it sanitary.

Well-Made Sauce.—When making a drawn butter sauce be sure to blend the butter and flour thoroughly before adding boiling water. If they are not well mixed,


the sauce will be lumpy. Cook in a double boiler or small saucepan over boiling water. Sauce that is made over a hot flame is apt to be oily. Add the water a little at a time, stirring constantly, so that the sauce will be of the right consistency. Add seasoning to taste.

Tarnished Silver.—Tarnish can be removed from silverware which has been stored for a long time by soaking it for two hours in water left from cooking potatoes, then rubbing with a soft brush or cloth and silver polish.


For That Nutty Flavor.—To give a nutty flavor to your salad dressing, whip in a little soft peanut butter.

Keep your body free of accumulated waste, take Dr. Pierce's Pleasant Pellets. 60 Pellets 30 cents.—Adv.

Heed Not
A hungry dog and a thirsty horse take no heed of blows.



BE DECENT!



Don't cough in public places! Take a Smith Brothers Cough Drop for soothing, pleasant relief. (Two kinds—Black or Menthol—5¢)

Smith Bros. Cough Drops are the only drops containing VITAMIN A

This is the vitamin that raises the resistance of the mucous membranes of the nose and throat to cold and cough infections.

LIFE'S LIKE THAT By Fred Neher



"Believe me, Bill, what you need is exercise." Copyright by Fred Neher