

NEWS OF WORLD BRIEFLY TOLD

Outstanding Happenings of Week Gathered from Everywhere Condensed for the Busy Reader

Colombia, S. C., Feb. 18.—Alva Hope, 13, and Mildred Rogers, 18, schoolmates, paid with their lives today for insisting upon taking their first airplane ride. The two children were lured to death when the airplane in which they were passengers was thrown out of the pilot's control by a sudden rising wind and crashed after striking a railway signal tower 30 feet high at the edge of the city. The pilot escaped with minor injuries, jumping from the plane the instant it touched the ground, before the wreckage blazed into a mass of flames that resulted in the death of the two girls.

Dallas, Texas, Feb. 20.—Democratic party principles were not above individual candidates "including my own" by the militant Senator James A. Reed, of Missouri, as he visited today with Texas political leaders, newspapermen and old friends. Opening a speaking tour through the west, the veteran campaigner put in a busy day from his arrival early in the morning making two speeches and holding open house meanwhile in his hotel room. On the outside of the building hung a sign: "Reed for President Headquarters." At the outset he informed newspapermen that he would not discuss candidacies. Asked about Governor Al Smith of New York, he reiterated that he would not discuss Mr. Smith.

Washington, Feb. 20.—Without protest or debate, the house today approved a bill to enable mothers and widows of war veterans buried in Europe to make a pilgrimage to America's cemeteries overseas at government expense. The widow would be restricted to those who have not remarried. The measure, which now goes to the senate, would empower the president in cooperation with the American Red Cross, to arrange for the pilgrimage "at any time during the period of three years from July 1, 1928." The widows and widows would be taken to Europe in groups. Each group would remain abroad approximately two weeks and in no case longer than three weeks unless return transportation were unavailable.

Ed Jackson, governor of Indiana, was freed last Thursday when Judge McCabe instructed the jury to return a verdict of not guilty. Attorneys for Jackson won acquittal on the ground that the state had failed to prove one phase of its case—conviction of an alleged attempt to bribe former Governor Warren T. McCray in 1923. Governor Jackson wanted to continue through the case to meet the testimony presented by the prosecution—that he and others offered former Governor McCray \$10,000 in 1923 and a guarantee of immunity from conviction on charges pending against him, if he would name James E. McDonald to the vacant Marion county prosecutors' office. The motion for an instructed verdict was presented immediately after the state rested its case.

Charlotte, N. C., Feb. 20.—Col. T. LeRoy Springs, millionaire capitalist and textile magnate of Charlotte and Lancaster, S. C., was shot in the face but not critically injured here today by Eldred Griffith, cotton broker, and a former employee. The shooting occurred on the main business street of the city, shortly before noon and in sight of several scores of people. The bullet entered the upper left cheek of Col. Springs, shattered the cheek bone, ranged upward and stopped at the base of the brain, but without causing a skull fracture. Just what caused the shooting could not be definitely ascertained as Col. Springs was quoted as saying he did not know the cause, while Griffith, who is 76 years old, and his attorneys refused to talk for publication.

Indianapolis, Ind., Feb. 20.—A sensational tale of alleged political intrigue, involving the Ku Klux Klan, Horse Thief Detective Association, gun-toting preachers and the Indiana Anti-Saloon League, was unfolded here today by Hugh F. Emmons, a former Klan euclops, in a deposition given to Attorney General A. L. Gilhom. The attorney general will use it in connection with a suit he brought recently to oust the Klan from Indiana. Emmons, who between 1922 and 1926, inclusive, said he was associated with Valley Klan No. 57 of South Bend and St. Joseph county, declared he had been told by W. Lee Smith, until recently grand dragon, that the secret order was formed for the purpose of getting political control of the United States. For eight hours, Emmons unraveled the story of how he said, the Klan stuffed ballot boxes, used whiskey to win elections, raided men "in had" with the organization, and boycotted Catholics and Jews who were in business. "It was a kind of double crossing proposition," he said, after alleging that men were brought into the Klan on one set of principles and given another set to follow when they had taken their oaths.

Prohibition and the Presidency

(Cotton's Weekly)

Prohibition is the most exciting domestic question before the country. More than any other openly discussed issue it will influence the selection of the president this year. Calvin Coolidge is counted a "dry," Herbert Hoover is "dry" rather than "wet," Alfred E. Smith is "wet."

What difference will the election of a "wet" or a "dry" candidate make in the actual enforcement of prohibition? If Mr. Coolidge were re-elected despite his preference not to run, it is safe to say no startling change would be visible. Mr. Hoover as the heir of the Coolidge administration would naturally feel impelled to continue the same policies. What could or would Governor Smith do differently?

What first is the present condition?

The most conspicuous fact is that prohibition has not stopped drinking. It has merely changed the nature of the liquor traffic. The saloons have been abolished. Recognized breweries and distilleries are closed. Both the manufacture and the distribution of liquors of all sorts are now clandestine and criminal. The bootlegger has succeeded the saloonkeeper and the wine merchant.

The volume of liquor consumed may possibly have been reduced. The quality has certainly been impaired. The character of the men engaged in the business is obviously worse. Before prohibition the liquor trade carried a social stigma; now it is a mark of the criminal.

In contrast with this drinking has lost its stigma. Before the war to be drunken was a disgrace. Now too often it is a matter of jest. The new quality of women brought with it a new appetite for hard liquor. Under prohibition women and young people drink more, or at least more flagrantly than when alcohol was a legally sanctioned beverage.

Such in a few words is the situation with which any president, "wet" or "dry," must deal. What therefore would an avowed "wet" such as Alfred E. Smith be likely to do about it?

Real light can be had from Governor Smith's message to the New York legislature last month. There Governor Smith summed up his attitude. Here is his position:

1. Prohibition is a fruit of post-war hysteria. The legislature should have allowed the people to express their will at the polls but did not.

2. Those opposed to prohibition have the unassailable right to petition a change in the Volstead act or in the constitution.

3. But the authority to change the enforcement of the law now belongs to congress and to congress any petition must be sent.

4. Finally, in Governor Smith's own words:

"In the meanwhile, there devolves upon the state the sacred duty of sustaining the eighteenth amendment and the Volstead act. They are as much a part of the laws of this state as our own laws and our own constitution.

"As far as I am concerned, in obedience to my oath to sustain the constitution of the United States, I have repeatedly promised the people that, so far as it lies in my power in the constitutional or statute law, I will remove from office, upon proper proof being presented, any public official charged with laxity in enforcement of the laws."

This is a concrete and tangible program. First, there would be a serious and honest effort to enforce the existing laws. Second, the voters would be encouraged to express their views through the means of referenda.

Under such an administration we should possibly be drier than we have ever been. Obviously the law could not be changed quickly even if the voters of three fourths of the states ultimately decided that the eighteenth amendment should be al-

Becomes Actress



Photo shows Miss Paula Pierce, pretty Canadian girl as a bathing beauty. She was discovered by a scout for Florenz Ziegfeld, the world's foremost expert in selectivity, while she bent over a table in Child's New York restaurant. Miss Pierce will be seen shortly in the cast of one of Ziegfeld's productions.

tered or repealed. Regardless of who is nominated and elected, there will therefore be little change in prohibition during the next presidential term.

An humorous "wet" would probably feel a greater need to enforce the Volstead act strictly than would a "dry" official who would be safe from the criticism of the prohibition advocates.

Those who favor the nomination of Governor Smith on the theory that his election would bring more and better liquor are chasing a will-o-the-wisp. The election of a "wet" might, however, be the occasion of vote taking which would clearly record the will of the people on the various states. On the other hand, an intelligent "dry" might also call for such popular expression of sentiment. However indicated, they would be of enormous value in providing an unequivocal answer, at least for a term of years, to the argument that the electorate has not had an opportunity to speak its mind on this corradic issue.

Laying the crime to her mother, who is now dead, Mrs. Alma Petty Gatlin, on trial in Rockingham county for the murder of her father, Smith P. Petty, admitted to a jury Saturday that while trying to get some information as to the probable fate of her mother's son, she told the Rev. Thomas F. Pardue she herself was the murderess. Mrs. Gatlin said her mother killed Smith P. Petty with an axe January 10, while he was drunk and trying to cut Mrs. Gatlin's throat following a night of terror during which he repeatedly threatened to wipe out the whole family. Woodrow Petty, 16

Note: It would be illegal to publish this if not true.

Forty-Year Goitre

Removed Without Operation. Colorless Liment Used. Miss M. J. Little, Addis, N. C., says, "My mother suffered with goitre for forty years. Grippe and severe cough caused it to enlarge and worry her. She used Sorbol Quadruple for two months and her goitres was gone. I will tell or write her complete experience."

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brother of Mrs. Gatlin, was present when the slaying took place, she testified, and took the stand to corroborate his sister's story of the crime. Binding the family to secrecy, the mother died the following March without confessing or allowing the story to be told. Mrs. Gatlin declared, although she said she insisted to her mother's dying moment that she ought to confess and not leave them "with this trouble on our hands." Preacher Pardue, who last Wednesday related to the jury that Mrs. Gatlin had confessed the slay-

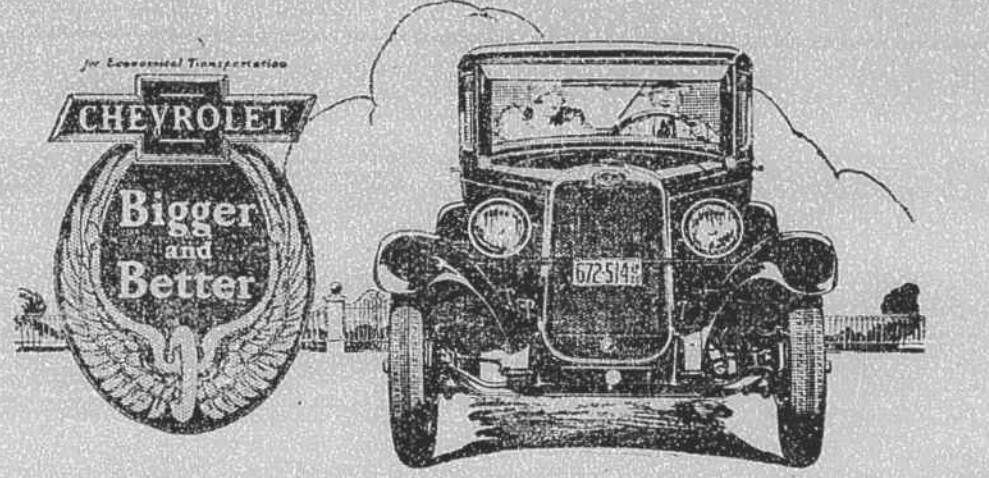
ing to him in detail, broke faith with her, despite the fact that he had sworn on a Bible over his heart that he would never mention it. While Mrs. Gatlin told her story, the murderer was scrouched just outside the railing and directly behind the prosecution table. She looked him squarely in the eye and his gaze in turn never left the figure in the witness chair.

It's hard to see how even a groundhog could predict the kind of weather we're having.

Seed Potatoes

Cooperating with the Department of Agriculture I am making arrangements to buy certified seed potatoes for all farmers in the county who may desire them. There seems to be a shortage of seed to supply the demands of Watauga farmers this year and those desiring seed should place their orders with me at once. I am not going into the business to make money but to assist the farmers and only want to buy a sufficient amount to supply the demand.

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