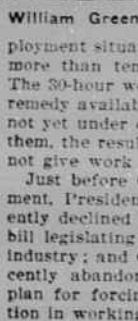


# News Review of Current Events the World Over

## William Green Says Labor Must Force 30-Hour Week—Heavy Goods Industries Against General Wage Increase.

By EDWARD W. PICKARD

NOTICE is served on the nation that the 30-hour work week will be forced on industry, by organized labor by the use of widespread strikes, if necessary. This is the dictum of William Green, president of the American Federation of Labor, and it causes consternation in the administration as well as grave alarm in the country generally. Green, in his May day address to workers, says the New Deal has failed to remedy the unemployment situation, since there are still more than ten millions without jobs. The 30-hour week, he says, is the only remedy available since if all industries not yet under codes are brought under them, the resulting re-employment will not give work to these millions.



William Green

Just before Green issued this statement, President Roosevelt had apparently declined to support the Connery bill legislating a 30-hour week for all industry; and General Johnson has recently abandoned as not feasible the plan for forcing a 10 per cent reduction in working hours.

ORGANIZED labor is divided on the issue of compulsory arbitration. The American Federation of Labor has declared that it will not be tolerated and that it will not appoint labor spokesmen to the industrial relations boards now being created until General Johnson gives assurance that these boards will have no power to arbitrate cases unless labor agrees.

Railroad labor, on the other hand, announced a drive for amendment of the railway labor act which would give adjustment boards power to arbitrate controversies arising out of grievances or out of interpretations of rules or agreements.

REPRESENTATIVE BERTRAND SNELL of New York, minority leader in the house, says the period of emergency is over, so he and the rest of the Republican leaders feel free now to demand that the emergency laws and bureaus be dispensed with. An amazing phase of the controversy over the New Deal thus comes to light. The opponents of the administration virtually concede that President Roosevelt and his advisers have won their fight against the depression and declare that normal conditions have been restored or are at hand. But the President and the other New Dealers deny that the battle is over and assert that their recovery measures must be continued in force. At the same time they insist that they are not seeking to change the American system to state socialism, collectivism, communism, fascism, and that what they are accomplishing is "evolution, not revolution."

Thus a most peculiar situation in politics is created, and the man in the street is waiting interestedly to see how it will be handled in the coming campaign.

HARRIMAN is a rather small city in Tennessee but it has presented the NRA with a troubling problem. The town depends largely on the Harriman Hosiery mills, and that concern was ordered to surrender its Blue Eagle because of charges that it had violated section 7A of the national recovery act. Within a few hours the whole town was in revolt. Fifty-six merchants and other business men removed their Blue Eagles and wired to Washington for instructions on what to do with them. General Johnson was informed of the situation and sent two of his trusted lieutenants to Harriman to investigate and endeavor to pacify the angry merchants.

THAT a general wage increase at this time will hinder rather than aid in national economic recovery is the contention of the heavy goods industries, set forth in a report to General Johnson by George H. Houston, chairman of the durable goods industries committee. The report reasserts faith in the company union, approves of emergency price fixing and attacks the Wagner bill as encouraging industrial strife.

A platform of "satisfactory employer-employee relationship" is offered, containing these three planks:

- "A wage scale which compensates the worker fairly and generously within the ability of the employer to pay."
- "The establishment of safe and satisfactory working conditions."
- "Confidence as it is affected by factors other than planks one and two—

better homes, better educational facilities and all that goes to make up a healthful and happy community life."

Elsewhere the national labor board, unmentioned specifically, was nevertheless, opposed. The committee added:

"It is our firm conviction that all subsequent procedure in connection with the handling of disputes should be kept within the jurisdiction of the NRA."

"The entire recovery program contemplates the co-operation of industry under codes with the NRA."

BOTH the United States and Great Britain made reply to Japan's claim to sole authority to maintain peace in eastern Asia, and Foreign Minister Koki Hirota answered both with the assurance that Japan intended to observe the terms of the nine-power treaty and to maintain the open door in China. The British note was rather mild and Hirota's reply was held satisfactory by Sir John Simon, secretary for foreign affairs. But Secretary Hull's statement was sharper, being in effect that the United States did not propose to consult with Japan before extending assistance, financial or otherwise, to China so long as such assistance was not in violation of existing treaties.

It was reported in Tokyo that Hirota was satisfied with the British attitude but was greatly concerned over Mr. Hull's note, which was a flat rejection of the Japanese claim concerning the maintenance of peace in China. Mr. Hull issued a lengthy exposition of the American government's position in the matter.

WITH unexpected celerity the railway executives and rail union chiefs reached an accord in the wage dispute, and the danger of a strike was averted for another year. At the instance of President Roosevelt but without government interference they worked out their own settlement after the federal negotiators had failed to get results and Co-ordinator Joseph B. Eastman had withdrawn as mediator.

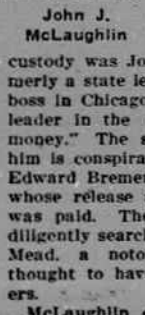
Under the arrangement decided upon the 10 per cent wage cut which has prevailed in the railroads during the last two years is to be gradually wiped out in the next twelve months. Two and a half per cent of the existing wage cut is to be restored July 1, another 2½ per cent on January 1, and the remaining 5 per cent on April 1, 1935.

In other words, instead of a 10 per cent cut rail workers will have only a 7½ per cent cut prevailing between July 1 and January 1, a 5 per cent cut prevailing between January 1 and April 1, and full pay restoration after April 1.

When informed of the settlement, Mr. Roosevelt said:

"I am very glad that the railroads and their employees have been able to settle their wage dispute by mutual agreement. The country should be, and will be, grateful to them for this disposition of what might have developed into a troublesome controversy. I congratulate both sides on the wisdom and restraint which they have exhibited. They have set a good example."

FEDERAL agents believe they have uncovered a great ring of crooks for the handling of money derived from kidnappings, bank robberies and swindles. They already have arrested a number of men and are hurrying to get others before they are put out of the way by members of the gang, as has been done before. The ring, it is said, has been operating in Chicago, New York, St. Louis, Kansas City and other cities. One of the first men taken into custody was John J. McLaughlin, formerly a state legislator and a political boss in Chicago, suspected of being a leader in the disposal of the "hot money." The specific charge against him is conspiracy in the kidnaping of Edward Bremer, St. Paul banker, for whose release a ransom of \$200,000 was paid. The federal agents were diligently searching for William Elmer Mead, a notorious crook, who is thought to have directed the kidnappers.



John J. McLaughlin

McLaughlin confessed that he had handled some of the Bremer ransom money, and his son was arrested with part of it in his pocket.

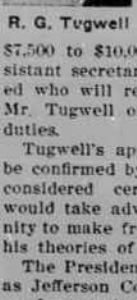
The Bremer investigation revealed that, a short time before the kidnap-

ing, Martin Wunderlich, a St. Paul and Jefferson City (Mo.) contractor, was swindled out of at least \$50,000, according to the operatives, by Mead and his gang, by the old-fashioned horse racing act. It was said Wunderlich obtained the money from Bremer, and this convinced the gang that Bremer would be a promising kidnap victim.

WHILE the pursuit of John Dillinger and his fellow outlaws was being carried on—without success at this writing—three felons made a sensational escape from the Ohio penitentiary at Columbus. Armed with a smuggled automatic pistol, they terrorized 18 officials and guards, collected a shotgun, a gas gun and a rifle, climbed over the walls and fled in an automobile that was waiting outside.

Randall Norvel, a life-term kidnaper, and another convict, got out of the Southern Illinois penitentiary at Chester by crawling through a sewer, crossed the Mississippi in a rowboat, stole a motorboat and retreated to Illinois, where for the time being they disappeared.

PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT'S reply to the attacks on Rexford Guy Tugwell, which were renewed by opponents of the administration after the Wirt story was made public, comes in the form of promotion for the head of the brain trust. He has been serving as assistant secretary of agriculture, and is now advanced by the President to the newly created position of under-secretary of agriculture. His salary being increased from \$7,500 to \$10,000 a year. A new assistant secretary can now be appointed who will relieve Mr. Wallace and Mr. Tugwell of some of their heavy duties.



R. G. Tugwell

Tugwell's appointment will have to be confirmed by the senate, and it was considered certain the Republicans would take advantage of the opportunity to make fresh attacks on him and his theories of government.

The President also advanced Thomas Jefferson Coolidge, a Boston banker, from assistant secretary to under-secretary of the treasury, which position had been vacant since Raymond Moley stepped out. The higher personnel of that department is now being placed on a permanent basis for the first time since Henry Morgenthau, Jr., became its head.

VICTORY in the conference was won by the senate high tax bloc, for the house conferees accepted virtually all the senate increases in estate and gift taxes, the capital stock and excess profits taxes and liberal compromises over income-tax publicity and consolidated returns.

The conference agreement was complete except for the Couzens amendment, adding 10 per cent to all individual income-tax returns next year. The house was to take a separate vote on this, and it was believed the senate would not insist on it if it were rejected by the house.

With the revenue bill thus disposed of, the senate finance committee began public hearings on the administration's reciprocal tariff bill, which the house has passed.

"DEAD" for more than a year, the Austrian parliament came to life long enough to approve, by a vote of 74 to 2, the new Constitution and a mass of laws decreed by Chancellor Dollfuss since March 8, 1933. The new Constitution abolishes parliaments and also does away with trial by jury.

ITALY'S legislature doesn't amount to much any more, but King Victor Emmanuel opened its session with a noteworthy speech praising the work of the Fascist regime. Especially interesting was his long statement concerning the necessity of increasing Italy's armed forces to the extent that the country's pocketbook would stand.

"We sincerely and ardently desire for Italy and Europe the longest possible period of peace," he declared amid thunderous cheers, "but the best guarantee of this peace is the efficiency of our armed forces."

GEN. HUGH L. SCOTT, former chief of the army and one of the last survivors of the great Indian fighters, died at the age of eighty years in Walter Reid hospital, Washington. Through all his last years, Scott continued vigorously his researches and writings on the Indian sign languages which he had mastered during his years on the plains. In 1930 he was commissioned by the library of congress to compile a record for all time of this curious mode of expression.

PASSAGE through the Panama canal of the American fleet of 111 vessels, on the way from the Pacific to the Atlantic, was carried out successfully, but not in the hoped-for 24 hours. The time consumed was almost double that, which led the Tokyo press to declare the movement was a "failure." The delay was caused by a heavy rain.

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## Howe About:

### Silerius' Third Wife Minding Your Business American Waste

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By ED HOWE

SO FAR as my reading goes no one has ever more candidly, intelligently or fairly discussed the relations of married couples than Silerius, who lived near the time of the most famous outrage on women recorded in history; that suffered by Sabine women who were carried off by invading soldiers. Some authorities claim Silerius himself was a general in the conquering army concerned, and that a screaming Sabine woman was delivered at his tent as his part of the loot.

As near as can be learned from the vague history of that time this woman, so victoriously quoted, became the third wife of Silerius; and although carried from her own country to a strange one by a conqueror, with no other preliminary than being suddenly seized by rough invaders, she was so capable in looking after her own interests that her abductor later married her; indeed, she became prominent and respected in the inhospitable city in which her husband lived.

In his memoirs Silerius gives the impression that his third wife pleased him more than any of the others, to two of whom he was married with elaborate ceremonies, and after very sentimental courtship. In writing of his experiences with women, Silerius tells in a rather amusing way of the gentle and cunning arts his third wife exercised in bending him to her will, and I get the impression that she loved him more sincerely than any of the wives he acquired in a more conventional way.

What part of your attention do you give to your own business? Say you are merchant, lawyer, doctor, mechanic, farmer. What per cent of your enthusiasm goes to your business, and what per cent to politics, vacations, clubs, automobiling, radio, moving pictures, welfare work, social affairs? Many a good business has been wrecked by its head man neglecting it for other things. It is charged that one of the most notable of American commercial enterprises is on the rocks because its head, in receipt of an enormous salary, neglected it for outside activities. The same principle applies to those occupying fifteen, twenty or forty-dollar-a-week jobs. Very few Americans mind their own business.

A doctor connected with the government says that 71 per cent of the hospital cases now being cared for by the government were not cases that in any way could be traced to the great war; that the Veterans' Disability act was the greatest steal ever put over on the American people.

Here is another startling illustration of the waste and dishonesty in American public affairs; in this case, in relieving twenty-nine men honestly entitled to relief, the politicians, relieved seventy-one not entitled to it.

The figures hold in everything else in American public affairs. I have no doubt that for every twenty-nine dollars the government necessarily spends in its operation seventy-one dollars are wantonly and villainously wasted.

The only way for the government to properly balance the budget is to cut off 71 per cent of taxes already levied, and wasted, instead of adding new burdens.

I do not know just when, but some of these days I intend to confess I am as tired of my writing as others are, and no longer hold on to the coat tails of the drunken world in attempts to better it.

And in my final notice I think I shall pay the people who have dismissed me a good many compliments. Millions of them are admirable. My final message to them will be: "Keep the few good things you have accomplished, and try to accomplish a few more. All the comforts and pleasures we have come as a result of men succeeding in doing a little better."

When I know what women expect of men, I am willing to grant it. Just how much attention from men do women decide is proper? I have been in doubt at times. . . . There is in my town a woman who is very strict; she promptly resents the slightest familiarity from men, and frequently talks indignantly of their boldness. One day I learned, from the private talk of the women, that a friend of mine had squeezed her hand, and that she was very mad about it. Later, when I was in her company, the name of the bold wretch came up, and I felt that she would vigorously denounce him. She didn't know I had heard of the affront offered her, but I was certain she would express a very unfavorable opinion, knowing she was very strict. . . . And this was what she said: "He is the most entertaining man I ever met in my life."

## CONFESSES HAVING KIDNAPING RANSOM

### Chicagoan Is Trapped in the Bremer Case.

Chicago.—With the confession of John J. (Boss) McLaughlin that he had handled \$53,000 of the \$200,000 ransom paid for the release of Edward G. Bremer, St. Paul banker, who was kidnaped last January, federal authorities in Chicago moved for the speedy removal of McLaughlin and three other alleged co-conspirators to St. Paul. The federal grand jury in St. Paul was asked to return indictments charging the four with participating in the kidnaping of Bremer.

In the meanwhile federal agents were searching for two men who are supposed to have participated in the actual kidnaping of Bremer. These men are Arthur (Doc) Barker and Alvin Karpis, ex-convicts from Oklahoma and members of John Dillinger's band of outlaws, who have been sought as the kidnapers for several months. The federal warrants in which McLaughlin and the three other men in custody are charged with conspiracy to obtain money in the Bremer kidnaping also name a John Doe and Richard Doe, who are believed to be Barker and Karpis.

The announcement that McLaughlin, ex-legislator and former Democratic politician of considerable influence, had confessed to handling part of the ransom money was made by Melvin Purvis, chief of the Department of Justice agents in the Chicago area. At the same time Mr. Purvis revealed that Philip Delaney, thirty-four years old, said to have been until recently a bartender in a loop hotel, was arrested with McLaughlin.

The other two men held by the government are William Vidler and McLaughlin's son, John McLaughlin, Jr. When Vidler was arrested, \$2,600 of the marked ransom money was found in his possession. Young McLaughlin had only \$85 of the ransom money in a safe deposit box, according to McLaughlin's attorney.

Federal agents said that they did not believe McLaughlin or any of the three other men participated in the actual kidnaping of Bremer.

## Dr. W. H. Welch, Famous Pathologist, Is Dead

Baltimore, Md.—Dr. William H. Welch, the eighty-four-year-old pathologist, died at the Johns Hopkins hospital.

As first professor of pathology in the John Hopkins Medical school, Doctor Welch brought to the United States from the laboratories of Koch and Pasteur the new science of bacteriology. He discovered, isolated, and lent his name to the bacillus that generates hydrogen gas in wounds, usually producing death. He also made many discoveries bearing on malaria, dysentery, rickets, diabetes, diphtheria, intestinal poisons, influenza, fungus poisoning and chloroform poisoning.

## Roosevelt Reviews U. S. Fleets on May 31

New York.—President Roosevelt will review the combined Atlantic and Pacific fleets of the United States navy from the deck of the light cruiser Indianapolis at noon May 31, the Third naval district announces.

With the President aboard the Indianapolis will be Claude A. Swanson, secretary of the navy, and a small party of guests.

The fleets will remain in New York until June 17.

## Iowa Chick Dealer Told to Raise Prices

Cedar Rapids, Iowa.—In a letter from George R. Salth, investigator for the national commercial and breeder hatchery co-ordinating committee, Vance W. McCray, proprietor of a chick store here, has been instructed to raise his prices to such a point as will show a profit above all expenses and above the \$6.30 a hundred code minimum which he has been charging.

## Ickes Backs Home Subsistence Plan

Washington.—Secretary Ickes announced approval of plans for a subsistence homestead project in the Salt River valley near Phoenix, Ariz. It involves expenditure of \$500,000 on five or six separate units. Work on the first unit will begin when the land has been bought, Ickes said.

## Two Banished From Oklahoma for 10 Years

Oklahoma City, Okla.—Gov. W. H. Murray has "banished" two Gary (Ind.) youths from Oklahoma for ten years under penalty of revocation of paroles. The two, Nick Chabreja and Bob Marks, were sentenced at Norman in September, 1932, to serve 20 years each for robbery.