HAPPENNINGS OF THE WEEK

NEWS REVIEW OF CURRENT EVENTS

Smith in Acceptance Speech Is Outspoken for Change in Prohibition Laws.

By EDWARD W. PICKARD

WITH the courage of his convictions Gov. Al Smith in his speech of acceptance frankly declared his opposition to the Eighteenth amendment and the Volstead act as they now ex-This was the dominant note of his address, which was delivered in the assembly chamber at Albany because of a persistent rain that prevented the outdoor exercises. Necessarily Smith, like Hoover, declared that if elected he would honestly and vigorously enforce the dry laws. He also repeated his belief that the saloon would not and should not return. But the vital part of this section of the speech was a demand for the mod ification of the Eighteenth amendment to permit the sale of alcoholic beverages by state agencies if approved by popular referendum; and for amendment of the Volstead act to allow each state to determine its own standard of alcoholic content, the maximum not to exceed that pro-vided by the amended Eighteenth amendment. Severely scoring the evil conditions which he said had resulted from the present dry laws and the failure to enforce them, the candidate declared: "I raise what I profoundly believe to be a great moral issue involving the righteousness of our national conduct and the protection of our children's morals."

Concerning the farm relief problem Smith went little further than the Houston platform on which he stands. He promised to take up the matter ediately after election, acting on the advice of experts. He pledged bimself to the restoration of honesty to government and to scientific tariff making and declared against "sudden or drastic" changes in the economic system which might upset business. In other matters he followed the platform quite closely.

Unbiased and nonpartisan opinion is that Smith in his address showed he is making his chief play for the Eastern states; that he believes the South will be solld for him, and that his hopes of winning states in the Middle West are not excessive. His prohibition program is clear enough and is workable, and probably satisfles all the wets except those who still insist the Eighteenth amendment should be utterly wiped out. No one supposes it will please the wet Democrats of the South. But it is likely their attitude is fairly expressed by the Arkansas Gazette of Little Rock, which says:

"The Gazette is for the present dry laws, fully and strictly enforced. It cannot shift ground an inch toward compromise with Governor Smith. Nevertheless this newspaper can and will continue to support Governor Smith for President. The changes Governor Smith deems necessary and would be defeated in gress by dry legislative votes."

GOVERNOR SMITH took time last week to reply to the attack on his record in the New York legislature made by William Allen White, which already had been disowned by the Republican publicity chief. The governor justified his votes on liquor and social vice matters by explaining the circumstances, and though White made answer from Paris it was gen-erally admitted that Smith had much the better of the argument.

HERBERT HOOVER in his progress stopped at West Branch, Iowa, the town of his birth, where he was accorded a fine reception by the villagers and took occasion to elaborate als views on farm relief. He made one concrete proposal—that of an idequate federal revolving fund to be placed at the disposal of the farm in-fustry and intelligently used in financmg whatever measure of crop control s found necessary to stabilize prices He also said that, if elected, he would ask ex-Governor Lowden to be among the counselors for a farm solution.

equalization plan with the words: "It is not intended to put the government into the control of the business of agriculture, nor to subsidize prices of farm products and pay the losses thereon, either from the federal treasury or by a tax or fee on the farmer. After a conference with farm lead-ers in Cedar Rapids, Hoover went on to the national capital.

PRESIDENT COOLIDGE named, as secretary of commerce to succeed Hoover, a personal friend, William F. Whiting of Holyoke, Mass., and the new cabinet member was sworn in immediately at Superior, Wis., in Mr. Coolidge's presence. Mr. Whiting, who is sixty-four years of age, is head of the Whiting Paper company. He has never before held public office but has been keenly interested in politics and was a delegate to the Republican na-tional conventions of 1920, 1924 and 1928. His selection was a surprise in Washington, where it had been expected that either Dr. Julius Klein or Walter F. Brown, both high in the de-partment, would get the appointment.

COMMANDER RICHARD E. BYRD'S anterctic expedition, the most elaborate of its kind ever organized, is on its way toward the South pole. The bark City of New York sailed Saturday from New York carrying planes and equipment to the hopping-off place, and also 31 of the 70 men who compose the expeditionary force. Commander Byrd and the rest of the men will sail in September on the whaler Larsen and the Chelsen, taking more planes and equipment.

The City of New York is under the command of Capt. Frederick C. Mela cousin of the late Herman Melville, author of sea stories and creator of "Moby Dick," the great white whale. He has been going to sea since he was thirteen years of age. He is now forty-four. The bark is equipped both with sails and auxiliary engines, but will use its sails whenever possible to conserve the fuel supply.

BERT HASSELL and Parker Cramer, who started to fly from Rockford to Stockholm with stops in Ontario, Greenland and Iceland, reached their first stopping place all right, but on their second hop they disappeared. When hope for their safety was fading amateur radio operators in Chicago received messages from them saying they had been forced to land on a small island "fiftymiles off the Newfoundland coast," that they were safe but their food supply was getting low.

A RT GOEBEL, the famous winner of the Dole race from San Francisco to Honolulu last year, established a new record last week. Accompanied by Harry Tucker, he made a non-stop flight across the continent from Los Angeles to New York in 18 hours and 58 minutes. The distance was 2,710 miles and the average speed of their Lockheed-Vega plane was a little over 142 miles an hour.

BUSINESS of running liquor across the Detroit river from Canada went to pot last week when a court in Ottawa ordered the stocks of the exporters seized within 20 days. Forty liquor dealers, most of them in Windsor, were reported to be hastily clear-ing their stocks for Vancouver, from which point they may, if lucky, be able to get them into the United States. The Windsor rum fleet was dispersed, and in Detroit and nearby places the prices of liquor rose rapidly. The Detroit river trade was estimated by Ontario authorities to have amounted to a million dollars a month.

First efforts by Chicago and To-ronto interests to merge all breweries in western Canada under one holding company have been completed with the merging of all breweries in Saskatchewan. The scheme outlined is to organize breweries in Manitoba, Alberta, Saskatchewan, and British Columbia and then to consolidate the organizations into one huge holding company. Coupled with the brewery mergers are plans for a gigantic ex-

N INE persons were killed and prop-erty damage amounting to hun-dreds of thousands of dollars was caused by a terrific wind storm that swept through parts of Minnesota and

He administered a final blow to the | Iowa. Many buildings were wrecked and crops suffered seriously. The town of Austin, Minn., sustained the worst of the blow. In northern Iowa

hall followed the wind and destroyed the corn crop in a large district. American naval forces are render-ing aid to 10,000 inhabitants of Haiti who were made homeless by the recent tropical storm. The crops, espe cially coffee, were badly damaged and the people in the stricken area were without food and medical supplies until the arrival of the United States naval tug Woodstock.

CHINA has a new trouble, but it isn't likely to arouse great interest at this distance. Western Manchuria has been invaded by a large force of Mongolian cavalry that is led, according to report, by Russians. The Manchurians were defeated in two bloody battles and sections of the railway were destroyed. Japan was worried by the prospect of the weak-ening of her influence in Manchuria.

ON THE eve of the signing of the Kellogg anti-war treaty France has aroused the animosity of Italy again by holding extensive attack and tense maneuvers in the department of Haute Savole near the Italian border, Many of the crack French regiments were engaged in the practice and artillery and all the elements in warfare oin a mountainous country were used. Italy gave its reorganized army a successful test in maneuvers along the River Po.

Because of the extensive arrangements for his visits in Paris and Dublin, Secretary of State Kellogg aban-doned his plan to stop in London after the anti-war pact is signed.

PREMIER ELEUTHERIOS VENI-ZELOS won an extraordinary victory in the Greek parliamentary elections. The Venizelist party secured 224 seats out of 250. The Royalists elected 20 members, the Kufandarists four and the Pangalists only two. Venizelos now has a free hand to put in operation his program, which in-cludes financial reform and better relations with Yugo-Slavia.

WALDEMARAS, premier of Lithuania, having refused to negotiate.if Geneva his country's dispute with Poland, the government at Warsaw has yielded and agreed to the Lithuanian suggestion for a conference at Koenigsberg before the Geneva meeting in order to bring to an end the unofficial state of war between the two countries. The Polish note was notably friendly.

O NE of America's spectacular fig-ures in politics, diplomacy and journalism disappears with the death of Col. George B. Harvey at his summer home in New Hampshire. Nominally a Republican, he was the first to boom Woodrow Wilson for the Presidency, but later they became political enemies, to say the least, and in 1920 Harvey had a good deal to do with the nomination of Harding by the Republicans. His reward was the ambassadorship to the court of St. James. During most of his life he was actively connected with newspapers or magazines and for a time he was president and managing director of Harper & Bros.

Another notable who died last week was Viscount Haldane of Clean who. as secretary of state for war, created Great Britain's territorial army and thus contributed largely to the succes of the allies in the World war. He was driven from office by popular out-cry because he relterated his love for German scholarship, though there was no question of his loyalty.

F THE Interstate Commerce commission approves the consolidation of the Great Northern and the Northern Pacific railways, there is likely to be a new railroad grouping which would bring into co-operation those lines, the Southern Pacific and the Burlington system. This prediction portant changes in the personnel of ome of the companies. Hale Holden, president of the Burlington, is to be chairman of the board of the Southern Pacific, of which Paul Shoup will be made president; and other changes were in prospect. The new grouping. with its rate agreements with Eastern lines, would offer a service spanning the continent by three routes

depart from the prevailing custom, passed a law providing for a certain measure of state participation in road building. Prior to that time full juris-diction over the highways of all states

The New England states and Middle ware, Maryland and North Carolina. were quick to follow New Jersey's lead. The movement for good roads was accelerated when, July 11, 1916, President Wilson signed the federal

A BOARDER WHO CAME FOR **REST CURE**

(@ by D. J. Walsh.)

RS. BASSETT was worried. Her best room, the front one with the tiny balcony, was vacant after having been occupied three years by one person. Mr. Patten had gone away and she did not expect to find his like again. As for the room, it might stand empty a long time, and that would be serious at this juncture, for Mrs. Bassett nee every penny she could get now that her young son John was undergoing all that expensive treatment for curvature at the Crittenden hospital.

Mrs. Bassett was small and gray and tired looking, yet she never admitted feeling fatigue. How could she with all that she had to do? With seven boarders and nobody but Annie Wood to help her a day now and then, she could not stop to think whether her head or her heels ached. She must keep going, for expenses did, and she must keep smiling, for nobody would stay long with a cross-looking landlady.

Now, however, when the kitchen door bell rang the smile into which she instantly adjusted her features was a mere shadow of joy. That ring might mean, and probably did, that somebody with a patent measuring cup or dusting cloth would pounce upon her with his woes. Yet she had to smile just the same, for one never knew, except that prospective boarders always came to the front door.

A young woman was waiting for her, quite a young woman, in a darkblue dress and cape with a gray krim-mer collar and a small gray hat. A suitcase, presumably heavy, sat at her feet. Her face was tired and sad, but Mrs. Bassett thought instantly that it was the sweetest face she had ever seen. And her voice matched the face.

"I saw the card in your window," she said. "'Room to let.' I should like

"Come in." said Mrs. Barrett. She thought: "Probably she won't want to pay so much, but that is my price." The young woman looked around, up and down and smiled.

"It is very nice. I will take it, please. And may I have board as

She didn't seem to mind about the price at all. In fact, she didn't seem to mind anything except that she was so extremely glad to have a place to rest in

At dinner she appeared and took her place quietly. Mrs. Bassett intro-duced her to the other boarders, who vere all there except Mr. Thayer. He didn't appear until after the roast was served.

"I'm sorry, Mrs. Bassett," he said in his charming way. "But there was a whole dime that had to be accounted for in order to make the books balance, and we all had to stay."

Mr. Thayer sat next to Miss Jane Wells and spoke to her once or twice. Mrs. Bassett thought: "What a nicelooking couple they would made!" She was fond of Mr. Thayer, who had been with her for two years. She knew that he was just what he looked to be-honest and direct and clean-hearted, fellows whose characters keep them out of temptation and whose ambition leads them to success.

It was Miss Willows who tried to find out something about Jane Wells. Miss Willows always found out about everybody. She prided herself on being able to size a person up after a half hour's acquaintance. But she could not size up Jane. Her questions were evaded so skillfully that she found herself in the predicament of a person swimming against a strong current-she made endless effort without getting anywhere. Still, it was not

in her nature to give up. Jane Wells, it appeared, must be taken or left as they found her. She had nothing to say for herself. She was there and that was all there was about it. Where she came from or where she was going and when-nobody could know. And how she could afford to occupy Mrs. Bassett's best room was perhaps the greatest mystery of all for she did nothing with her time except read and walk and eat and sleep. Each day she grew fairer to behold and each day Roland Thayer looked at her with growing

Two weeks had passed when one day Miss Willows found the clew she had been looking for. Jane Wells was going out with a letter to post and she dropped the letter. Instantly Miss Willows, who was just behind her, snatched it up and before she relinquished it she had seen the address "Mr. Fellx Marvel," with the street number and town, a town not a million miles away. So the fair Jane had

good woman's mind full of doubt and

"I am sure," Miss Willows said, "that Jane Wells isn't her name and that she isn't what she pretends to be. I am sure she is in hiding. Else why doesn't she get any mail? Every-body else in this house gets mail ex-cept Jane Wells. Why, she hasn't even had an answer to her letter."

"Oh, dear, Miss Williows, I don't

believe any wrong of her," Mrs. Bas-sett sighed. And then she was afraid to say more lest she offend her old boarder. After all, that was the one thing she must do of all others-keep on the right side of all the people under her roof.

Miss Willows whispered in every ear. Roland laughed at her. Mrs. Marcey shook her head, Julia Lanning stared, astonished. It didn't seem possible, but Miss Willows must know what she was talking about.

Gradually there came a change to-ward Jane Wells. A glance, a word, an act revealed it to her. She withdrew into herself and from everybody except Roland Thayer. To him she seemed to turn as if for protection at breakfast, at lunch. But when dinnertime came she didn't appear.

She had gone, Mrs. Bassett saldpaid her bill and gone. She had left no word. She had simply stepped back into the oblivion from which she had emerged. Not a single trace was left behind her.

That evening Roland Thayer sought Mrs. Bassett where she sat in her tiny private "den" looking over accounts.

"Do you think Miss Willows had anything to do with Miss Wells' going?" he demanded. He looked gray and haggard and Mrs. Bassett pitled him. The dear boy i

think she was ready to go anyway. She said two or three weeks when she came."
"What is your idea of it all?"

pleaded Roland, gazing upon his landlady with agonized eyes.
"Why—I think she came for a rest

cure," Mrs. Bassett replied. Roland knotted and unknotted his

"I love her," he said. "I don't know where she came from or why. I only know I am going to follow her and find her and win her if she is to be found, unless she is already married." Sweat broke out on his temples. "That man whom she wrote to-" He sprang

"You are going?" exclaimed Mrs. Bassett.

"Now-to find him. I'll rout him out of his bed, I'll-"

Mrs. Bassett looked up at him

"I know, knowing her, that you will find everything all right," she said.

Hard to Escape From Indian Thief Tracker

In India the great enemy of thieves is the khoji, whose name signifies "searcher" or "tracker" and whose business is to track criminals by their footprints. These trackers are trained to their calling from youth and become exceedingly expert. They are an especial terror to the cattle stealers, who, in the parts of the Punjab adjoining the Indus and other large rivers, where much grazing is carried on, are very plentiful. These match their cunning against that of the tracker but they have to be very clever to throw him off the scent.

buffalo, drive it into the river, and, clinging to its tall, guide it in the way they desire to go. By this means they are quickly carried down the current and leave no telitale footprints. But the ruse is not always successful. for the reason that the tracker thinks nothing of distance and is likely to come upon the tracks farther on, where the thief was forced to leave the

A good tracker, it is asserted, will follow a thief, yard by yard, for a hundred miles and come up with him

In one instance a burglar was one tracked until the searcher reached the lock-up of a village 80 miles from the starting point. Inside the building was the man he had set out to find. The police of that place bad observed picious-looking character walking about carrying a small bundle and had promptly locked him up. An examination of the bundle brought to light jewelry worth several hundred

In one instance the tracker's skill al-Two sheep belonging to a government official had been stolen and the footprints were found to be those of man employed to look after the public gardens.

The man was arrested, but when the track was followed up it was found to end opposite the police station, where the skins of the sheep were discovered. As it seemed unlikely that a thief would deposit his booty under the very eyes of the police, a further in-vestigation was made, and it was evenan admirer! Well, she must telt Ro-land Thayer, and she did.

Indeed, she went even farther. Bhe
went to Mrs. Bessett and filled that

and wern the gardener's chees.

Sports of Nations



(Prepared by the National Geographic Society, Washington, D. C.)

ACH recurrence of the Olympic games shows a growth of the play spirit among the nations and a greater recognition of the value of games as a training for life. Games played a big part in maintaining the morale alike of civilians and soldiers during the World war; and from this experience has come a renewed realization that the sinews that win wars are just as needful for

Back home, before the war, America had contributed two new things to sport: baseball and the city play-

It has been noted that sports of a nation afford an almost invariable barometer of its progress in civilization. Baseball is one of the most complicated and highly organized pastimes known to any people. It is a veritable instrument of the most delicate precision in the world of sport. A South Sea islander no more could play it than he could operate a linotype machine or deftly handle the paper money in a bank teller's cage.

Yet the instincts baseball satisfies the zest of racing to a goal ahead of the ball, the deep satisfaction of di-verting a swiftly moving object to serve his own ends, the mere impact of the speeding spehere against the instrument he controls, bagging the spheroid as it lies afield, the sus-pense of nine men as they await the batter's fate—each and all find their counterpart in play as old as animals that walk on two feet and h ve enough gray matter atop their spinal columns to control nature's laws for their human purposes.

The foot-race ever was the most popular of the 24 Olympian events. The Romans batted balls with the forearm swathed with bandages, and the Gilbert Islanders wrap coconut shells with cord so they will rebound to a blow from the open paim; Homer's princess of Phaeacia is represented in the Odyssey as jumping to catch a ball tossed by her maids of honor; and the Chinese had a game in which a suspended ball was kept hurtling to and fro by blows from the

America has been among the lead-ers in her attention to children's playgrounds. In fact, playgrounds for children may be considered the distinctive contribution of this country to the world's play.

Playgrounds in Cities.

To gather statistics of play is like counting the sands of the sea or the children of the nation; but it is significant of the awakening interest in play to note that even by 1918 more than 400 cities maintained nearly 4,000 playgrounds, and the children who found relaxation on 340 of these playgrounds from which reports were had on any one day would have numbered scarcely less than the total popula-tion of Boston. Each year since has having playgrounds and in the total of play spaces.

Moreover, this is but a fraction of the opportunities for normal play, for it does not take into account the thousands of boys' clubs and provi-sions for their special clientele which churche:, parishes, private and organizations like the Y. M. C. A., Boy Scouts, Knights of Columbus and numerous others make. One of the most characteristic adjuncts of the American school, city, town or coun try district is its playground; and few are t' city parks where the old 'Keep Off the Grass' signs have not been superseded by invitations to play, and special provisions for games For one who would study the derivation of games, the average playground no matter how crude, is a veritable museum of archeology. Tools and weapon, of one age frequently become the playthings of the next; and cen-turies later, when adults have desert-ed the sport, children adopt it. Game-hunting marked on important

snakes, the naked savage who hunted the rhinoceros, snared wild birds at their drinking places, and trapped the

Methods of hunting were exceeding ly primitive at first, but some tribes early developed an amazing technique. The Eskimo would wrap himself in skins and lie by the hour alongside an ice-hold to harpoon a seal. The Tarah-mares of Mexico felled trees by the

development in the life of primitive

races. The Indian who stalked deer, the Semang black man who tracked

tiger were not out for a summer's

score to get squirrels occasionally caught as the trees fell. More ingenious were the Tasmanians, who would clear a forest oasis by burning, wal' for the grasses to grow and attract animals, and they would set fire to a barricade of brush they arranged in the meantime, vith exits near which they would take their stand and spear the frightened animals as

they sought to escape.
Some African tribesmen camouflaged their spear-heads with bird feathe Fuegians attained a low visibility by daubing themselves with mud and clay Florida Indians donned skin and horns of deer to enable them

to approach their prey. Horse-racing is another sport that dates back to remote antiquity. Probably the French were the pioneers in turf sport as practiced in m times, but it was natural that the English, with their love of outdoors and of animals, should have cultivated the horse for the race as they did the dog been the first royal patron of racing.

Boxing and Wrestling.

Boxing and wrestling are the more humanized forms of individual con-tests of strength. Naturally the program of he original Olympic games, veritable encyclopedias of ancient sports, included boxing and wrestling. Moreover the Greeks had one game, the pancrace, which combined both.

Wrestling, at least, is much older than Greece, as indicated by the bouts pictured on tombs along the Nile.

In Greece, boxing fell into disfavor in Sparta for an unusual reason. The Greeks had developed sportsmanlike rules for the game, eliminating kicking, biting and ear-pulling, and the bout closed when one boxer at-mitted his defeat. Lycurgus held it improper for any Spartan to acknowledge defeat, even in a game!

The Japanese have been devoted to both sports for ages. Sukune, Hack-enschmidt of Nippon, in the days when John was foretelling the coming of Christ, was deified, and from wrestling jul-jitsu evolved. Boxing today is extremely popular throughout the

Jack Broughton, English "father of boxing" as it is practiced today, is believed to have envented the modern rounds, but he scorned to train in order to meet a butcher named Slack, who belied his name with a blow like a cleaver, and put the idol of British sportdom in the ex-champion class.

A writer of the Sixteenth century called football a "devilish pastime and charged it with inciting "envy and

Nevertheless, by the time of Charles II tootball had become firmly estab-lished at Cambridge. It was ever held in high esteem in Ireland. There, when all other sports were prohibited for archery's sake, "onely the great footballe" was exempt. Women with the men in playing it on Shrove Tuesdays. So many participated that few kne the whereabouts of the ball.
Abandoned as a general pastim be-

cause of its roughness, it was retained in colleges until, with the past

half century, it sprang into renewed popularity in greatly modified form.

The British carried football into Jerusalem when they recovered the nacred city. Missionaries have taught it to beather tribes.

Wide Variation in Nation's Paved Roads

State and local roads, heterogeneous ways, are but 18.3 per cent surfaced. That figure is reached by the federal bureau of public roads in summarizing data compiled on road improvement in each of the 48 states. Taken indi-

vidually, the states reveal a wide variance of percentages. Indiana, as the highest in the list, has 67.2 per cent of her state and local roads surfaced. North Dakota is lowest, with 1.7 per cent. Indiana is first again in surlocal roads, showing 65.3 per

Some of the inequalities in percentages may be lessened by the 1928 road-building campaign. In its plans for the present year, the federal bufor the present year, the leveral ou-renu of local roads expects more than 20,000 miles to be surfaced and about 8,000 miles graded and drained. Surfacing of highways received one of its greatest encouragements in 1891,

had been lodged in the countles.

Atlantic states, with California, Deia-