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WHAT'S GOING ON

NEWS REVIEW OF CURRENT EVENTS

Supreme Court Scores Klan; Hoover's Plan for Big Construction Reserve.

By EDWARD W. PICKARD

UPHOLDING a New York state law aimed especially at the Ku Klux Klan, the Supreme court of the United States last week declared in effect that the organization named is undesirable and a foe of public welfare. The opinion was written by Justice Van Deventer, and Justice McReynolds dissented on the ground that the Supreme court lacked jurisdiction in the case. It is believed the court's decision will end the Klan's existence in New York.

The anti-Klan bill was enacted by the New York state legislature in 1923. It provides that an organization which requires an oath as a prerequisite or condition of membership, "other than a labor union or a benevolent order, mentioned in the benevolent orders law," shall file with the secretary of state a sworn copy of its constitution, by-laws, rules, regulations, and oath of membership, together with a roster of its membership and a list of its members for the current year. Any person who becomes a member of such an organization or attends a meeting thereof, with knowledge that it has failed to comply with the law, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, the statute says.

In the case which was carried to the Supreme court it was contended that the law discriminated between different associations, relieving such secret organizations as the Masons, the Odd Fellows, and others from compliance while being directed especially against the Ku Klux Klan.

Justice Van Deventer, in the court's decision, held that the discrimination between associations was justified by a difference between the two classes of associations shown by experience. The difference consisted, he said, "in a manifest tendency on the part of one class to make the secrecy surrounding its purposes and membership a cloak for acts and conduct inimical to personal rights and public welfare, and in the absence of such a tendency on the part of the other class."

HERBERT HOOVER'S itinerary on his Latin-American tour has been speeded up as arranged by Ambassador Fletcher, who accompanies the party as representative of the State department. The President-Elect now expects to be back in the United States the first week in January. Brief stops at Ampala, Honduras and La Union, Salvador, were made on Sunday, with a call at Corinto, Nicaragua, on the list for next day; but the visits to Panama, Colombia and Bolivia were abandoned because of the devious route necessary to get there.

Wireless dispatches from the Maryland said Mr. Hoover was enjoying the trip immensely. When the battleship arrived off Cape San Lucas at the entrance to the Gulf of California she came to anchor for several hours and the President-Elect went fishing in the hope of landing a swordfish, tarpon or barracuda. All he caught was a fifteen-pound dolphin and a Spanish mackerel.

It was stated at the Navy department in Washington that Mr. Hoover's tour will cost the government little more than the regular maintenance and operating expenses of about \$400,000 for the battleships Maryland and Utah. Mr. Hoover is President Coolidge's guest on the trip, and the other members of the party are paying about \$150 a day for food and laundry, as do other persons using government transport.

GREAT BRITAIN expressed disapproval of American methods of investigating the Vestris tragedy, but the inquiry at New York seemed to bring out much of the truth concerning the circumstances surrounding the sinking of the vessel. Most significant, perhaps, was the testimony of Chief Officer Frank Johnson. This,

summarized, was that on the day the ship foundered the officers wouldn't go to their stations and that not a lifeboat set out properly manned, or properly filled; that there was no general call to lifeboats; that the iron chains on a number of lifeboats broke, and the patent releasing gear failed to work; that at 4 a. m. the day the Vestris sank Captain Carey was unable to give "any helpful suggestions." Johnson said if he had been in the captain's place he would have waited just as long to send out an S. O. S. and that the storm was never severe enough to endanger a sound vessel.

AFTER seven days of investigation, the federal officers said they had not yet found out how a thousand tons or more of water had got into the ship. The complete saturation of the coal bunkers, they thought, explained the sinking of the vessel.

HOOVER forces the time when there will be an ebb in the tide of prosperity, and he has devised a program to meet that situation which was presented to the conference of state governors in New Orleans. In brief, he suggests the creation of a three-billion-dollar state and federal construction reserve that shall do for labor and industry what the federal reserve has done for finance. The plan, as outlined by Governor Brewster of Maine at the request of Mr. Hoover, provides for the co-operation of federal and state governments in controlling construction work for the public good "so that a reserve may be prudently accumulated in time of plenty against the lean year that is to come."

Governor Brewster told the governors that no infringement of legislative prerogatives was contemplated, because no project could be carried out except as the legislatures might direct, although the rapidity of the construction program, within defined limits, could be accelerated or retarded to synchronize with national and local needs.

The Hoover proposal was placed before the American Federation of Labor, also in session in New Orleans, by John Fry, secretary of the metal trades department, who declared that it was "a complete endorsement of our basis for wages, adopted in Atlantic City in 1925. President William Green also said the plan is an unqualified endorsement of labor's program."

ROBERT W. STEWART, chairman of the Standard Oil company of Indiana, was acquitted of perjury before the senate Teapot Dome investigating committee by the District of Columbia jury that heard the case. The verdict was virtually directed by Justice Bailey, who told the jurors Stewart could not be held guilty of perjury if it was found that a quorum of the senate committee was not present when the oil man appeared to testify. The government did not contend in the trial that more than five senators were present at any one time during Stewart's entire testimony and it was admitted that a quorum was established by counting senators, who, never physically present, allowed their names, in accordance with the senate custom, to be used for the purpose.

LUFTHANSA, the great German airplane concern, has made arrangements with the Russian soviet government under which Germany and Russia will join in developing the northern Asiatic air routes, over which the new combination will have a practical monopoly. The soviet government will pay half the operating costs but will leave to Germany the handling of negotiations in quarters where the Russians are not liked. All the services will carry passengers, mail and light freight.

PRESIDENT COOLIDGE told congress last year that the Boulder dam project, on the basis of a cost of \$125,000,000, would not be in conflict with his financial program. But the Sibert commission of engineers and geologists has reported to the President that the cost estimates are too low by perhaps \$40,000,000, and there is speculation whether this will cause a change in the position of the administration. The commission holds that construction of a dam 550 feet high is feasible from an engineering standpoint, but proposes modifications in the plans with a view to obtaining

greater safety. The report does not deal at all with many questions of policy that figure in the controversy over the pending legislation.

GOVERNMENT agents, assisted by police and Scotland Yard, have uncovered a big jewelry smuggling conspiracy involving millions of dollars. The first results of their work were the arrests of Morris Landau, New York jeweler, and his daughter; William Ballyn of England, chief steward on the Cunard liner Bereingaria, and Patrolman J. T. McIntyre of the New York traffic squad, whose post for many years has been the Cunard pier. The authorities allege that Ballyn received packages of jewelry from a confederate in Southampton, England, and handed them to McIntyre on the steamer when it reached New York, he in turn passing them on to Landau. The jeweler's daughter is said to have acted as a messenger.

HEAVY rains caused serious and widespread floods in Kansas, Missouri, Kentucky, Oklahoma and Illinois, the overflowing rivers doing vast damage to property. Many towns were inundated, and the losses of farmers were severe. In the five states about a score of persons were drowned.

GREAT BRITAIN, France and Germany agreed on a conference of experts, to be held probably in December in Paris, to plan revision of the Dawes reparations plan and evacuation of the Rhineland. But Foreign Minister Stresemann, appearing before the reichstag after his long illness, made a speech that the French press said would scare away the dove of peace, for he had harsh words concerning the continued occupation of German soil by the allies, and he does not consent to the connection of reparations with war debts. Stresemann also attacked Seymour Gilbert Parker, asserting that he misrepresented conditions in central Europe.

DISPATCHES from Vienna said Ivan Michailoff, Macedonian revolutionary leader, was threatening to march on Sofia, capital of Bulgaria, on short notice, and that the population of that city was panic-stricken. The public buildings were occupied by troops and the streets were deserted in the evening. The Bulgarian cabinet was summoned, but its problem was serious for it was believed a majority of the troops and officials were siding with Michailoff.

AMONG those whose death claimed during the week was George H. Jones, chairman of the board of the Standard Oil company of New Jersey. He had been with the corporation for thirty-five years and was known as "the man who never played."

Dr. George T. Harding, father of the late President Harding, died in California of a paralytic stroke at the age of eighty-four years. Another notable person who passed away was Representative William A. Oldfield of Arkansas, Democratic whip, in the house. He was completing his twentieth year of service in congress and was considered one of the most important and active members of the Democratic delegation in the house.

DR. W. W. CUMBERLAND, the American expert who has made a survey of the financial and economic conditions of Nicaragua at the request of President Diaz, has submitted a new plan for the rehabilitation of that republic, the salient feature of which is a recommendation for more extensive American participation in the administration of Nicaraguan finances. He urges, as vital for the stabilization of Nicaragua, the maintenance of a strong national constabulary under American officers. The principal financial features of the plan provide for:

Control of the collection and expenditure of Nicaraguan public funds by an American collector general and an American auditor general.

Control of the Nicaraguan budget by a high commission controlled by Americans.

Sale to an American financial group of the majority interest in the National Bank of Nicaragua.

Refunding of the Nicaraguan national debt.

Negotiation of a new loan of \$12,000,000 by Nicaraguan officials.

suits of the establishment of similar game sanctuaries in the national parks of the West. Yellowstone National park, for instance, has been the salvation of the remnant of the American elk. There are now over 20,000 of these animals in the Yellowstone region, and the problem now faced by the game-conserving forces there is not how to save the herd but how best to dispose of the surplus animals.

SUZANNE'S TEST FOR MORTIMER

(By D. J. Walsh.)

"I'VE had many a strange ride, Suzanne, but this is the winner," remarked Mortimer Walte to the girl beside him. "But, please notice, I'm asking no questions."

The girl in the fur coat nodded abstractly. She had been looking out of the limousine window at the passing landscape, but now her gaze was fixed on the broad, tweed-clad shoulders of Andrew, Walte's chauffeur.

"Thanks for not asking questions," the man laid his gloved hand over hers. "Don't thank me for doing things you asked me to, Suzanne. Won't you believe me when I say that my one ambition in life is to please you? I mean it, I am happy right now because I am with you and doing as you want to, although it is cold and rainy and we might be dining together at the Waldorf—just you and me."

The girl did not reply. They had been driving since early morning in the luxurious big car that bore his monogram. During all those hours she had talked very little. Her pretty lips were drawn in a straight line and once she had buried her face in the soft collar of her coat and wiped away the tears.

The chauffeur drew up to the side of the road and stopped.

"Engine's missing, sir," he advised Walte, touching his cap. "But I'll fix it in a moment."

"Lordy, but isn't this desolate," said Walte as he drew the rug closer about his companion. "Suzanne, talk to me. Cold? Hungry?"

She shook her head negatively.

"Happy?"

"I'm always happy when I'm with you, Mort. But—maybe—I won't be with you—very much—after today."

"Suzanne, why talk in riddles? Haven't I proved I love you? Haven't I proved to you that everything I have is yours?"

"Yes, I believe you. But when I claim what you have, it means that—that you will have to claim that which is mine—and you might not want to. My possessions—might not fit into your—life. Oh, I am doing the right thing I am! When I first met you I didn't think anything about it. But since you have loved me . . . and I love you . . . I want to be honest with you. Always honest. Today is the real test of your love. You have only known me six months. I am an actress. So far as that is concerned my slate is clean. I have nothing to apologize for. But—you know—nothing about me and you are Mortimer Walte! Your family frightens me to death, Mort. Your mother! She was very sweet that day at the Plaza, but she looked clear through me and I—I wonder if—she found me and I—I wonder if—she found me wanting. I am not forgetting for a moment who you are, but it is not because you're Mortimer Walte—of one of the proudest old families in Philadelphia; not because your fortune ranks foremost in the East that I love you. It is because you—are you. I would love you if you were—anything, but I want to be honest with you, and please remember, no matter how the test comes out, I was honest—because I loved you."

It was past noon when they entered the tiny little town in the Alleghenies to which Suzanne had directed the chauffeur. It was a dingy, smoky little hamlet nestling in a mountain-encircled basin in the heart of the coal district. The girl shuddered as they rolled down the narrow main street, dingier and darker than ever in the cold, thin rain that was beating against the unvarnished roadbed.

"Let's eat, Suzanne. There's a place over there that says corned beef and cabbage, and I'm starved."

For the first time the girl laughed.

"All right. But how I wish I had a picture of you, Mortimer Walte, banker, eating corned beef and cabbage in the Palace cafe! And tell Andrew to wait for us at the hotel over there on the corner. We won't need him until we start back."

Walte turned to his chauffeur and gave the necessary instructions, and Andrew disappeared in the direction of the frame one-story building on the corner graced by the name "hotel."

"Still asking no questions," laughed Walte as they walked down a narrow, muddy street after lunch. It had stopped raining, but heavy clouds hung in the sky and it was cold and damp. He swung her over a mud puddle and they balanced themselves on a board that tipped dangerously into the mire.

"Just like dropping an orchid into a mud puddle," he laughed.

Row after row of dingy, small cottages inclosed with picket fences. There was no grass about the stoops, only mud and improvised sidewalks. Suzanne stopped at last, her hand on

a rickety gate. Desolation, poverty, squalidness lay before them.

A small boy opened the door and peered out as the two approached the porch.

"Susie," he shrieked. "Susie is coming, maw, Susie is here."

The girl bent and kissed him. "Hello, Georgie. My goodness, what a dirty face and you promised me when I was home last that you would keep clean."

The boy hung his head. "But I didn't know you was comin', Susie, honest, I didn't and maw didn't neither, cuz she's washin'."

Maw came to the door, an old, bent woman in her early fifties. A woman who had been old and bent at twenty-five; wiping her red, wrinkled hands on a wet gingham apron.

"Why didn't you tell me, Susie," she complained in broken English. "I'm a washin'. Didn't get to it before, cuz you paw has been sick with lumbago and Calvin got locked up over in Lucknow . . ."

"This is Mr. Walte, mother . . . and this is—my mother."

Mortimer Walte peeled off his glove and extended his hand. The woman looked up at him puzzled as she placed her hand in his and then motioned for them to enter. The house reeked with the odor of soapuds and fried meat. The remains of the dinner was still on the table untouched. Various wet garments hung about the stove, steaming on the backs of chairs. A long-legged, bobbed-haired girl arose from a sofa and threw away a paper-backed novel, applying a lipstick to her over-red lips as she embraced her sister warmly.

"My sister Allie," said Suzanne briefly.

"Allie," corrected the girl sharply. "Won't you ever remember, Sue?"

For two hours the group sat around the stove. The boy fingered Walte's watch chain and even allowed dingy fingers to stray in the direction of an immaculate gray tie. The girl talked incessantly of dances.

"I'm not going to business college with that money you gave me, Sue. I'm going to take up classic dancing and go on the stage—like you did."

"And how about you, Georgie? Are you going to keep your promise to me about studying hard and then going to college to learn how to build big tunnels through the mountains?"

"Yep, if paw will get that notion of makin' me go into the mines out of his head. He wants me to quit school right now. Says education is all bosh."

The mother talked very little, her hands, rolled in her apron, her eyes scanning the group, but when she did it was to mention her fatherland across the seas and Walte told her of a recent trip to Europe during which he had visited the country of her birth. Her eyes shone.

"Maw liked those new chairs and tables you bought, Sue," said Allie, "but she won't let us use them. Says they are too nice and is savin' them. Paw comes home so dirty from the mines and all that—and I got the dress and shoes, and Georgie's suit fits swell, but maw won't let him wear it only on Sundays."

"And so that was the test, honey?" asked Mortimer Walte as he looked down at the girl beside him. "Did you think a family of the Old world, new to a strange country and strange customs, would change my love for you? Why, honey, my ancestors came over in the steerage with packs on their backs, and not so many years ago either, and I hereby claim my Suzanne and all the family as my own, and now where is that promised kiss? Andrew is a good chauffeur and always pays attention to his car."

Dogs Trust Sight.

That dogs on the trail do not depend entirely upon scent has been demonstrated in Germany, where a large wheel was fitted with several shoe-like devices which made an impression in the soil much like that of the shoe foot of a human. It was demonstrated beyond all doubt that the animals used their eyes to a great extent and followed the artificial footprints whenever it was possible to pick them out.

Light That Never Fails.

A lighthouse which cannot very well be accused of failure consists of a combination of electricity and acetylene. There are two electric lamps, and in case one fails the other is automatically thrown into action. If the second should fall down on its job the acetylene light is put into operation instantly and will glow until the supply of gas is exhausted.

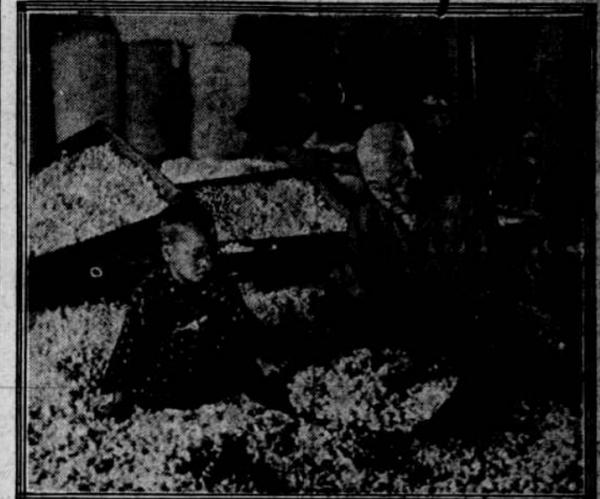
Fish's Blood Circulation.

The circulation of blood in fish is practically the same as that of higher animals except that the lungs are replaced by gills. When water passes over the gills the blood takes up the oxygen. In some fish, in addition to gills, there are rudimentary lungs, a supplementary circulation.

Life Is Easy.

Life becomes almost automatic if you tap the source of strength, of love, of happiness upon which life depends. —American Magazine.

The New Japan



A Bumper Crop of Silk Cocoons.

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

THE coronation ceremonies for the young emperor of Japan this autumn and the recent adoption by the Japanese of the jury system center world interest on the island empire, and at the same time emphasize its modernization.

Nothing tells the story of Japan's sudden rise to world power and modernity so strikingly as contrasts between the conditions of 1870 and those of today—contrasts made by a progress that has been observed from its beginning by many men alive today.

Consider the interior town of Fukui. In 1870 it was a place of moated castles, the privileged samurai wearing two swords, and despised merchants having little or no social standing. Now it is a typical industrial city, with electric lights, steam power and modern appliances in factory and home, and its young men are ambitious to make fortunes—and honored names—in industry.

Osaka, once chimneyless and a wilderness of one-story houses, is a forest of smokestacks, with mills, imposing steel-jointed business structures, shipyards, and factories.

With population more than doubled, with wealth increased twentyfold, and transformed from an almost forgotten hermit nation into a world power, a leader in industry and commerce, with an ambition to be second to none in capturing the markets of the world, it is well for us to look into the causes of Japan's evolution and triumph.

The growth was not haphazard. The Japanese deliberately willed to become powerful and modern. At a secret conclave in Tokyo, in 1870, of the leaders of the Revolution of 1868—unchronically in history or official documents—the real problem, long debated, was this: Shall Japan be a nation of samurai and soldiers, or of merchants and industrialists, and, in the main, of the men of modern mind? Okubo, Okuma, and Shibusawa gave their lives to the uplift of the once-submerged class, now on the crest of the wave—the merchant and manufacturer.

Leaders in the Movement.

Of the four greatest men of 1868 and the reconstruction era, from 1868 to 1900, Okubo was the master spirit. It was he who had the capital changed from Kyoto to Tokyo and the mikado brought down from the purple clouds of mystery and pseudo-deity to be a human ruler. Okubo infused into the Japanese the spirit of conquest of the world's respect by means of peace rather than by war. He was the brain and pen of what was not only restoration but revolution.

Kido was the constructive statesman, with original ideas of which it was the executive, the motto of the latter being "Get it done and let them growl."

In the early '70s an embassy was sent forth to tour the world and to see what the West had that Japan might make use of. When it returned in 1874 there was a terrific struggle in the cabinet. It was to decide that Japan's path of progress was to be in the line of industrial enterprise rather than through war or territorial conquest. Okubo and the men of peace and development through industry won. Hardly less of a revolution than that led by the four great men already named was that in finance and in education. It was expected that Shibusawa would be assassinated (as a majority of the greater leaders were) when he pronounced in favor of modern bookkeeping and dedicated his life to elevating the once social outcast, the merchant. He cleared the way for Matsukata, who secured the adoption of the gold standard, even when Great China issued no coins valuable enough to be worth counterfeiting. This enabled Japan to gain and hold credit in the world's finance.

Tanaka, backed by Kuroda, fought to a finish the fight for the equality of female education in the scheme for national elementary instruction, when in 1872, he called Miss Margaret Clark Griffin to begin the first school for girls.

"Education is the basis of all progress," became the motto of the nation fifty years ago. With the old Chinese characters, where a single sound might have, in writing, more than 200 different meanings, expression was handicapped.

Emergence of Individuality.

Philosophy played a great part in keeping Japan a hermit nation so long. Throughout Japanese history runs the stream of impassability. In literature and in government the lack of individuality and the chronic difference between appearance and reality everywhere confront the student.

What has really made the New Japan is this emergence in social life of the new spirit of personality and of individuality. The old civilization was communal. The new national life is based, in the main, on the assertion of the inherent powers of the individual, yet in unity of purpose with the commonwealth.

Japan was in many ways saved the long apprenticeship of European nations because, even more than the hero of Locksley Hall, she soon found out that she was "the heir of all the ages, in the foremost files of time," and was able at once to utilize in fullest efficiency the gifts of the centuries and the resources of western civilization.

Hence, within a single lifetime and in some instances within a decade, the adoption of new political and social systems, post routes, telegraphs, telephones, steamship lines, and modern costume!

Technical Education.

To those who would penetrate the secret of Japan's rapid development and world-encompassing ambitions, another historical fact is worth noting, especially in comparison with our own national development. Let one scan the meager list of technical schools in the United States in 1871. Except for the Rensselaer Polytechnic of Troy, N. Y.; the Stevens Institute at Hoboken, N. J.; and the rudimentary state of things at Yale, at Harvard, and at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, and the infant Cornell university, how feebly developed they were!

The first school of technology and manual training in Japan was started in 1871 and was rapidly expanded.

In the twenty or more years of the existence of this institution, under the department of communications, there were educated the engineers, architects, chemists, and others who built Japan's steamships, railways, light-houses, and laboratories, which helped to modernize the face of the country. These gave Japan new tools and weapons, a new suit of armor, and, under all, a new nervous and circulatory system.

With a total of more than 10,000 miles of railway in operation, her resources are still in process of development. Three thousand steamers and 14,000 sailing ships, with a total tonnage of nearly 5,000,000, tell the story. In 1871 letters and mail matter were carried inland by runners. Now Japan has nearly 9,000 post offices.

There are special schools of medicine, jurisprudence, cobalt and pedagogy in the five national universities, the faculties numbering more than 1,500 professors and 10,000 students. In addition, there are as many nongovernment universities, which have in total as many pupils and keep up a wholesome rivalry. Of the technical schools—arts and crafts, agriculture, marine industry, etc.—there are more than 200, with close to 100,000 pupils, counting both sexes.