

Scenes and Persons in the Current News



1—Shipyard strikers picketing the plant of the New York Shipbuilding corporation in Camden, N. J. 2—Manuel Quezon, slated to be the first president of the independent Philippine commonwealth, photographed as he sailed from San Francisco for the islands. 3—Russia's great propaganda plane, the "Maxim Gorky," which fell after collision with a small plane, 49 lives being lost.

Soviets Undismayed by Crash

Undaunted by the fate of the huge propaganda plane, Maxim Gorky, which recently crashed, killing 49 persons, the Soviet government has announced that three more of these giant planes will be built.

The Maxim Gorky was the largest plane in the world. While flying near Moscow it collided with a small escort plane in which the pilot was stunting in defiance of orders. Both craft crashed to the ground.

The big ship had no particular value except as a means of spreading propaganda. However, Soviet authorities immediately announced that a trio of new ships to be named Vladimir Lenin, Joseph Stalin and Maxim Gorky would be placed in construction at once.

Champion High School Debaters



Herbert Shapiro and Carl Lundquist of Sioux Falls, S. D., were the winners in the national high school debating tourney recently conducted in Cleveland, Ohio.

Pilots of International Sky Train



These are the men who piloted the first international sky train, consisting of a tow plane and two gliders, from Miami to Havana and back with complete success. Left to right they are Jack O'Meara of New York and E. Paul Du Pont, Jr., of Wilmington, Del., glider pilots, and Edward Klein, pilot of the tow plane.

Serves as President's Contact Man

Charles West is President Roosevelt's contact man in his dealings with congress and travels frequently between the White House and the Capitol.



With the difficulties President Roosevelt is experiencing with this session of congress, West's job must be a busy one, and one which observers say will not be lightened as time goes on.

Hunger Marchers Descend on Ohio Capitol

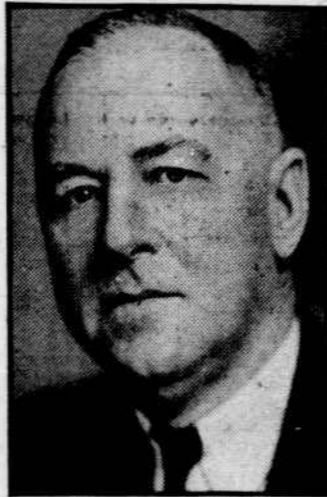


Relief Charges Blame Politics for Plight

Carrying American flags, several hundred relief persons are pictured on the outskirts of Columbus, Ohio, prior to their march on the state capitol. The hunger marchers claim that they had no money or food for a week, and all blame politics for their plight.

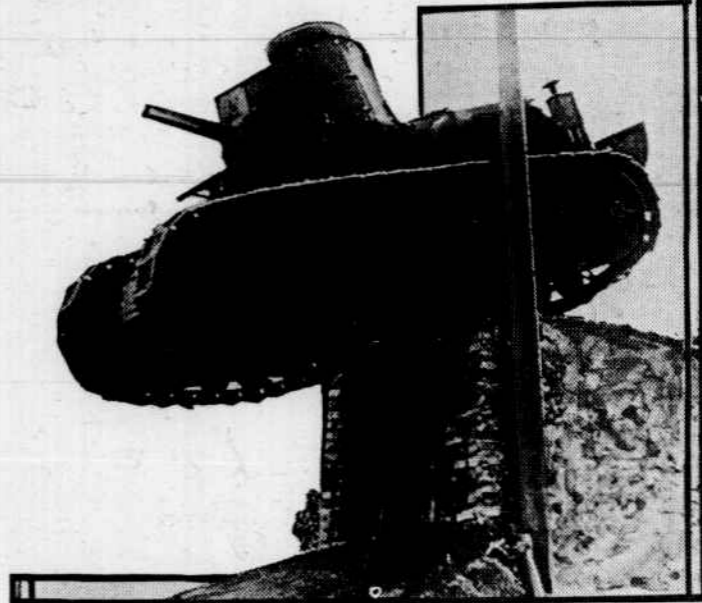
Object of the "hunger march" was an audience with C. C. Stillman, Ohio federal relief director, who was recently appointed to the post by Federal Relief Administrator Harry Hopkins after charges of alleged graft were made against the Ohio relief administration. The political trouble is said to have originated when Governor Davey removed several relief officials in the Cleveland area in order to appoint his supporters.

Will Assist Work Relief Program



H. H. Bennett, who is director of soil erosion prevention, has been named by the President to assist in the work relief program.

Italy's New Army Tanks Are Hardy



One of the new model tanks in use by the Italian army is here shown about to take a tumble off the abutment of a bridge during a race near Rome. It was not damaged by the fall.

Showing the Country to City Children



To create a rural atmosphere for the benefit of city children, the New York park department has built the "traveling barnyard" shown above. It is mounted on a truck and visits the various parks and play grounds, attracting crowds of little ones who never before have heard a chicken cluck or felt the soft nose of a calf.

Twins— but Not Identical



These children, Umberto and Rudolph Rios of Santa Catalina island, are twins, however little they may look.

King Seeks Statehood for Hawaii

Samuel Wilder King, delegate in the United States congress from Hawaii, has introduced a bill that would add another star to the American flag by making Hawaii the forty-ninth state in the Union.

King contends that as an integral part of the United States, the islands cannot be permanently barred from

statehood. In radio talks and public speeches Mr. King, a former lieutenant-commander in the United States navy, asserts Hawaii with its 350,000 people and commercial importance, has demonstrated its qualification to enter the Union. The movement is said to be gaining many supporters.

Carves Own Tombstone

Columbus, Ohio.—Frank Sauter, seventy-six-year-old stonecutter, carved his own tombstone, cut his throat and shot himself through the head fatally in the little stone yard he had operated for 40 years.

GLITTER OF GOLD

THIS is a story with some highly important "ifs" in it. If James Wilson Marshall had chosen to build a sawmill on Capt. John Sutter's lands instead of going to "the beautiful vale" of Coloma, forty miles away to do it. . . .

If a mid-January flood hadn't nearly swept away the mill-frame and brush dam, making it necessary to widen and deepen the dry channel he had selected for his tail-race. . . .

Well, the course of American history might have been entirely different! But the fact is that Marshall did locate the sawmill on a little stream in the tiny California valley of Coloma and there was a downpour of rain in the first month of the year 1848. At dawn on Monday, January 24, Marshall went out to see if the channel was satisfactory.

Glancing idly at some of the earth, excavated from the channel and now washed down by the recent downpour, he noticed some gleaming particles. He looked at them more closely, then sent back to camp for a tin plate. He "panned" out some of the dirt in the plate and soon had about a half-ounce of the yellow flakes.

Eventually those yellow flakes reduced John Sutter, "king" of New Helvetia, and James Marshall to poverty. But before doing that, they set a whole nation mad with an ancient lust, played an important part in the slavery dispute that led to the Civil war and gave to the world the "gold standard" of money.

TREMENDOUS

TRIFLES

By ELMO SCOTT WATSON

A COSTLY WEEK-END

LORD GEORGE GERMAIN, British secretary of state for the American colonies during the War of the Revolution, was ready to leave London for a pleasant week-end at Stoneham in Sussex. The duties of his office had tired him and he looked forward to the quiet of the English countryside.

On his way from his chambers he stopped at his office to sign some official papers. One of them, directed to Lord William Howe, British commander in New York city, ordered him to co-operate with Gen. John Burgoyne by moving north up the Hudson to join forces with Burgoyne who would start south from Canada. Between them they would smash the rebel army. But the letter to Howe hadn't been "fair copied" and wasn't ready for the signature of the secretary of state. "So!" exclaimed my Lord Germain. "My poor horses must wait and I must lose time because of this!" Then a clerk named D'Oily said that he would make the "fair copy and would write from himself to Howe, enclosing the instructions to General Burgoyne which would tell him all that he would need with this and made ready to "keep his time, for he could never bear delay or disappointment."

So the "poor horses" of Lord Germain weren't kept standing in the street and he was able to hasten to his country estate for a pleasant week-end. But the five or ten minutes that he did not want to wait were costly ones for England.

D'Oily forgot to write the letter to Howe and when his Lordship returned to his office from his week-end in Sussex, he also forgot to ask about the matter. Howe stayed in New York instead of marching north along the Hudson. The result was that the unlucky "Gentleman Johnny" Burgoyne blundered south through the wilderness to the inglorious end of his expedition at Saratoga. And Saratoga was the turning point of the Revolution.

ICE-JAM

OF COURSE, an ice-jam isn't such a trifle, but the one which choked the entrance to Chesapeake bay in the winter of 1784 was insignificant—if you compare its size to the broad expanse of the blue Atlantic. However, it was big enough and thick enough so that a ship from London was held up for two months before she could dock at Baltimore.

One of her passengers was a young German named Jacob Astor who was going to make his fortune, beginning by the sale of seven flutes he was bringing with him. During the long days the ship was held in the ice-jam, young Jacob Astor had many long talks with another young fellow, also a German. He was returning to America to resume his fur-trading operations in which he foresaw possibilities for great wealth because the Indians, he said, were only too glad to exchange valuable furs for the most inexpensive toys and other baubles. Astor listened but was not particularly impressed.

At last the ship reached Baltimore and young Astor hastened on to the metropolis of New York city. But his venture in flutes was a failure. Then he remembered the enthusiasm of his fellow-German over the fur trade. He guessed he'd try it.

He did. And within a few years it had made him a fortune of more than \$2,000,000. Today the name of Astor is a symbol for great wealth—all because an ice-jam held up the ship which was bringing a young German immigrant to the shores of the New world.

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Feline Mrs. Dionne Didn't Like the "Hospital"



"Mrs. Tailspin," mascot of the Newark airport, was mighty proud of her newly born quintuplets, but like Mrs. Dionne of Canada, she didn't seem to care for the neat little hospital provided for them. In the photograph she is seen trying to move the little ones to her own hideaway. The kittens are named U.A.L., E.A.L., A.A.L., T.W.A.—after prominent airlines—and A.T.D. in honor of Air Transport day.