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News Review of Current Events the World Over

Truce Is Called in the General Motors Strike—President's Reorganization Program Criticized—Kidnaped Tacoma Boy Is Found Murdered.

By EDWARD W. PICKARD
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THROUGH the efforts of Governor Murphy of Michigan a truce in the General Motors strike was arranged, and the prospects for peaceful settlement of the trouble were bright. The governor persuaded Executive Vice President William S. Knudsen of the corporation and President Homer Martin of the United Automobile Workers union to meet in his office in Lansing. The conference lasted more than 15 hours and at its conclusion the truce was announced.

The essence of the agreement was that the union would at once withdraw the sit-down strikers from the General Motors plants in Flint, Detroit and Anderson, Ind., and that the corporation would not remove from the plant any machinery or dies and would not attempt to resume production in those plants for at least 15 days from the date of commencement of negotiations. The joint conferences for a final settlement of the points at issue were to begin in Detroit January 18.

Mr. Knudsen said "Negotiations will be conducted frankly and every effort will be made to bring about a speedy settlement."

Mr. Martin asserted "The union will in good faith endeavor to arrive at a speedy settlement."

Governor Murphy announced that National Guardsmen now in Flint, following an outbreak of rioting at a General Motors plant there, would remain temporarily "but I don't consider this necessary."

The agreement on the armistice came as good news to thousands of idle automotive workers, and other thousands threatened with temporary loss of jobs.

SOME 400 representatives of the five railroad brotherhoods gathered in Chicago to discuss plans for obtaining increases of wages. A committee recommended that formal demands for higher pay be made, but said it had not yet decided on the procedure or the amount of increase to be asked.

J. A. Phillips, president of the Order of Railway Conductors, said that while the committee had agreed that a wage increase should be sought, there had been no consideration of hours of work, pensions or any other matter.

PLANS for reorganizing the administrative branch of the government were laid before congress by President Roosevelt, and many Democrats as well as the few Republican members were quick to express their disapproval of parts of the scheme. It would greatly enhance the power of the executive, would abolish no federal agencies and would not result in any considerable economy of expenditures. Special committees of both houses were to begin drafting a bill to carry out the President's desires, but it was freely predicted that not all of them would get through.

Louis Brownlow, Prof. Luther Gulick and Prof. Charles Merriam constituted the committee that evolved the reorganization plan for the President. The major changes they recommended are:

Creation of two new departments headed by cabinet members—a department of social welfare and a department of public works—and delegation to the President of authority to "overhaul the 100 independent agencies, administrations, authorities, boards, and commissions and place them by executive order" in the ten existing and two proposed additional departments.

Expansion of the White House staff, chiefly by the creation of six "assistants to the President," who would relieve him of much of the routine executive work.

Abolition of the office of controller general with his power to disallow administrative expenditures in advance as violative of law, and creation instead of an auditor general with power limited to reporting annually to congress illegal and waste-

ful expenditures by the executive branch.

Extension of the merit system to "cover practically all non-policy determining posts," replacement of the civil service commission by a civil service administrator with a "citizen board to serve as the watch dog of the merit system," and increase of salaries to key positions to attract superior ability to a career service.

Development of the "managerial agencies of the government," particularly the budget bureau and agencies engaged in efficiency research, personnel questions, and long range planning of the use of land, water, and other natural resources.

Opposition to the first, third and fourth of these sections was pronounced and it seems certain that introduction of the bill will start a long and stubborn fight in congress.

TEN-year-old Charles Mattson, kidnaped from his home in Tacoma, Wash., Dec. 27 and held for ransom, was found beaten to death in snow covered woods near Everett. The body was nude and cruelly battered. State and city police and department of justice agents, who had been held back to give the lad's father a chance to pay the ransom and save his son, immediately began an intensive manhunt.

One suspect was arrested in San Francisco and others were being traced. A car in which it was believed the lad's body was carried was found.

President Roosevelt expressed the horror of the nation over this brutal crime and authorized a reward of \$10,000 for the capture of the kidnaper and murderer. Bernar McFadden added \$1,000 to this amount.

THE latest general European war scare has subsided. It was caused by France's announced determination to stop, by force if necessary, the alleged infiltration of German troops into Spanish Morocco, and Great Britain was ready to support the French with its fleet. But Hitler and his ambassador to France were able to convince the nations that the stories were false and that Germany has no intention of trying to grab any Spanish territory. Paris cooled down at once, and to add to the peace atmosphere, negotiations were started for a trade treaty between France and Germany.

Then, too, Col. Gen. Hermann Wilhelm Goering, resplendent first minister of the German reich, went on an official visit to Rome and was informed by Mussolini that the recently signed Italo-British Mediterranean agreement does not change Italy's friendship for Germany or its collaboration with the reich on the major problems of Europe. Goering and Mussolini were supposed to get together on the future course of their governments concerning the Spanish civil war.

LOSING the radio beam in foggy weather, Pilot W. W. Lewis panicked his Western Air Express plane with a crash on a hill near Burbank, Calif., and two of his passengers were killed. Everyone else on the plane, eleven in number, was injured. The dead are Martin Johnson, famous explorer, and James A. Braden of Cleveland. Mrs. Osa Johnson, who accompanied her husband on his adventurous expeditions in Africa and Borneo, was among those most seriously hurt.

There will be searching inquiries into this and other recent air disasters. Senator Copeland of New York blames the Department of Commerce. Airline operators have long complained that certain radio beam stations in the Far West are inadequate. Officials of the bureau of air navigation deny this, asserting: "Radio beams sometimes play queer pranks in certain areas and in certain mountainous territories. Every pilot knows these peculiarities."

Down in Mexico there were three airplane crashes within a week, and it was believed eleven persons had lost their lives.

THE Simpson affair has been revived by news that Ernest Simpson, who was divorced by the famous Wally, has filed a slander suit in London against Mrs. Joan Sutherland, beautiful wife of Lt. Col. Arthur Sutherland. The suit is based on a remark, said to have been made at a luncheon attended by Mrs. Sutherland, that Simpson was "well paid" for permitting the divorce.

The United Press correspondent was told: "The case is not expected to break into the open for several weeks. It is now sub judice (before the court). It will not be open to the public until after it is set down for hearing and pleadings have been terminated. No statement has been delivered yet."

IN ONE of its periodic analyses of the economic situation the Brookings institute, non-partisan research foundation, summarizes proposals for "a consistent program of further recovery," the seven points of which are, briefly:

Re-establishment of a balanced federal budget.

Continuance of the present policy of maintaining a fixed price of gold and the establishment through international co-operation of a system of stable foreign exchange.

Extension of the reciprocal trade agreements "as the most practical means of reducing artificial barriers to commerce and reopening the channels of international trade."

Preservation of the "generally favorable ratio of prices and wage rates."

Maintenance of prevailing hours of labor "as the only means of meeting the production requirements involved in restoring during the next few years the standards of living of the laboring masses and promoting the economic advancement of the nation as a whole."

Elimination of private and public industrial practices "which tend to restrict output or to prevent the increase of productive efficiency."

"Shifting of the emphasis in agricultural policy from restricted output and rising prices to the abundant furnishings of the supplies of raw materials and foodstuffs required by gradually expanding markets."

SUGAR processors are making "unduly high profits," according to Secretary of Agriculture Henry A. Wallace, and so he proposes a tax of \$10 to \$20 a ton on all sugar processed in the United States. This, he says, will be suggested to congress. Mr. Wallace says the profits are from 10 to 12 per cent and he estimates that the tax would yield approximately \$70,000,000 a year. Of this about \$13,000,000 would go to producers in benefit payments.

The secretary believes the sugar processors have been "unjustly enriched" under the quota system which rations imports and is supposed to maintain the domestic price against foreign competition.

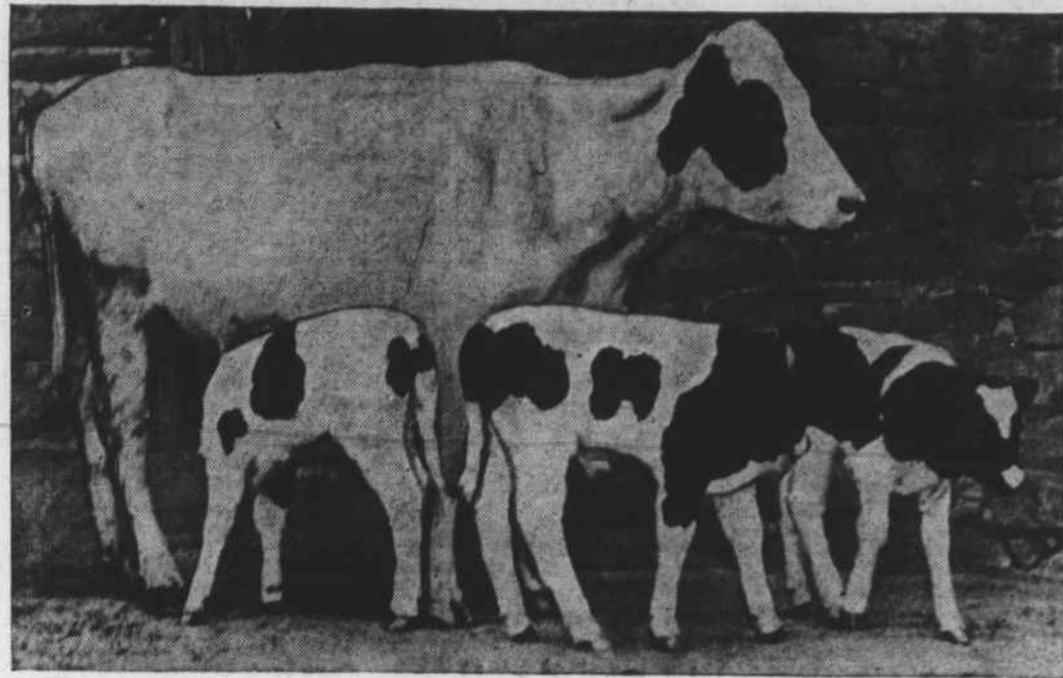
RECOMMENDATIONS for legislative action during the present session of congress have been presented to the President and congress by the executive committee of the American Farm Bureau federation. The program involves the ever-normal granary, commodity loans, adjustment of production to effective demand, soil conservation, the strengthening of marketing agreements, postponement of state administration of the soil conservation and domestic allotment act until 1940, and a "permanent" revenue policy to meet the cost of these measures.

IT IS pleasant to turn from politics, strikes and war and record the fact that Charles Hayden, New York banker who died recently, left about \$45,000,000 to establish a foundation for the education of needy boys and young men, "especially in the advancement of their moral, mental and physical well being." Mr. Hayden, who was a bachelor, also gave \$1,000,000 to Massachusetts Institute of Technology, \$2,000,000 in trust to his brother and nearly \$2,000,000 to friends and employees.

UNCLE SAM has begun storing his gold in the bomb-proof depository built at Fort Knox, Kentucky. The first train, heavily guarded, carried about \$200,000,000 of the precious metal from the Philadelphia mint and it was received by the motorized Seventh cavalry and put in the great vaults. The gold was forwarded by the Post Office department as parcel post.

ANNOUNCEMENT is made by the United States Maritime commission that it will dispose of four shipping lines by June 29 next. They now operate 36 vessels in direct competition with private American shipping.

Pennsylvania Bossy and Her Triplets



The proud mother, a Holstein cow, owned by Nathan Folk, farmer of Stony Creek Mills, near Reading, Pa., is shown with her three babies. Although triple birth to a cow is distinctly rare, all three calves are normal.



THE RATS START A FIRE

RATS are born thieves. They not only steal food, but they carry off many other things, things for which they really have no use at all. Now it happened that one of the young rats in the farmhouse found some matches and took them to his nest under the floor of the shed. There, having nothing else to do, he nibbled at them to see what the queer stuff on the ends of them might be. His sharp teeth caused one of them to light, and of course that instantly lighted all the rest of them. With a squeak of fright the rat ran away, for like all the little people of the Green Forest and the Green Meadows a rat fears the Red Terror, which we call fire, more than anything else.

Now that rat's nest was made chiefly of chewed up paper and old rags. Nothing could have been better for the Red Terror. It blazed instantly. The floor just above was of very, very dry wood, for the boards of that floor had been there many years. In no time at all that shed was afire.

All the rats under the floor fled in terror into the house. Smoke began to pour out of the open door of the shed. The farmer at work in the barnyard saw it and ran as fast as he could to put the fire out. For a while the farmer and his wife had a hard fight with the Red Terror. They pumped water as fast as ever they could and carried it in pails to throw on the fire. At first it looked as if the Red Terror would be too much for them and their house would be burned up, but after a while the water

was too much for the Red Terror and drowned it out.

"Whew!" exclaimed the farmer as he and his wife sat down to rest for a moment. "That was a narrow escape. How under the sun could that fire have started?"

"I haven't the least idea," replied his wife. "I was upstairs at the time. There wasn't a thing in that shed that could have started it. Do you suppose anybody could have set it?"

The farmer shook his head. "No," said he, "that fire started under the floor." Then a sudden thought came to him. "I know how it started!" he cried angrily. "It was those pesky rats! It was those pesky rats as sure as I live. They must have found some matches somewhere and taken them to a nest under the floor. Then while they were nibbling at them they set one going. We've got to get rid of those



FEEDING THE FAMILY

THIS seems to be the principal work of at least twenty million housewives, but feeding the family on the proper food is not a light job to be undertaken with no thought.

Food is not necessarily nutritious in proportion to its cost. The high-priced foods appeal to the eye and imagination, so they seem most desirable.

Going marketing is a wonderful education as well as a great developer of will power, or resistance to temptation, for it takes real self-denial to pass by the crisp and green cucumber or the box of strawberries, when the price is beyond the purse.

The mother of a family should, of all people, understand food values, for she is in a position to build up or tear down bodies and ruin digestions. "Bad habits ruin life as do weak bones the body."

The protein foods such as meat, eggs, fish, cheese and milk are our principal source of starch and the sugars we get from various sources—honey—from fruits and such vegetables as beets.

An excess of meat is very bad for it clogs the system and causes self-poisoning.

Brain workers and the young as well as aged need easily digested foods. Active muscle workers need coarse foods, which are better for their needs; however, all need roughage to give bulk and increase the intestinal activity.

The growing child needs milk, butter, eggs, green vegetables and fruits to supply all the food principles and the vitamins which promote growth.

The diet should be varied as well



"Those who are fortunate enough to retain their shirt in the business of a day," says pertinent Polly, "return home only to find the laundry man has lost it for them."

rats or we won't have a house left over our heads. I don't know how we're going to do it, but we've got to get rid of those rats!"

ONE OF THOSE DAYS

By DOUGLAS MALLOCH

ONE of those days we just recall The heavy labor of it all, Behold our task with downcast eyes We once uplifted to the prize. One of those days we look too near The task to either see or hear The beauty of it—darkly gaze And say, "It's just one of those days."

One of those days the things unkind Come quickest to the weary mind, Forgotten all the joy we met, Remembered all we should forget. One of those days we see the past As something good that could not last.

The future something that delays Too long, and say, "One of those days."

One of those days. We know not why A cloud will visit any sky, But this we know, that not a one Has ever overcome the sun. One of these days we yet shall learn If nights descend that dawns return, And with that thought our souls so raise

We never know "one of those days."

Two Princesses



Princess Olga of Yugo-Slavia with her youngest child, Princess Jelisava, in a recent photograph which was the first to show the two together.

THE LANGUAGE OF YOUR HAND

By Leicester K. Davis
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AS YOU progress in your understanding of the revelations of the hand, you will become more and more impressed with how well the builder of our destinies has given us each a preponderance of those qualities required to offset what otherwise might be a disastrous temperamental deficiency.

Thumb as Index of Logic vs. Will The first two joints of the thumb, as you have learned, denote the balancing qualities of will and logic. One often is found to offset completely an almost hopeless deficiency in the other. For example, you may find a short, flexible nail joint denoting impulsiveness, extravagance and other undesirable reactions to environment quite neutralized by the greater-than-average length of the middle joint.

Or the reverse may be shown, in which case a naturally self-depreciating tendency to let things go because of mental laziness is stung to action and kept in working order by a stubborn will which refuses to submit to a temperamental defect.

WNU Service.

Sophisticated



Amethyst satin is molded to the figure with extreme simplicity in this sophisticated dinner gown. The jacket and the decollete are of self-cording.