

# BRISBANE THIS WEEK

Childhood  
Tugwell's Little Girl  
Holland Buys Planes  
Rev. Webber Knows

Childhood lasts longer in France than in America and it is real childhood. Boys in their teens, writing letters, call their fathers Cher petit papa. "Dear little papa" — imagine that from an American "prep" school.

Little French girls play innocently with Toto, their little dog, hardly knowing that such things as francs exist, when much older than Assistant Secretary Tugwell's intelligent young daughter, Marcia, aged twelve, who, in partnership with her friends, Mary Frances Cottrell and Joyce Helmick, organized "a laundry for washing dogs." They advertised: "Small dogs, 30 cents; middle-sized dogs, 35 cents; groomed and washed. Dogs not good-natured must be sent with muzzles, and we cannot wash large dogs."

Too bad that parental severity broke up the dog laundry. It had announced working hours "10 a. m. to 5 p. m. on Saturdays," the studios little girls' only holiday, "all hours after school on other weekdays."

What a good example for government enterprises: the little girls really meant to work to "groom and wash" the dogs, not merely stand around and collect the 30 cents.

Plucky little Holland and her wise queen seem to have decided that the 1914 "war to end all wars" did not finish its job. Holland went through the big war safely, selling butter, cheese, eggs, not disturbed, not making any bad \$10,000,000,000 loans.

Now Holland is buying 13 heavy bombing planes in Baltimore, spending \$1,500,000 for the 13, and spending many other millions for other killing machinery.

That means work and wages in Baltimore; it may mean poison gas and death for some of Holland's neighbors.

Foreign countries read everything said about them in America; not that foreign countries care what Americans think, or attach importance to American opinion, as such; but America has money, raw products, and governments that are sometimes whimsical, changeable and boyish.

Europe, Asia and Africa watch with equal interest statements of Americans that count and more numerous Americans that float like feathers in the air.

One simple-minded Russian pointed with pride to the statement of a clergyman in our Union Theological seminary.

That gentleman, Rev. Charles C. Webber, has a plan for a better government, not based on the text about rendering unto Caesar that which is Caesar's. The big idea is to take away what is Caesar's.

Eight hundred young people were told by Reverend Webber: "God, who is not content with things as they are, is a revolutionary Being, constantly seeking to make all things new."

Rev. Webber, "recognizing this," about God being a revolutionist, has a plan to help God in his efforts; a plan as simple as A. B. C. Capitalism, he says, must be abolished. Rev. Webber wants a planned and planning social economy in the United States. Under the Charles C. Webber plan, people would own and manage such things as industry and property; no money would be spent for war, and youth would rule.

Those brought up with the old-fashioned idea of God might ask Rev. Webber, respectfully: "If God really is a revolutionary constantly seeking to make all things new, why does He not carry out His will and 'make all things new' every few minutes? Can it be that He needs the help of Rev. Webber? Lenin and Stalin got along without that help."

Also arises this question: With capitalism abolished, who would build the churches, the Union Theological seminaries, and pay salaries to Rev. Webbers for reading the mind of the Divinity?

Dean Swift should have known Rev. Webber when he wrote his tale of a tub.

France calls Paris the "aerial port of Europe," proudly. In America the still prouder title "Chief Air Traffic Port of the Whole World" is claimed by Miami, Los Angeles, San Diego, Chicago, Cleveland, and with a great deal of reason by San Francisco and Oakland, thanks to the magnificent bay, and to the fact that the greatest air line, running from America to Asia, starts from that neighborhood.

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## what Irvin S. Cobb thinks about:

**Presidential Straw Votes.**  
**BOHEMIAN GROVE, CALIF.**—Every baby, as I've always heard, is born with a soft spot in its head, and once in a while there's one who never gets over it, but grows up and, in presidential years, goes around taking straw votes on railroad trains in order definitely to find out which ticket will be elected.

He is a kindred spirit to the other fellow, who, to settle the whole issue right now and avoid crowding at the polls in November, offers to bet you a cool thousand that his man beats your man, and then, before leaving, tries to borrow five dollars from somebody so he can get his laundry out of hock.

Having met both types within the ten days before coming here and being fearful that both species is going to multiply rapidly during the ensuing three months, I'm thinking seriously of taking the veil until after the campaign ends. Politics certainly does breed its ticks.

**The Little Red School House.**  
**Y**ES, in my early days we also had the little red schoolhouse. Maybe the reason we liked it then was that it got its red tone from the paint on the outside and not from the teaching staff on the inside.

Likewise, in those unprogressive times, we thought the youth of the land should be taught to cherish the American flag for something besides private hissing purposes. Hopelessly old fashioned, eh, what?

**The Dictator Business.**  
**I**T LOOKS as though, when the battle dust lifts from that distracted country, Spain will have a dictator, dictators being fashionable.

It seems to be comparatively easy to make a success of it, too. Just follow a formula:

Make it a blasphemous violation of the first commandment for anyone to assign you second place.

Be sure all sentences personally uttered begin with the capital letter "I" and end with the pronoun "me."

Convince yourself that, in order ever to behold any human being who is your equal in moral and mental stature, you must carry about with you a full-length mirror.

Never permit yourself to be photographed in your nightshirt, but always in full uniform.

On arising, lock the jaws and clench the fists and leave 'em that way all day.

And—this is very important—have a dependable police force and somebody to pick on, preferably somebody without any friends.

**Political Claim-Alls.**  
**S**HRINKING JEEMS FARLEY announces the Democrats will carry every division of the Union, although privately he is said to be a little bit doubtful of two very backward counties in Vermont.

While generously conceding the central part of Mississippi and the western end of Kentucky to the enemy, diffident John Hamilton is sure the Republicans will sweep everything else.

Congressman Lemke, most modest of the claimers, is certain he'll win in 40 states. Really, he doesn't need that many, but 40's a nice even number. If the shy Dr. Townsend also should run, he counts on 20,000,000 votes in this country, besides clean-cut majorities in Sweden, New South Wales and the Island of Yap.

**Oxen Versus Onions.**  
**W**ITH no aim to set up as a specialist in human behavior, I think I've stumbled on a significant, timely discovery. I found in a scientific work this statement:

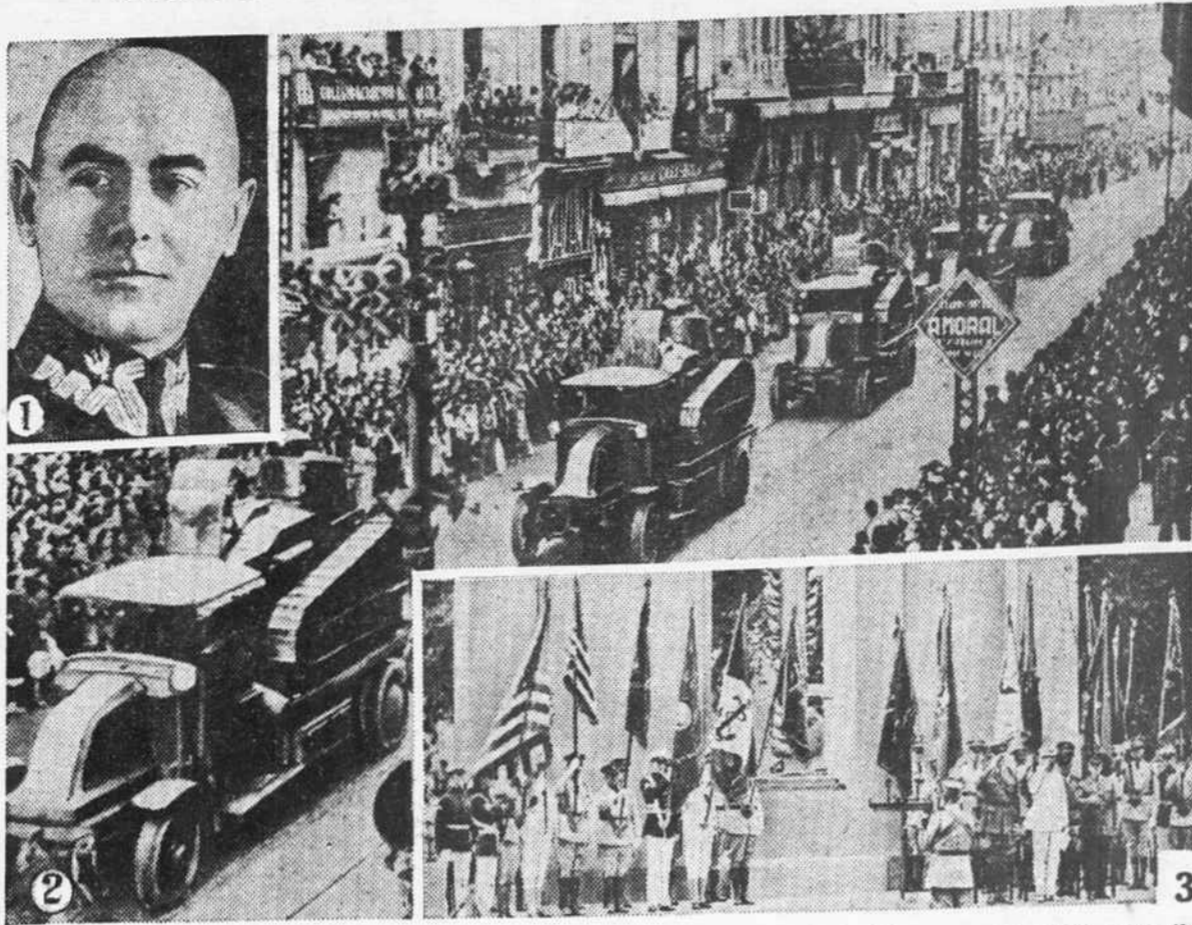
"Each living growth has to begin in a single microscopic cell. Moreover, every future thing of either animal or vegetable kingdom contains in that first cell a fixed number of even more infinitesimal bodies called chromosomes. In the ox, the guinea pig, the man and the onion, the number is the same invariably."

I contend this natural kinship in classification may explain why, in campaign years, some of us are bellowing oxen, some are docile guinea pigs and most of the rest of us are just plain onions.

**IRVIN S. COBB.**  
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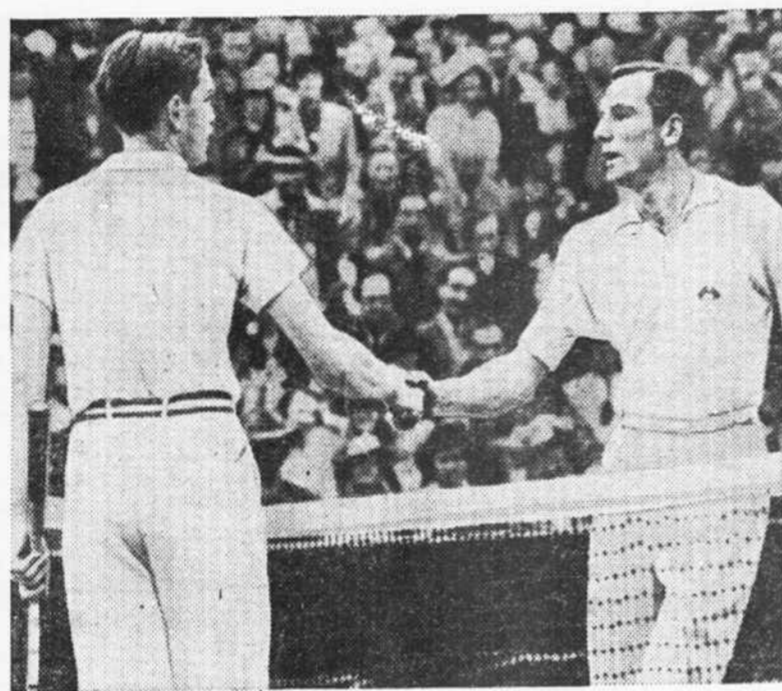
**Bananas Give More Food.**  
The banana gives more food per acre than any other plant, more calories per pound than any other fresh fruit and, in some large species, produces more food per single fruit than any other member of the vegetable kingdom, says Collier's Weekly. Huge bananas grown in East Africa and Cochinchina are two feet long, as thick as a man's arm and contain sufficient food to make an adequate meal for three men.

## Scenes and Persons in the Current News



1—Gen. Edward Rydz-Smigly, who has been proclaimed Poland's first citizen, a post which virtually drops him into the boots of the late Marshal Pilsudski. 2—Tanks rumble through Spain's cities, as the leftist government tries to crush the military revolt. 3—Veterans of the Second division dedicate a memorial to their fallen comrades in Washington, D. C.

### Perry Is Tennis Champ for Third Time



Wimbledon, England.—Baron Gottfried von Cramm of Germany (left) congratulates Fred Perry of England, who defeated him in straight sets to win the men's singles at Wimbledon for the third successive year. The German, however, injured a thigh muscle in the first set.

### FILLS FARLEY'S POST



William W. Howes, who is acting postmaster general during the leave of absence of Postmaster General James A. Farley, who is directing the Democratic party's campaign to re-elect President Roosevelt. Mr. Howes' regular post is first assistant postmaster general.

### GIVES ALL TO CHARITY



In a momentous decision based on "divine inspiration," Elsie Janis, one-time popular stage star and "sweetheart of the A. E. F.," during the World War, has disclosed plans to dispose of her worldly possessions and to devote the proceeds and her life to local charities.

### 51-Foot Yawl Wins Honolulu Race



"You're first to finish!" James Wilder, judge, tells James Flood (left), owner of the 51-foot yawl Dorade, at the end of the longest yacht race in America—2,225 miles from California to Honolulu. The Dorade, of San Francisco, crossed the finish line with an elapsed time of 13 days 7 hours 46 minutes and 53 1/2 seconds. The Circe, of Seattle, was second.

### Civilians and Their Dogs Parade in Gas Masks



Tokyo.—Civilians and their dogs parade through the streets of the Japanese capital wearing gas masks in a demonstration of the preparedness of the civilian population for a gas attack when and if the next war comes.

# Washington Digest

National Topics Interpreted  
by William Bruckart  
National Press Building Washington, D. C.

Washington.—The United States is being given an object lesson in what happens when government attempts to interfere with nature.

### The People Must Pay

American farmers these days are threshing their wheat crop. The production is that of a reduced acreage, an acreage that was planned on theory by the Department of Agriculture. The result is that this year's American wheat crop will approximate 640,000,000 bushels. That is about 145,000,000 bushels less than the average crop during the five years from 1929 to 1933. The result is a shortage.

Department of Agriculture figures indicate that the total wheat crop in the world this year will be something like 650,000,000 bushels below the annual production. In other words, the wheat crop is short everywhere on earth and the result is obvious.

In our own case, there is normally a carry-over each year of about 125,000,000 bushels but due to the shortage of the crop this year that carry-over is insufficient to make up the needs of domestic consumption.

Consequently, we soon will see heavy importations of Canadian wheat, a wheat that can be blended in milling with our own production and a very satisfactory flour results. Yet, it must be remembered that on all importations of wheat from Canada or anywhere else, a tariff of 42 cents a bushel must be paid. It is clear, therefore, that consumers of bread must pay that tariff because the importers are going to pass that item of expense along as part of the cost of the flour. In addition to the shortage in the United States, Canadian wheat production is reported to be something like 100,000,000 bushels under normal. There is sufficient production in Canada to permit of export, of course, but the shortage is bound to be reflected in the prices.

And mention of the price brings us back to the individual effect of the combination of acreage, reduced by government edict, plus the act of nature in visiting a drought upon us. Scarcity always results in higher prices. It is the operation of the law of supply and demand. The Roosevelt farm policy has been predicated on the theory that scarcity would produce higher prices and thereby add to the farm income. But drought and other production hazards cannot be predicted and, therefore, the American people find themselves in a position where the unpredictable has happened and the farmers are not getting the benefit of higher prices on a natural and normal production.

There seems to be a stronger demand for wheat now than at any time during the last five or six years. It indicates a restoration of buying power on the part of the masses. In other words, industry again is opening up to some extent and employing workers although the increase in employment has been small thus far.

### Industry Opens Up

In consequence of this combination of circumstances, there is now a seller's market in wheat instead of a buyer's market in wheat. To say it another way, there are more people seeking to buy wheat than there are seeking to sell it and the consumers of flour will pay the bill. By way of contrast with present conditions, it may be pointed out that world wheat consumption has exceeded world wheat production in every year except one since 1929. In the 1932 crop year there was slightly more wheat produced in the world than was consumed. The result of the steady growth in consumption over production in the last few years has been to wipe out all of the carry-over—wheat stored in bins and elevators throughout the world—and in every country users of wheat are scraping the bottoms of their bins. The tragedy of it all is that, because of the reduced acreage and the drought in the United States, American farmers are not in a position to take advantage of the higher prices thus established by the sale of surplus wheat which may have been accumulated if the acreage had been normal.

Instead of the United States really controlling the market for wheat, we are in a position where a good many other countries may be encouraged to grow more wheat. The natural and obvious results of this will be to further curtail the outlet for American wheat which so long has been relied on by many foreign nations that are non-producers of wheat.

I do not know how far the New Deal intends to go in revising its basic economic policy regarding crop controlling. I can be sure of only one thing in regard to the New Deal plans: The visitation of the drought in two years in which the political planners of the New Deal attempted to upset natural laws has proved the inability of

man to alter the course of nature and by the same token those conditions have proved the inability of government to change human nature.

### Bar Offers New Plan

A year or two ago, a committee of the American Bar association made a report, and by the same token those conditions have proved the inability of government to change human nature.

Lately, another committee of the American Bar association has published another report, again calling attention to the un-American practices established in such bureaucratic control. It offers a constructive proposal for the elimination of bureaucratic management of individual affairs from Washington. It proposes the establishment of an administration court which would have power to enforce these regulations and would be equipped with the judicial right of determination so that the thousands upon thousands of regulations and their various penalties would be enforced upon an individual accused of their violation without the need of a hearing.

Ultimately, the proposed court would take over the judicial functions of all of the administrative agencies in Washington now numbering something like 75.

I suppose the condition can be explained by the fact that the number of new laws have been set under the New Deal law.

### Too Many Bureaus

and that in the haste to get things into operation, no co-ordination had between the various agencies but it is my belief that private citizens cannot be blamed for this condition. Since they cannot be blamed for failure of government to function properly, they ought to be compelled to answer for the differences in law which bureaucrats have written under authority of congress to draft necessary regulations.

Sooner or later the public is going to become fully aware of the serious character of this situation. It can be safely predicted, I think, that when the general public find out what has happened, their wrath will not be easily appeased.

After all, congress is really to blame for this condition. It has passed through laws which President Roosevelt demanded and it did not take time to debate the provisions nor did it examine the sections to know fully what results would flow from them. In many cases, many statements of general legislative policy were not clear and congress abdicated its duties to the extent that it wrote into those provisions saying that the agencies which was to enforce the particular law was given authority to write whatever rules and regulations were found to be necessary. Some authority of this kind always has been given in order to make the national laws flexible but it never have been given to such an extent as they have in the last three years.

Insufficient time has elapsed since the American Bar association committee came forth with its administrative court proposal for an analysis to be made of its possibilities. It may, and probably does have, weaknesses. It does, however, have a strong point—the general idea that a judicial body should determine whether individual citizen has violated the bureaucrat's law and what the penalty should be rather than that bureaucrat sit as prosecutor, judge and jury in telling the individual citizen what his crime has been.

It probably will be said that lawyers are very technical and always looking for loopholes. But in this instance, it seems to me the American Bar association committee serves the highest public interest for speaking out boldly about an admittedly bad condition. It is to me, likewise, that the committee, instead of being criticized, must be praised for unselving because as long as bureaucrats continue to exercise the functions they are now exercising under authority from Congress, the situation constitutes a field day for the lawyers. Few, if any, individuals are going outside of Washington to find into the Capital city, find the agency that has charged them with violation of a bureaucrat's law and defend himself. He has to have a lawyer and that makes an additional burden upon business.

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