

# News Review of Current Events the World Over

## Congress Approving the President's Rehabilitation Program Step by Step—Oliver Wendell Holmes Resigns From the Supreme Court.

By EDWARD W. PICKARD

ONLY eight senators out of 81 voting opposed the passage in the senate of the administration's bill creating a reconstruction finance corporation that will extend \$2,000,000,000 credit to banks, insurance companies, railroads, mortgage loan companies, farm credit and other associations. A similar measure was rushed rapidly through the house, and before the close of the week President Hoover had the satisfaction of signing the act embodying his most ambitious plan for the financial rehabilitation of the country.

Debate of the measure in the senate was chiefly over proposed amendments, many of which were offered and few were chosen. The most important amendment adopted was proposed by Senator Ellison D. Smith of South Carolina. It added a new section to the bill authorizing an appropriation of \$50,000,000 for use by the secretary of agriculture to extend loans to small farmers. It stipulated further that the \$45,000,000 now remaining in the drought relief fund should be applied to such loans.

During the discussion there were frequent and fierce attacks on the banking interests, especially those of the "international" variety which are being accused of questionable methods and ethics in the flotation of foreign securities in the United States.

The eight men who refused to vote for the bill were all from the western states. They were Norris of Nebraska, Brookhart of Iowa, and Blaine of Wisconsin, all "progressive" Republicans, and Bratten of New Mexico, Bulow of South Dakota, Connally of Texas, McGill of Kansas, and Thomas of Oklahoma, all Democrats.

PROCEEDING with the economic program, the senate put through the bill increasing the resources of the federal land banks by \$125,000,000. Meanwhile subcommittees began hearings on the \$150,000,000 home loan discount bill and the \$750,000,000 depositors' relief bill.

The senate finance committee continued the taking of testimony relating to the deals of our international bankers in foreign securities, and it was often most interesting. For instance, it was brought out that Secretary of State Stimson and Francis White, assistant secretary, took an active part in ironing out an alleged misunderstanding between the Colombian government and a syndicate headed by the National City company, which early in 1931 temporarily withheld a payment of \$4,000,000 on a \$20,000,000 credit arrangement. Also, Oliver C. Townsend, formerly commercial attaché in Peru, said he was severely reprimanded for making a pessimistic report on the financial status of Peru when that country was trying to float a large loan in the United States.

NEARLY ninety-one years old and growing feeble physically, Oliver Wendell Holmes voluntarily brought to an end his service of thirty years as associate justice of the Supreme Court of the United States. The venerable and beloved jurist sent his resignation to President Hoover, who reluctantly accepted it, writing: "I know of no American retiring from public service with such a sense of affection and devotion of the whole people." Only the day before Mr. Justice Holmes had rendered a decision with characteristic pithy phrasing, but his voice wavered and he had to be helped from the bench and into his automobile. So he penned his letter of resignation, closing: "The time has come, and I bow to the inevitable."

There were many suggestions for a successor to Justice Holmes, among them being: Newton D. Baker, Wilson's secretary of war; Curtis D. Wilbur, Coolidge secretary of the navy; William Dewitt Mitchell, Hoover's attorney general; John W. Davis, 1924 Democratic Presidential candidate; William S. Kenyon, judge Eighth district United States Circuit court; Robert Von Moschizker, former chief jus-



Senator E. D. Smith

tice of the Supreme court of Pennsylvania; Benjamin Nathan Cardozo, chief judge, Court of Appeals, New York, and Learned Hand, judge Second district, United States Circuit court. Middle westerners put forward also the name of James H. Wilkerson of Chicago, who about the same time was elevated by the President from the district court to the federal Circuit Court of Appeals.

WHEN Gen. Charles G. Dawes informed the press that he would retire from the ambassadorship to Great Britain after the disarmament conference, gets under way, he created a great flurry among the minor politicians, some of whom assumed that he was putting himself in line for the Republican Presidential nomination if the opponents of Mr. Hoover could prevail. But the general put an end to such speculation in just such a statement as might be expected from him. In it he said: "I cherish for President Hoover the highest admiration and deepest affection. Any intimation to the effect that in any possible way or under any possible contingency he will not have my loyal and entire support is an insult to me."

SPEAKING of resignations, it may be recorded right here that James A. Farrell resigned the presidency of the United States Steel corporation, effective April 18. He has held the position since 1911 and would be retired automatically in February, 1933, but says he believes "the time has now arrived for my successor to be appointed in order to establish the management upon a more permanent foundation composed of younger men." Mr. Farrell will remain on the board of directors.

RETIREMENT of Dwight F. Davis from the position of governor general of the Philippine Islands had been long expected.

Mrs. Davis is in health and can live in the tropics. President Hoover promptly sent to the senate the name of Theodore Roosevelt, governor of Porto Rico, as the successor to Mr. Davis, and the selection, also no surprise, was generally commended. Colonel Roosevelt, son of the former President is forty-four years old and has made an excellent record as governor of Porto Rico, where he has been since 1929. He was assistant secretary of the navy from 1921 to 1924, in the latter year being the Republican candidate for governor of New York, but was defeated. His war service included participation in practically all the offensive operations of the A. E. F.

Roosevelt's successor in Porto Rico is likely to be James R. Beverly, attorney general and second ranking officer in the island government.

RETURNING to the doings of congress: The house ways and means committee began its hearings preliminary to drafting a bill for increase of taxes. Secretary Mellon of the treasury and Undersecretary Mills were called to explain their department program, which is designed to raise a billion dollars in revenue by boosting income rates all along the line and by levying taxes on many things the ordinary citizen enjoys—automobiles, tobacco, amusements, radio—as well as such conveniences as bank checks and telephone and telegraph messages.

The judiciary committee of the house had before it the resolution of Representative Wright Patman of Texas for impeachment of Secretary Mellon. The Texan set forth his charges of "high crimes and misdemeanors" based on Mr. Mellon's alleged connection with business in violation of law. The secretary was represented by Alexander W. Gregg, former solicitor of the internal revenue bureau.

MRS. HATTIE W. CARAWAY of Arkansas, widow of Senator T. H. Caraway, is now a senator in her own right, having been elected to that high post by the people of her state. She is the first woman ever elected to the senate. Her victory at the polls was a foregone conclusion as soon as the Democrats nominated her. There were two "independent" candidates but they didn't get many votes. Mrs.



Col. Theodore Roosevelt

Caraway made no campaign. She remained in Washington, serving in the senate under a temporary appointment from Gov. Harvey Parnell.

THOSE Democrats who oppose the nomination of Franklin D. Roosevelt for the Presidency felt they had gained a point when the national committee sold the national convention to Chicago. "Sold" is the right word, for the prize was frankly awarded to the city that would guarantee the most money for the convention's expenses. The Chicagoans offered \$200,000 outright. The opening date is June 27.

POLITICAL scheming resulted in the upset of the French cabinet and conditions in Paris were described as chaotic. Premier Laval handed to President Doumer the resignations of all the ministers except himself, and tried hard to get the support of the radicals, offering the post of foreign minister to Edouard Herriot. That gentleman declined, stating that his party could not participate in the government until after the spring elections, and so Laval was left no course but resignation. Laval then formed another cabinet from which Briand was omitted. It was assumed that there would be no change in France's foreign policy at the reparations and disarmament conferences.

SECRETARY OF STATE STIMSON is at peace with Japan again and the incident of the assault on Consul C. B. Chamberlain by Japanese soldiers in Mukden is considered closed with the punishment of those who actually participated in the attack. Tokyo offered also to discipline Major General Ninamiya, commander of the military police, and his subordinate officers, held responsible for the actions of the military police. Punishment of a major general in such cases is rare, and the secretary accepted the other punishments as sufficient and asked remission of the punishment of the general and his subordinates.



C. B. Chamberlain

The neutral commission of investigation fathered by the League of Nations will leave Europe at the end of January for Manchuria, where it will be joined by Gen. Frank R. McCoy, the American member.

ATTORNEY General William D. Mitchell began a searching investigation into the enforcement of criminal laws in Hawaii, with especial reference to the recent killing of a native Hawaiian who had been accused of attacking the wife of a naval officer. Crime conditions in Honolulu are wretched, according to a report of the house naval committee, and some congressmen think it may be necessary to change the organic law of the territory to make the islands safe for white women.

Meanwhile the naval officer concerned, Lieut. Thomas H. Massie; his mother-in-law, Mrs. Granville Fortescue, and two enlisted men are under charges of having murdered Joseph Kahahawai, one of the men alleged to have attacked Mrs. Massie. The lieutenant indicated that he would be satisfied with a trial in the local court, and though there was opposition to this in navy circles in Washington, Secretary Adams decided that all the defendants should be turned over to the territorial authorities.

Gov. Lawrence Judd called a special session of the territorial legislature to consider Honolulu's crime situation.

LEADERS of the dry forces of the United States, aroused but by no means dismayed by the activities of the wets, held a big five-day conference in Washington to inaugurate what they declare will be a year of "the most intense activity since the adoption of the Eighteenth amendment." These big guns of the Anti-Saloon league and a large number of their adherents made and listened to red hot speeches and laid plans for the 1932 national campaign. They formulated unified action on the proposed re-submission of the dry amendment to the states, which the league opposes, and arranged for public meetings everywhere and the wide circulation of literature.

Most prominent among the speakers and planners in the convention were F. Scott McBride, general superintendent of the league; Bishop W. N. Ainsworth of Birmingham, Ala.; Gov. William H. Murray of Oklahoma, Senator Morris Sheppard of Texas, Patrick Callahan of Louisville and Ernest H. Cherrington, general secretary of the World League Against Alcoholism. (© 1932 Western Newspaper Union.)

## O. W. HOLMES RESIGNS FROM SUPREME COURT

### Failing Health Forces the Aged Jurist to Quit.

Washington.—Oliver Wendell Holmes has resigned as justice of the United States Supreme court, and President Hoover accepted his resignation.

The justice, in a letter to the President, said the condition of his health made the move necessary. He told the President "the time has come when I must bow to the inevitable."

Announcing receipt of the resignation, the President said "I must, of course, accept it."

The veteran justice will be ninety-one on March 8.

The strength of Mr. Holmes has been markedly lessening in late months. His step became somewhat enfeebled at times and he has become stooped. He frequently required the help of court pages or of his fellow justices to take his seat and rise after the session was over, at recent meetings of the court.

Holmes' letter, submitting his resignation to the President, said:

"In accordance with the provision of the judicial code as amended section 200, title 28 United States code 375, I tender my resignation as justice of the Supreme court of the United States of America.

"The condition of my health makes it a duty to break off connections that I cannot leave without deep regret after the affectionate relations of many years and the absorbing interests that have filled my life.

"I have nothing but kindness to remember from you and from my brethren."

In a letter addressed to the aged justice, the President said:

"I am in receipt of your letter of January 12 tendering your resignation from the Supreme Court of the United States. I must, of course, accept it.

"No appreciation I could express would even feebly represent the gratitude of the American people for your whole life of wonderful public service, from the time you were an officer in the Civil war to this day—near your ninety-first anniversary.

"I know of no American retiring from public service with such a sense of affection and devotion of the whole people."

Justice Holmes was named to the bench by President Roosevelt on December 4, 1902.

The son of Oliver Wendell Holmes, noted New England wit and author, he had already made a name for himself as a justice on the Massachusetts Supreme court and his liberal trend was pronounced then.

## Company of Japanese Is Wiped Out by Chinese

Tokyo.—Four Japanese officers and more than thirty noncommissioned officers and men are reported to have been killed and almost all of the rest of their company wounded by Chinese bandits at Hsinlitun, on the Tahushan-Tungling railway.

The battle started when the Japanese, on the way to repair the line following the derailing of a Japanese armored car, were attacked by 5,000 Chinese. The Japanese company was practically wiped out after several hours of fierce fighting.

## Four on Trial Feb. 1 for Donnelly Kidnaping

Kansas City, Mo.—The trial of four persons indicted in the kidnaping of Mrs. Nell Donnelly, millionaire garment manufacturer, was set for February 1 by Judge Brown Harris.

The four are Mrs. Ethel Depew, whose husband, Marshall Depew, is sought as one of the chief kidnapers; Lacy Browning, Holliday (Kan.) farmer, accused of arranging the hideout for the kidnapers; Paul Scheidt, Bonner Springs, Kan., at whose house Mrs. Donnelly was held, and Charles Mele.

## Shoemaker Confesses the Murder of Little Girl

Cincinnati.—The kidnaping and slaying of six-year-old Marian McLean was confessed, County Prosecutor Robert N. Gorman announced, by Charles Bischoff, forty-five, a shoemaker. Marian's body was found December 22 in the basement of a tenement occupied by Bischoff, who was the first to report the discovery. She had been lured away from her home December 17.

## Wife Slayer Kills Self

Pontiac, Mich.—Sought for 36 hours as the slayer of his wife and her companion, James Schacklady killed himself as officers approached his hiding place in the attic of the house where he shot Mrs. Anna Schacklady, forty-two, and James P. Breen, fifty-two, to death.

# DISTINCTIVE RADIO PROGRAMS

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# Vaseline PREPARATIONS

## Second Educational Series of Radio Lectures Started

Authorities on economics, psychology and other subjects have inaugurated the second series of "Listen and Learn" Lectures under the auspices of the National Advisory Council on Radio in Education, over coast-to-coast networks.

Dr. Robert M. Hutchins, president of the University of Chicago, started the spring series in January when he and representatives of the Council outlined the lecture courses to follow. The programs are heard every Saturday over NBC-WEAF facilities.

The series is scheduled for twenty weeks, closing with a valedictory program the last week in May.

Among the Speakers. International trade, the tariff and industrial planning are economic subjects to be touched upon by speakers such as James Harvey Rogers of Yale, Ernest M. Patterson of Pennsylvania, F. W. Taussig of Harvard, George Henry Soule, Jr., editor of The New Republic, and Walton H. Hamilton of Yale.

Changes and growth in personalities, animal behavior and psychology in education are topics to be taken up by Fred A. Moss of George Washington University, Henry W. Nissen of Yale, Frank N. Freeman of Chicago, and others.

Public response to the initial ten lectures broadcast in the fall indicated, according to the Council, that they reached listening groups in the home, school, special neighborhood gatherings and even fishermen of Nova Scotia.

## PATRIOTIC SONGS

The songs that thrill Americans, patriotic selections written by inspired composers, will be played in the February National 4-H club program of the National Farm and Home Hour by the United States Marine Band.

The concert will be another program in the series by the Marine Band on "Learning to Know America's Music."

Beginning with "The Star-Spangled Banner," the renditions will swing through "America," and the lively strains of "Dixie." These will be followed with "Yankee Doodle," "America the Beautiful," "Columbia, the Gem of the Ocean," "Hail Columbia," and a more recent song written when the United States Army was moving to the European battle front, "Over There."

The programs are designed to acquaint and familiarize the 850,000 4-H club members of the United States with the music which is typical of America.

Each month an additional concert will be provided by the Marine Band. On March 5 America's hymns and religious songs will be featured. The programs are broadcast over a coast-to-coast network.

Harvey Hays, well known to radio listeners for his interpretations of outdoor roles, will play the part of the forest ranger. Wise in the ways of forest uses and protection through long experience in the fields, the character will often find himself in amusing situations with his sub-assistant whose eagerness sometimes overwhelms his better judgment.

A lion's roar in the studios of the National Broadcasting Company is produced, not by a lion's vocal cords, but with a bass viol bow drawn across a length of hemp covered with rosin.

Alfred Corn, who plays the part of Sammy in The Goldbergs' NBC daily feature, is nearing his sixteenth birthday, and is a student in high standing at the Art Students' League.



Justice O. W. Holmes



F. Scott McBride