

1—The Irish House of Parliament in Dublin, formerly the Bank of Ireland. 2—Unfinished dam at Muscle Shoals, the great power plant which Henry Ford wishes to buy from the government. 3—American Communist delegates on the balcony of the former czar's palace in Moscow.

NEWS REVIEW OF CURRENT EVENTS

Pacific Peace Treaty Signed and Agreement on Navy Plan Is Announced.

CHINA PROBLEM IS HARDER

Irish Pact Before British Parliament and Dall Eireann for Ratification —War Between Chile and Peru Threatened Over Tacna-Arica.

By EDWARD W. PICKARD
STEADILY and sanely the Washington conference is performing the great task which President Harding set for it. Such was the progress made last week that it seemed likely the major problems would be solved before the holidays and that the conference would adjourn, leaving details to be settled by experts and certain of the questions to be handled by future conferences.

The way was cleared effectively by the quadruple agreement for stabilization of peace in the Pacific. This, in the form of a treaty, was signed on Tuesday by the delegates of the four powers and now awaits formal ratification by the legislative bodies of those nations. That it will be ratified in Great Britain, France and Japan is beyond doubt, and there are few who think that the American senate will not also accept it. Senator Borah of course has announced his opposition to the treaty, and Senators Reed and LaFollette stand with him. They profess to find in its second article commitments similar to those in Article 10 of the League of Nations covenant, and even worse than the latter. So far no one else worth mentioning has discovered the terrible danger in Article 2. Those who approve of the treaty—and they appear to be decidedly in the majority both in the senate and in the country generally—agree with Premier Takahashi of Japan, who says the pact is "the grandest contribution to the cause of peace ever recorded in history."

There were rumors in Washington that former President Wilson was advising the Democratic senators to fight the treaty, but more reliable reports were to the effect that he had urged them not to commit themselves until the conference had completed its work and the pact could be studied in its relations to the other agreements reached. Of course Senator Underwood, the Democratic leader in the senate, cannot oppose the treaty for he signed it as one of the delegates. When President Harding will send it in for ratification is not known. It may not be until after the holiday recess.

WITH that treaty out of its way, the conference resumed consideration of the naval reduction and limitation plan. The Japanese pleaded earnestly to be permitted to retain their new pet dreadnaught, the Mutsu. For several days the Americans held out against this, but finally it was agreed to, with the understanding that, to maintain the 5-5-3 ratio, the American navy should retain the super-dreadnaughts Colorado and Washington in place of the Delaware and the North Dakota, and that Great Britain should retain two of the new Hood type battleships already planned. But these Hood vessels as designed would be more powerful than either the Colorado or the Mutsu class, so it was suggested that they should not be built any larger than the Colorado.

This plan was accepted by all and the naval agreement was formally announced to the conference. The pact includes the provision that there shall be no increases in fortifications and naval bases in the Pacific region, including the British case and fortifications at Hongkong and Kowloon. This restriction does not apply to the Hawaiian Islands, Australia, New Zealand, and Japan proper, nor to the coasts of the United States and Canada.

China's delegation stepped forward again on Wednesday with formal plea to the Far Eastern committee for the abrogation of the treaties growing out of the twenty-one demands of Japan in 1915, which China says she was forced to accept. By these treaties Japan retains her hold on Shantung and Manchuria. The Japanese delegates quickly and sharply objected to the Chinese proposal and the committee adjourned sine die. Meanwhile the negotiations between the Japanese and Chinese outside the conference are continuing, the latter putting forward a plan by which Chinese bankers propose to purchase from Japan the ownership and control of the Shantung railroad—the nub of the whole controversy over that province. It was said the Japanese had so far receded from their original claims for retention of half ownership that they were now willing to give up the road, with certain reservations concerning the methods and security for payment, and also preferential rights of investment. These rights might result in giving the Japanese actual control of the management, but China realizes that she cannot get all she asks.

The members of the conference evidently feel that the best they can do for China now is to adopt a new "bill of rights" for her which will enable her to organize a stable functioning government, and that to such a government may be left many of the country's problems and troubles.

To further complicate the Chinese problem came from the soviet government of Russia a protest against discussion of the Chinese Eastern railway by the conference. The road, which is of immense strategic and economic importance to Russia, China and Japan, was built by Russia and legally speaking belongs to Russia. For several years it has been managed by an interallied board—whose chairman is John F. Stevens of America. Both the United States and Japan have spent large sums on the upkeep of the line.

Secretary Hughes made public the main points of the agreement entered into between the United States and Japan concerning Yap and the other islands north of the equator assigned to Japan by the treaty of Versailles. It confers upon the United States equal privileges with Japan in all those islands but imposes on it no obligations or responsibilities.

BRITISH and French statesmen and financiers have not yet been able to come to anything like agreement concerning the German reparations, and from both countries come unofficial but insistent calls to America to take part in the discussions. The hope is expressed daily that President Harding will call another conference to handle this problem and that of world finances generally. Meantime the senate finance committee is fussing with the administration's foreign loan refunding bill and trying to do things to it which Secretary of the Treasury Mellon does not like. He especially objected to a proposed provision requiring foreign nations to make payments to the United States semi-annually. He said this would seriously handicap negotiations for refunding the loans.

BOTH the British parliament and the Dall Eireann, the "peasant parliament" of Ireland, met last week to receive the reports of the peace delegates and to act on the treaty they drew up. The British lawmakers were urged both by the king and Premier Lloyd George to ratify the treaty and, despite the opposition of a few "die-hards," there was no doubt that they would do so.

In Dublin the agreement was not having quite so smooth a path. From the outset De Valera made plain his opposition, if not to the whole treaty, at least to certain of its provisions, and he accused the Irish delegates of exceeding their powers in signing it before submitting it to the dall cabinet. Collins and Griffith, leaders of the treaty supporters, vigorously upheld their action and the debate became so warm that the dall went into secret session to settle that point, with the understanding that the debate on the acceptance of the treaty should be public. Observers were confident that a majority of the dall members

avored ratification, and they felt equally certain that if the question were referred to a plebiscite, as De Valera might ask, a large majority of the people of southern Ireland would vote for acceptance of the peace terms.

The opposition in the British parliament was voiced in the house of lords by Lord Edward Carson and in the commons by Capt. Charles Craig, brother of the Ulster premier. Already the Ulster cabinet had sent word to London that Ulster would not enter the Irish Free State, and it protested bitterly against the making of an Irish agreement without its consent. It charged that the treaty violates the word of King George and Premier Lloyd George. In the Ulster note exception was taken also to the boundary commission plan, it being contended that to remove territory from any government without that government's consent is without precedent.

Over here in America a lot of the professional Irish, like Justice Cahalan of New York, are wildly denouncing the treaty. Just what they want us to do about it—whether to weep, or to declare war against England—they have not yet stated.

UNLESS someone intervenes, Chile and Peru are likely to have a war over the long disputed territory of Tacna-Arica. Technically a state of war has existed between them since the Peruvian assembly decreed the reincorporation of Tacna-Arica and Tarapaca in Peruvian territory. Now, though there are no diplomatic relations between the two countries, Chile has invited Peru to take part in a plebiscite in the territory, and has intimated that if Peru declines, Chile's only alternative is to annex Tacna-Arica. No one expects Peru to accept the invitation, and the government's organ, La Prensa of Lima, characterizes the Chilean note as "a gross insult following the deportation of Peruvians from the captured provinces." This journal suggests arbitration by the United States as the best way out of the tangle.

REPRESENTATIVES of 35,000 railway maintenance men in New York voted to reject any wage reduction proposals and to appeal to the railway labor board for increases in pay. Two days later that board dealt the maintenance of way men a hard blow in new rules it promulgated. Under this decision time and a half rates are to be paid after the tenth hour of work instead of after the eighth hour as under the old national working agreement. The "basic" eight-hour day, however, is reaffirmed; but the new rules allow the carriers and employees to make agreements for reduction of working hours below eight to avoid making force reductions. The starting time of any shift, too, is to be arranged by mutual understanding. This knocks out right hour stipulations in the old agreement.

THE United Mine Workers of America won a partial victory on Thursday when the United States Circuit Court of Appeals at Chicago found Judge Anderson of Indianapolis was in error in enjoining the operation of the "checkoff" system and remanded the case back to him for rehearing. This action of the Court of Appeals was believed to have prevented a general strike of coal miners, already started in Indiana and Illinois.

Wives of the striking coal miners of Kansas, followers of the discredited and expelled Howat, were the leaders of mobs in the Pittsburg region which fiercely attacked miners who wished to work and raised such trouble generally that state troops were sent there.

GOVERNOR HARDING of the federal reserve board, whose annual report was made public last week, is fairly optimistic. He says basic business and financial conditions throughout the country have improved greatly during the past year, though normalcy is yet to be attained.

"Until the purchasing power of the farmer improves," he continued, "it will, of course, be idle to look for any rapid or substantial improvement in domestic trade. I think, however, that the outlook for the farmers is more hopeful."

BOY SCOUTS

(Conducted by National Council of the Boy Scouts of America.)

LIFE SAVING MEDALS

Medals as follows for heroic service in the saving of life have been awarded by the National Council of Honor, since its last meeting in May 1921.

GOLD MEDALS—Henry Rate, Troop 7, Vineland, N. Y.; Henry A. Skelton, Troop 12, Wilmington, Del. **SILVER MEDALS**—George S. Allen, Troop 1, Bridgeport, Pa.; Joseph Buckley, Troop 2, Allston, Mass.; Loren C. Underwood, Troop 19, Denver, Colo.; Myles Turner, Troop 1, Lancaster, Ohio; Horace Viner, Troop 15, Denver, Colo.; Charles E. Carter, Troop 1, Tutwiler, Miss.; Morris Carmedy, Troop 2, Painesville, O.; Floyd Lamb, Troop 4, Westery, R. I.; Cyril Ashworth, Troop 5, Westery, R. I.; Milburn L. Fay, Troop 2, Lincoln, Ill.; Edwin Brockman, Troop 47, Brooklyn, N. Y.; Michael Larick, Troop 1, Emporium, Pa.; F. Austin Culver, Troop 1, Princess Anne, Md.; Camp Bonds, Troop 1, Muskogee, Okla.; William Barrar, Troop 5, Charleston, W. Va.; John A. Wilson, Troop 5, Columbus, O.; T. E. Tappan, Jr., Troop 1, Helena, Ark.; Eugene Krenkie, Troop 1, Niagara, Wis.; Charles R. Green, Troop 1, Edna Mills, Calif.; Richard A. Dee, Troop 50, Hartford, Conn.; Paul Wolfert, Troop 12, Warren, O.; Glen A. Case, Troop 30, Des Moines, Ia.; Percy A. Baker, Troop 1, Terryville, Conn.; Ferman Villami, Troop 1, Florida, N. Y.; Richard Wolven, Troop 1, Raritan, N. J.; William Kramer, Troop 1, Old Bridge, N. J.; Thomas H. Robinson, Troop 4, Camden, N. J.

BRONZE MEDALS—Ross Maca, Troop 2, Pe Ell, Wash.; Fred Leeburger, Troop 63, Des Moines, Ia.; Everett L. Cheney, Troop 1, Wilmington, Vt.; Morgan Willey, Troop 45, Denver, Colo.; Leland S. Waggoner, Troop 69, Denver, Colo.; Clifford L. England, Troop 65, Liverpool, N. Y.; Kenneth W. Dayton, Troop 1, N. Harpersfield, N. Y.; Wright A. Edmonson, Jr., Troop 1, Marlboro, Mass.; Herman Boehlinger, Troop 106, Philadelphia, Pa.; Merline Gerard, Troop 29, Berkeley, Cal.; William Palmer, Troop 5, Kewanee, Ill.; Charles Priest, Troop 1, East Long Meadow, Mass.; James McGeorge, Troop 43, Sea Cliff, N. Y.

BOY SCOUTS PLAY SANTA CLAUS

Last year Akron (O.) scouts collected and distributed 900 toys among the poor children of the city. This year they raised the number to 1,500. For weeks they canvassed the city for old toys, dolls, sleds, etc., which they painted, repaired and made to look as good as new to delight the hearts of the kiddies on Christmas morning. This kind of good turn is being quite generally practiced throughout the country. Other cities reporting similar Santa Claus service on the part of scouts were Louisville, Ky.; Cincinnati, O.; and Butte, Mont. The Cincinnati council got out an attractive poster in the name of "Santa Claus Co., Inc.," bespeaking the public cooperation in handing over old toys to the boy scouts for repairing and redistribution under the auspices of the Associated Charities. The Butte scouts established a regular toy hospital at their headquarters, to which the papers gave considerable publicity.

SCOUTS MAKE TRAFFIC SURVEY

The city planning commission of Grand Rapids, Mich., recently invited the Boy Scouts of America to conduct a traffic survey. This was accomplished in so thorough and satisfactory a manner that the boys won high praise not only from the city planning department but from all who saw the boys at their work. The count was checked up by men from the traffic safety council and was found in only one instance to be inaccurate. Hugh E. Lynch, secretary of the commission, in thanking Scout Executive Walker for the boys' services, said that he regretted that every boy could not have the benefit of scout training, because he could see in watching the boys at work how far-reaching the influence of the movement was and what a genuine contribution to citizenship training.

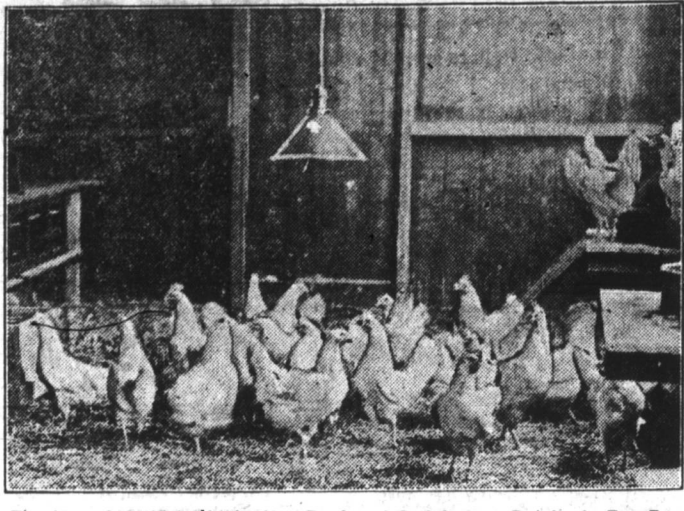
EXPLORE UNCHARTED SWAMPS

A group of scouts and scout officials, representatives of the National Geographic society and newspaper men from Atlanta and other Georgia towns went on an exploring expedition last November into the hitherto uncharted Okefenokee swamps to investigate its wild life.

TO GIVE SERVICE MEDAL

The board of trustees of the village of Bronxville, N. Y., has voted to award a "Village Medal" every year to the boy scout whose record at school, at home, at work (if employed) and in scouting activities indicates the most promise and achievement and one in whom the village may justly take real pride. The name of the scout who is so honored will be placed on a permanent tablet in the trustee's room of the village hall.

ARTIFICIAL LIGHTS FOR FOWLS INCREASE PRODUCTION OF EGGS



The Use of Artificial Light Has Produced Satisfactory Results in Egg Production of Flocks in a Number of States.

(Prepared by the United States Department of Agriculture.)

Artificial lights properly operated will materially increase the winter egg production of pullets, the United States Department of Agriculture believes. The use of lights may also slightly increase the yearly egg production of individual hens, though not to any marked extent. The opinion of the department's poultry division is fully corroborated by many of the state experiment stations, particularly those in California, Indiana, Kansas, Washington, Connecticut, Pennsylvania, North Carolina, New York and New Jersey. County agents working in New York and New Jersey report considerable activity in this project, in which the Department of Agriculture usually cooperates with the state agricultural college through the county agent.

Lighting as a Feeding Measure.

It should be well understood that artificial lighting is intended primarily as a means of getting the hens to feed longer than they otherwise would during the short days of fall and winter. An extra feeding of scratch grain should be provided, so that the flock is induced to eat not only enough for maintenance but an amount comparable to what is eaten in the more active laying seasons.

Lights are used soon after September 1 in New Jersey, but in most localities they are started November 1 and continued to April 1. Conditions vary in different states. What may be good practice in New Jersey may not work in Kansas. In the latter state electricity is considered the only practical kind of light, while in other states kerosene lamps and gasoline stoves are sometimes used. Electricity is the most practical method to use wherever it is available.

How to Use Artificial Light.

The total daylight, real and artificial, should be about fourteen hours. There are three ways of increasing the apparent length of the day—by turning on lights very early in the morning, or by keeping them going several hours at night, or by using them both morning and night. While all three methods have given good results, the first is usually found most convenient, because the lights merge into daylight and no ill effects result if they are not turned off promptly.

In using the second method some dimming device is needed with electric lights to lower the illumination gradually. The hens do not get to their roosts if the light is suddenly extinguished. Gasoline and kerosene lamps have to be turned down.

Artificial lighting can be abused, with disastrous effects on the flock. If they are run for too long a day, the hens may produce well for a short time and then begin to moult. If the laying passes 60 per cent, or in the opinion of some poultry authorities, 50 per cent, there is danger of moulting and consequent cessation of laying. In the spring the lights should never be stopped abruptly. The length of time they are run should be shortened about ten minutes a day until they can be entirely abandoned.

Other Points With Lights.

Fresh water should be given the flock the first thing in the morning when the lights are turned on. Birds of different ages should not be housed together or lighted in the same way. They should be properly graded and flocked according to age. Lighting makes it possible to carry February-hatched pullets through the first fall and winter producing period with less moulting. Yearlings and two-year-old hens are better if started with artificial lights in January, and the method is not as profitable as with pullets. It is considered a questionable practice to turn lights on cullled hens to stimulate egg production. In New Jersey, where the largest amount of work has been done with artificial lighting, it is thought better to sell the culls and buy good birds.

Artificial lights should be suspended from the ceiling so that the entire floor space is lighted. If the roosting closet partition casts a shadow on the roosts, the chickens will go to sleep in the shadow.

Results in New Jersey show that in general the use of lights nearly doubles production during the period of high prices of eggs and greatly increases the usual net return over the cost of lights and feed in the lighted pens. The lighted flock showed better health than the unlighted ones, and the subsequent laying was as good among the birds which had had winter lights as with any of the birds.

A record was kept of 14 New Jersey flocks for five months. The birds averaged 3,802 in number and laid 280,511 eggs altogether. This was a 41 per cent production, whereas a 22 per cent production was usual before the experiment. This meant an increase of 127,158 eggs.

An experiment was made at the agricultural experiment station, New Brunswick, N. J., in which 600 unlighted pullets made a profit of \$3.20 per bird, but 500 lighted birds cleared \$5.07 each. The lights were turned on in the morning. Where an evening lunch was given to 100 pullets the profit per bird was \$5.48. The fuel and operating cost for 1,100 birds was 4.4 cents per bird. An increase of a single egg per bird pays this cost.

AFFECT FARM VALUES BY CHANGES IN TYPE

Certain Crops Have Ceased to Be Profitable.

Farmer in Making New Selection Will Do Well to Look Back and Follow Economic Changes That Have Occurred.

(Prepared by the United States Department of Agriculture.)

Many farmers, before buying a farm, have saved themselves future losses by looking well into the matter of a probable change in the type of farming practiced in the region they have under consideration. Certain crops may cease to be profitable owing to the development of other regions more favorably situated for their production and marketing. Some crops may have to be abandoned because of disease, insect pests or other causes. The United States Department of Agriculture suggests the test question: Is the farm selected adapted to such possible changes?

For instance, the farm selected may now be growing beans, potatoes, corn, oats, clover and hay, with the prospect that beans and potatoes will soon cease to be profitable. The question then arises—can some other crop or crops be found to replace them? Very few regions have a wide range of crops, especially in general farming, and adaptability to new crops is a very important consideration.

Can the beef-cattle farm be made over into a dairy farm? Can the dairy farm be made into a sheep farm? Can the fruit farm be made into a hay, grain or live stock farm? In many instances it will be found that the farm in question demands a type of farming that cannot be easily changed to meet the needs of changing conditions.

When making a selection, look back and follow the local economic changes that have occurred in the last 30 years, and then judge for yourself whether the farm you have under consideration has the adaptability necessary for meeting the changes that are bound to come in the future.

BEST CABBAGE FOR STORING

Should Be Carefully Grown and of Variety Well Adapted to Keeping, Say Experts.

Cabbage for storing should be carefully grown and handled and of a variety well adapted to keeping, say the vegetable specialists of the United States Department of Agriculture. The heads should be solid and all loose leaves removed and practically free from injuries caused by insects and diseases. They should be placed in a storage house so constructed and arranged as to prevent drip from the structure striking the stored heads. It is also essential that moisture and ventilation be so controlled as to prevent the condensation of moisture on the cabbage while in storage. The temperature maintained in common storage houses may vary from 32 to 45 or 50 degrees Fahrenheit, depending on outdoor conditions. In no case should the cabbage be allowed to freeze.

The usual type of construction employed in commercial storage houses is that of a broad, low house with an alley sufficiently wide to admit a team and wagon through the center, and with the storage bins or shelves arranged on either side. The cabbage is placed on shelves in layers, one to three layers deep, or in crates or ventilated bins. Banks, pits and cellars are also largely used for the keeping of the crop.

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