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DOINGS OF THE WEEK

NEWS REVIEW OF CURRENT EVENTS

Our Policy in Nicaragua Bitterly Attacked in Latin America.

By EDWARD W. PICKARD

IF ONE were to believe the press in some Latin-American republics and the alarmists at home, affairs in Nicaragua are approaching a crisis that will be very uncomfortable for the United States. But the administration pursues its course steadily and without the least appearance of being worried. Rear Admiral Julian B. Latimer, commanding our naval forces down there, has established a neutral zone that embraces the entire east coast of Nicaragua and has notified both sides in the civil struggle that any troops of either faction that enter that zone will be disarmed. Though the zone includes Puerto Cabezas, where Doctor Sacasa set up his liberal government, Admiral Latimer's action last week happened to strike hardest at the Diaz forces, for they suffered a severe defeat at Las Perlas and hundreds of them were forced to retire to El Bluff, where they were disarmed by the Yankee gobs. The Conservatives fought desperately for three days but could not withstand the attacks of the Liberals, who were said to have the help of 300 Mexican soldiers and officers.

Dr. T. S. Vaca, agent of the Liberal government in Washington, lodged with Secretary of State Kellogg an emphatic protest against the occupation of Puerto Cabezas by the Americans, asserting that it was unwarranted and that Doctor Sacasa was held in "practical imprisonment." At about the same time President Coolidge gave out a statement describing America's intervention as non-partisan and declaring that the only purpose in landing the bluejackets in Puerto Cabezas was the protection of the lives and property of American citizens. American marines, according to the President, have not molested Doctor Sacasa or any member of his cabinet. The Liberal president, it was pointed out, is now residing in a house lent by Americans at Puerto Cabezas.

Senator Borah, chairman of the senate foreign relations committee, after conferring with Secretary Kellogg and reading a cablegram from Admiral Latimer, issued a formal statement saying he did not believe it was the intention of the United States to intervene in the affairs of Nicaragua, but warning that the government should be "vigilant against being tricked into intervention."

"Naturally, we are interested in protecting our own people," the Borah statement continued. "But we should also bear in mind that to do anything more than is necessary to protect them is wholly unjustifiable. Those people have their own way of doing things, and not only this government but American citizens who go into these countries will have to take that into consideration. I am in favor of withdrawing our forces from Nicaragua just as soon as it can be ascertained that Americans are reasonably safe."

Senator Moses, also a member of the committee, is not so satisfied. He introduced a resolution calling on the State department for the correspondence leading up to the recognition of Diaz and relating to efforts to stabilize his government. It was presumed this would open the way to a general discussion of American policies in Latin America.

Newspapers in Mexico, Brazil and Argentina are bitterly attacking the policy of the United States in Nicaragua. In Buenos Aires the press calls it part of the fixed program of the United States eventually to annex all of South America. But they are angered by our refusal to admit their beef and alfalfa seed, and suggest a boycott on American coal in retaliation. Unfortunately Ambassador Peter A. Jay, who could explain it all to the Argentine government, has resigned and is about to come home with the body of his daughter, who died there.

Science Now Promises New Fuels From Coal

A common lump of coal, productive of little more than heat, smoke and ashes is a veritable wonder lamp in possibilities and American scientists are determined to be its Aladdin. Smokeless coal, automobiles run on a bituminous substitute for gasoline, universal gas heat instead of coal heat, are only a few of the changes bound to come about, experts say, as

GREAT BRITAIN, recognizing the changed conditions in China, has communicated to the powers its new policy in the Orient and asked them to take a corresponding stand. The program calls for revision of the Washington treaty and all other outstanding questions as soon as the Chinese themselves have constituted a government with authority to negotiate, and proposes that the powers should abandon the idea that "economic and political development of China can only be secured under foreign tutelage and should declare their readiness to recognize her right to the enjoyment of a tariff autonomy as soon as she herself has settled and promulgated a new national tariff. They should expressly disclaim any intention of forcing foreign control upon an unwilling China."

The plan calls for the immediate unconditional grants of surtaxes contemplated by the Washington conference, and opposes any attempt by the powers to dictate the purposes to which the yield from the surtaxes should be devoted.

In the State department at Washington the British plan was read sympathetically and in general with favor. France doesn't like it. The press in Japan was unanimously opposed to it, the objections being probably prompted almost entirely by commercial considerations. Large Japanese exporters to China foresee considerable losses in what has been a lucrative field for them, and they have great influence with the government.

Marshal Chang Tso-lin of Manchuria has arrived in Peking, occupied the Imperial palace and is giving out orders as a dictator. Meanwhile the northern leaders are reported to be gathering huge armies about Shanghai to prevent the imminent capture of that city by the Cantonese armies.

AROUSSED by information that \$100,000,000 worth of liquor had crossed from Canada into the United States during the year, and in response to loud protests in the Dominion and the United States, the government at Ottawa announced that it was determined to stop the rum running and to put into full effect immediately the treaty concerning it between Canada and this country. Hereafter any ships clearing from Canada with cargoes of liquor must prove beyond doubt that their cargo has been landed at the point for which clearance was granted, or else their bond for double excise duty will be forfeited. Where evidence is available that clearance papers are made out for fictitious trips, liquor cargoes will be seized and declared confiscated as contraband under the provisions of the Canadian customs act.

Holiday drinking in the United States resulted in the deaths of many persons due to the poisonous nature of the liquors, and opponents of prohibition cried loudly that the government was murdering American citizens. Treasury officials responded with the statement that the use of wood alcohol as a denaturant would not be discontinued, but that a new formula containing an unusually obnoxious compound would be substituted for some of the formulas in use hitherto. In other words, the liquor will be no less poisonous but will be so distasteful that, it is hoped, people will not be willing to drink it.

Rear Admiral Billard announces that "Rum Row" off the Atlantic coast has been entirely put out of business by the efforts of the coast guard.

THERE was widespread damage and great suffering, as well as several deaths, in the lowlands of Kentucky, Tennessee, Arkansas, Mississippi and Alabama, resulting from the overflowing of the rivers following tremendous rainfalls. Eastern Kentucky and Tennessee were the worst sufferers, but elsewhere also the crop losses were heavy. In other parts of the country, notably Ohio, there were extraordinarily heavy snowfalls that brought traffic to a standstill.

Two volcanoes on Kamchatka peninsula are in eruption, and though no loss of life is reported the property damage is severe. The city of Petropavlovsk is nearly buried under lava and ashes. Further west on the Russian coast several fishing villages were obliterated by great waves and masses of ice hurled on them during a storm. Heavy loss of life was reported there.

A result of increased scientific research.

Predictions of revolutions in energy sources have increased since the closing of the recent international conference on bituminous coal at Pittsburgh, at which it developed that France and Germany had gone further than other countries in coal research. Attention is being directed not to the mines as in the past but to the laboratories, said a scientist, a layman-educator, a coal expert and a government chemist.

LITIGATION over the estate of Jay Gould that lasted ten years and enriched many lawyers was brought to an end by a compromise agreement making a series of lump sum settlements and annual payments amounting in all to about \$20,000,000 to the many beneficiaries.

The estate has shrunk from \$80,000,000 to about \$50,000,000. Attorney Samuel Seabury of New York, acting as spokesman for the attorneys concerned, said that Anna, duchesse de Tallary, had settled an \$11,000,000 claim for less than \$3,000,000. A desire to mend family differences actuated the settlement, Mr. Seabury said. He informed Referee O'Gorman that both Frank J. Gould and the duchess held the deepest affection for Helen Gould Shepard, one of the trustees, and felt that no matter how mistaken her course of conduct had been it had not been marked by any trace of dishonor.

AWARD of the Woodrow Wilson Foundation peace prize for 1926 was made to Elihu Root, former secretary of state, at a banquet in New York on the anniversary of Wilson's birth. The presentation was made by Norman H. Davis, president of the foundation, who said it was in recognition of Mr. Root's work in 1920 in the creation of the permanent court of international justice.

MAJOR DARGUE and his comrade in the pan-American army airplane tour, went up to Mexico City and were received by President Calles. They presented to him a flowery letter from President Coolidge and received an equally flowery missive for Mr. Coolidge. Naturally, there was in the documents no slightest hint that relations between the two governments were not entirely pleasant.

GREETED by a million people, the former Crown Prince Hirohito of Japan entered Tokyo and mounted the throne of his ancestors, succeeding to the imperial title on the death of his father, Yoshihito. At his first levee the new emperor read an outline of his policies, saying in part:

"Conditions throughout the world have recently undergone signal changes. The thoughts of men are liable to follow contradictory channels. The economic life of the nation is occasionally marked with the conflict of varied interests. Accordingly it is important to fix one's eyes at the general situation of the whole and unite the efforts of the country in promoting the solidarity of the nation, in strengthening still further the foundation of the national existence and securing forever the prosperity of our people.

"Simplicity instead of vain display; originality instead of blind imitation; progress in the view of this period of evolution and improvement to keep up with advancing civilization; national harmony in purpose and action; beneficence to all classes of people and friendship for all nations on earth. These are the cardinal aims of man whereto our profoundest abiding solicitudes are directed."

CONSIDERABLE importance is attached to the signing on Wednesday of a treaty of friendship and arbitration between Germany and Italy. Though it is not an alliance, the pact is expected to bring the two countries again into amicable relations and to have a bearing on the shaping of the political alignment in Europe. It shows a spirit of co-operation and a desire to clear up the misunderstandings of the past year.

BUSINESS men of America formed a commission to investigate the agricultural problem and its relation to the economic life of the nation. Charles Nagel of St. Louis is chairman of the commission, which was created jointly by the national industrial conference board and the Chamber of Commerce of the United States. Mr. Nagel said that while information and suggestions would be sought from leaders in all fields of business and agricultural activity "the commission's findings and recommendations must be entirely its own, uninfluenced and free even from the policies and attitudes of either of the two organizations that have co-operated in organizing the commission."

"Some processes which are talked about a great deal can be adopted profitably," said Dr. Thomas S. Baker, president of the Carnegie Institute of Technology and sponsor of the international coal meeting. "There are great deposits of low-grade coal in America which, when subjected to certain processes, can be transformed into higher-priced products. "Abstract research," he added, "is likely to be more profitable than solving the everyday problems."

Modern Methods Add to Profits

Farm Income Can Be Materially Increased by Addition of Machines.

(Prepared by the United States Department of Agriculture.)

That farm profits can be materially increased by the application of machinery and new methods is the conclusion of the advisory council appointed by Secretary Jardine in connection with the Department of Agriculture's study of mechanical farm equipment. After a year's work the council met with Secretary Jardine in Washington recently to discuss progress and future work.

Undeveloped Fields. The report shows that there are undeveloped fields in many directions, over 400 projects being listed for study. Important co-operative work is now being done to develop machinery and methods to eradicate the European corn borer, which has become a national menace. Other outstanding projects which it is hoped will be undertaken soon are the further extension and application of the combined harvester which harvests and threshes grains in one operation, the development of bigger and better adapted power-driven units for corn planting and cultivation.

Jardine Approves Work Done. The council finds that too little attention has been given researches on farm mechanical equipment by state and federal experiment stations. More than four billions of dollars are now invested in this item and over three hundred and thirty million dollars were expended in 1925. On the average, power and labor costs of farm-crop production make up about 60 per cent of the total costs. These facts indicate that even minor improvements in farm machinery will result in large savings.

OAKS MORE GENERALLY USEFUL FOR PLANTING ON ROADSIDES

Answer the Purpose Better Than Other Kinds.

(Prepared by the United States Department of Agriculture.)

Oaks are more generally useful for roadside planting than any other kind of tree, says the United States Department of Agriculture. There are species of this tree native to nearly all parts of the country. Maples are next in importance for a large part of the country, but as the most-used species are not well adapted for the purpose, the selection must be carefully made.

The most promising trees for the cooler dry regions are the green ash, black locust, hackberry, thornless honey locust and poplars, with box elder, willows and poplars for the extremes of cold and drought, according to Farmers' Bulletin 1482-F, "Trees for Roadside Planting." In warm, dry climates the eucalyptus, gums, the palms, the Jerusalem thorn and the mesquite are good.

Success in roadside tree planting, says the bulletin, depends on properly locating the plants along the highway, selecting suitable varieties and adequately protecting them from thoughtless persons, roving stock and insects and diseases.

The best effects in roadside planting are usually produced by giving the predominant place to the common plants of the neighborhood, using introduced plants in subordinate positions. Next in desirability are plants from regions having similar growing conditions either in this country or abroad.

The bulletin gives the characteristics

Feeding and Management Chief Poultry Factors

Cold and roup are so common that the average poultry man is apt to look upon them as inevitable. That is a mistake. It is possible to avoid catarrhal disorders to a great extent if the housing conditions are right and general methods of feeding and management are what they should be. It is a great deal easier, moreover, to prevent colds and roup than it is to cure them after they get started. Take particular pains to see that the birds are not exposed to drafts either when they are on the floor or on their perches. Give plenty of ventilation but avoid exposing them to extremely low temperatures through failure to close the ventilating opening on the approach of cold waves. Do not take it for granted that the birds are safe from drafts when on perches, regardless of the type of house you may have.

Secretary Jardine expressed approval of the work done and stressed the importance of the co-operating agencies carrying it forward as rapidly as possible. Progress has now reached a stage where specific problems can be assigned to different agencies for solution.

The advisory council was appointed by Secretary Jardine in May, 1925, for the study of research in farm equipment. It is composed of representatives of the National Association of Farm Equipment Manufacturers, the American Society of Agricultural Engineers and representatives of the Department of Agriculture and has been working under the direction of J. E. Davidson, senior agricultural engineer of the department.

Egg Production Helped by Protein in Winter

It is generally recognized among poultrymen that winter eggs are the most profitable. However, the question that confronts many a poultry raiser is how to get winter eggs. Those who have been successful in the production of winter eggs declare that the solution of the matter is the feeding of an excessively rich protein diet to the laying flock. There is one fact that most poultry raisers overlook and that is, hens cannot lay eggs in winter unless they are adequately fed. Feed consumed by winter layers goes for the maintenance of the body and for the production of the eggs. However, body maintenance comes first with egg production occupying a second place, consequently unless a heavy diet is offered it may fall short of filling the requirements of egg production. Hens have more work to do in order to lay eggs in winter than any other time of the year; they must furnish fuel for keeping themselves warm.

Blackhull Wheat Fails to Stand Cold Winters

Data collected at 13 experiment stations in the United States and Canada by the United States Department of Agriculture in co-operation with the states of both countries shows that Blackhull wheat winter-killed 13 per cent more than Kanred or Turkey wheat.

Over a five-year period, 1921-1925, the average survival of the Blackhull was 45 per cent. Under the same conditions the survival of Turkey was 59.5 per cent, and that of Kanred, 57.9 per cent.

Although Blackhull is classed as a hard red winter wheat and is a heavy yielding variety, many millers claim it does not mill as well as other hard wheats and therefore discriminate against it.

Materials Suggested for Poultry House Litter

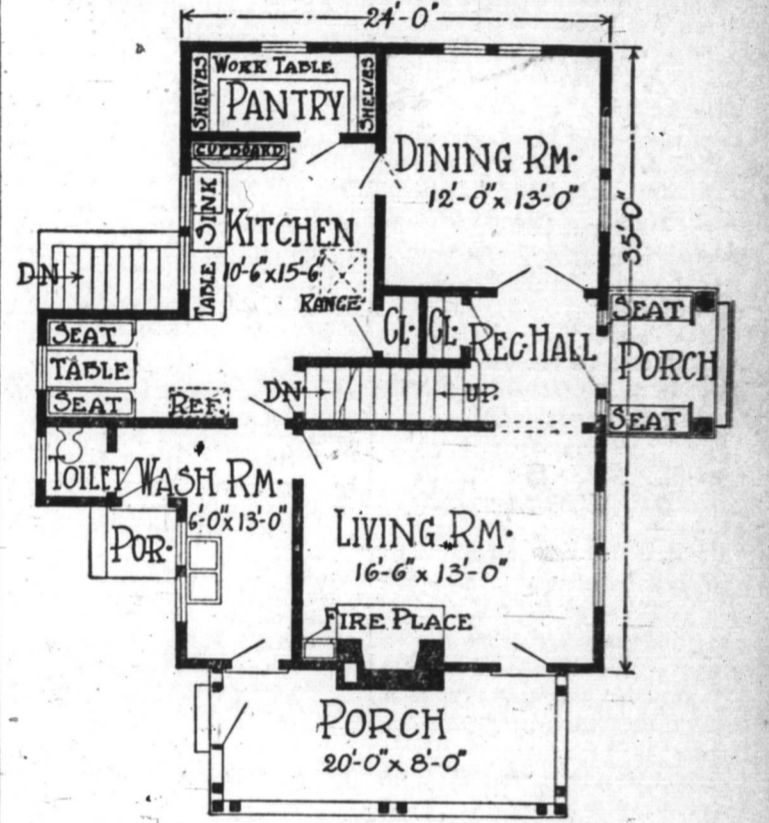
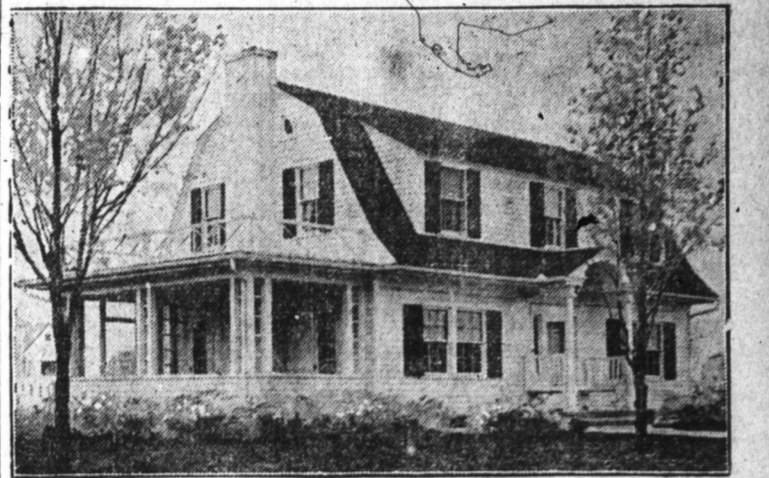
According to the Nebraska College of Agriculture, chopped or shredded corn or sorghum fodder makes ideal litter for the poultry house during the winter months, suggests Extension Circular 1410, Farm Poultry Houses, of the agricultural college at Lincoln. These materials do not break up as quickly as straw. The floor should be well covered at all times and the house cleaned several times during the winter.

A slope of about five inches in twenty feet of a hard surface floor will tend to keep the hens from piling the litter up in the back of the house. Windows near the floor at the back of the house will do the same thing, since a hen usually faces the light when she scratches.

Provide More Room

In order to provide more room in the hen house and lessen the chances of disease in the flock, chicken raisers should get rid of all weak and sickly birds. Many of the small, late hatched pullets will never be profitable egg layers. All the room that is available probably will be needed, as the laying flock should be kept in the house during the winter months. As a general rule, four square feet of floor space should be allowed for each bird.

Dutch Colonial Type of Home Has Both Dignity and Attractiveness



By W. A. RADFORD
Mr. William A. Radford will answer questions and give advice FREE OF COST on all problems pertaining to the subject of building, for the readers of this paper. On account of his wide experience as editor, author and manufacturer, he is, without doubt, the highest authority on the subject. Address all inquiries to William A. Radford, No. 1827 Prairie Avenue, Chicago, for reply.

There is something about a Dutch colonial home that gives it the appearance of being a much larger house than it really is. At first glance the home shown in the illustration looks like a large house, containing many rooms. In reality this house contains but six rooms, but all are of good size; each has numerous windows and, as a consequence, is well ventilated.

The attractiveness of the interior appearance of a Dutch colonial home comes from the long, graceful sweep of the roof, and the broken lines made back of it. An open fireplace adds to the comfort of this room in winter. The dining room on the opposite side of the house is not quite so large as the living room, but is 12 by 13 feet, a size that will accommodate a rather large family.

Color of Wood Means Much to Looks of Home
In any decorative scheme, don't forget to consider the color of the wood-work.

When the wood used for window and door trim is oak, cypress, maple or birch or any wood with a beautiful grain, a waterproof varnish will give luster and bring out the grain. Woods vary in shade from light to dark brown or red. The color scheme of the room should be kept in similar tones or warm colors. Contrasting colors can then be used in some of the furnishings to give the room animation. Light woodwork is very fashionable. And there are excellent varnish stains and enamels on the market that will give just the shade or tint in the wood-work that the color scheme of the room demands.

Get Curtain Materials Which Will Add Beauty

Keep always in mind in the selection of materials for glass curtains that anything having a yellow or golden tone will do much to atone for lack of sufficient sunshine in a dreary or cold room. This is a fact so widely recognized as to hardly need repetition, but in similar fashion, and not so well known, materials having a rosy tone will lend an atmosphere of warmth and coziness to a living room or any room where such an effect is desired.

The cheerfulness of the "sunshine tones," as all of the yellows and golds and mellow tans are commonly called, makes them particularly desirable for most living rooms, but there are times when the subtlety of a faint orchid color for sash curtains in a bedroom, or delicate green in a dining room or breakfast porch, will produce wonderfully pleasing results.

