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HAPPENINGS OF THE WEEK

NEWS REVIEW OF CURRENT EVENTS

Varied Efforts to Prevent War Between Bolivia and Paraguay.

By EDWARD W. PICKARD

WAR between Bolivia and Paraguay seemed probable last week until near the close of the period, when it was reported that the Bolivian government might consent to arbitrate the quarrel. Both nations claim the Gran Chaco region and the present trouble was precipitated by a clash between their border troops. The Bolivians considered, and still consider, that their national honor was grossly insulted and they have been eagerly clamoring for hostilities. The government resigned so that a new one, composed of the leaders of all parties, could be formed; the general staff called to the colors the class of 1929; defense committees were formed, and men, women and children in the cities paraded with flags and shouts for war. President Siles told his people that he did not wish war and would do all he could to avoid it, but that if Bolivians were forced to go to war to defend their national honor, he would go with them.

Paraguay, which would not be able long to carry on warfare, was taking what steps she could to face the situation. A non-partisan board of national defense was formed and President Guggiarri called on all the political chiefs for collaboration.

Meanwhile various agencies were trying earnestly to avert the threatened hostilities. The council of the League of Nations, to which Paraguay had appealed, urged that the quarrel be settled peaceably; and in Washington the international conference of American states on conciliation and arbitration, which began its sessions Monday, immediately took up the matter, pleading with the two belligerent republics to arrange their differences "pacifically and in a spirit of justice, concord, and of fraternity." Argentina and Chile both offered their services in arbitrating the dispute. At first the Bolivian delegation in the Pan-American conference, headed by Diez de Medina, minister to Washington, announced it had been instructed to take no part in the sessions until the trouble with Paraguay had been settled; but on Wednesday, after Secretary of State Kellogg had communicated with the government at La Paz, the Bolivians were told to resume their seats. This was taken as an indication that general warfare between the two republics would be averted. Mr. Kellogg, as chairman of the conference, named a conciliation committee of five, the United States being represented by Charles Evans Hughes, and the gathering of data on the conflict began at once.

TRAVELING 6,450 miles from the African jungle to London in nine days and twelve hours, the prince of Wales reached the bedside of his sick father Tuesday night and from the moment of their meeting the condition of King George seemed to grow better. The danger of the monarch's death did not pass entirely, however, and the British people and all the world continued to watch the bulletins with anxiety. The king's physicians, immediately after the arrival of the prince of Wales, prepared to take the more radical measures they believed necessary to save the king's life, and on Wednesday they performed two operations to remove the purulent fluid at the base of the right lung. The bulletins of the doctors said the operations were successful and that the condition of the king was satisfactory. The fact that the king was strong enough to undergo the operations gave increased hope of his ultimate recovery.

HERBERT HOOVER'S Latin American tour may yet be enlivened by some exciting incidents, though the authorities of the countries he visits are so alert that this seems improbable. Last week, just before the President-Elect started on the railway journey across the Andes, the police of Buenos Aires, Argentina, uncovered

a plot of anarchists to blow up Mr. Hoover's train in the outskirts of the city. Raiding a house, the police seized dynamite bombs, hand grenades, pistols and ammunition and arrested two young men. In the house was found a detailed map of the railway system. One of the prisoners was said to have made a full confession of the plot to destroy the Hoover special train.

Mr. Hoover's two days' visit in Chile was pleasant and colorful. Though he had cabled a request for simplicity, his reception in Santiago was most elaborate. President Carlos Ibanez, the dictator of the republic, met him dressed in a general's uniform and the parade through the streets was a grand military display. The chief guests rode in carriages drawn by four horses, with gorgeous outriders and footmen. At a banquet given by the government Mr. Hoover announced his policy for the encouragement of government and private loans in Latin America for reproductive works only, such as public works and transportation. When the receptions and sight-seeing were over the Hoover party started across the Andes to Argentina on a special train, making brief stops at many little towns. Buenos Aires was reached late Thursday afternoon and President Irigoyen was on hand to receive the guests. The usual round of ceremonial affairs followed. Sunday morning Mr. Hoover and his party went on an Argentine washup to Montevideo, Uruguay, where the U. S. S. Utah met them to convey them to Rio de Janeiro.

LIEUT. COL. U. S. GRANT, THIRD, U. S. A., has been given charge of all the arrangements for the inauguration of Hoover on March 4, and Maj. Gen. Charles P. Summerall, chief of staff, has accepted the post of grand marshal for the occasion and will manage the parade. This appointment follows precedent. The President-Elect has asked that the ceremony be as simple as possible.

SIX weeks of negotiations, culminating in a conference of Sir Austen Chamberlain, Aristide Briand and Gustav Stresemann in Lugano, resulted in an agreement of the allies and Germany that the committee of experts should assemble in Paris about the end of December and finally fix the total amount of reparations Germany must pay and the method of payment. France, however, stipulates that the decisions of the experts "are not necessarily binding on the governments," so it is not certain that the great problem will be definitely solved. It is specified that the American experts "have no official mandate and shall be merely American citizens chosen for their competence by the reparations commission." Germany carried its contention that the reparations parley be absolutely independent of considerations either of the Rhineland evacuation or of the war debts of the allies.

RUMANIA held its first free parliamentary election Wednesday and it passed off quietly throughout the kingdom. As had been predicted, the Peasant party headed by Premier Iuliu Maniu scored an overwhelming victory. On incomplete returns the minister of the interior estimated that the Peasants had got a full 85 per cent of all the ballots cast. Some 8 or 10 per cent went to the Liberals headed by Bratiano and the remainder to the Hungarian minority. It appears that the two extremist groups, the Anti-Semites and the Communists, will not have a single seat out of 376 seats. Maniu himself, though an Albanian, chose to stand for election in Bucharest and received 65 per cent of the vote there.

IN THE fiftieth anniversary edition of the St. Louis Post-Dispatch appeared an article written by President Coolidge telling of the demands on the time of the President and suggesting that the government provide a country White House, a modest place in the hills, near Washington to which the Chief Executive might go for brief periods of rest. The idea was seized upon by Representative C. A. Woodrum, Democrat, of Virginia, and he introduced a resolution for the establishment of a temporary White House in Virginia. The measure he offered directs the public buildings commission—a joint

commission of the house and senate—to select a tentative site and report as soon as practicable the approximate cost of erecting a suitable mansion.

BOULDER dam was the subject of a protracted debate in the senate and a lot of log rolling, and finally California and Arizona reached a compromise on the diversion of water from the Colorado river. The bill was amended so that California's allotment shall be 4,400,000 acre feet annually out of 7,500,000 acre feet assigned to California, Arizona and Nevada. Senators Ashurst and Hayden of Arizona abandoned their filibuster and it appeared likely that the measure, with further amendments, would be adopted by the senate.

To avert a threatened filibuster in the house the leaders of that body promised that a congressional reapportionment bill would be brought to the floor soon after the holiday recess. The census committee, under pressure, reported favorably a pending measure which proposes a redistribution of seats in the house on the basis of the 1930 census.

HOOVER'S proposed farm relief plan now has the support of the American Farm Bureau federation. Frank O. Lowden, in a letter read at the federation's closing session in Chicago, urged the farmers to support the legislative proposal of the President-Elect, and a resolution to that effect was adopted. The federation announced that at the beginning of the new year a nation-wide co-operative marketing service would be instituted by it. Through this department live stock, grain, and other markets will be analyzed to serve the commercial interests of 30,000,000 farmers. Frank Evans, the federation's general counsel and head of its marketing department, explained that two years had been spent in preparing for the operation of the service department.

DELEGATES from forty nations, some of them distinguished aviators, held a three-day International Civil Aeronautics conference in Washington, invited thereto by President Coolidge. The time was chosen as the twenty-fifth anniversary of the first heavier than air flight of the Wright brothers, and Orville Wright was present as a member of the American delegation and also as the guest of honor of the conference. Mr. Coolidge in his speech of welcome spoke of the present and future of the aeronautic science and industry, and Assistant Secretary of Commerce MacCracken, who presided, reviewed the history of aviation and told of its progress in America.

C. R. O. M., otherwise the Mexican Federation of Labor, which has been a power in the government of our neighbor republic for years and stirred up much of the trouble with the United States, is crumbling in ruin. As a political party it has been black-listed by the Oregonists and its own ranks are split wide open. State governors that support it are to be boycotted. Many of the unions, led by the union of newspaper editors and reporters of the federal district, have seceded from the federation.

MICHIGAN has another of those life imprisonment cases that stir up the foes of prohibition—and a great many other people. This time it is a woman, the mother of ten children, who was found guilty in Lansing of a fourth violation of the liquor law. It is possible the woman, Mrs. Etta Mae Miller, may escape the life sentence through appeal to the Supreme court.

INFLUENZA became epidemic over a large part of the country and federal and local health organizations worked hard to combat it. A number of colleges and schools were closed until after the holidays. The epidemic started on the Pacific coast and swept eastward. Fortunately the cases are milder than in 1918, the proportion of deaths being much smaller.

JAMES A. PATTEN, Chicago financier and philanthropist, formerly known as the "wheat king," died in his suburban home at the age of seventy-six. He had acquired great riches but had expended vast sums for the benefit of mankind, so he was sincerely mourned.

When cooled it can be ignited with the ammonia to form a liquid again ready for the gas flame.

The little stream of tap water, Benis said, which makes it possible to reunite the two gases, is the real agency that steals the heat out of the icebox.

In refrigeration by electricity a different system is used to steal away the heat. The used cooling gases are liquefied again by a compressor, which is actually the heat remover for the system.

A Popular Greeting

A HAPPY New Year to you! Where in the poetry of mortals can be found words more musical to the ear, a salutation more thrilling in its promise? The colors of the rainbow are in it. It is a greeting that combines the divine and the human into a symbolic hope that never dies. The primal virtues of mankind—the faith that looks beyond the clouds of doubt, the hopes that no misfortunes can stifle, the charities that "heal and soothe and bless"—all are crystallized in the phrase.

Putting "HAPPY" in Happy New Year!

By L. B. LYONS



ONE in a great city on New Year's eve made Gregory Hughes a mighty lonely individual. Money, he had, but that couldn't buy him honest-to-goodness friends. The evening was young yet he decided to at least hunt up a good show, but even there he knew he would find no one he knew. Gregory went into the wardrobe to search out a suit he had not worn for some time when suddenly he ran across several costumes he had used during his college days when he had played the black-face comedian parts in a fraternity minstrel show. He searched about in the pockets of one of the outfits and there he found pieces of burnt cork and then something still more familiar—his good old harmonica.

"Greg," as his friends had called him, had been a whiz with the harmonica and his solo dance acts, and he sat down on the end of an up-turned steamer trunk while he reminisced over those good old days.

"By George, I can't get a laugh out of life somehow," he thought to himself, "why not give some one else a good laugh and it will do me good, too," and he was immediately in action. He phoned the Charity hospital



He began dressing in his fantastic costume.

and was informed that there were four hundred and sixty patients there who would get a great kick out of his little act.

Next he phoned the Fifty-first street prison and there he found some hundred and fifty souls that could stand a lot of New Year's eve cheering up. Then he phoned the Soldiers Orphan Home and there, too, he found a host who that needed such diversion as he could furnish them.

Gregory Hughes was not conceited but he knew he could put on the whole show, for hadn't he accomplished that very thing many times before and yet—he still wanted to share the entertainment part of the joy with some one else and this was one thing that money could buy. The next and last phone call was to a nearby employment agency. He offered unheard-of wages to a young woman who could play any sheet of music put before her. He offered a like salary to a "one-man band," with these two capables on their way in a taxi to him, he began dressing in his fantastic costume.

The inmates of the prison, the hospital and the orphanage had never before, nor since, known such a happy New Year's eve as these three young persons had furnished them. Of all the lot, Gregory Hughes had the happiest. His little pianist, Mary Barbara Stone, was the next happiest for she, like Gregory, had not a true friend in the great city, but she believed she had just found one.

The one-man band departed immediately after receiving his fee for the evening's work, but not so with

New Year's Breaks

By Anna L. Newsum

"NEW YEAR'S and so party," sighed Jane as she deposited her New Year's dinner on the only chair in her kitchenette. "At home there'll be watch parties, 'n' every-thing; but it takes money to ride trains, and walking's not so good with high-heeled pumps."

She put her perishables on the window ledge and fixed her simple supper and was very lonely. It was her first New Year's away from home, and the crowds made her loneliness more poignant. For, beyond the girls at a none-too-lively real estate office and the landlady, she had no acquaintances.

"Why isn't there some way for girls in the city to get acquainted with other girls—and boys?" Jane asked herself.

She made a plate of fudge, did the dishes, washed her glorious brown hair, bathed and found it to be exactly ten minutes after eight, when she wished it were midnight. Then she dressed—in her prettiest afternoon dress of black satin with just enough yellow to make it interesting.

"All fixed up, and no place to go," she cried cynically.

And at that moment she heard voices across the hall:

"Come right in—where's Nell? Happy New Year, yourself." "Nell's mother is worse, so Nell had to stay with her." "Oh, dear, poor thing—and poor me, too! We can't play bridge—can't dance or anything."

"Never mind, we'll have a good time anyway." And the voices were shut away from Jane by two doors.

Jane chuckled, put on her coat, pulled her little black hat over her hair, and tiptoed out of her room. She walked around the block twice, returned, fumbled noisily at her lock, gave a vigorous tug on her string of imitation pearls. The beads fell—half of them rolling under the door across the hall from her door.

A gentle knock, a pardon asked, the beads secured, introductions made, and an invitation to dance followed quickly.

Some one remarked that broken heads were easier mended than broken resolutions.

For hours Jane had a delightful time and helped make the party a success. Then when the New Year had been duly ushered in, Charlie Saunders stopped with Jane at her door.

"And here are your beads," he said. "Won't you need some help in stringing them—about tomorrow night?"

"Yes, I'll help; but I warn you that they are harder to string than the string is to break."

"I'm used to hard tasks—I'll be here at eight."

"Good-night."
"Good-night."
(© 1928 Western Newspaper Union)

"Mary Barbara," as Greg kept calling her to himself, he would not permit her to go home alone.

The entertainment habit grew on the pair during the following year and almost every Sunday they found some new place where they might entertain to make some one else happy.

It was New Year's eve again and Greg had called for Mary Barbara at her home at the Rock hotel. "Who are we going to cheer up this evening, Greg?" she asked. "You remember last New Year's eve was the first time I met you—and she peered shyly at his countenance but he gave no signs of having heard.

A few minutes later Greg stopped his car before the little Church Around the Corner. "Why, Greg, we can't do our stunts here!" Mary exclaimed.

"Can't we? Well, my dear, for once I am going to ask for some of the happiness myself. It is up to you, honey girl, to make me happy by saying 'Yes.' Will you? The preacher is waiting. Mary Barbara—what is your answer?"

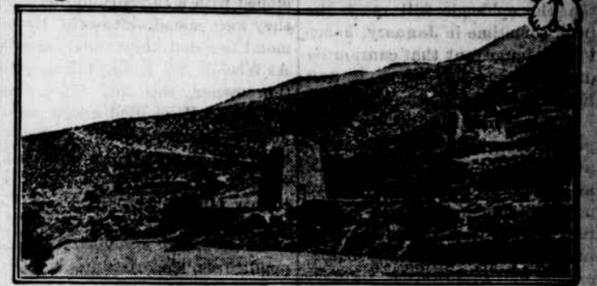
It is needless to record that Mary Barbara raised her lips to Greg as she whispered "Yes, Greg, dear, but it isn't only making you happy for I've been mighty unhappy since last New Year's eve trying to get you to propose, but I had about given up hope." "You little Happy New Year, you," he whispered as he led her down the aisle of the beautiful old chapel.

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Watching the New Year In

Nearly everyone wishes to begin the year right by watching the old year out and the new one in and a watch party will strike the right note as it will adapt itself to the needs of a small or a large party.

YUNNAN



Mud Watch Towers in Mekong Valley.

(Prepared by the National Geographic Society, Washington, D. C.)

WHERE in all the world is to be found scenery comparable to that which awaits the explorer and photographer in northwestern Yunnan province, China, and in the mountain fastnesses of Tsarung, in southeastern Tibet?

Few have been privileged to climb the towering ranges separating the mightiest streams of China, if not of Asia. The Yloie region, so geologists tell us, was once one vast, high plateau, now intersected and eroded by some of the longest rivers in the world.

These rivers changed this high plateau not merely into a land of lofty mountains, but of deep valleys with gloomy shadows and forbidding gorges, never trodden by human foot.

In these reaches the Salwin, Mekong, and Yangtze, cutting through mountain ranges 20,000 feet in height, make their way to the oceans. These three rivers, flowing parallel, north to south, for some distance in western China and southeastern Tibet, at one place come within 48 miles of each other, as the crow flies, and yet their mouths are separated by thousands of miles.

It was this region into which the National Geographic society recently sent its Yunnan province expedition under the leadership of Joseph F. Rock.

No white man had previously had a glimpse of many of the scenes photographed by the expedition, for the few explorers who have penetrated these terrifying fastnesses have done so when the snow-capped peaks were hidden from view by the enveloping monsoon clouds of summer.

The Salwin, which flows for a long distance through Tibet proper, enters Yunnan south of Tibet. In its southward course it becomes part of the Burm Siamese borders and finally enters the Indian ocean at Moumein, made famous by one of Kipling's poems.

The Mekong parallels the Salwin to about the twentieth degree of latitude; then turns westward, forming the border of three countries—Burma, Siam, and Indo-China—and finally enters the tropical South China sea near Saigon.

Twists of the Yangtze.

The Yangtze, the mightiest and longest of them all, is also the least consistent. It flows parallel to the Mekong to a point near Shiku, and thence makes a sharp curve, turning directly north; describes a huge loop which adds hundreds of miles to the length of the river; returns to the south, then turns to the east, becoming in part a boundary for the provinces of Yunnan and Szechwan, and at length bends to the northeast; and enters the Pacific ocean near Shanghai.

Of these rivers, the Salwin is the least known, it is navigable for only a short distance above its mouth. The Yangtze, on the other hand, is navigable for a distance of some 1,500 miles to Chungking, and hence by small boats as far as Suifu. Beyond that rowboats ply as far as Machang, in eastern Yunnan. In the north, near Batang, it is navigable by skin boats or coracles, but only for short distances. Extensive stretches of this river, which is more than 3,000 miles long, are unknown and parts of its course appear on accurate maps as dotted lines.

Much has been written about the Yangtze gorges in the vicinity of Ichang, so well known to tourists, but very little has been said about the much grander gorges north of Likiang. Few have penetrated even part way into this most terrific of all canyons, among the first being J. Bacot and Doctor Handel-Mazzetti, who ventured as far as the hamlet of Djipalo, while Rock continued the journey to near Taku.

That long stretch of the easternmost arm of the great loop, from Fungkou to Teliikiang, has also been unexplored, especially south of Lapo. This the National Geographic society expedition followed nearly all the way, bringing back the first photographs of that part of the Yangtze which flows through arid gorges, the walls of which are partly covered with a cactus, a species of opuntia native to

America, but now widely distributed in Yunnan by birds, which feed on the succulent fruits, disseminating the unharmed, undigested seeds.

Great Mountain Ranges.

The grandeur of the deeply entrenched rivers is enhanced by the mighty ranges with snow-clad peaks which separate them. One of the finest is undoubtedly the Kankapu range, separating the Salwin from the Mekong, and which must reach an elevation of 24,000 feet, the highest peak of that range being Mount Miyetzing.

The Mekong-Yangtze reaches its highest points, some 20,000 feet, in Mount Pelinashan, while the Salwin-Irrawaddy divide culminates in Mount Kenyichungo, nearly 20,000 feet in height, the eastern branch of the Irrawaddy flowing parallel to the three greater streams for some distance, especially in the Chinese part of its course.

Lured by the magnificence of the mountain ranges and the weird and little known chasms in which these mighty rivers flow, as well as by the strange tribes living on the slopes of their gorges and in their valleys, early one October the expedition leader left his headquarters in the little Nashi hamlet of Nguluko, on the Likiang snow range, to explore and to photograph.

The monsoon rains were not yet over when the party of fifteen men set out accompanied by a large caravan, which carried supplies for more than three months. The trail took them down the Likiang plain to the hamlet of Poshakal; thence over a small spur, on the top of which the noonday meal was taken at a Nashi wayside kitchen.

The paved road was execrable and the rain made the much-worn rocks so slippery that whenever possible a narrow track beside the pavement was used. Thus, roads in this part of the world are often entirely abandoned and new ones made by the constant trot of passing caravans.

The following day the party climbed a high spur, reaching an elevation of 10,000 feet, and passed through country where enormous sinkholes filled with shrubbery afforded excellent hiding places for roving brigands. A well graded rock trail led down into the Yangtze valley, and along the left bank upstream to the hamlet of Shiku, or Rock Drum.

It was market day in Shiku and its single street was crowded with men, women, mules, pigs, dogs, children, and what not. The crowd was composed mainly of Nashi, Lissu, and Lolo tribespeople, who brought vegetables, pigs, etc., to the market.

Funeral in Budsuolo. At Budsuolo, a Nashi village farther up the Yangtze, some one had given up his mortal toll; mourners were parading around in grayish white garments and headpieces, while leaning against the wall of the deceased's house was a long row of almost life-size human effigies made of bamboo framework covered with paper. There were also huge paper horses, sedan chairs, castles, and towers of paper, all to be burned at the grave. These imaginary servants, horses, etc., were to minister unto and comfort the departed in the shadow world.

The fifth day from Likiang the party reached Hutien, on the banks of a tributary of the Yangtze, along which the trail now followed a mountain range, up and down through valleys and villages, till it led out upon the plain of Lutien and a much-scattered village of the same name, nestling on the slopes of the Mekong-Yangtze divide.

Below lay a beautiful amphitheater; to the right an imposing building on the hillside, a lamasery, the first outpost of the Tibetan church.

The way now ascended through pine and spruce forests to the summit of the Yangtze-Mekong watershed. Liripling, as the divide is known, is one broad, undulating range of alpine meadows, some 11,000 feet in elevation, bordered by a dense forest of the loveliest hemlocks.

The view toward the Yangtze in the east was wonderful, the long ranges stretching from north to south as far as the eye could see, while below lay the scattered hamlet of Lutien, still enshrouded in morning mist.