

HAPPENINGS OF THE WEEK

NEWS REVIEW OF CURRENT EVENTS

Progress of the Farm Relief Measure—MacDonald Now British Prime Minister.

By EDWARD W. PICKARD

NOW known as the agricultural marketing act, the farm relief bill came out of conference last week and was then accepted by both the house and senate. It was scheduled to be in the hands of President Hoover for signature about June 12. From the bill as modified the export debenture plan was omitted, all the conferees except Senators Norris of Nebraska and Smith of South Carolina voting for this course. On other features the measure represents a compromise between the senate and house bills, the essential points of the latter being retained. Provision is made for a farm board composed of the secretary of the treasury and eight members appointed by the President at salaries of \$12,000. The President will designate the chairman of this board. Commodity advisory councils are to be set up to advise the board on methods of dealing with crop surpluses.

Commodity stabilization corporations, all the stock of which is owned by co-operatives, are authorized to buy, store, and market surplus commodities. The stabilization corporations will be able to obtain loans from a \$500,000,000 revolving fund at the disposal of the farm board. Only such part of this fund as congress appropriates will be immediately available. The board may make loans for the handling of crop surpluses and also for the purchase of warehouses and other physical market facilities and may make advances to co-operatives for various purposes, including loans for insurance against price decline. The board may fix the terms of the loans, the interest rate being limited to an amount approximating the rate on outstanding government securities.

President Hoover let it be known that the administrator would ask congress to appropriate, before recessing, as much as \$100,000,000 from the half billion fund authorized, with a view to having it available for handling the wheat surplus. Department of agriculture experts said this immediate appropriation should be \$200,000,000, for they believed more than half that sum would be needed for wheat alone, the price of which has fallen very low. This does not mean necessarily that the entire amount will be loaned to the wheat stabilization corporation to be set up by co-operatives with the approval of the farm board. Some of the supporters of the Hoover farm relief program believe that if a stabilization corporation buys as much as 25,000,000 or 50,000,000 bushels of wheat it will have a tremendous effect on the market, provided it is known that the corporation can borrow unlimited additional funds from the farm board.

SENATOR SMOOT, chairman of the senate finance committee, announced the make-up of the four groups of subcommittees which will consider various schedules of the tariff bill. They are to hold hearings simultaneously, beginning June 13. The free list and administrative provisions will be handled by the full committee.

Paris industrial newspapers urge the French parliament to find some means of erecting retaliatory tariff barriers against United States products. Indeed, throughout most of Europe there is deep resentment against the proposed American tariff measure. The presidents of the European chambers of commerce in a report stated that the policy of the United States is incomprehensible "if one considers its financial requirements," for this country is not only Europe's creditor but also is the holder of the greater part of the world's gold; and if American ports are closed to European merchandise the debtor countries are cut off from their only means of raising money to settle their debts.

PRESIDENT HOOVER in a message to congress asked that the senate and house appoint a select committee to study the matter of concentrating

and reorganizing the bureaus charged with enforcement of the dry laws in co-operation with his special commission on law enforcement. At the same time the Treasury department announced the opening of a new drive to stop liquor smuggling in the Detroit area.

PASSAGE of the census and reapportionment bill was accomplished in the house, but only after the majority leaders had freed the measure from negro disfranchisement and alien exclusion amendments that threatened to bring about its defeat. The final vote was 272 to 105.

GERMAN reparations are now up to the governments of the allied nations and Germany, for the commission of experts has concluded its great task with the adoption of the Young plan, the main features of which were given in these columns a week ago. Seventeen weeks of nerve wracking discussion thus came to an end, and while it could not be said every one was satisfied, all at least were relieved.

"Well, are you glad it is over?" someone asked Dr. Hjalmar Schacht, the chief German delegate.

"Who would be glad over the prospect of paying \$487,900,000 in the next thirty-seven years and then not be through?" he snapped back.

The Belgian representatives at a creditors' meeting in Paris announced that they would accept the German offer for settlement of the Belgian claims for compensation of the Belgian worthless German marks unloaded in Belgium during the war. This settlement is to be negotiated directly between Germany and Belgium and must be completed before the Young plan goes into effect next September 1.

In Berlin it is thought that a political conference will be called in July to sanction the report of the experts and to take up the question of evacuation of the Rhineland.

President Hoover and Secretary of State Stimson cabled their congratulations to Messrs. Young, Morgan, Perkins and Lamont, the Americans on the experts' commission who really brought about the settlement.

RAMSAY MACDONALD, chief of the Labor party, is now prime minister of Great Britain and his cabinet has been sworn in. Stanley Baldwin handed in his resignation Tuesday and the king immediately summoned MacDonald to form a new government. He submitted the names of the principal members of his cabinet and they were approved by his majesty, who sat up in bed and chatted and joked with the new prime minister for a hour, for they are very good friends.

It was reported in London that Lloyd George was willing to give the Laborites the support of his Liberal following on condition that an electoral reform bill be introduced and no really contentious legislation, such as widespread nationalization schemes, be proposed. The question of the mining industry may present difficulties in which the Laborites and the Liberals cannot agree. The biggest matter on which they are agreed is unemployment relief. The schemes of both parties include large appropriations for building of new houses, slum clearance, drainage of land and reclamation, construction of new roads, electrification and reorganization of the railways, and afforestation on a wide scale. In foreign affairs the Liberals and Laborites are in complete accord.

THREE months in jail are not enough for the punishment of Harry F. Sinclair, the oil magnate. The Supreme Court of the United States last week unanimously upheld the decision of the District of Columbia Supreme court which sentenced Sinclair to serve six months in jail for hiring detectives to shadow the jury in the first Fall-Sinclair criminal conspiracy trial almost two years ago.

Henry Mason Day, vice president of the Sinclair Exploration company and Sinclair's personal representative in the shadowing of the jury, must serve a jail sentence of four months. William J. Burns, head of the detective agency which supplied the detectives, was sentenced to serve 15 days at the same time Sinclair and Day were sentenced by Justice Frederick L. Siddons. The Supreme court reversed the Burns sentence, but permitted a

Long-Time Forecasts of Rain Possibility

The possibility of charting accurate rainfall forecasts for years in advance has led Dr. Dinsmore Alter, professor of astronomy at the University of Kansas, to plan a year's study of British rainfall records. Several of his best predictions, computed mathematically from statistical reports, have correlated so exactly with actual rainfall that he believes further data will expedite the making of serious, possibly perfectly accurate, long-time forecasts.

With data from six places on the British Isles, covering years from 1834 to 1924, Doctor Alter has computed a peridogram with a dozen or more peaks. When the four principal peaks were applied to actual data, the resulting chart of departure from normal rainfall was found to follow closely the actual charted departures.

Many of Doctor Alter's test predictions up to 1940 have been published by the United States weather bureau.

sine of \$1,000, imposed on his son, W. Sherman Burns, secretary of the detective agency, to stand.

CHARLES G. DAWES, our new ambassador to the Court of St. James, sailed for England after a final conference with President Hoover and Secretary Stimson. On June 28 General Dawes is to receive the degree of doctor of civil law from Oxford university.

COLONEL AND MRS. LINDBERGH finally were found, not by reporters but by a steamer captain who discovered the money-mooners aboard Lindy's express cruiser Mouette when he helped moor the craft at a pier at Block Island. The Mouette was purchased by the colonel just before his wedding, and he and his bride boarded it at a lonely spot on the Long Island shore. Tuesday the little craft put to sea again, apparently headed for the Maine coast, and again Lindy dodged the press and camera men by going around Cape Cod instead of through the canal. Newspaper reports said a piece of canvas was draped over the stern of the Mouette, hiding its name, and coast guards in Boston declared the colonel for this reason was incurring the danger of being fired on by their patrol boats.

WHILE the Shriners were gathering in Los Angeles for their annual meeting and joyfest, the Supreme court in Washington handed down an opinion that gives the negro organization known as the Ancient Egyptian Arabic Order of Nobles of the Mystic Shrine the right to continue the use of its name and insignia. White shriners in Texas had objected to the activities of the negro organization and to its insignia. They won in the lower courts. Justice Van Devanter in delivering the opinion, to which no dissent was announced, said the white shriners by their failure to object within a reasonable time had lost their right to act.

PORTERS and maids in the employ of the Pullman company have won their three years' struggle for higher pay, having been given a wage increase of \$5 a month and various improvements in working conditions. The agreement was reached in a conference between officials of the company and 21 elected representatives of the 12,000 porters and maids. The Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters was ignored by the company.

Big building operations in Chicago were held up for several days by a strike of the bridge and structural iron workers, in which the architectural iron workers joined. The former demanded a wage scale of \$13 a day, an increase of \$1. This was soon agreed to by the Steel Erectors' association, but the Iron League held out longer.

THOUSANDS of Italians who lived on the slopes of Mt. Vesuvius were driven from their homes when that volcano indulged in another big eruption and poured rivers of lava down its sides. The property damage was immense but the loss of life was kept to a minimum by the precautionary steps of the authorities. Tourists were prohibited from approaching the danger zone.

THOUGH the Vatican and the Italian government last week exchanged ratifications of the Lateran pact, the relations between Pius XI and Premier Mussolini are not cordial. The duce addressed the parliament recently on the treaty, and the pope, in a letter to Cardinal Gasparri, characterizes the dictator's speeches as "heretical, modernistic, ponderously erudite but full of errors and inexact." The letter indicates that there may be a long period of disputes over details and expresses the church's resentment of the fact that the state's bills giving effect to the Lateran treaty are not conceived in the same spirit as that pact.

NOBLE BRANDON JUDAH has resigned as ambassador to Cuba; and Dr. Hubert Work has resigned as chairman of the Republican national committee. There were rumors that Work thought he had been ignored by the Hoover administration, but the correspondence between him and the President contained no hint of this.

He has written several papers on periodicity in rainfall, basing his studies on records from the Pacific coast of North America, Chile, Siberia, Australia, Jamaica, Madagascar and the Punjab in India.

Excess rainfall in England for 1928 was predicted by Doctor Alter a year before, and actually occurred to a greater extent than predicted. His forecast deficiency for this year was borne out by reports showing an actual deficiency of 50 per cent for the first three months.

ANNE GETS A JOLT

(By D. J. Walsh.)

ANNE SCOTT was working at her "yellow sheets" that morning when she happened to glance up and find the eyes of Miss Waterman, her superior in the stock room, fixed upon her. "Miss Waterman had bright black eyes, and at that instant they held something that was so much more noticeable than brightness or lackness that Anne was startled. She thought, 'Bunny hates me.'" Bunny was the name that Miss Waterman went by in the big factory; there was no reason for it other than that Lucia Hooper had once given Anne: "She nibbles—when you aren't looking." It came to Anne that she had caught Miss Waterman nibbling now—nibbling Anne herself.

Anne's glance escaped instantly and returned to her work. That morning the superintendent had sent in a command for 200 dozen to fill the big order. The work was going on with a rush, and Anne was checking up as fast as she could with care. A single mistake might entail lots of trouble, even the loss of her job. And she wanted so much to keep her job. The money she earned was more necessary now than ever since her mother had had that illness.

But that look of Bunny's—that nibbling look! "She hates me," thought Anne again. "But why?" At that instant Roland Wight came into the room. Anne kept her eyes down and pretended not to see him. Yet somehow she knew that he was there, knew, too that he was looking at her, knew that Miss Waterman was looking at him with that curious bright, blackness of her eyes. She could see just how he paused, irresolute, then turned toward Miss Waterman. She could hear them talking in low tones.

"Nine and seventeen—are twenty-six," Anne said to her pencil and bent her head lower. But she could not help hearing the tones of the two in the room behind her. All the racket of the factory couldn't drown them.

"They're quarreling," she thought. "Eight and nineteen are—"

Miss Waterman was angry. Roland gently pacified. But at last he went out rather suddenly. Anne could hear Miss Waterman come close behind her, breathing hard. She felt uncomfortable, as if she were about to be struck, but she kept on figuring.

"If you make a single mistake," said Miss Waterman, tersely, "I'll—I'll see that you're discharged."

Anne lifted her head. Her gray, still eyes met the bright black ones. She smiled.

"Oh, I shan't make a mistake," she replied. "You know, that's the one thing I'm really sure of—the multiplication table."

Miss Waterman jerked. But she went away silent. As her solid, blocky figure receded Anne looked after her contently.

"Oh, what made me say that?" she sighed to herself. For Miss Waterman was stupid at figures and only held her job by sheer force of will power and experience. Anne had pricked her with a particularly sharp little pin, and fear of the effect she might produce troubled her.

The other person in the stock room had, in her usual way, kept out of all this. Mrs. Keene was middle-aged with a son in college, a fine youngster, a year or so older than Anne. Indeed, Anne thought him one of the nicest, if not quite the nicest, young fellow that she had ever met. And his mother was good to her. Mrs. Keene was one of those calm, sensible little women who go about lighting the way for the ignorant and inexperienced. Anne looked at her wistfully, and as soon as Miss Waterman was out of the room for an instant she ran across to where Mrs. Keene was at work.

"I've done something to offend Bun—Miss Waterman," Anne whispered. "I can't think what it is. I wish I could. Haven't you an idea?"

Mrs. Keene turned and looked into Anne's honest, questioning eyes. She looked deep. But still she did not speak.

"Do you suppose she isn't having good luck with her love affair with Roland Wight?" asked Anne. "Still, I don't see what I've got to do with it if she isn't."

Mrs. Keene smiled and tucked back a loose strand of Anne's hair. "You haven't anything to do with it, I can see that," she replied. Then she returned abruptly to her work as Miss Waterman came trotting in.

Anne puzzled about the matter till business drove it out of her head. It was business first every time with Anne.

At noon as she came out of the door Roland Wight stepped up to her.

"Come on, Anne, have lunch with me today at the Rialto, won't you?" he pleaded.

Anne looked at him in her direct way. He was rather nice and a sub-boss, but she had no mind to lunch with him in so public a place as the Rialto, or anywhere else, for that matter. She shook her head, trying to be kind.

"No, I'm going home," she said, and sped away. Over her shoulder she could see him drop his head, see also that Miss Waterman, following close behind, saw him also.

When Anne entered the stock room after lunch she was ten minutes late, and breathless. There had been an errand to do for her mother and she had lost time on the way.

The instant she saw Miss Waterman's face she knew that something had happened, or was about to happen. In her hand she held Anne's own "yellow sheets," and her hand trembled.

"I can't put up with such work as this any longer," she said, pantingly. "I've passed over your blunders as long as I can, or will. And so I have told Mr. Deavenport. I showed him these figures. And he wants to see you in his private office."

Anne turned white. She glanced at the place where Mrs. Keene ought to be, but Mrs. Keene was absent. She was given to sick headaches, and evidently an attack had come on suddenly and kept her away. Anne felt that she had not a friend to stand by her.

"Let me see what's wrong," she pleaded.

But Miss Waterman kept the sheets back. It came to Anne like a flash that the figures had been tampered with. Could Miss Waterman have done it? But who else was there who would? She remembered that "nibbling" look in Bunny's eyes, which she had caught that morning, and shivered.

"You can go right straight to Mr. Deavenport," said Miss Waterman.

Mr. Deavenport was the "big boss," who had mercy for no one who was careless. Anne felt that it was all up with her. And she had been so proud of her job, so happy to think that she could help out at home with that \$10 a week. Her lips quivered. She looked into the bright, blackness of Miss Waterman's eyes and sighed—a beaten, miserable little sigh. Then she turned and went out of the room.

It was not far to Mr. Deavenport's room and she had to pass through the big office to get there. Joe Hut-ton sprang to open the door for her. "Good luck!" he whispered. He didn't know what was coming. Anne smiled weakly and went in.

She marched straight up to the desk where Mr. Deavenport sat, her eyes steady though her lips were white. Miss Marsh, his private secretary, glanced at her curiously.

"Miss Waterman tells me you've been having a little trouble with your figures," Mr. Deavenport said. "I suppose you've done the best you could?"

"Yes, sir!" Tears sprang. Anne winked them back. "I'm sorry," she gulped.

Mr. Deavenport studied her an instant.

"I've been thinking for some time of taking you out of the stock room and putting you in the office out there," he said. "Would you like it?"

Anne's eyes opened wide. She could only say, "Oh, yes, sir!"

Mr. Deavenport came as near to smiling as he ever did.

"All right, then. You go to Joe Hut-ton and tell him I sent you. And tell him also to put you on the pay roll for twenty per."

He turned to his desk, apparently not heeding Anne's stammered thanks. But Miss Marsh smiled congratulations.

Educational Theories

"Humanism" was the name given to that phase of the Renaissance in Italy which consisted in a renewed study of the so-called "humanities"—the Latin and Greek classics. The word is often used for the theory of education which claims that a study of the classics is the best means for a well-rounded and broad culture. It often takes the form of a protest against the scrappiness of a training based upon a too exclusive devotion to natural science. The term "humanism" was applied more recently to the Oxford movement, which is based on the theory that man is the measure of all things.

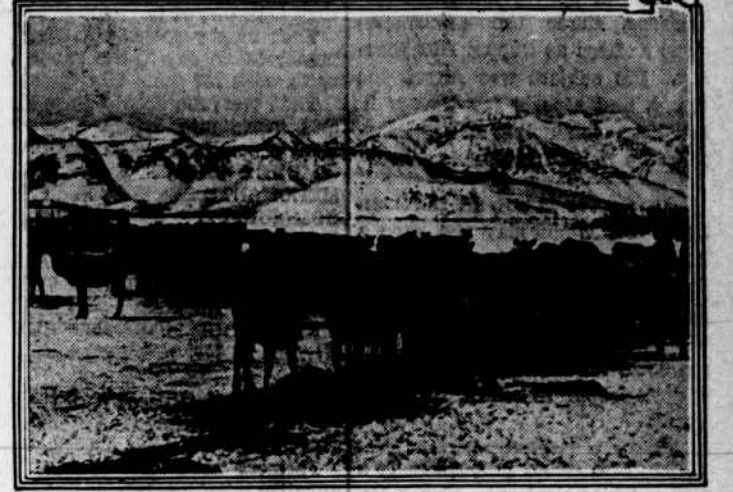
Pests Cure Paralysis

A certain type of mosquito, according to J. F. Marshall, director of the British Mosquito Control Institute at Haying Island, has been found to cure paralysis in some cases. The experiments conducted consisted of inducing the insect to bite a patient suffering from malaria. Then it was induced to bite a general paralysis patient. Partial and complete cures were effected.

Penny's Odd Position

A savings account of 1 cent in an Iowa bank cannot be withdrawn because the bank has suspended. The penny was left from an old account through error, and some day may draw interest.

AMERICA'S BIG GAME



Herd of Elk in Rocky Mountain Foothills.

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

THE days of wild animals in this region are numbered whenever man takes possession of it. This is shown most plainly by the history of wild creatures in North America. At the time of its discovery and occupation by Europeans, this continent and the bordering seas teemed with an almost incredible profusion of large mammalian life. The herds of game animals which roamed the primeval forests and plains of this continent were the marvel of early explorers and have been equalled in historic times only in Africa.

Even beyond the limit of trees, on the desolate Arctic barrens, vast herds containing hundreds of thousands of caribou, drifted from one feeding ground to another, sharing their range with numberless smaller companies of musk-oxen. Southward from the Arctic barrens, in the neighboring forests of spruce, tamarack, birches, and aspens, were multitudes of woodland caribou and moose. Still farther south, in the superb forests of eastern North America, and ranging thence over the limitless open plains of the West, were untold millions of buffalo, elk, and white-tailed deer, with the prong-horned antelope replacing the white-tails on the western plains.

With this profusion of large game, which afforded a superabundance of food, there was a corresponding abundance of large carnivores, as wolves, coyotes, black and grizzly bears, mountain lions, and lynxes. Black bears were everywhere except in the open plains, and numerous species of grizzlies occupied all the mountainous western part of the continent.

Fur-bearers, including beavers, muskrats, land-otters, sea-otters, fishers, martens, minks, foxes, and others, were so plentiful in the New World that immediately after the colonization of the United States and Canada a large part of the world's supply of furs was obtained here.

The wealth of mammal life in the seas along the shore of North America almost equalled that on the land. On the east coast there were many millions of harp and hooded seals and walrus, while the Greenland right and other whales were extremely abundant. On the west coast there were millions of fur seals, sea-lions, sea-elephants, and walrus, with an equal abundance of whales and hundreds of thousands of sea-otters.

When Game Was Abundant.

Many of the chroniclers dealing with explorations and life on the frontier during the early period of the occupation of America gave interesting details concerning the game animals. Allouez says that in 1690, between Lake Erie and Lake Michigan the prairies were filled with an incredible number of bears, wapiti, white-tailed deer, and turkeys, on which the wolves made fierce war. He adds that on a number of occasions this game was so little shot that it was necessary to fire whits to protect the party from it. Perrot states that during the winter of 1670-1671, 2,400 moose were snared on the Great Manitoulin Island, at the head of Lake Huron. Other travelers, even down to the last century, give similar accounts of the abundance of game.

The original buffalo herds have been estimated to have contained from 30,000,000 to 50,000,000 animals, and in 1870 it was estimated that about 5,500,000 still survived. A number of men now living were privileged to see some of the great herds of the West before they were finally destroyed.

It is probable that antelope were even more abundant on the plains than were buffalo. The latter, being large and black, were to be seen at great distances, whereas the smaller "camouflaged" animals might be passed by unnoticed.

The wealth of animal life found by our forebears was one of the great

natural resources of the New world. Although freely drawn upon from the first, the stock was little depleted up to within a century. During the last one hundred years, however, the rapidly increasing occupation of the continent and other causes, together with a steadily increasing commercial demand for animal products, have had an appalling effect. The buffalo, elk and antelope are reduced to a pitiful fraction of their former countless numbers.

Practically all other large game has alarmingly decreased, and its extermination has been partly stayed only by the recent enforcement of protective laws. It is quite true that the presence of wild buffalo, for instance, in any region occupied for farming and stock-raising purposes is incompatible for such use. Thus the extermination of the bison as a denizen of our western plains was inevitable. The destruction, however, of these noble game animals by millions for their hides only furnishes a notable example of the wanton uselessness which has heretofore largely characterized the handling of our wild life.

A like disregard for the future has been shown in the pursuit of the sea mammals. The whaling and sealing industries are very ancient, extending back for a thousand years or more; but the greatest and most ruthless destruction of the whales and seals has come within the last century, especially through the use of steamships and bomb-guns. Without adequate international protection, there is grave danger that the most valuable of these sea mammals will be exterminated. The fur seal and the sea-elephant are nearly or quite gone.

In Prehistoric Times.

The fossil beds of the Great Plains and other parts of the West contain eloquent proofs of the richness and variety of mammal life on this continent at different periods in the past. Perhaps the most wonderful of all these ancient faunas was that revealed by the bones of birds and mammals which had been trapped in the asphalt pits discovered not many years ago in the outskirts of Los Angeles, Calif. These bones show that prior to the arrival of the present fauna the plains of southern California swarmed with an astonishing wealth of strange birds and beasts.

The most notable of these are saber-toothed tigers; lions much larger than those of Africa; giant wolves; several kinds of bears, including the huge cave bears, even larger than the gigantic brown bears of Alaska; large wild horses; camels; bison (unlike our buffalo); tiny antelope, the size of a fox; mastodons, mammoths with tusks 15 feet long; giant ground sloths; in addition to many other species, large and small.

With these amazing mammals were equally strange birds, including, among numerous birds of prey, a giant vulturelike species (far larger than any condor), peacocks, and many others.

The geologically recent existence of this now vanished fauna is evidenced by the presence in the asphalt pits of bones of the gray fox, the mountain lion, the close relative of the bobcat and coyote, as well as the condor, which still frequent that region, and which link the past with the present. The only traces of the ancient vegetation discovered in these asphalt pits are a pine and two species of juniper, which are members of the existing flora.

There is reason for believing that primitive man occupied California and other parts of the West during at least the latter part of the period when the fauna of the asphalt pits still flourished. The folk-lore of the locally restricted California Indians contains detailed descriptions of a beast which is unmistakably a bison, probably the bison of the asphalt pits.