

WHAT'S GOING ON

NEWS REVIEW OF CURRENT EVENTS

Congress Recesses, the Farm Aid and Reapportionment Measures Are Signed.

By EDWARD W. PICKARD

WITH the farm aid bill signed by President Hoover and \$151,500,000 appropriated to begin putting its provisions into operation, and the census and reapportionment measure also made law by the President's signature, congress quit work for the summer in the middle of the week. The senate recessed until August 19, when it will reassemble to begin debate on the tariff bill which its finance committee is expected to have completed by that date. The recess of the lower house is to extend until September 23, and between that day and October 14 it intends to hold only perfunctory sessions twice a week on the supposition that the senate will not have passed the tariff measure before the latter date.

Senator Borah of Idaho made a strong fight to have the tariff revision confined to agricultural and directly related commodities and in the course of a heated debate asserted that his resolution to that effect was in accord with the President's views and the primary purpose of the special session. Most of the regular Republicans and seven Democrats, however, stood firm for more general revision and succeeded in beating the resolution by the narrow margin of one, the vote being 38 to 39.

JUST before recessing congress gave its approval to President Hoover's recommendation that France be relieved of the necessity of paying the \$400,000,000 due August 1 for the surplus war supplies it purchased after the close of the war, on the condition that the Mellon-Berenger debt funding agreement be ratified before that date by the French parliament. Under the terms of that accord the sum mentioned is absorbed as part of the entire French debt which is funded over a period of sixty-two years. The arrangement was attacked in both houses. The senate adopted a separate resolution on motion of Senator Howell of Nebraska declaring that in effect the United States under the Mellon-Berenger agreement canceled the entire \$4,230,777,000 of the principal and accumulated interest up to 1925 of the French debt. The payments to be made by the French government over a period of sixty-two years are merely the equivalent of annual interest payments of 2.17 per cent on the original sum, the resolution declares.

As the matter now stands, if either the French parliament or the American congress fails to ratify the Mellon-Berenger agreement, France must pay the \$400,000,000 on May 1 next.

TRANSFER of prohibition enforcement activities to the Department of Justice has been indefinitely postponed. Senator Jones introduced a resolution for the appointment of a joint committee to study reorganization and centralization of dry enforcement and as asked by the President, but the anti-Volstead senators, aroused by the repeated killings by enforcement officers, started such a hot debate, demanding that the shootings also be investigated, that the administration leaders had the resolution withdrawn until August 19, when it was promised a vote would be taken.

Citizens of International Falls, Minn., where Henry Virkula, an apparently innocent man, was killed by enforcement agents, appealed directly to the President for protection. He did not reply immediately, so the city council of the place sent a telegram to him to the same effect. Then, at the White House press conference, Mr. Hoover gave out this formal statement: "I deeply deplore the killing of any person. The Treasury department is making every effort to prevent the misuse of arms. Any case of misuse will be determined by the orderly proceedings of the department and the courts. I hope that the communities along the border will do their best to

help the treasury end the systematic war that is being carried on by international criminals against the laws of the United States. It is these activities that are the root of all of our difficulties."

Mayors of Detroit, Wyandotte, River Rouge, Trenton and other towns and cities of Michigan close to the Canadian border responded with pledges of wholehearted co-operation with the federal authorities if a sane enforcement is adopted. That the rum runners up that way are encouraged by the attacks on the enforcers was shown when the crew of a well-known liquor smuggling boat opened fire on a customs patrol speed boat near Detroit, smashing its bow and windshield and damaging its machinery. Officials of the Province of Ontario announced that they would try to reduce the peril of border gun fights by disarming the occupants of all boats leaving lake and river ports.

WHEN Oscar De Priest, colored, was sent to congress by a colored Chicago district everyone knew trouble was likely to result. It has come, and is likely to stay for some time. In the house Mr. De Priest had conducted himself in a manner that cannot be criticized, but the presence of himself and his family in Washington has brought on social complications. Mrs. Hoover recently entertained several congressional women in the White House, and among her guests was Mrs. De Priest. Of course the South rose in immediate and loud protest, and the action of the First Lady has been attacked as unseemly and unwise by southern legislators, officials and individuals. The implications of the affair are more than social, for the administration is receiving numerous warnings of a renewed solid Democratic South, these coming especially from those states below the Mason and Dixon line which were carried by Hoover.

VIRGINIA'S anti-Tammany Democrats, who, being bone dry, were opposed to Al Smith, consolidated themselves in a state convention in Roanoke which was dominated by Bishop James Cannon, Jr., of the Methodist Episcopal church south. The 800 delegates nominated Prof. William M. Brown of Washington and Lee university for governor and C. C. Berkeley for attorney general. The executive committee was authorized to select a candidate for lieutenant general, and may name either J. H. Price, the regular Democratic nominee, or the man to be picked by the Republican convention. The De Priest incident cropped up here, too. I. C. Trotman bolted the convention when it rejected a platform plank he offered denouncing Mrs. Hoover's action in entertaining the Negro woman.

AMBASSADOR DAWES and Prime Minister MacDonald between them gave a great boost last week to the cause of reduction of naval armament and consequently of world peace. Their speeches, the one at the dinner of the Pilgrims' society in London and the other at Lossiemouth, Scotland, had been awaited with intense interest and neither of them was a disappointment. General Dawes declared that naval reduction was the problem of outstanding importance to the world at the present time, and he discussed the methods whereby it might be brought about. He said it must concern all naval powers and should have world sanction. The final negotiations, he asserted, must be carried on by statesmen rather than by naval experts, from whom he personally would expect a failure to agree. Said the ambassador:

"It would seem that to adjust to human nature the method of arriving at naval reduction each government might separately obtain from its respective naval experts their definition of the yardstick and then the inevitable compromise between these differing definitions, which would be expressed in a final fixation of the technical yardstick, should be made by a committee of statesmen of the nations, re-enforced from the beginning by these separate expressions of abstract technical naval opinion and able again to seek further naval advice if necessary before the final fixation. "These statesmen should further be the ones to draw up for the world the terms of the final agreement upon

naval reduction which should be couched in those simple terms understandable to the ordinary man in the street and which, while the pet aversion of the casuist, are the highest expression of true statesmanship. That final agreement covering quantitative dispositions would go to the nations for approval or rejection."

Mr. MacDonald told of his conversation with General Dawes and expressed his sincere belief that they might be instrumental "in preparing a board around which the nations might ultimately sit in co-operative fellowship studying the arts and the ways of peace."

PREMIER POINCARÉ of France held a long conference in Paris with Foreign Minister Stresemann of Germany, who was on his way home from Madrid, and though there was no public announcement, it was understood they reached a complete agreement concerning the coming conference that will put the Young reparations plan in operation. Then M. Poincaré went before the foreign affairs and finance commissions of the house of deputies and urged that the way be cleared by the ratification of the American and British debt agreements. He told the two commissions that the great liquidation conference would be called soon so as to enable the chamber of deputies and the reichstag to ratify the Young plan in good time for it to go into effect on September 1 and for the former body to put its O. K. on the debt agreements.

LOTTI, Assolant and Lefevre, the French aviators who flew across the Atlantic from Old Orchard, Maine, are being accorded all due honors in their home land, for they made a great flight notwithstanding the fact that they landed first on the coast of Spain instead of Le Bourget. This was made necessary by the unexpected presence in their plane of one Schreiber, a brash American youth who stowed away on the Yellow Bird and whose added weight made the take off difficult and prematurely exhausted the supply of fuel. Displaying scarcely the intelligence of a seven-year-old child, Schreiber did not realize that he was endangering the lives of the aviators and imperiling the success of their flight. The three Frenchmen treated him with the greatest forbearance and admitted he had nerve. But it is good to read that he was almost completely ignored in Paris and all right minded people hope that that will be his fate on his return to the United States. M. Lotti made the youth sign an agreement that half of any money he might receive as a result of his foolhardy exploit should be given to Assolant and Lefevre, the pilots, and to a fund for victims of air accidents.

Seven persons lost their lives when the City of Ottawa, huge air liner of the Imperial Airways on her way from England to Paris, with eleven passengers fell in the English channel three miles from the English shore. The main shaft of one of the two motors broke and the pilot was unable to keep the plane up or to land safely. Four passengers and the pilot and mechanic were rescued.

COLONEL and Mrs. Lindbergh emerged from their honeymoon seclusion aboard a power boat on Wednesday, appearing at Mitchell field, New York, to take part in the first tests in the prize competition held by the Guggenheim fund in the hope of discovering an absolutely safe airplane. Lindy put on a helmet and parachute and took up the first entry, after which he gave Mrs. Lindbergh a ride in a fast army plane.

ALL the troubles of Gen. Bramwell Booth, former commander in chief of the Salvation Army, came to an end when he died at his home in London. He was given a great funeral by the army whose council had deposed him recently, and its flags were kept flying high for as its officials said: "General Booth is not dead—he has passed to glory." Others taken by death were Asa P. Potter, well-known capitalist of Boston; Sir A. Maurice Low, for many years American correspondent of London papers, and S. F. Kingston, veteran general manager for Florenz Ziegfeld.

Chesterfield Inlet, on the northwest shore of Hudson bay. Another party will be sent by airplane to a mineralized area in northern Saskatchewan, accomplishing in hours a journey which formerly would have taken weeks by canoe. This, and other parties, will survey lakes, rivers and topographical features, investigate the geological and mineral possibilities of the country and collect information about water-powers, forest and plant growth, climate and animals. Some of the parties, however, will be located south in the foothills of the Rockies, along the Cambrian shield and in other advantageous parts to ascertain the extent and geological relationships of the various mineral deposits and to map the rock formation.

The problem of domestic water supply is increasing with the growth of industry and population. This is especially true of the prairie provinces. One party, therefore, will investigate the underground water supply around Regina, Sask.

GLORIOUS FOURTH

I wish the crackers would sound as loud
As they did in the Fourth's gone by.
I wish I could, stirred up in the shade
By a wrinkled old maid with a rusty old spade,
Would taste as good when I am dry.
I wish I could laugh as heartily now
At queer Calthumpian ways.
Though 'tis idle to wish, I'll just wish anyhow
For the joys of those long-remembered days.

I wish I could wait with impatience again
The dawn of a Fourth of July;
To get up and shoot the morning salute,
And make the horns toot, and drums beat to boot
As I did in the Fourth's gone by.
And O, that the rockets would soar as high
As the rockets of yesterday!
And O, that the chums of the days gone by
Could gather around me here!

But wishing is vain, and I must confess
That after all's said and done,
I've a good excuse just to turn things loose,
To act like a goose and to raise the deuce,
From the rising till setting sun.
My kiddies have rights I cannot deny,
And wouldn't deny if I could.
So we'll celebrate the Fourth of July
As every American should.
—Will Maupin, in St. Louis Globe-Democrat.



TOLD OF BIRTH OF OUR GREAT NATION

Peal From Statehood Bell Announced Signing of Declaration.

Late in the afternoon of the Fourth of July, 1776, the old bell in the statehouse at Philadelphia rang out a joyous peal. A few moments before, exhausted by the great heat and vexed to desperation by a multitude of flies, the fathers of this country's liberties had unanimously adopted the Declaration which severed the Thirteen



"The Tocsin of Liberty." From an Old Print.

Colonies from Great Britain and made the United States of America forever free and independent. John Hancock, president of the Continental congress, had then affixed his flourishing signature to the document and what up to that time had been an uncertainty, owing to the unwillingness of many to entirely forswear allegiance to the mother country, had at last become an accomplished fact.



Great Day in History
Burgoyne's surrender was an event of the utmost importance in American history. The great combats of September 19 and October 9 were placed by Cressy among his "Fifteen Decisive Battles." As for the surrender of Burgoyne's army, that occurred on October 17. Some old rhymes celebrate it:

In seventeen hundred and seventy-seven
General Burgoyne set out for Heaven;
But, as the Yankees would rebel,
He missed his route and went to Hell.
Another verse, by David Edwards, runs:
Burgoyne, alas! unknowing future
Fates,
Could force his way through woods,
but not through Gates.

Our Native Land
We Americans do more than glorify the natal day of our great, free republic. We honor it. We regard it reverently. We give thanks to God. We extol the Pilgrims and the Founders. We bow before Washington. Three hundred and sixty-four days in year we admire our country for what she has done and for what she has become; but on one day—the Fourth of July—we love her for what she is and because she is our own.—George Harvey.

SIGNED TREATY OF PEACE WITH KING

Elias Boudinot President of Congress at End of the War.

Elias Boudinot was an outstanding figure of the Revolutionary period. He was one of the many great men produced by New Jersey, and was a close friend of Washington. He was a man of wealth, but not the inactive kind. As president of the Continental congress he had the honor of signing the treaty with England at the close of the Revolutionary war.

There is comparatively little record of the youth of Elias Boudinot, writes Quaker O'Taylor in the National Republic. It is known, however, that he received an unusually good education and was early recognized as one of



Elias Boudinot.

the ablest men in the country. He was born in 1740, and was in his prime when the war came on.

Early in 1774 he became a member of the committee of correspondence for Essex county, and soon thereafter was sent to the Provincial congress. This was followed by his election to the Continental congress.

Boudinot wrote "The Age of Revolution," a reply to Thomas Paine. He lived until 1821, dying at the age of eighty-one, at his home in Burlington, N. J. He was enthusiastically engaged in benevolent enterprises until a few weeks before his death.



Patriots Hampered by Activities of Tories

Activities of Colonists around Philadelphia who were not favorably impressed by the program for American independence caused Washington and his army no little embarrassment. When Brig-Gen. John Lacey was assigned to patrol the country north of Philadelphia, between the Delaware and Schuylkill, his men reported they found the residents playing a large part in the replenishment of the enemy's stores. In March, 1778, he wrote to Washington that "Every kind of villainy is carried on by the people near the enemy's lines, and, from their general conduct, I am induced to believe that few real friends to America are left within ten miles of Philadelphia." As a remedy he proposed depopulating the entire belt between the two rivers for a distance of fifteen miles from the city bounds. The proposal was seriously considered by a council of war but failed to obtain the final approval of Washington as commander-in-chief.—Detroit News.

HISTORIC HOUSE

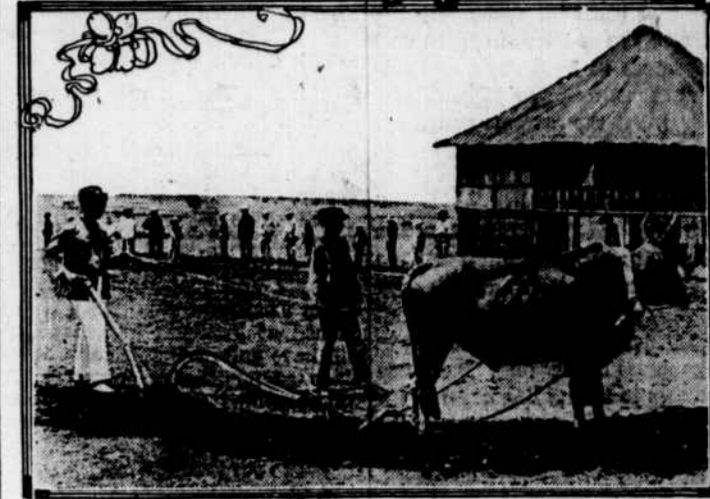


It was in this structure, according to Revolutionary historians, that General Washington made plans and issued orders for the successful conduct of the decisive victory at Trenton.

Freedom's Birth

The signing of the Declaration of Independence was one of the greatest events of the world's history, for it was the germination of an ideal which has enabled America to show the world the road to Utopia—to the millennium. We should be extremely thankful for the foresight of our forefathers, who decided on July Fourth, 1776, to break a new road to freedom. America today is a justification of their judgment.—Michigan Farmer.

The Philippines



American Plow With Philippine Motive Power.

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

THE status of the Philippine Islands crops up afresh with the writing of a new tariff bill. This island group, 7,000 miles from the Pacific coast of North America, furnishes at once the greatest stake and the most difficult administrative problem of the United States in the Pacific.

This is no tiny island territory like some of those that fly the Stars and Stripes in mid-Pacific, but a country of nearly 115,000 square miles—a greater area than that of New York, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Delaware, and Maryland combined; or among the islands, greater than the three large southern islands of Japan upon which the life of that nation centered while it grew to imperial stature.

This far-away territory of the United States is inhabited by nearly 12,000,000 people of many races and different religions, less than a quarter the present population of the three most important Japanese islands. But the tropical Philippines with their ample rainfall and luxuriant vegetation are capable, in spite of their mountainous character, of supporting a much larger population than at present.

Since pacifying the islands, the United States has given the Philippines steadily increasing political control of their affairs. The appointive commission which ruled over the islands at first under the American regime has now given place to an elective house and senate, and five of the seven members of the cabinet are Filipinos. The governor general and vice governor are still appointed by the President of the United States.

Education has been the center of the American policy in the islands. A very small percentage of the natives were literate in 1898. Numerous languages and dialects were in use and only a minority understood Spanish. It was determined to make English the common language and to open the necessary public schools to reach the great mass of children. By 1917 more than 4,000 primary schools were in operation in charge of 13,377 Filipino and 417 American teachers. About half the estimated total of the children of the islands—600,000—were enrolled in that year. By 1920 the enrollment had reached 791,026, and it has steadily increased since until now approximately one and a quarter million pupils are enrolled.

Trade Grows Rapidly.

The trade of the Philippines has increased tremendously since 1890. In that year the combined total of exports and imports was \$32,000,000; by 1917 the total was \$161,000,000; and in 1923 it had reached \$275,000,000. Nearly every man in the world who uses a rope pays tribute to the Philippines, for "Manila hemp" is one of the best rope materials known. It is harvested from a species of banana tree. Nearly \$30,000,000 worth of it was shipped in 1927. Coconut products—"meat" and oil—come second. Much of America's butter substitute is made from Philippine coconut oil. Shipments in 1927 amounted to more than \$19,000,000. As a producer of sugar, the Philippines cannot yet be compared with the famous "sugar isles," Cuba and Java, but its production—more than \$50,000,000 worth in 1927—entitles the group to be classed with Hawaii, Porto Rico and Formosa among the world's sweeteners.

Probably the most significant detail in an inventory of the state of the Philippines is the decrease in the number of white residents. The census of 1903 showed 14,000 white people; most of them American, while the last authoritative census, 1918, showed 12,000. Meantime the population of the whole archipelago had increased by 3,000,000.

Straws in the wind are probably more important than the tablets of 25 years of progress in the Philippines. These are some of the straws. Plans are under way for planting 30,000,000

Para rubber seedlings during the current year. A new profitable export has been discovered in buntal or bangkok straw hats which has leaped in four years from the \$200,000 peg to \$2,000,000.

Fruits and Fiber.

The world is waking up to an appetite for delicious tropical fruit and the Philippines are waking up to the fact that the islands are eminently fitted to grow such fruit. The Filipinos look with envious eyes on the profits of Hawaiian pineapple and now claim they can raise even better pineapples. Mango, luzzon, chico and pomelo are strange names to the American housewife, but they may not long remain so if the Philippines are successful in canning and marketing their fruit products.

But if the custom of pigeonholing a nation or a district by its products, such as Illinois, the Corn Belt state; Sao Paulo, the Coffee country; the South, the Land of Cotton, is accepted, then the Philippines should be known as the Land of Fiber. From a banana plant Filipinos obtain probably the strongest known plant fiber. Manila hemp, from the fibrous stalk of the cane they produce sugar, the long hairs on the husks of the bilion and a half coconuts are now put to many uses, the fiber of the magney, a member of the amaryllis family and close relative of the century plant is an important export. Buntal hats are made from the burl palm, and then there is the wood and rattan from the forest. Finally their embroidery industry depends on the imported fibers of silk, cotton and flax.

We Lose One Island.

Recently Uncle Sam lost one of his tiniest Philippine islands—Palmas. That is, for years he considered it his, but found later that the Netherlands also claimed it as an outlying fragment of the Dutch East Indies. The dispute was duly arbitrated, and the arbitrator, a Swiss, decided in favor of The Netherlands.

Few of the many Philippine islets are so isolated as Palmas. It lies 43 miles off the nearest point of Mindanao, Cape San Augustin, and was the farthest southeastern bit of land claimed to be a part of the Philippines. So neglected had the islet been that many maps do not show it, and most of the gazetteers pass its name by.

Palmas (it is sometimes called Miangas) is only a little over half the size of Central park in New York city, being one and one-third miles long by two-thirds of a mile wide; a mere speck in the sea when its distance from large land bodies is considered. It lies about 20 miles west of the 127th meridian (east longitude) which forms the eastern boundary of the region ceded by Spain to the United States, and about 40 miles north of the parallel 4 degrees 45 minutes (north latitude) which forms the southern boundary. It was therefore well within the area marked out by the treaty for United States ownership.

There is no record of a visit by any official of the United States or the Philippines to Palmas until 1906 when Leonard Wood, then governor of the adjacent island of Mindanao, while on an inspection trip through the waters of his province, anchored off the island. To his surprise the little boat that put off from the island village carried a Dutch flag. It was explained to him that the native headman had on appointment from the Dutch and that for 15 years Dutch ships had called once a year to bring supplies and take away copra. Four hundred and fifty-eight inhabitants were then on the islet.

A report was duly made on this apparent alien occupation of American territory; the State department became interested. For 17 years the matter was under consideration by the diplomats of The Netherlands, Spain and the United States, before the status of Palmas was settled.

Canada Survey Parties to Work With Planes

Fifty survey parties of the geological survey of the Canadian government will utilize airplanes, canoes and pack horses in their entry during the summer into little-known parts of northern Canada. One party will go to the Yukon and two others into the northwest territories.

Several of the geological survey parties will be engaged in exploratory work. One party will go by rail to