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## WHAT'S GOING ON

### NEWS REVIEW OF CURRENT EVENTS

#### Progress of Negotiations at The Hague—Start of Zepelin for Tokyo.

By EDWARD W. PICKARD

INTERNATIONAL negotiations at The Hague during the week reached a point that virtually assured early evacuation of the Rhineland by the allies, and made it fairly certain that Great Britain would have its way in the matter of the distribution of German reparations. Philip Snowden's extraordinarily undiplomatic, not to say insulting, language in characterizing the arguments of M. Cheron, French finance minister, as "ridiculous" and "grotesque" threatened at first to disrupt the proceedings. Snowden apologized, though he and his government stood firm in their position that the reparations division in the Young plan could not be accepted. Thereupon the representatives of France, Belgium, Italy and Japan began to figure out methods of satisfying the English, realizing some sacrifices must be made in order that the entire Young plan should not be scrapped. They agreed, however, to stand together and not to make separate bargains or compromises with the British. Mr. Snowden indicated he would accept an increase of \$9,520,000 per annum in the British share and the four powers named got together \$4,760,000 of this, but Italy refused to make further contribution and Snowden repeated his ultimatum. It seemed likely the Young plan insofar as Germany is concerned would be accepted and that the allies would postpone the distribution of the reparations among themselves until after the meeting of the League of Nations assembly late in September. Meanwhile the English may be induced to abate something of their demands, think the French.

Thomas W. Lamont, the American banker who helped devise the Young plan, admitted in London that he had been asked to go to The Hague to aid in the financial deliberations, but said he had decided it was wiser for him to stay away.

HAVING made the return trip from Lakehurst to Friedrichshafen in fast time and without any difficulties, the German dirigible Graf Zeppelin was refueled and continued on its projected flight around the world. It carried 61 persons, 20 of whom were passengers, and was equipped with rifles and emergency food supplies in case of a forced landing. The next stopping place was to be Tokyo, and this second leg of the trip was considered to be the most perilous for the huge airship. The route laid out would take it across Russia, Siberia, the Sea of Okhotsk and Saghalien.

Doctor Eckener, commander of the Graf Zeppelin, has been granted a patent on a rigid dirigible with separate gas cells, like the one he is flying around the earth, by the United States patent office. The patent, applied for in 1922, has been assigned to the Friedrichshafen Zeppelin company.

LOUIS BLERIOT, the French pilot who made the first flight across the English channel, has perfected designs for a new type of airplane that can be automatically converted into a lifeboat in case of a forced landing at sea, and he says that it will carry passengers between Paris and New York in 24 hours.

Future traffic between the continents will be carried on in neither Zeppelins nor hydroplanes, but in large land planes, according to the Frenchman, who is at present collaborating with the Armstrong company of the United States for the establishment of a regular air line between Gotham and Paris. The Armstrong concern already has begun the construction of a series of ocean airports stretching across the Atlantic, concerning which much has been printed heretofore.

SECRETARY OF STATE STIMSON announces that President Hoover is highly pleased with the progress made in negotiations between the United States and Great Britain on the question of naval armament re-

duction. Washington officials are hopeful it will be possible to hold a five-power naval conference for the discussion of cruiser and auxiliary ship tonnages reduction late this year or early in 1930.

This statement was given out following a breakfast given by President Hoover for the purpose of acquainting members of the naval general board with the progress of the conversations at London and to afford an opportunity for a round-table discussion of all phases of the problem.

Mr. Stimson said that the President and the State department expected the fullest co-operation from the Navy department experts in the campaign for naval reduction and that the navy experts' views would be given careful consideration. He denied that any rift has developed between the navy general board and the civilians on the question of just how far this country should go in reducing its navy.

PRESIDENT HOOVER is taking action in accord with his pre-election statements in which he declared for complete co-ordination of the work of improving inland waterways for navigation, irrigation, flood control and power development. He announces that his administration and the officials of California have reached an agreement for the appointment of a joint commission to determine the policies to be pursued in such development in California. Another joint commission will work out the problems presented by the proposed construction of a bridge across San Francisco bay.

ONE of the next steps for the stabilization of agriculture by the federal farm board will be the creation of a wool marketing agency. A conference of representatives of producers' co-operative wool marketing associations and producer-owned warehouse associations will be held in Chicago some time in October, Chairman Alexander Legge, of the board, announced. At this conference definite plans will be evolved for a national co-operative wool sales agency, to include in its membership all of the various types of co-operatives now engaged in handling the commodity.

Julius Barnes, William M. Jardine, former secretary of agriculture, and other prominent men, have begun the formation of a big fruit and vegetable marketing corporation, but Mr. Legge said its plan of organization had not yet been approved by the board. The corporation is to have a capital of \$50,000,000, and in its initial work will be with 60 subsidiary co-operatives in 25 states.

THOSE persistent revolutionists in Venezuela got hold of an old German steamer and to the number of 400 landed under cover of darkness and attacked the important city of Cumana. The government forces defended the place vigorously and repulsed the attackers, though their commander, Gen. Emilio Fernandez, was killed. The casualties were heavy and the fight lasted four hours, coming to an end when a government airplane appeared and attacked the rebels with machine gun fire and bombs. President Gomez was not unduly alarmed but sent three vessels loaded with troops to try to capture the "pirate" steamer.

PEACE negotiations at Manchouli between the Chinese and Russians were broken off, according to rather indefinite dispatches from the Orient, and the Manchurian situation again became threatening. Tokyo reports said there had been a skirmish on the heights west of Manchouli and that three Russian gunboats had landed troops in three Chinese villages on the Amur river. More Soviet citizens were arrested in Manchuria and some of them deported, and in Harbin the Russian White Guards were believed to be organizing an anti-Jewish pogrom. The Chinese government sent word to Moscow that it would be forced to take retaliatory measures unless it received assurances that the Soviet firing at Suifu would not be repeated. The Soviet government announced the formation of a "far eastern" army in view of the threatening conditions on the frontier.

THE tenth anniversary of the Weimar constitution of the German republic was celebrated with great enthusiasm in Berlin, and by dint of tak-

ing extraordinary precautions and making numerous arrests the police suppressed the intended demonstrations of the communists and nationalists. In the vanguard of the huge parade was a group of New Yorkers and Chicagoans who carried the American flag.

PREMIER MUSSOLINI of Italy is putting into effect the Fascist policy of splitting up estates that have been lying untillied and turning them over for cultivation by small farmers. The other day the feudal estates of the Doria family, comprising 2,500 acres, were thus divided among peasants in a picturesque ceremony at Roccaforte. The land was separated into 230 parcels and the division made by lottery. The proprietor of the estates, Prince Filippo Doria Pamphili, gets partial indemnity, and the peasants are bound to improve the land and to assist in the general work of reclaiming the district, which is in the Pontine marshes.

SPAIN is not nearly so subservient to its dictator as is Italy to Mussolini. This was evidenced by the action of the general labor union congress in session in Madrid in flatly rejecting the government's invitation to send five representatives to the national assembly and issuing a manifesto to the Spanish people strongly attacking the dictatorship of Gen. Primo de Rivera. The new constitution, says the manifesto, would establish "Asiatic absolutism" in Spain, wreck all progress and return the country to the tyranny of Charles V. In comment the dictator said: "The dictatorship is not losing its serenity and is continuing to be assured of support by the larger part of public opinion. I will not abandon power until I am sure of giving the country an ample juridical base to support the new regime."

CONSIDERABLE fun has been poked by the unthinking at the proposals to reform the calendar. But the national committee on calendar simplification has just reported to Secretary of State Stimson that there is nationwide interest and widespread approval of the plan. The report, made by Chairman George Eastman, the camera manufacturer, is intended for Mr. Stimson's use in preparing a reply to an inquiry from the league of nations, which contemplates calling an international calendar conference if enough nations agree to participate.

"The inconveniences which the present calendar's defects impose," says the report, "have multiplied with the progress of civilization, and conspicuously so during the rapid economic expansion of the last hundred years. They are being felt more and more. A defect which has grown to be a cause of very serious inconvenience is the splitting of weeks at the beginning and end of months and years. The lack of comparability between corresponding divisions of the year, particularly as to the months, is one of the most serious inconveniences. It makes inaccurate and deceptive a most important instrument used by all the organized agencies of civilization to measure progress and control their activities—i. e.: statistical data."

STREET car strikers of New Orleans and their sympathizers stormed the city hall and beat up Acting Mayor Walmesley and four councilmen and then engaged in a general fight with the police in the course of which four men were shot. The attack was made while 200 union men were meeting with the council to demand the continuance of bus and jitney cab operation.

FEDERAL Judge Morris in Wilmington, Del., handed down a judgment against the Radio Corporation of America in a suit over patent rights. Two of the beneficiaries are Francis W. Dunmore, a government employee in the bureau of standards, Washington, D. C., and Percival D. Lowell, a former bureau of standards employee and at present employed by a radio manufacturing company. The Dubilier Condenser corporation of New York is the third beneficiary.

According to William Dubilier of the condenser corporation the suit will affect every manufacturer making radio sets with electric light socket attachment and will involve at least \$20,000,000 in back royalties.

will flank the labyrinth of restored tunnels, trenches and dugouts.

Completion of the park will preserve for all time the finest examples of American Civil war engineering to be found. While a large part of the park is still inaccessible to the motorist, and will be until the road is built, many of the tunnels can be reached easily.

Much of the new park is already open to visitors. Monuments have been erected in the park by several states whose sons fought in the battle.

### A NEW LINE OF THOUGHT

(By D. J. Walsh.)

THE Spencer high school had been out now for more than a month. The summer vacation was passing and Margaret and Angeline Carter, who taught in the school, were longing for something, anything, to happen so long as it brought a change. The first week or two after school closed the two young women had been busy in doing a be-hatted house cleaning in their small, white house. When the cleaning was finally done to their entire satisfaction they turned their attention to their clothes, and when their wardrobe was in apple-pie order they made calls and caught up with their reading. And now when they had done everything they had planned there seemed nothing further for them to do but sit with folded hands and wait for vacation to end and the school year to begin. Though, dear knows, the Carter girls were tired to death of teaching. In fact, they were tired of home and a wee bit tired of each other, and for the past week they had discussed the idea of selling or renting their house and boarding for the coming year.

"I think," said Margaret seriously one day when a morning of idleness had irritated her frayed nerves more than usual, "that I shall go to see Cora Blaine and see if she will let me board with her this winter."

"Well, of course you can do as you like," answered Angeline, "but for my part I wouldn't think of boarding with Cora Blaine, not with that snip of a daughter of hers in the house."

The discussion was waxing hot when the postman brought a special delivery. Angeline tore open the letter and read it.

"It's from Cousin Fanny Pringle," she announced as soon as the man had gone. "She is coming to make us a visit. She is planning a continental tour and she is seeking a congenial companion for herself and a comfortable safe place where she can leave Darling while she is gone—Darling—who do you suppose Darling can be, Margaret? I never heard her mention her before, did you?"

"Never," said Margaret. "But read on, Angeline, maybe she will explain."

"I shall room at the hotel while I am in Spencer," Mrs. Pringle wrote. "But I shall expect to take my meals with you girls, as the hotel fare doesn't agree with Darling. I will arrive some time before noon on Tuesday and I wish you to have an extra fine sirloin steak, well done and cooked without either salt or pepper. I trust you will select the steak very carefully, for Darling is most finicky about her food. She is having a twist with her stomach and that is one reason why I am getting her out of the city for a few days, hoping the change will do her good. In her present condition of health I am uneasy about leaving her for my trip abroad and I shall not go unless I can find an understanding person to leave her with." There was not a great lot more to the letter and nothing that explained the mysterious Darling.

Tuesday! Why, there would be only tomorrow in which to put the house in order and do the extra baking for their guests! The Carter girls were all excitement and with so much to think about and so many things to attend to they forgot for a time their differences and were as busy as bees.

Tuesday morning dawned clear and bright. Margaret and Angeline were up at five o'clock putting the last touches to their immaculate house and planning the final details of the dinner. Everything must be perfect, for Cousin Fanny was very wealthy and fussy, and then of course there was the mysterious Darling. No one could guess what she would be like. Probably some one out of the ordinary, for Cousin Fanny was always getting infatuated with unusual people. And then of course there was the trip abroad, and it all depended upon which of the Carter girls Cousin Fanny took a notion to. A trip abroad with all expenses paid was a prize worth working and fighting for if necessary. And Margaret and Angeline each secretly meant to do her best to win her way into the good graces of Cousin Fanny.

As the hands of the old-fashioned clock in the hall moved slowly toward the noon hour, excitement ran high. The table was set for five with all the best linen and silver, the dinner was cooking and the extra sirloin steak was pounded to a shred and ready to be put over the coals at a moment's notice.

The coffee had just begun to percolate when Margaret, who had gone for the dozenth time to the front of the house, announced in a low tone: "They've come!" She ran to open the door.

Angeline, who was in the kitchen, slipped the steak over the coals, tore

off her kitchen apron, smoothed her hair with her hands and arrived in the front hall just as Margaret opened the door in answer to an imperative peal of the doorbell. On the steps stood Cousin Fanny. She was a stout old lady, elaborately dressed. Behind her stood the chauffeur, and in his arms he held a small, silky black dog. The dog had such a funny, wrinkled old-looking face that Angeline had to stifle a desire to shriek as the diminutive little creature peered at her from under a huge red satin bow.

"Well, here we are," announced Mrs. Pringle. "Fanny," she commanded the chauffeur, "set Darling down, and then you may go." Then, turning to the waiting girls, she said: "I hope dinner is ready. Darling is used to having her meals on time and she doesn't like to be kept waiting. Let's eat as soon as I can get my things off. We can talk later while Darling is having her nap. She likes to go to sleep just as soon as she is through eating."

While Margaret was helping Mrs. Pringle remove her wraps Angeline hurried back to the kitchen and a few moments later they were all seated at the table. Darling had a chair close beside his mistress, because, as Mrs. Pringle explained, her food had to be cut up just so. The girls winced when they saw the little dog eating off the delicate china that had been put on the table for the expected guest. It was a long and tedious process coaxing Darling to eat, but after a while she was stuffed to her mistress' satisfaction and was carefully lifted down from the chair and laid to rest on a fat silk pillow on theavenport, where it was cool and quiet. When the little dog's snores satisfied Cousin Fannie that her pet was sleeping she herself settled cozily back in her chair and announced that she herself felt like taking forty winks after her dinner and journey. This left the Carters free to retire to the kitchen and do up the dinner work.

It was a good thing that Mrs. Pringle and Darling were tired and their naps were prolonged, for never before had it taken the Carter girls so long to do a mess of dishes. They did not talk much, for fear of disturbing the sleepers, but words under the circumstances were unnecessary. They would look at each other and go off into perfect spasms of laughter. They laughed until they cried.

"Can we hold out for a whole week, Angeline?" Margaret asked in a whisper.

"I don't know," Angeline answered. "But whether we do or not, I can see where the experience is going to do us a world of good, can't you?"

"Which do you prefer, Angeline—a trip abroad with Cousin Fannie as a companion or staying at home to keep Darling comfortable?" Margaret asked.

"Neither," Angeline answered, with finality in her voice. "I only want you, my home and my job when vacation ends. What about you, sister?"

"You have expressed my sentiments exactly. What fools we were getting to be to want to break up our dear home. And, Angeline, do you remember those lines, 'The more I see of men the better I like dogs'?"

Angeline nodded and they began to laugh again, and anyone who heard them would realize that nothing—nothing could ever spoil their companionship again.

#### Combination of Brain and Brawn Is Common

Unusually smart children are taller and stronger and weigh more than less intelligent boys and girls, tests among New York public school pupils showed. The experiments were undertaken by a Columbia university professor to disprove the belief that the minds of geniuses are housed in puny bodies.

At the age of about ten years, says Popular Science Monthly, the average height of the clever children was 52.9 inches, as against 51.2 inches for the less gifted ones, and the average weight of the prodigies was 74 pounds, as compared with 63.9 pounds for the others.

Strength measurements showed that a good brain is usually accompanied by a strong right arm. The bright children had an average grip of 55.11 pounds, as compared with 51.58 for the duller pupils.

#### Language Somewhat Mixed

The Portuguese language is a Romance language resembling the Spanish and paralleling it rather closely in grammar. The Portuguese vocabulary shows a considerable borrowing from the French. According to the latest estimates there seem to be 11 vowel sounds and some 26 consonantal sounds. One of the most marked features of Portuguese as compared with other Romance languages is the loss of the intervocalic "h" and "n"; thus "quases" represents the Latin "quales" and "pessoa" the Latin "persona." An interesting phenomenon of Portuguese is the appearance of a personal or inflected infinitive, which makes possible a very succinct construction comparable to the Latin accusative and infinitive.

## Seeing Cyprus



Women Do Heavy Work in Cyprus.

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

CYPRUS, lying almost at the northeast corner of the Mediterranean sea, once famed for the copper which bears its name, was an island stepping-stone and exchange center for ancient civilizations.

The traveler, if he takes the barren ride from the port of Larnaka to the capital, Nicosia, through a chalky wilderness, is likely to jump to the conclusion that Cyprus is drab and wholly uninteresting. But half-oriental Cyprus veils her charms, modestly masking her beauty in remote mountain valleys and along the northern shore, where no steamer stops except for carob beans, destined as provender for Spanish cavalry horses.

The best way to reach Cyprus is to steam from Beirut into the sunset glow, and dock at dawn in Famagusta harbor, beside Othello's Tower, where the dark-skinned Moor, inflamed by Iago, smothered his Desdemona.

Once Famagusta, rich and wicked, had a church or chapel for every day in the year. It is a graveyard of old churches now—some sunk in ruin, one or two still used to house the glittering panoply of worship, one changed into a mosque, starkly simple as a prison cell but with a Meccanward mihrab pointing the soul to paradise.

The walls of Famagusta are massive and high, with moats cut from the native rock on which the bastions rise; and with gun platforms, or cavaliers, overlooking them from within. At the Land Gate there was an almost unique ravelin, or outworks, which was useless, and at another corner the masterly Martinengo bastion, which was merely futile.

Looking northward one sees the site of Salamis, six miles away. When Paul and Barnabas landed in Cyprus, Salamis was a Roman capital. Little by little its various forums and market place are being rescued from the drifting sands and viper-infested brush. Salamis enthusiasts would gladly use its Byzantine name, Constantia, for it is disconcerting, while trying to hang a splendid past onto a lot of sadly fallen columns to have visitors exclaim that they have always wanted to see the site of the battle of Salamis, which occurred 600 miles away!

#### Great Treeless Plain.

From Salamis westward to the American copper-ore docks at Karavostasi there stretches the great "treeless plain" of the Mesaoria, with, however, a miniature forest at Syrnas and orchards surrounding many of the villages.

At places, as around Lefkoniko, this plain is rich with waving grain or dotted with golden threshing floors, where the driver sits in an easy chair atop the ox-drawn threshing sledge. Elsewhere rock strata, tilted toward the sky, discourage agriculture, but rare is the view in which some leaden-footed animal is not dragging a plow.

Along the north run the Kyrenia mountains, which one labels mere hills until he has climbed to Buffavento castle or to St. Hilarion and looked down with awe on plain and sea. Strung out in a well-defined and craggy ridge, they guard the pleasant northern slope from the central plain. Strong sea winds, sweeping south, blow the trees lopsided toward the hills.

South of the Mesaoria are massed the mountains that culminate in Troodos, the Cypriot Olympus. Cutting the northern face of that mass are neighborly valleys traversed by shrunken streams—the most charming bits of the whole island.

North of Salamis one of the prominent perches is occupied by Kantara castle—the Hundred Chambers.

The men of Cyprus have a distinctive costume—a straw hat with a mushroom brim, a plain shirt sometimes with a jacket, voluminous Turkish trousers whose seats are tucked into their belts for cross-country walking, and heavy leather boots with their tops turned down and tied above the calf.

The women do little to keep alive the Aphrodite tradition. One of their sex says of them: "They are rarely pretty or even good-looking, being heavy of feature and clumsy of form, and their voices are harsh and shrill. But how could any woman be beautiful who works from sunrise till dark for a few plasters a day?"

#### Kyrenia a Resort Place.

In spring the prize resort of Cyprus is Kyrenia. Almost overhanging the town, St. Hilarion, castle of Eros, clings to a crude crag.

Beyond the horseshoe harbor, miniature of Corsican Bastia's, there is the golden mass of Kyrenia castle, dwarfing the white and opal town, set on a green slope between gray mountains and blue sea. Across the waters to the north the snowy heights of the Cilician Taurus hang like clouds.

People come to Kyrenia to see the castles, the monastery, and the pleasant slopes planted with grain and dotted with olive and carob trees. They remain until the castles are old stories, the Phoenician rock-cuttings have lost their first mysterious challenge, and the harbor has become a mere incident.

The climb to St. Hilarion begins through green grain fields, passes under dusty olive and shiny, heaven-sent carob trees, whose sweetish, dark brown pods the prodigal son would fain have eaten, zigzags toward a rusty cliff, tops the pass behind, and comes to the plain from which rises the rock pedestal for this romantic ruin.

But when one has scrambled among the evergreens whose roots are splitting medieval battlements apart, the romantic castle, high and inaccessible, has disappeared, and there are only some decrepit walls, forgotten by the Titans who tossed them there.

Bella Paise Abbey, a mere picnic haunt from Kyrenia, is the finest ruin in Cyprus. The cloisters, from whose graceful archways vandals have torn away stone traceries, are still beautiful. The refectory, with its swallow-nest wall-pulpit, from which lectors once droned to eating monks, is almost intact. The abbey stands in a pleasant hillside town, bowered in fruit trees.

America owes its incomparable collections of Cypriot art to Cesnola, who lived at a time when an American consul could defy the Turks and boast of outwitting them. His book makes spicy reading in these days. In the widespread site of Lambousa, to the west of Kyrenia, another famous treasure was found, smuggled out of the island and sold by an Armenian to the late J. Pierpont Morgan for a sum that still makes Cypriot mouths water. For treasures found, one-third of the intrinsic value goes to the finder, one-third to the owner of the land, and a third to the government.

Tiptilted Laphthos owes its green freshness to a perennial stream which emerges from a barred cavern in the mountain side. In Laphthos the current price of huge, juicy lemons is 450 for a shilling. The juice is expressed, bottled without sugar, and kept for a year or two without fermenting. It makes a most refreshing drink, but, at 18 for a cent, lemons are hardly worth picking and the ground is often covered with decaying fruit.

#### Breastworks of Grant and Lee Park Feature

A new delight will be offered motorists this fall with completion of an improved road into Petersburg National Military Park.

The new highway will make accessible to automobile traffic the breastworks of the ten-month trench warfare between armies of Grant and Lee. The road will run between opposing breastworks, whose contours still are ominous after 64 years of peace, and

touring parties will find a maze of dugouts, mine tunnels and rifle nests worthy of the World War.

The army appropriation bill passed by congress and signed by President Coolidge provided for restoration of the ancient "No-Man's land," but stipulates that there shall be no changes in the "diggings" of Grant and Lee.

The Crater battlefield, where Federal losses were 3,900 and Confederate losses 1,000, will be the central points of interest for tour parties, while opposing forts, Sedgwick and Mahone,