



1—John K. Northrop's novel airplane, the Flying Wing, in its successful test flight over Burbank, Calif. 2—The yacht Saunterer which was used by President Hoover and his party during their fishing expedition at Long Key, Fla. 3—Maj. Gen. Herbert B. Crosby, selected by the President as commissioner of the District of Columbia and expected to reform the liquor and vice conditions in the National Capital.

NEWS REVIEW OF CURRENT EVENTS

Wets Give House Committee Opinion of Dry Laws—Hughes Confirmed.

By EDWARD W. PICKARD

WHAT the opponents of the Eighteenth amendment and the Volstead act really think of those pieces of legislation and their effect on the lives and morals of the American people was brought out forcibly last week in a hearing held by the Judiciary committee of the house of representatives. That body has before it a number of bills designed to cancel or modify the prohibition laws, and Chairman George S. Graham of Pennsylvania, himself a wet, decided to give both sides a chance to present their best arguments. The public in Washington liked the idea and flocked to the hearing in numbers that thronged the large house caucus room.

Mr. Graham, opening the proceedings, said: "This hearing will not interfere with President Hoover's crime commission, but rather, be in aid thereof."

The Eighteenth amendment, he asserted, has been tested for ten years without satisfactory results, enforcement having left "a train of consequences most deplorable and depressing to every patriot."

"Let us reason together," he suggested. "Not with the fanatic, for he is the foe of religious as well as individual liberty, but with broad-minded men and women of every faith and belief, and try to relieve our country by conceiving a new system—one not founded on the bludgeon and violation of men's conscientious convictions regarding drink."

"No law can ever be enforced that is destructive of right and individual liberty. You may create a guerrilla warfare and its conditions, reeking with murder, bribery, corruption, violations, or evasions and disrespect for all law. Every law to be capable of being enforced without such a train of consequences must not be inconsistent with the mind of the people of the country as being right and must not be destructive of individual liberty."

Representative Sabath of Illinois first explained his proposed amendment giving the government control over the dispensing of liquor as in Sweden and Canada, and then called as his first witness Walter W. Liggett, a magazine writer whose articles on prohibition have brought him before various grand juries. For an hour Mr. Liggett told of the crime, debauchery, corruption and hypocrisy he said he had found existing in Washington, Boston, Michigan, Kansas, Minnesota and North Dakota. Summarizing it, he said:

"In Washington 700 speakeasies and 4,000 bootleggers operate unmolested. In Boston prostitution is rampant, with 15,000 persons engaged in purveying booze. In Kansas, after 50 years of prohibition, there is not a town where I can't buy a drink in five minutes; Detroit is in the grip of gangsters and crooked politicians; drinking goes on merrily in Minneapolis; and North Dakota consumes immeasurably more liquor than before prohibition."

The witness made many sensational detailed statements and when cross-examined by dries he declared he could prove them all but was sure he would not be called on to do so.

This was only the start, for the Association Opposed to the Prohibition Amendment had a long line of witnesses ready for each proposed bill. After the wets were through, of course, the dries were to have their oppor-

tunity, and they, too, were fully primed for the occasion.

BOTH wets and Democrats were cheered by the results of an election in the Springfield (Mass.) district to fill a congressional vacancy. The successful candidate was Fred D. Griggs, a Democrat and an avowed wet. The Democrats professed to believe this presaged the election of a Democrat in November to succeed Senator F. H. Gillett, who is not a candidate for renomination. The Springfield district, which is the home of former President Coolidge, is nominally Republican, but Griggs won by several thousand votes. Some of the Democratic leaders said the result was to be credited to dissatisfaction with the Hoover administration.

IN THE Central West there were several big events in connection with prohibition. A federal grand jury in Springfield, Ill., indicted the Fleischmann Yeast company, the Corn Products Refining company, and the Hublinger Brothers company of Keokuk, Iowa, as corporation conspirators against the dry law. They are charged with furnishing large shipments of yeast and corn sugar to illicit distillers. A lot of minor bootleggers also were indicted. Another federal grand jury in Chicago returned indictments against 188 individuals and small concerns scattered over the country on charges of misusing industrial alcohol. The government officials said this was the breaking up of the biggest "alky" ring in the country, the king of which was Anastassoff Srebrin, an internationally known chemist who invented a process of re-distillation for removing non-drinkable ingredients from specially denatured alcohol.

BEFORE reaching a vote on the confirmation of the appointment of Charles Evans Hughes as chief justice of the Supreme court, the senate heard a number of rather violent attacks on the supposed attitude of Mr. Hughes toward economic problems and to warm defense of that gentleman and his record. Leading the opposition was Senator Borah of Idaho, the chronic opponent of almost everything anyone else wants. He, as well as Carter Glass, Cole Blaine, Brookhart, Blaine, Wheeler and Connally of Texas based their arguments against the appointment mainly on their alleged belief that Mr. Hughes was more in sympathy with the oil, gas, electricity, coal, transportation and power magnates than with the people, and that his views, as Borah said, on matters pertaining to great combinations might, if reflected in Supreme court decisions, lead to "great economic oppression." All of which was replied to ably by Senator Glenn of Illinois and others.

The vote for confirmation of Mr. Hughes was 52 to 26. Voting for confirmation were 38 Republicans and 14 Democrats, while in the negative were 11 Republicans and 15 Democrats.

SUBMARINES are not to be banned as weapons of war by the naval conference in London, but their use against merchant ships is to be restricted and "humanized." Such is the assertion of Mr. Stimson and Mr. MacDonald, heads of the American and British delegations respectively, made after the question had been taken up by the conference in plenary session. The British proposed that the submarine be abolished and the Americans seconded that, but the French and Japanese objected, as was expected, and the Italians sat on the fence. All, however, were willing that ruthless warfare by submarines on merchant vessels should be outlawed. Premier Tardieu put France in a commanding position when he gave out the French demands. He announced that he was willing to aban-

don his government's naval requirements which were laid down in the 1923 program, on one condition only. This condition is a mutual guarantee from the other powers.

By 1936, the French memorandum says, the French navy will comprise a total tonnage of 724,479 tons. This approximates the sea strength of Japan, who proposes 757,070 tons as her proportion, and swamps Italy, who suggests a figure in the neighborhood of 400,000 tons as her needs. The French strength would approximate the British and American strength in a ratio of 3-2.

The Japanese delegation on Thursday made public its position, stating that Japan is ready to assent to a holiday in battleship construction until 1936, which also is favored by the Americans and the British; that Japan is willing that the tonnage of battleships be reduced to 25,000 tons and the maximum caliber of guns to 14 inches.

PRESIDENT HOOVER, with Mrs. Hoover, Justice and Mrs. Harlan S. Stone and a few others, spent a delightful week fishing at Long Key, Fla. All of them made good catches and Mr. Hoover and Mr. and Mrs. Stone each captured a big sailfish.

WILLIAM HOWARD TAFT'S steady progress toward recovery last week was surprising to his physicians, though they insisted he was still a very sick man. He had overcome his restlessness at night and the sleep he obtained was so helpful that he was able to leave his bed and move about without assistance.

KING ALFONSO of Spain has extended amnesty to all those whom De Rivera exiled and taken other steps to please the people, but the republican sentiment in his country is growing alarmingly. Anti-monarchists who returned from foreign lands at once resumed their agitation and threats against the throne and its occupant are made openly. At a celebration of the anniversary of 1873 the attacks on Alfonso were savage. One of the speakers declared: "There are only two roads open to the Bourbons. One leads to the frontier and the other to the scaffold." The police were ordered by Premier Berenguer not to disturb this and similar meetings, though street demonstrations were barred. Count Romanones, former premier and leader of the Liberals, says the only way to save the monarchy in Spain is to establish a constitutional government modeled after that of England.

FREDERIC M. SACKETT, the new American ambassador to Germany, presented his credentials to President Von Hindenburg and was most cordially received. In his address Mr. Sackett expressed his admiration for the president as the living embodiment of German love for the fatherland. He then praised the energy and determination with which the German people are facing post-war problems, and expressed the hope that the two great republics would be able to labor together for peace in years to come.

TEN million dollars will be advanced, it was announced by the federal farm board, to the new Grain Stabilization corporation, organized in Chicago recently by grain co-operative associations, in an effort to check the decline in wheat prices.

The new corporation, the first of its kind created and financed under the terms of the marketing law enacted seven months ago, will be empowered to purchase and store such quantities of wheat as may be necessary to control the surplus and stabilize the market. It was incorporated in Dover, Del.

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SHE DID NOT NEED GREGORY'S PICTURE

(© by D. J. Walsh.)

GREGORY placed his tray on the cafeteria table and arranged the dishes. He thought bitterly of the dinners he had eaten with Helen at that table. Not a fashionable restaurant, yet it served food that was extremely satisfying, reminding them of the meals in the small town from which they had come. There was the same baked ham, full quarter cuts of pumpkin and mince pie, and coffee piping hot.

Gregory sighed as he tasted his tomato soup. Never, he thought sadly, would he face Helen and hear her comments on the happenings of the week. He recalled the quarrel, which had terminated their meetings. He realized that it had been largely his own fault but he was too proud to attempt a reconciliation.

"If she wants to make up, let her say so," he reflected.

His soup grew cold as he tried to concentrate upon the Sunday paper. At last he pushed away both the paper and the soup and reached for his roast. How different the meat looked from that which Helen had commented on the week before.

"This roast is just like Aunt Tilly cooks," she had said.

Gregory pushed his plate away, his appetite gone. From his table near the rear he looked toward the street and debated whether to go into the storm, raging with winter fury. It seemed foolish to let a mere woman take away his appetite. Suddenly, he sat up as if an electric current had passed through his body. Four tables away was a woman he recognized. There was no one else who could wear that blue hat with that air. Yes, it was Helen!

She, too, seemed without appetite. Her knife and fork lay unused beside her and she looked into the street. Her back was toward Gregory and he could not see her face. He wondered if she felt as he did.

A form passed and repassed the street door, that of a man wrapped in a worn overcoat, its collar turned up to keep out the icy, snowladen wind. The man's face was covered with a stubble of beard, the growth of at least a week. His cheeks were emaciated from lack of food. Gregory did not look at him. He knew that he was passing and repassing but his thoughts did not go beyond the fourth table. He did not notice that the man looked hungrily at the food displayed in the window and once or twice moved as if to enter.

Gregory almost forgot his resolution not to attempt a reconciliation as he watched Helen, so attractive, so charming! Although her back was to him, he could picture her eyes, so beautiful, so tender! It is strange that he did not think of his last glimpse of them. They had been far from tender then. But he remembered only more pleasant days when they had reminded him of violets or June skies.

The woman arose and started toward the door. Gregory unthinkingly moved to follow, but remembered himself before carrying out the instinctive action. Helen opened the door but, instead of going outside, she beckoned toward the form moving back and forth there. The man obeyed her summons eagerly. Gregory could not hear their words but, a moment later, Helen led him to the counter and told him to fill a tray.

"I'll pay for it," Gregory heard her tell the cashier before returning to her table.

Later, the cashier presented a check and she counted out several coins. The object of her charity sat at a table near Gregory, who watched him, fascinated. He ate soup eagerly and audibly and fixed his eyes eagerly on the meat and potatoes to follow.

"Evidently hasn't had a quarrel with his sweetheart!" Gregory thought, taking a sip from his lukewarm coffee. He finally gave up the task of trying to eat. His neighbor had emptied his tray and was resting in his chair, as emaciated as ever, but his famished look gone. Gregory saw Helen coming in his direction. His heart beat foolishly as he wondered if she would ask forgiveness. But she paused at the next table.

"Was everything all right?" she asked the man.

"Great," he answered. "And thank you. It's been months since I've had a meal like this."

"That's all right," Helen said, hastily. "I just thought that you must be hungry."

As she was about to turn away, she saw Gregory. Her eyes flashed and, tossing her head, she went toward the door. The tramp, with not a crumb left, followed. Gregory, realizing the impossibility of eating, trailed behind. Outside, Gregory turned up his fur

collar. Although it was only mid-afternoon, the atmosphere was gray and murky. He looked about to see what had become of Helen. Her form was almost indistinguishable through the thick curtain of snowflakes. Beside her was the man she had fed, waving his hands as if excited. Gregory did not like the looks of it and followed. They turned at the corner and he broke into a run. They were not more than twenty feet away when he reached the turn. They had paused and were talking.

"Come on now," the man said. "Give me a dollar. You must have some dough. You wouldn't've bought my dinner if it'd took your last cent. Nobody ain't goin' to go broke buyin' a bum a meal."

"But I say I've no more money," Helen protested. "Please go away. I've done all I can."

The tramp looked quickly about. No one was in sight. Gregory had stepped into a doorway. The tramp threw out his hand and grasped Helen's handbag.

"Let go," he commanded.

"Oh, no, no!" she screamed.

"Thought you didn't have any money," he grinned.

Gregory stepped out and laid a hand on the tramp's shoulder.

"Quit that," he ordered. "What are you doing? Some man you are, trying to rob a woman who's just given you the first square meal you've had in months."

The tramp gave the handbag a jerk. Its handle broke and he was free to fly. Gregory started to follow but the robber turned the corner and had disappeared when Gregory reached it. He returned to Helen.

"Hope you didn't have much money," he said.

"None at all," she answered, her eyes shining into his, "only your picture and I don't need it now that you've come back!"

"Helen!" he cried, taking her into his arms.

They stood alone on the snow-swept street, the chill wind striking them, but only summer warmth in their hearts.

Founder of Jesuit Order

Ignatius of Loyola, the founder of the Society of Jesus or Jesuits, was born in 1491 of a noble house at the castle of Loyola, Spain. He was a soldier, and desperately wounded in the war with France, and during his convalescence determined to become a "knight of Christ." He reported divine visions and commissions, and after much hardship succeeded in founding an order which devoted itself to the extension of the faith, particularly undertaking missionary work. This is one of the most powerful of the Roman Catholic religious organizations.

Only One Requirement

Joe, a wiry little French Canadian, who farms a small tract in Ludlow, drove his wagon into a Ludlow paint shop recently and announced to the boss:

"I want this wa-gone she's be paint red!"

"All right, Joe," answered the painter. "And what color do you want the wheels?"

Joe scratched his head a moment in thought, and then shrugging his shoulders, eloquently replied: "Oh, I don't care. Any color so long as she's red." Springfield Union.

Early Birds

The nightingale, favorite songster of the British Isles, confines his activities to the southeastern English counties bordering on the channel. The annual pilgrimage of the British Empire Naturalists' association to the Surrey downs is attended by visitors from the United States, Canada, New Zealand, Australia, Africa and India, who come to this favorite nesting place of the nightingale in the hours of darkness just to listen to the exquisite beauty of the bird's song.

Considerate Suicide

An unusual method of committing suicide was used by a man at Buryos, Spain. He attached a stone to a long copper wire and went out to find a high tension supply cable. He then wound the other end of the wire round his arm and threw the stone over the cable. He was found dead from electrocution with a note pinned to his hat warning others that they risked death if they touched him before the current was cut off.

Eel's Second "Heart"

The eel has in the tail a lymphatic sinus—that is an inclosed open space filled with lymph. The sinus pulsates and is, therefore, sometimes called the caudal heart. The sinus, however, is a simple structure and does not have the complex mechanism of a true heart.

Baby's Good Luck

A baby today, born into a reasonably intelligent family, stands a far better chance of developing into a healthy, happy and more reasonable human being than did his ancestors.—The Country Home.

PRIBILOF ISLANDS



Seals on One of the Pribilof Islands.

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

AMERICA'S farthest northwest and Asia's farthest northeast mark the icy region where airplanes of the United States and Soviet Russia have been seeking to find Lieut. Ben Eielson who disappeared while trying to carry aid by air to a marooned ship. The region in which search was made embraces Bering strait, a portion of the Arctic sea to the north, and Bering sea to the south.

While whaling ships pass through these waters at intervals, much of the region is far from being a frequented one. Less than 300 years ago Bering strait had not been crossed by a boat with a civilized navigator in command, but since then, whalers, Arctic explorers, and adventurers have passed through and across the strait.

About twenty years after the Pilgrims landed on Plymouth Rock, two Russian expeditions sailed along the western bank of Bering strait without seeing the American side. Later a trading station was established on the Russian bank, but it was nearly a century later that Alaska was explored from the west.

Rumors were current at the Russian trading station that there was an island in the strait, hidden by the fog that envelops the region, and that America lay to the east. The "island" proved to be two islands now known as Diomedes. Today one of the Diomedes belongs to Russia, the other to the United States; for the international boundary line runs between them. They are inhabited by Eskimos who make their living chiefly as "go-betweens" for American and Russian traders.

Named for Vitus Bering.

Bering strait and Bering sea take their names from Vitus Bering, a Danish navigator who enlisted in the Russian navy in 1703. Peter the Great ordered him to the east coast of Siberia in 1725. He went overland to Okhotsk and then to Kamchatka, where he built a ship for his explorations. He sailed up the Bering sea coast but America was hidden in the fog. On a subsequent voyage, in 1741, he saw the American continent for the first time. On his way back to Siberia, Bering's ship was wrecked on what is now known as Bering island in the Commander group. Sailors who reached the mainland carried the story of the fur trade possibilities in Alaska and soon Russian trappers and traders moved to the new continent.

If the international boundary line continued north and south as it does through the strait, half of the Aleutians would belong to Russia. But at the south end of the strait it veers southwestward, missing the western end of the Aleutian chain by about 150 miles.

The Commander islands form the only group on the Russian side of the line while the United States acquired the St. Lawrence, St. Matthew, Nunivak and the Pribilof islands when Seward paid Russia \$7,000,000 for the famous "Seward Ice Box," as Alaska was called by the critics of the purchase.

Perhaps the most important and best known of the American islands are the Pribilofs, where the United States bureau of fisheries maintains a sealing station and fox ranch. The Pribilofs consists of 5 islands, lying in the Bering sea, about 200 miles north of the Aleutian chain. St. Pauls and St. Georges islands, the largest and only ones of the group that are inhabited, are each slightly more than 30 square miles in area. The other three are merely jutting rocks with a combined area no larger than a fair-sized eastern farm.

Seals on the Pribilofs.

The islands are bleak and desolate. Their barren, volcanic peaks and rocky shores are hostile to vegetation.

In the winter they are covered with ice and snow, and whipped by the frigid Arctic gales, while during the summer months, that fog that envelops the whole area is so dense that the sun's rays rarely touch the earth. As a result the climate is uncomfortable, cold and damp. Toward autumn the wind clears the atmosphere and here and there grass and mosses make the best of the short fogless and iceless season. Only a few years ago, the inhabitants of the islands were entirely isolated from the rest of the world for six months of the year, but the radio has changed that condition.

When Pribilof, the Russian navigator, whose name the islands bear, landed there in 1786, after three years' search for the breeding grounds of the seals that frequented the north Pacific and Bering seas waters, he found no human life, but millions of seals. He was followed by Russians and later by natives from the Aleutian Islands. Russians and a few Americans make up the present population, most of whom are connected with the government sealing and fox raising industries.

While seals are sometimes known as sea bears, their names peculiarly follow those of cattle and dogs, and even human beings. The adult male is called a "bull" and the female, a "cow." Instead of referring either to bears or cattle by calling the baby seals "cubs" or "cubs," men call them "pups." The young males fare better by annexing a name of human origin—bachelors.

The more rocky the shore, the more the seals like it during the breeding seasons, for the harem (seal families) forsake the few smooth spots on the islands and establish their rookeries (breeding-places) among the broken rocks along the shore, or on the sides of rocky hills. From the rim the rookeries appear to the eye as collections of black splotches continually moving, while to the ear comes a blend of loud grunts and barks. Each of these splotches represents a harem of 50 or 60 cows and, perhaps, twice as many pups, which are protected by a bull.

As cold weather approaches the cows and newborn pups leave the islands and go south, followed shortly afterward by the bulls. They never touch land until their return to the Pribilofs in the spring. The two to three-month-old pups, who have been subsisting on milk and hardly know how to "navigate," are forced to make their own way without assistance from the rest of the family. As a result, it is estimated that 50 per cent of them die before the next season.

How the Herds Are Protected.

The seal herds of the Pribilofs decreased from between 2,500,000 and 4,000,000 when the islands were taken over by the United States in 1868, to 150,000 in 1911. Although the government placed restrictions on killing them on the islands, the loss was largely due to the killing of cows while they swam about in the water in the summer, perhaps seeking squid and fish at the nearest food source, a hundred miles south, or during the winter while in the Pacific. The death of a cow in the winter means the loss of a pup to be born the following summer, while a similar killing in the summer would perhaps be more disastrous, for the new-born pup left at the rookery would die of starvation and an unborn pup would also be lost. Laws and treaties now protect seals while at sea.

Scientific propagation is showing its favorable effect upon the herds annually. Only surplus males are killed for their pelts. The best furs are taken from seals under five years old. Those that are to be killed are separated from the herd, struck on the head with a large club, and then struck through the heart with a knife. After the killing an expert skinner can remove the pelt of a seal in two or three minutes.