

# THE ALAMANCE GLEANER

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1—Former President Coolidge and Mrs. Coolidge surrounded by a throng of movie actors on their visit to Hollywood studios. 2—Scene at opening session in the school at Dark Hollow, Virginia, which was built by President and Mrs. Hoover for Blue Ridge mountain folk. 3—Russian Soviet workman ripping an icon from a church that was transformed into a workers' club.

## NEWS REVIEW OF CURRENT EVENTS

### Hoover Asks More Economy in Expenditures—Revolt in Santo Domingo.

By EDWARD W. PICKARD

PRESIDENT HOOVER started off the week with a plea to the people of the nation to be moderate in their requests to congress for appropriations for projects in various parts of the country. His aim is to keep governmental expenditures down to a figure so reasonable that an increase in taxes will be obviated. Though this should seem a worthy aim, and in stating it the President carefully made it plain that he was not reflecting on the wisdom of congress, he brought upon himself the wrath of some of the senators, notably Mr. Glass of Virginia.

The appropriations situation was the subject of a White House breakfast conference attended by Republican leaders of both houses of congress; Secretary of the Treasury Mellon, Undersecretary of the Treasury Ogden Mills, Col. J. C. Roop, director of the budget, and Walter H. Newton, one of the President's secretaries.

Mr. Newton issued a statement in which he enumerated proposals for increased expenditures totaling \$1,735,000,000, which he said if approved would imply an increase in taxes of 40 per cent. The list, however, included many projects that the congressional leaders had either never heard of or knew would not be given serious consideration. Consequently the imposing list did not appear to frighten them.

Senator Glass, reading Newton's statement in the senate, declared that "nothing more shameful has ever emanated from the White House within my thirty years of service in congress." The President, he said, was setting up a straw man merely for the purpose of knocking him down, since, as every one knew, many bills were introduced at every session of congress only for home consumption and with no idea that they would be enacted into law.

Mr. Hoover, meanwhile, had given out a statement obviously intended to pacify congress. In it he said: "It should be understood that the unprecedented drive now in progress for new legislation and for expansion of established services which increase expenditure beyond the budget, only in a small per cent originates with members of congress or heads of government departments. It originates from different sections of the country itself and from various groups and organizations, each vigorously supporting their own projects. Many of these projects are worthy and no doubt can and should be undertaken some time over future years, especially when funds are free by completion of legislation already adopted." And he urged "the people at home" to realize that the government cannot undertake immediately every worthy project.

IMMEDIATELY after the issuance of the President's economy plea the house adopted a senate resolution appropriating \$7,000,000 for loans to farmers in the flood stricken areas of fifteen Southern and Western states, though opponents declared the measure was "pork" and "political pie."

Under the resolution, as adopted, the secretary of agriculture may make advances for the purchase of seed, feed and fertilizer, which banks refuse. Loans in only six states, Alabama, Florida, Georgia, North Carolina,

South Carolina and Virginia were authorized under the original senate resolution. The house agriculture committee, however, added Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Minnesota, North Dakota, Montana, and New Mexico and the house itself tacked on Missouri and Oklahoma.

Representative O'Connor of Oklahoma said: "Everybody knows the purpose of this bill is to get congressional votes, but so long as you are cutting the pie, Oklahoma wants its piece."

THE Dominican republic was in the throes of a revolution last week. Insurgent forces, determined to keep President Vasquez from running for re-election and to assure the free choice of his successor in May, assembled in various parts of the island and marched on the capital city, Santo Domingo. They entered the city firing volleys in the air and were enthusiastically greeted by the populace. There was no bloodshed as the rebels took possession of all the public buildings. President Vasquez took refuge in the American legation and other administration leaders sought the protection of various foreign consulates. Vice President Alfonsea resigned. Charles B. Curtis, the American minister, was acting as intermediary between the insurgents and the government and was trying to bring about an agreement whereby the situation could be solved without bloodshed or damage to property. The insurgent leaders had promised to respect all lives and property and made no changes except in the police force of the city.

John M. Cabot of Massachusetts, a young member of the American embassy staff, was most active as the emissary of Minister Curtis and after a swift trip to Santiago to confer with Rafael Urena, chief of the insurgents, he was hopeful that a peaceful settlement of the whole controversy could be arranged.

In Washington it was said by officials that it probably would not be necessary to send marines to the Dominican republic to protect American lives and property. If they are needed, however, there are plenty with in easy reach, and the scouting fleet is now in Caribbean waters.

CAMILLE CHAUTEUPS, Radical Socialist, and his government of France lasted only five days. Then they were denied a vote of confidence by the chamber of deputies and were forced to resign. Chateups told parliament he had no intention of following the radical policies of the left wing, except that taxes would be reduced, but would maintain the lines of action which Andre Tardieu, his predecessor, had outlined, including his policy in the naval conference at London. The center refused to believe him, and the left wing was displeased. The vote, which was 292 to 277 against Chateups, showed there is no real majority in the chamber of deputies and that any government can survive only through a coalition of center and left groups.

Raymond Poincare was called by President Doumergue but declined to undertake the formation of a ministry on the ground of ill health. So Tardieu was given the job again and Poincare said he would help him, though he could not accept a place in the cabinet. The expectation was that Tardieu would be able to make up his government in time to resume work in the naval conference by March 5.

WHEAT raisers and wheat speculators had a lively time last week. Europe had the idea that the United States and Canada were going to boost the price of wheat, so it obtained its supplies in other markets and cut down its consumption. Then Chairman Legge of the federal farm board

made the statement that the board would not support the wheat market so as to stabilize the price somewhere near the price its purchasing agency was paying and that it would buy only from co-operatives. This was somewhat distorted and misunderstood in parts of the country and the result was that non-co-operative wheat was dumped on the market and prices fell alarmingly. The farm board's funds were then used to purchase large amounts of May and March wheat, this led other buyers into the market and prices rallied considerably.

Mr. Legge, after conferring with President Hoover, issued a statement designed to co-ordinate the farm board's program with the government's efforts to stabilize business generally, and asking the co-operation of the grain trade in restoration of the grain markets. Mr. Legge added significantly that the board will stand firmly on its wheat loan policy and that he is confident its co-operative agencies "will get the loan figure out of their wheat," namely, \$1.18 a bushel at Chicago.

PIERRE S. DUPONT, chairman of the board of the E. I. Dupont de Nemours company of Wilmington, N. J., was the star witness of the wets before the house judiciary committee and he and others almost as well known argued strongly for modification of the dry laws. The day before the committee heard W. W. Atterbury, president of the Pennsylvania railroad, who urged that the Volstead act be repealed and authority be delegated to the states to determine for themselves what is intoxicating liquor and whether they should enact legislation to enforce the Eighteenth amendment. He expressed the opinion that "a great advance in the real cause of temperance" would be made by properly regulated manufacture and sale of liquor under state and national supervision, similar to the Canadian and Swedish systems, with these modified to suit conditions peculiar to America.

ROMAN Catholicism lost one of its most eminent churchmen in the death of Raphael Cardinal Merry del Val, arch-priest of the basilica of St. Peter's and secretary of the congregation of the holy office, and former papal secretary of state under Pope Pius X. The cardinal, who was a member of a noble Spanish family, passed away after an emergency operation for appendicitis. He was sixty-four years of age. In 1903 and again in 1914 he was urged as a candidate for the papal throne but failed to get the necessary two-thirds vote of the college of cardinals. He was prominently identified with the intransigent party that upheld the church's right for temporal power, and was an opponent of modernism.

Only a few days before the death of Cardinal Merry del Val came that of Carlo Cardinal Perosi. The college of cardinals is thus reduced to 28 Italian and 30 foreigners, there being twelve vacancies.

Other deaths of the week included those of Mabel Normand, screen star; Ahmed Mirza, former shah of Persia; Maj. George H. Putnam, New York publisher, and Eugene Byfield, Chicago hotel man and sportsman.

CHARLES EVANS HUGHES was sworn in as chief justice of the Supreme court on Monday, the oath being administered by Justice Oliver Wendell Holmes, the Nestor of the bench.

Among the decisions handed down by the Supreme court was one declaring constitutional the provisions of the packers and stock yards act authorizing the secretary of agriculture to prescribe maximum rates for the services of commission dealers at public stock yards.

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## CUPID PLAYS AN OLD-TIME GAME

(© by D. J. Walsh.)

CONSTANCE was going abroad because her mother considered European travel the finishing touch to a young girl's education. As for the girl herself, she would have preferred vastly a summer of tennis and swimming, golf and long gallops through the woods. Moreover, the European party was not to her liking—a group of girls from her boarding school chaperoned by a very Victorian lady principal.

On the afternoon of the first day out Constance stole away to the stern of the ship. Across the white-capped undulations of water she looked longingly toward New York; yet it was hard to be thoroughly sad with the tang of salt air in her mouth and a stormy June breeze whipping her cropped curls. Surely something would happen to make her days less tedious. For Constance something usually did.

The waves were making such noise as they sloshed against the sides of the ship that Constance did not hear some one approaching along the deck and did not notice that a young man stood by her side, and, like her, braced his elbows upon the railing. It was not until he spoke that she turned to behold a veritable Apollo come to ride the sea with Father Neptune.

"I'm Richard Burlington—Princeton '25—in search of Constance Talbot, whose picture, that didn't half do her justice, for four years adorned the bureau of her cousin, Jim Thayer," the young man began with a grin that was in itself introduction enough. "Any chance of my finding her approachable?"

Constance matched the grin with a smile that involved her lips, her eyes and merry little crinkles along the bridge of her nose.

"Probably," she encouraged, "since you've approached the right girl at a crucial time and in an excellent place. I'd have known you anywhere, Dick—picked up as a pretty good sort from Jim's club group. Where're you going?"

The youth shrugged eloquently. "Ask Dad. He knows."

"Not in a party?" Constance inquired sympathetically.

"In just that. And you?"

"With Miss Tarkington."

"Shake," Dick Burlington exclaimed, giving Constance's hand a brotherly wring. "I know how you'll suffer."

"What can we do about it?" Constance implored, the corners of her mouth and the bigness of her eyes again pensive.

"Console each other on ship board and then meet in Europe as often as we can. Since we're both landing in Naples, we can't miss each other often. Beaten path, you know."

"Oh, don't!" sighed Constance, folding her hands in St. Cecilia resignation and casting heavenward those eyes that matched the cerulean sky above her. "Capri, Sorrento, Pompeii, Blue Grotto, Roma, Fiesola, Firenze, Venice, Milan, Lugano—"

"Domodossola, Frau, Luzerne," Dick added in Constance's sing-song rhythm. "Art galleries to the right of us, churches to the left of us—"

"Guido, Angelo, Titian, Murillo, Filippo," Constance giggled, for the first time amused at the sound of the old artists' names.

"Phillipino, Fiji, Boar—all the same to me," Dick said by way of closing the subject. "The important point is that you and I have seven days on this ship which we must make the most of."

And so until Naples loomed upon the horizon on the morning of the eighth day, Constance thought little of Miss Tarkington and her brood. When her steamer trunk was locked, however, she stood on deck talking to Dick for possibly the last time, gloom again shrouded Constance's buoyancy.

"Cheer up, child," Dick consoled, but his boyish grin achieved a poor semblance of gayety. "I'll trail you if I have to employ every guide unhung and consult every oily-tongued concierge."

Just then by some instinct unexplained Constance turned and beheld within hearing distance none other than Miss Tarkington herself looking more than ever angularly severe. Her highly arched nose, which always gave the impression of sniffing something disagreeable, pointed straight toward the ship's mast, and her small, close-set eyes inspected Constance suspiciously through the lower half of bifocals.

"Isn't it nice that we are landing now?" the girl remarked in base hypocrisy as she felt herself propelled toward the girls who in Miss Tarkington's absence huddled together unherded.

Constance choked periously. She was leaving Dick Burlington with no idea when she would see him again—handsome, dear, gallant Dick with whom she had played through seven heavenly days.

That night awaiting in a Neapolitan hotel her turn for the nocturnal bath, Constance heard her name called in Miss Tarkington's nasal treble. "I'll not have young men annoying my party," the lady principal was saying to the demure little damsel who shared her room en voyage. "If Constance's friend keeps appearing I'll change my itinerary."

Constance shook a fierce little fist at the partition separating her room from Miss Tarkington's. Life had suddenly become full of a number of things that were terribly distressing.

Through southern Italy Constance tried to remain impervious to beauty, but she ended in admitting that everything would have been quite perfect with Dick substituted for the ten who flocked with Miss Tarkington. Even Rome for a few days was endurable.

After that churches and galleries began to pull. Over two weeks and not a glimpse of Dick! Constance was almost numb with ennui and longing. Dick had promised to find her, and he was not keeping his promise.

Then one fine morning, when Constance stood in the Rospigliosi palace trying to admire the Aurora as reflected in the tilted mirror, she found herself looking straight into the eyes of Dick Burlington. Constance saw her cheeks in a sudden flame below that shone, and she saw Dick as triumphantly happy as a hunter who has treed his game. He led her out of the crowded little room into the Italian sunshine that all at once seemed to Constance to be casting about her rays of molten gold.

"How have you lived through it?" Dick fairly panted.

"I haven't," Constance replied with a giggle not at all corpulent. "You brought me to life."

"What's your hotel, Constance?"

"A thing that goes under the misnomer of Eden. Heavens! Here comes Tarky."

"Come, dear," the lady principal said to Constance with a brief nod for the interloper, "we must see Michael killing the dragon at the church of the Capuchin monks."

"Isn't that creature dead yet?" Constance moaned as she was led away.

That evening at dinner Miss Tarkington sprung a change of plans but she would not divulge her next step. Constance, remembering that she had had no chance to get the name of Dick's hotel, felt as though she would pass away at once. So the hopeless maiden went to the porch in front of the Eden and sat in wretched solitude.

The slow-departing Italian twilight merged at last its pastel loveliness into the royal purple of the night. Life seemed to Constance sadder than Italian nights and not so beautiful. She dropped her face into her hands and her shoulders trembled a little. Dick, Dick, lost in Europe!

A car stopped at the curb. Two hands dragged her into the tonneau and continued to hold her.

"Pincon hill," a familiar voice called to the driver.

Ten minutes later Constance walked with Dick along the enchanted paths to the garden point that overlooked the seven hills of Rome. She held her breath as the glorious panorama unfolded before her. She realized with a thrill of pleasure that Dick was looking at her and not at the city. He was taking both her hands and compelling her eyes with his.

"Constance, I love Rome when I'm with you, because I love you," he said. "There's only one way to escape the guides and guidebooks. You'll have to marry me tonight."

"Can one elope in Italy?" Constance faltered.

"Romeo and Juliet did," countered the resourceful Dick, "and my Friar Lawrence is waiting. Besides, I cabled Dad plans and troubles and he cabled funds."

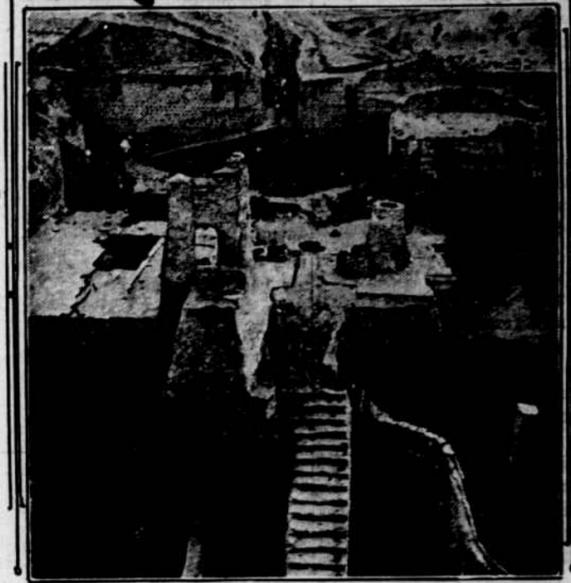
In a quiver of happiness Constance permitted the wonders of Rome to be hidden by the nice roughness of Dick's coat. Europe, beautiful, glamorous Europe, was spreading before her in endless vistas of romance.

**Anthracite Displaced**  
Anthracite coal first came into general use for that purpose about 1840, although it had been tried successfully some ten years earlier. About 1890 anthracite reached its peak as a blast furnace fuel, when 2,500,000 tons were used. By 1925 its use had been discontinued, having been superseded by coke.

**One Sister**  
Mary Jo's brothers call her "sister." Recently a new neighbor observing the little girl playing with her brothers asked the four-year-old whether she had any sisters.

"We have one sister, I'm it," was the reply.

## Iraq Discoveries



Uncovered Portion of a Temple at Nippur.

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

S ELDOM does a month pass without the announcement of a new discovery in the Near East that pushes further back knowledge of man's activities on the earth; the uncovering of a tomb, a forgotten city, or a hidden inscription. One of the richest regions in hidden lore of the past is the valley of the Tigris and Euphrates rivers in what is now known as Iraq. It is there that some of the most far-reaching discoveries have been made.

A little over a half a century ago what was known concerning the ancient peoples of the nearer East, besides that which is contained in the Old Testament, could be written in a very brief form. Israel was then regarded as one of the great nations of antiquity. Abraham belonged to the dawn of civilization. The references to other peoples in the Old Testament had little meaning, for few appreciated the fact that the history of many pre-Israelitish nations had practically faded from the knowledge of man.

The pick and spade of the explorer, however, and the patient toil of the decipherer have thrown a flood of light upon the situation; ruin-hills of the past have been opened up to the light of day, out of which emerge marvelous revelations in the form of written records and other remains.

These, although written in languages and scripts the very existence of which was unknown to man for two thousand years and more, are now forced to reveal their story of the religion, politics, science and life of not a few of the ancient and forgotten peoples.

These researches have resulted in astounding revelations. Israel, instead of being one of the foremost nations of antiquity, is now found to have been a small power which had thrived in the late pre-Christian centuries, and had occupied a comparatively insignificant position among the great nations of its age. Instead of the patriarch Abraham belonging to the beginning of time, it is now found that he occupies a middle chapter in the history of mankind.

**Early Peoples Were Cultured.**  
But, above all else, one of the greatest surprises is that the earliest peoples, instead of being barbarous and uncultured, were civilized and possessed a culture of a high order. In fact, the greatest creations of the Babylonians in literature and art belong to the third and fourth, and perhaps earlier, millenniums before Christ.

Political and religious institutions were already ancient in the days of the patriarchs. What may be regarded as primitive is found, but it points to a still greater antiquity than the earliest periods now known.

Not only did the builders use brick instead of stone at Babel, but they also used clay for their writing material. Annual inundations deposited sand and clay of a fine quality in the valley, which was used for this purpose. The well-kneaded, but unbaked, inscription, lying perchance beneath the disintegrated abodes of the ruined building, though yearly and for millenniums saturated thoroughly by the winter rains or inundations, when carefully extracted from its resting place of from two to six thousand years and allowed to dry, often appears as if it had been written yesterday. The original plasticity or adhesiveness of the sun-dried tablet returns. The baked tablets, as would be naturally expected, on the whole are better preserved.

**Tell of Life of the People.**  
In more recent years temple and school libraries have been found at Nippur, Sipar, Larsa, Babylon and Erech. Besides these libraries immense archives of temple administrative documents belonging to all periods have been found in practically all sites where excavations have been conducted by the Occidental or by the illicit diggings of the Oriental.

These tablets record the payment into the temple of stores of tithes or offerings of drink, vegetables, or animals of taxes, rents, loans, and also the disbursement of this property. There are dowry and marriage contracts, partnership agreements, records of debts, promissory notes, leases of lands, houses, or slaves, deeds of transfer of all kinds of property, mortgages, documents granting the power of attorney, tablets dealing with the adoption of children, divorce, bankruptcy, inheritance; in fact, almost every imaginable kind of deed or contract is found among them.

Again and again are we forced to exclaim as we become acquainted with the doings of the ancients from these sources that our boasted civilization has developed very little in the essentials of life.

The number of official and personal letters of most periods that have been found is also quite large. From the royal letters, such as those of Hammurabi to one of his governors, or those found in the library of Ashurbanipal, considerable information is gained dealing with the civil affairs in the land and with foreign affairs of other lands, especially Armenia and Elam.

The Hoffman tablet, in the general theological seminary, New York city, bears one of the few known archaic inscriptions. To assign it the date 5000 B. C. would be a modest reckoning. And yet the characters are so far removed from the original pictures that in most instances it is only by the help of the values they possess that the original pictures can be surmised. It describes a tract of land.

While in all known periods clay was the writing material, important royal documents, votive and historical inscriptions, etc., are found on stone, and in some instances on bronze.

Not unlike other scripts, the cuneiform was originally pictorial; but, as in Egypt, the hieroglyphs became more and more simplified and conventionalized.

The cuneiform inscriptions in clay, stone and metal that now repose in museums and in private collections number hundreds of thousands.

Several ancient libraries and immense archives have been found. Years ago the literary library of Ashurbanipal was discovered at Ninevah. It appeared to the excavators that the library had been deposited in the upper chambers of the palace, and that when the building was destroyed they fell through to the lower floors, where they were found in masses.

The inscriptions showed that they had been arranged according to their subject in different positions in the library. Each series had a title, being composed generally of the first words of the first tablet. Usually at the end of each tablet its number in the series was given.

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