

# THE ALAMANCE GLEANER

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## News Review of Current Events the World Over

### Eighteenth Amendment Held Invalid—Congress Wrangles Over Relief Measures—Revolt of Spanish Republicans Ruthlessly Crushed.

By EDWARD W. PICKARD



**Judge Clark** because it was adopted by legislatures, but without action by constitutional conventions in the states, the Eighteenth amendment is invalid, according to an opinion of Federal Judge William Clark of New Jersey. He ruled that only by constitutional conventions and not by state legislatures can such amendments which transfer to the United States powers heretofore reserved to the peoples, be ratified.

Validity of the manner in which the prohibition amendment was adopted was tested before Judge Clark by a group of attorneys—all members of the New York County Lawyers association—after a study of two years. The group represented William Sprague, a township clerk in New Jersey, who had been indicted for transporting beer. By the decision the indictment was quashed. The jurist declared the question he was deciding had never been presented to any court and said he was not bound by any earlier or higher authority.

Judge Clark's decision created wide interest, though all except perhaps the most inveterate wets believed it would in the end amount to nothing. Atty. Gen. William D. Mitchell instructed United States Attorney Philip Forman of New Jersey to take an immediate appeal to the United States Supreme court. At the same time Mr. Mitchell and Prohibition Director Amos W. Woodcock notified their subordinates and the public that pending the appeal prosecutions under the Volstead and Jones laws will continue without interruption in New Jersey and throughout the country.

Study of Supreme court decisions disclosed that on June 1, 1929, the tribunal handed down a unanimous decision sustaining the authority of congress to determine whether proposed constitutional amendments shall be submitted to state legislatures or conventions. However, the complexion of the court has changed since then. The new members who will pass on the Clark decision are Chief Justice Hughes and Justices Sutherland, Butler, Stone and Roberts.

**EMERGENCY** relief measures were held up in both house and senate while the members of congress wrangled and debated. The Democratic and radical Republican senators were stubbornly opposed to the provision in the \$116,000,000 building fund bill which would permit the President



Sen. LaFollette

to transfer funds from one class of projects to another. They finally yielded. Senator McKellar of Tennessee made another bitter attack on Mr. Hoover in the course of which he asserted the President had never finally accounted for the one hundred million dollars which he administered for European relief in 1919. Senator Otis F. Glenn of Illinois and others warmly defended Mr. Hoover and scathingly rebuked McKellar.

Senator LaFollette of Wisconsin put through without opposition a resolution calling for the appearance before the appropriations committee of Col. Arthur Woods, chairman of the President's employment committee; John Barton Payne, head of the Red Cross and others, to tell the facts concerning unemployment. The President had previously refused to transmit to the senate any reports to him from Colonel Woods, declaring he had received only notes and verbal suggestions that were confidential.



**SEN. MORRISON** 1924 when he was struck by a stray bullet fired in a gun fight between bootleggers and prohibition agents in Washington. He was

sixty years of age. In his earlier years he was an editor, and he served through the Spanish-American war, after which he was in the regular army. Cameron Morrison, former governor of North Carolina, was sworn in as senator from that state to fill out the term of the late Senator Lee Overman.

**HOOVER'S** drought relief measure was the subject of hot debate in the house, the chief point at issue being the amount of the appropriation. One side wanted this to be \$60,000,000 with provisions for food for the farmers, and the other insisted it should be only \$30,000,000 and that the aid should be limited to crop production. At last a compromise was reached, the sum appropriated being \$45,000,000 and the wording being such that Secretary Hyde can, in emergency cases, make loans from it for food. In this form the bill was passed by the house and went to the senate, where there was little opposition to it. It suited the administration.

**IMMEDIATE** cash payment of adjusted service certificates is not asked by the legislative committee of the American Legion, but the organization will try to get reduction of the interest rate of 4 per cent on adjusted compensation loans and full payments to permanently and totally disabled veterans and to dependents of deceased veterans.

Most important among the measures backed by the Legion at this session is a veterans' hospitalization bill sponsored by Representative Edith Rogers, authorizing an appropriation of \$52,000,000 to provide 13,200 beds and committing the government to a policy of providing hospitalization for all veterans, whether their cases are service connected or not.

**MEMBERS** of congress representing ten of the central states called on President Hoover to solicit his aid in a drive to obtain the elimination of restrictions against the use of corn sugar in various products, thereby opening a market for perhaps 30,000,000 bushels of corn annually. The American Farm bureau is co-operating with the group of congressmen.

**WITH** remarkable speed the house passed a bill granting \$150,000,000 additional to the farm board so that it can continue its loans to grain and cotton stabilization corporations. Chairman Legge of the farm board told the house committee on appropriations that more drastic control of the national grain exchanges would be necessary before the board can operate to the complete benefit of the farmers. He urged an amendment of present laws to that effect.

**ECONOMIC** conditions in the United States are improving, and the resource and enterprise of business men with faith in the future have kept many industries on an even keel and maintained employment in the face of a general recession, according to the monthly report of the President's business survey conference. Evidence that industries with courageous managers in charge have forged ahead and successfully balanced production and market consumption was cited by Julius H. Barnes, chairman of the conference, as one of the most favorable indications in the present business situation. Mr. Barnes also saw "definite signs of improvement" in a number of foreign countries.

J. H. Barnes

**BY** THE close vote of ten to nine the senate foreign relations committee decided to postpone consideration of the World court protocols until the first Wednesday of the regular session of congress in December, 1931. Senate leaders believed this would serve to avoid complications that might have made necessary a special session of congress in the spring, though in Washington it was regarded as still a possibility that President Hoover

might call a special session of the senate to consider the World court issue immediately after the March 4 adjournment.

**PRESIDENT HOOVER'S** appointment of Eugene Meyer as governor of the federal reserve board was attacked by Representative Louis T. McFadden of Pennsylvania, chairman of the house committee on banking and currency, and the senate was urged to reject it. The appointment of Meyer, said the congressman, means control of the federal reserve system by international financiers.

**REAR** Admiral Mark L. Bristol, chairman of the executive committee of the navy general board, appearing before the house naval affairs committee to testify, regarding the merits of the \$33,000,000 cruiser, submarine and aircraft authorization bill, stated frankly that he would not favor building any six-inch gun cruisers at this time if treaty limitations did not restrict this country to building that type.

**THEODORE STEEG** formed a new ministry of France, composed of "leftists," and with a program of good will and non-controversy. It was believed in Paris that the parties of the right and center would speedily bring about the downfall of this cabinet.



King Alfonso

**SPAIN'S** latest republican revolt has ended in failure, according to the official reports from that country, but Alfonso's crowned head doesn't lie easy by any means. Strikes and riotous demonstrations continue in many parts of the country, and the anti-monarchists have not given up hopes of upsetting the throne. The revolutionary movement was well planned and, according to its leaders, was to have been bloodless; but a too eager army officer at Jaca, near the north border, started things prematurely and the government was thus apprised of what was going on. Regular troops and civil guards quickly and ruthlessly suppressed the rebels in the north and their chiefs were killed or arrested. Maj. Ramon Franco, the transatlantic aviator, who had recently escaped from jail, tried to stage a revolt of the air force, but was forced to flee in his plane to Portugal, where he was joined later by some of his companions.

Premier Berenguer, overcome by the strain, was confined to his home by illness, but King Alfonso, after the worst seemed to be over, appeared in public in Madrid with but a skeleton guard, smiling as usual and exhibiting his customary disregard for personal danger.

**PROF. Albert Einstein**, the eminent relativity mathematician, after being dined, interviewed, photographed and otherwise "received" as only New York city can or will do it, has sailed via the Panama canal route for southern California, where he is to visit other noted scientists and make contact with educational institutions. While in the eastern metropolis Einstein made a speech decidedly pacifist in its suggestions, even going so far as to urge that men of military age should refuse to fight as a means of preventing war. This brought from Dr. A. D. Houghton of Los Angeles, one of the founders of the American Legion, the proposition that Doctor Einstein should be barred from landing in California by the federal authorities there. He declared the German physicist was a pacifist traveling in the guise of a mathematician.



Prof. Einstein

**GUATEMALA** offered a characteristic incident. President Chacon having fallen ill, Baudillo Palma took over the presidency by a smart coup. But this didn't suit the military and there was a short and sharp revolt, accompanied by street fighting in Guatemala City, the capital. Palma and some of his followers took refuge in the German legation and a military junta headed by Gen. Manuel Orellana was installed as the government. The junta informed the diplomatic corps that it intended to return the presidency to Chacon if he recovers his health.

**SEVEN** hops in several weeks, it is hoped, will take from Italy to Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, the air armada of twelve planes that started Wednesday from Orbetello, Italy. The first lay took them to Cartagena, Spain. The ambitious expedition is under the command of Gen. Italo Balbo, air minister of Italy. The longest hop will be across the Atlantic from Portuguese Guiana to Natal, Brazil, 1,900 miles.

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**BLITZEN** had behaved very well until the first of December. Then all of a sudden he decided to go into Santa's workshop. The first terrible thing he did was to tap the paint from a doll's face. Santa had put a great deal of care into making that doll for she was to go to a little girl who was ill in the hospital.

Christmas eve came and all the reindeer were harnessed and waiting for Santa.

"Have you all of your bags, dear?" asked Mrs. Santa.

"Yes, we have everything and are on our way to wish the world a very Merry Christmas," answered jolly old Santa.

"Hump," said Blitzen to himself, "and hump again."

The red paint had had a bad effect upon his disposition. Off they sped and up, up, up they sailed through the air. Blitzen was going along beautifully when he suddenly wondered what Vixen would do if he, Blitzen, should bite his tail.

"Not very hard," thought Blitzen to himself. "Just enough to make him jump."

And as they hurried along that winter's night, Blitzen reached out his funny warm nose and bit Vixen's tail—hard. Vixen jumped, then he kicked Blitzen, who in turn kicked the sleigh, upsetting it. Santa righted the sleigh and again they set out.

The first house they came to was a lovely old farm house. Santa and the reindeer made a beautiful landing on the roof.

"Now while I am gone see that you behave!" said Santa and down the chimney he went. As soon as he was out of sight, Blitzen started trouble again.

"Dum-dum diddle-dum-dum! See what I can do!" he snorted, and he crossed his front legs, stamped his hind ones and sat down kerplunk on the roof.

"Here, here," shouted Santa, as he came up the chimney. "What is the meaning of all this noise? It sounded like an earthquake. If you can't stand still I shall most certainly leave you on the ground."

The next house had a slanting roof with a peak at the top and when Santa had gone down the chimney (that mischievous Blitzen promptly sat down again, and he had started to slide and he couldn't get up quickly enough to prevent sliding all the way to the ground. Over the roof he went, dragging the sleigh and his seven brothers with him. Out of the chimney came Santa and leaned over the peak of the roof to call them.

"I'm just about tired of your nonsense tonight!" said he. "Now you will stay on the ground."

And when in the country, they stopped at another farm house; that is just where Santa left them.

"Sniff-sniff, sniff-sniff!" A spicy smell reached the nose of Blitzen.

Inch by inch he moved over to the window and stuck his head right in. He proceeded to devour everything in sight. When he had finished he pushed back to the place Santa had left them.

"Well, now, that's fine," called Santa in a cheery voice. "See how much better things are when you behave!"

Now we all know that it isn't the best thing in the world to run after we have eaten a great many sweets. Blitzen soon learned this and began feeling very ill indeed. But feeling ill only made his disposition worse. In the distance he could see a city and above this city he saw a tall steeple. As they raced along near the steeple Blitzen pushed his brothers over so that when they passed they were so close you could not have put your finger between the steeple and the sleigh.

"What ho," bellowed Santa, "do you want to upset the sleigh again, you naughty deer?"

All over the world they went, not skipping a place. Blitzen was very

tired and as he could think of nothing better to do he snorted and fussed and counted stars. At last just as Christmas morning dawned they found their way home. Mrs. Santa came running out to meet them, and to help Santa unharness the reindeer.

"Blitzen cannot have anything to eat and he must go right into the barn," said Santa rather sadly. "And I fear he cannot go with me next Christmas."

And now indeed was Blitzen a sadder and a wiser reindeer.

Now, my dear children I know that you all love Blitzen. When you hear the deer on the roof Christmas eve it is Blitzen's hoofs you hear. And when you hear the bells you can always hear Blitzen's above the rest. Just because he is Blitzen, I suppose, and likes to give an extra stamp and an extra shake whenever possible. He will be sadly missed next Christmas eve unless—I have it! Let's all write a note to Santa and ask him to forgive poor mischievous Blitzen before next Christmas has a chance to come around. If all the children in all the world should write I'm sure Santa would forgive him.

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**THE** package bearing a holiday label with the inscription "Lois Smith, Argyle Apts.," signed for and the expressman gone, Lois sat down on the floor to tear off the wrappings. Inside she found a store of gayly-wrapped packages. The first contained a knitted tie.

"Even's sake!" she said, and opened the second one. It contained home-made candy. "That," she thought, "is more like it." The next parcel contained handkerchiefs with a neat "L. S." in the corner, only—they were men's handkerchiefs. The other item, she could tell, was fruit cake and under it she found what she was looking for—a letter.

"My Dear Son Louis," it began. "Even's sake," said Lois, "Of course! It's for Louis Smith."

Now if all Lois Smith and Louis Smith had had in common had been their surname and their choice of an apartment house, it would have been relatively simple for Lois to take the box upstairs and explain.

But they had also shared 51 full moons and 45 other moons, some 30 odd shows, and several Sunday afternoons in the park. They had shared secrets and tea in Lois's apartment; a promise, several kisses, and one quarrel. So now they were mutually miserable, sharing a pride that forbade attempting reconciliation.

Lois put the things back in the box, jiggled the candy to hide that three pieces were gone, and retied the tinsel bows. Then she carried it upstairs to Louis Smith's apartment, knocked and ran back down, where she locked her door and flung herself across her bed to cry.

A knock at the door roused her. She opened it to a handsome young man. "Lois, darling!" he cried.

"Well?"

"It was so wonderful of you—"

"What was?"

"Oh, don't pretend. I was just coming in and saw you running down. And then of course, I found the candy and the—"

"But didn't you find the letter?"

"What letter?" He stooped down. "Is this it?"

She nodded. "I must have dropped it."

"Oh," he said. "My mistake. Sorry."

She watched him go and then ran after him. "It isn't your mistake, Louis. I've made some candy, and—"

"—knitted you a tie long ago."

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By WM. L. GASTON

**HERE** I am, old world! The nineteen hundred and thirty-one youngster you have been expecting. I am just from the limbo of things to come. I have brought you a splendid ransom. In this bag I have twelve caskets of jewels. They are all yours—birth stones, bringing fine gifts for the world.

**JANUARY**, the first casket; garnets of power; great drifts of snow, sparkling fields of frost and ice. Cold mornings. Cold stars studding the skies of night.

**FEBRUARY** brings amethysts of love with something of hate. A thawing time and a freezing time—a clash of warmth and cold. Last hard struggle of winter.

**MARCH** is red with bloodstones. They loosen the wild winds and blustering storms. The earth grows nervous with the pain of coming life.

**APRIL**—fine casket of diamonds. They bring purity. They bring sunshine and rain. The first born life lies on the breast of mother earth.

**MAY** has green emeralds and the wild flowers. Color everywhere. Sow the fields and expect the harvest.

**JUNE** has brought pearls—pearls of health. Full blossomed roses are here, and brides stand at the altar—a splendid suggestion of garden and home.

**JULY** brings rubies for happiness and with them reddens apples and ripens the grain. It brings the warmth of full summer and the days of the year's decline.

**AUGUST** opens a casket of sardonyx, the full round of happiness. It brings maturity. Beat out the grain. Market the fruit. Eat, drink and be merry.

**SEPTEMBER** flashes sapphires, tokens of constancy. It brings purple vineyards and treads the wine press. Here flows happiness for the earth.

**OCTOBER** and opals. Fill storehouses with plenty for the winter. Gather the last of the crops. Here are robes of crimson and gold for the landscape. The first blight of death is the brightest flush of beauty.

**NOVEMBER** lays a topaz on the altar, and with the first wand of winter strikes the leaves from the trees and the truth of things stands out stark and naked.

**DECEMBER** carries the turquoise of counted prosperity—the prosperity of the year. More white robes for the aged year—robes of hoar frost and snow. From here flows a sullen stream into the past. And here on its heaveless breast I launch my barque and pass away on its tides.

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"This passes!" the voice announced. Now through the rooms a procession of pioneers marched bearing genuine old-fashioned tallow dips.

The voice spoke again. This time less weirdly:

"This, too, shall pass!"

At the corners of each room kerosene lamps were lighted and hanging lamps hitherto unnoticed.

Over the radio came the ringing of bells and blowing of whistles and again the rooms were ablaze with light; for the old had passed. The New Year was born!

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### NEW YEAR'S BRINGS GLAD SURPRISES

**NO CHANCE** for me getting to the New Year's eve masquerade tonight," Sadie Turner addressed her typewriter, as she closed it into her desk. "I've been in this little town more than a week, but nobody knows me. Got to work tomorrow, too."

Just then Alice, the manager's daughter, blew in:

"You're Sadie, aren't you? Dad says he's sure you're a good sport. I'm in a fix. Bob, the son of the president of this company, drove in this afternoon all set to go to the party, but the girls are all taken. I've got a Spanish costume I had planned to wear but Chuck Roe and I are going as clowns. Won't you take it and go with us?"

Would she! Of course she would. What a Toreador Bob made! Altogether it was a wonderful night full of surprises. Alice and Chuck won first prize. To their amazement Bob and Sadie got second. Best of all, Bob told her his father had ordered the office closed for New Year's and would she ride with him?

Would she! It looked like a very bright New Year to Sadie.—Florence Harris Wells.

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The piano, phonograph and radio furnished the music for the various dances and games. All was gayety, song and laughter as the midnight hour approached. Suddenly they were in total darkness. Above the laughter and ejaculations a sepulchral voice announced:

"Behold the light of your forefathers!" and borne through the great rooms by a decrepit old man, dimly flickered a light.