

THE ALAMANCE GLEANER

VOL. LVI.

GRAHAM, N. C., THURSDAY, JANUARY 8, 1931.

NO. 49.

News Review of Current Events the World Over

Norris and Other Radical Republicans Reject Third Party Suggestions—Wickersham Report Sure to Start Fight in Congress.

By EDWARD W. PICKARD



Dr. Dewey doubt, are highly edified by the way in which the row within the Republican party is being kept going. The radicals and regulars taking turns in swatting one another. But there seems small prospect that the insurgents will be led into accepting the suggestion of Dr. John Dewey, head of the League for Independent Action, that they form a third party with Senator George W. Norris of Nebraska as their leader and potential candidate for the Presidency. Norris, Borah and the rest of them are convinced that the formation of another party, under present electoral provisions, would be futile, and have so informed Doctor Dewey. Of course there remained Gifford Pinchot of Pennsylvania as a possible banner bearer of a third party in 1932, but undoubtedly he, like the other radical Republicans, knows on which side his bread is buttered.

Responding to a question, Norris said if the Democratic party should nominate a real progressive in 1932 many of the western Republican independents would support him.

"It is an open secret that the power interests are trying to nominate a Democrat who will be satisfactory to them," he stated. "Known emissaries of the power trust are busy now trying to line up the Democratic party for Owen D. Young. The trouble is that under our present system the people have to vote for one man or the other. Often it is a case of voting for the lesser of two evils. The people don't really select our Presidents. What we need is a system by which the rank and file can get control of a party any time they have a mind to."

WITH the news that the report of the Wickersham commission would be given to President Hoover on January 5 and undoubtedly transmitted by him to congress immediately thereafter, it became evident that there was going to be a great deal of fighting over the prohibition question during the remainder of the short session. There was nothing authoritative concerning the contents of the Wickersham report, the members of the commission being evidently determined to keep it secret until it reached the White House. But whatever its findings, the battle seemed certain to open soon.



G. W. Wickersham

Members of the lower house were said to have determined to force a roll call on some prohibition items in the Department of Justice appropriation bill which is to be reported to the house about January 13; and in the senate both wets and dries are getting their ammunition ready.

If the report contains specific recommendations for legislation changing the prohibition law in a vital way, observers in the national capital think this might be the factor that would make necessary the calling of a special session of the new congress in the spring. The administration leaders are determined this shall not happen if they can prevent it. Senator Watson of Indiana, majority leader, said:

"It is the consensus of most members of congress, and of the entire American business world, as far as is ascertainable, that an extra session is to be avoided except in case of an extreme emergency. I do not believe that this emergency will occur if members will forego speeches on extraneous matters and confine debate to the immediate problems confronting them."

QUICK relief for the drought sufferers is a certainty. The subcommittee of the house committee on appropriations approved of an appropriation of \$45,000,000 for this loan, the full amount authorized in the legislation already enacted, and the full committee was prepared to recommend this to congress immediately after the session was resumed. It was expected to be put through in both houses as a deficiency measure within a few days.

Secretary of Agriculture Hyde appeared before the subcommittee to support the appropriation, although he reiterated his belief that \$25,000,000

would be sufficient to care for the drought area. He asserted that he had no intention of approving any loans for human food, although the language of the authorization was construed during the congressional debates as being made broad enough to include such loans in cases of emergency. Mr. Hyde said the loans would be available for distribution within a week after the money is appropriated.

REPRESENTATIVE Hamilton Fish, Jr., of New York, in whose district West Point is situated, is urging the early passage of his bill appropriating \$1,500,000 for the purchase of 15,000 acres additional for the Military academy. Though the academy is considered by many the greatest military school in the world, high officers of army have asserted that it is greatly handicapped by insufficient ground, meager water supply and lack of facilities for training the cadets.

Gen. John J. Pershing has endorsed the move to acquire 15,000 acres of land adjacent to the academy. He said:

"If West Point is to continue to fulfill its mission of preparing its graduates for emergencies, greater facilities for the special training required must be provided."

He urged that the government immediately acquire the land as recommended by Maj. Gen. William R. Smith, superintendent of the academy.

AT THE instigation of President Hoover, the executives of the chief eastern railroads got together and arranged for consolidation into four major systems, the focal points of which are the Pennsylvania, the New York Central, the Baltimore and Ohio and the Van Sweringen lines.

Mr. Hoover announced that he gave his endorsement to the plan as a means of aiding business recovery and improving railroad service. If certain minor details are agreed upon and the scheme is approved by the Interstate Commerce commission, the merger may go through. However, opposition in congress developed at once, among the objectors being Senators Couzens and Wheeler, both members of the senate committee on interstate commerce.

It is understood the executives agreed to allot the Reading and Jersey Central lines to the Baltimore and Ohio, the Delaware, Lackawanna and Western to the New York Central, and the Lehigh Valley to the Chesapeake and Ohio-Nickle Plate system, while the Pennsylvania will get trackage rights over both the Lehigh Valley and the Nickle Plate lines into Buffalo and a cash consideration.

JUDGE DAVID JENKINS of Youngstown, Ohio, put an end to proposed plans for the million dollar merger of the Bethlehem Steel corporation and the Youngstown Sheet and Tube company when he granted to minority stockholders a permanent injunction restraining the combination. His decision was the climax of a bitter legal struggle that had been going on for six months and was a victory for Cyrus S. Eaton, Cleveland financier, who headed the minority stockholders of the Sheet and Tube company and carried the battle to court with charges of fraud.

IN ORDER to round out the federal building program in Washington, according to Senator Henry W. Keyes of New Hampshire, the property adjacent to the Capitol grounds now occupied by the Methodist building is necessary and may be purchased under condemnation by the government. Keyes is chairman of the senate public buildings and grounds committee, so he speaks by the card.

The Methodist building, sometimes called the Methodist "vatican," is located just east of the Capitol, across the street from the new Supreme court building, now under construction.

Senator Keyes said the ground occupied by the Methodist building could be used partly for open park space and partly for some government build-

ing. Although no bill is pending in congress providing for its acquisition, Senator Keyes intimated that such legislation was in prospect.

The Methodist board of temperance, prohibition and public morals, which occupies the structure, recently was refused permission to build an annex to it by the District of Columbia zoning authorities. This ruling, however, did not molest the present building, which would be demolished if the property was condemned and purchased.



Dr. Millikan

SCIENTISTS from all parts of the United States and Canada spent the week in Cleveland, Ohio, attending the sessions of the American Association for the Advancement of Science and Affiliated Societies. They numbered more than five thousand and they read and listened to papers relating the latest researches into the secrets of the universe. The retiring presidential address was delivered by Dr. Robert A. Millikan, Nobel prize winner in physics, his topic being Atomic Disintegration and Atomic Synthesis. He took issue with Sir James Jeans and others as to the "heat death" of the universe, the debated second law of dynamics, and from his deep study of the nature of cosmic rays ventured the suggestion that there is as much reason to think the universe is constantly being rebuilt as that it is running down and doomed to extinction in some millions of years.

Doctor Millikan was presented by the new president, Thomas U. Morgan of the California Institute of Technology.

ONE of the features of New Year's day was the inauguration of Franklin Roosevelt as governor of New York for his second term. At 11:15 the governor started from the executive mansion in Albany for the state capitol, accompanied by his military staff; Maj. Gen. William N. Haskell, commanding officer of the New York National Guard; Rear Admiral William B. Franklin, commander of the naval militia, together with Troop B of the One Hundred and First cavalry. The ceremony took place at noon, Secretary of State Flynn administering the oath to Governor Roosevelt.

NEW YEAR'S day in the White House was the occasion for the annual reception that is traditional. President and Mrs. Hoover went to the Blue room at 11 o'clock in the morning and there greeted the members of the cabinet, justices of the Supreme court, army and navy officials and members of congress and of the diplomatic corps. At one o'clock the doors were thrown open and the general public was admitted. For hours the callers passed through the room, each one shaking hands with Mr. and Mrs. Hoover.

EUROPE'S latest dictatorship has been established in the little principality of Monaco by its ruler, Prince Louis II, and his people do not take it with good grace. Twice within a week there were political and popular demonstrations against the prince, partly because he had been spending most of his time living a gay life in Paris, and partly because of the decrease in the revenues from the Casino in Monte Carlo—the only revenues of the state. The first disorders were timed for the arrival of Louis from France, and he promptly called out his army of about one hundred men and suppressed them. But when he followed up this action by dissolving both legislative bodies, assuming a dictatorship abrogating the rights of franchise and elective representation granted the citizens twenty years ago the indignant people again broke loose with mass meetings and parades of protest.

Again Louis mobilized his army, but it was generally believed that he was relying not on his own military strength but on assurance of support from the French foreign office. Since 1911 France has maintained a kind of suzerainty over Monaco, and the prince was probably acting on French advice. There are plenty of French troops in the neighborhood if he should need their aid.

DEATH of Representative David J. O'Connell of Brooklyn reduced the number of Democrats elected to the next house to 214. He had served in congress continuously since 1919 with the exception of one term.

Japan lost one of its ablest diplomats in the death of Marquis Kinichi Komura, vice minister of external affairs. He leaves no heir to his title.

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Daddy's Evening Fairy Tale

By MARY GRAHAM BONNER

LAURA'S CONVERSATION

Laura lived in a city apartment house. It was quite a grand building.

Down in the main hallway, on a stand, there was an elephant. Not a real elephant, of course, for a real elephant could hardly find room on a hallway stand, to say the very least.

No, the elephant was a make-believe elephant. He was small, but he had a trunk and big ears and he was supposed to look just like an elephant, which he did, except in size.

He was made out of a sort of stone and he was exactly the same color as a real, live elephant.

Now, often when Laura would come in from dancing class, or from play, or from school, she would wonder what it would be like to be a stone elephant, and she used to feel very sorry for the elephant, always standing in the same place in the hall.

"I know," she would say, "that the elephant isn't a real, live one, but just the same, it does seem funny to be always in the same place, day after day."

Not long after one of these times when Laura said this as she was going to bed at night, she said to her mother:

"Aren't you glad you're not a stone elephant?" She was almost asleep then—she had had a very busy day—and she was thinking in her half-asleep, half-awake thoughts of the elephant in the downstairs hall.

Of course, her mother said she was very glad she wasn't a stone elephant, and she could see, too, that Laura was very, very sleepy.

Not many moments passed and her light was put out and she was fast asleep in her bed.

A few moments went by and then a few more, and soon Laura heard a tiny squeak.

"What is that?" she asked. The squeaky sound came nearer and nearer, and nearer, and in a second, on the end of the bed, what should Laura see but the elephant!

"I know," the elephant began, without even waiting for Laura to make a cursy as she might have done if he had only given her time, "that you have often wondered about me."

"I have," said Laura. "It is true."

"But," continued the elephant, "you mustn't, for I am very happy. The reason I am happy is because I haven't the brains or the feelings to be unhappy because I am always in one place."

"If I were a real elephant I would want to go out in the sunshine, I would want to eat, I would want to play baseball. Perhaps I would even march in parades. But I'm not a real elephant—I'm only a make-believe one. I haven't any feeling at all—no, not a scrap of feeling."

"And I haven't any brains. I couldn't even smile at you if you were awake. It's the old Dream King who is helping me to smile now."

And Laura noticed that the elephant was smiling, such a funny, droll, stone-elephant smile.

"No, Laura," the elephant continued, "you need never feel sorry for me because I am always in one place. And now—do you know what day tomorrow is? Ah, yes, I was told this by the Dream King, too."

"Yes, the make-believe elephant wants to make a real wish—and that wish is that you may have a VERY HAPPY NEW YEAR!"

Baby Buffalo

The tiny wild calf recently born in the London zoo is said to be one of the smallest calves in the world, for it belongs to a race of dwarf buffalo, or wild cattle, known as Anoa.

"Last Survivors"



W.A. MCKAY AND HARLEY DRIPS TWO 'BUCKTAILS' INTERNATIONAL

By ELMO SCOTT WATSON

RESS dispatches from Chicago recently carried a story about a famous Civil war regiment of which there are now only three survivors out of an original total of 1,184. The story reads as follows:

"Three are all that's left to form a company—that's what they called them in the old days even in the cavalry—but you can't have much of a reunion of the Eight Illinois cavalry with only three to answer roll call even in Memorial hall at Randolph street and Michigan avenue. Since Comrade George Perry, ninety years old, died last summer at his home in Sycamore, there isn't going to be any sixty-fifth annual reunion. Finis is written to the gallant regiment that on October 18 back in 1861 rode up Pennsylvania avenue in Washington past the White House, where the troops halted to give three rousing cheers for Abraham Lincoln. The regiment that the President watching them dubbed in his own quaint phraseology, 'Farnsworth's Big Abolition Regiment.'

"They were eleven hundred and eighty-four strong that day, mounted but without carbines or sabers. John F. Farnsworth, who recruited them, largely from Chicago and Evanston, at Camp Kane, St. Charles, Ill., was elected first colonel of the regiment."

"Those who remain of the regiment that was mustered out of service at Benton Barracks, St. Louis, in June of 1865 and returned to Chicago for final payment and discharge are J. R. Duff of Dundee, Henry Elchfield of Milwaukee and C. W. Blatherwick of Chicago. Comrade Duff was captain of the vanished post."

Such a story could be written about almost every regiment which marched away to war 70 years ago, for of more than three millions who wore the Blue or the Gray in 1861 to 1865, only a handful remain. Last summer in Stillwater, Minn., there took place a dramatic scene which symbolized strikingly the passing of "the rear guard of the Civil war." It was the last meeting of the now-famous "Last Man's Club"—a meeting attended by only one man. He was Charles Lockwood, eighty-seven years old, now a resident of Chamberlain, S. D., but once a member of a group of young men who responded to President Lincoln's first call for volunteers.

It was on Sunday morning, April 21, 1861, that a company of gay young men marched from Stillwater after a night of dancing at the Sawyer house. They went to Fort Snelling, where they were formed into Company B, First Minnesota Volunteer Infantry. Then came Bull Run, battle of Fair Oaks, Antietam and Fredericksburg. They built the Grapevine bridge, salvation of Keyes corps at Seven Pines in '62. After Pickett's charge at Gettysburg only a few of the gallant Company B remained fit for duty.

In 1885 several of the veterans decided to form an organization of their comrades. They met on September 17, 1885. The ranks of the company had declined from 89 to 34. Louis Hospes, father of Al Hospes, known as the "baby" of the company, gave the organization a bottle of Burgundy wine, and it was decided to form a "Last Man's Club," and the last man was to open the wine and drink a final toast to his departed comrades.

These dwarf cattle are very rare, and are found only in the island of Celebes.

The parents stand scarcely three feet in height, being about the size of sheep; and they are very slenderly

met at the Smetport courthouse in answer to summons sent out by General Kane. Three companies, the McKean County Rifles, the Elk County Rifles and the Cameron County Wild Cats, were organized and formed the nucleus of what later became the Bucktail regiment.

It was at Smetport that the insignia by which the regiment came to be known was adopted. The day the recruits assembled at Smetport, April 25, 1861, James Landrean, member of the McKean County Rifles, while passing a meat market where a deer's carcass was on display, cut off the animal's tail, stuck it in his hat and proceeded to headquarters. Thomas L. Kane, who later became a general, observed the buck's tail and seizing upon the idea, announced that the force he was recruiting should be known as the Bucktails. Within a short time the deer's carcass was divested of its hide which was cut into strips to resemble buck tails and attached to their caps.

After marching over the mountains the McKean and Elk county troops joined those of Cameron county at Emporium and continued their march to Driftwood on the Susquehanna, a branch of the Susquehanna river.

Rafts had been constructed of lumber for their journey down the Susquehanna to Lock Haven. And on April 27, 1861, the forces numbering 315 men embarked and at Lock Haven boarded a train for Harrisburg where they were mustered into service.

Last year also saw the passing of an even more famous "last survivor" of the "Lost Cause." For when Maj. Charles M. Stedman died on September 23, 1930, the Congress of the United States lost its sole survivor of the Civil war serving our national legislature. Up until recent years there were a number of Civil war veterans, both those who wore the Blue and those who wore the Gray, in both houses of congress. But the last decade saw the number cut down steadily until 1925 when there were only three left. In that year Gen. Isaac Sherwood of Ohio retired to private life at the age of ninety and his departure marked the passing of the last Union veteran from the house of representatives. In 1929 Senator Francis Warren of Wyoming died and the last Union veteran was gone from the senate. And last year the death of Major Stedman of North Carolina removed not only the last Confederate veteran but also the last Civil war veteran on either side from both houses.

Major Stedman was born January 20, 1841, in Pittsboro, N. C., and entered the University of North Carolina at the age of sixteen. He was graduated from the university in 1861 and received his diploma, but before the commencement exercises could be held he had responded to a call for volunteers and enlisted as a private in the Fayetteville Light Infantry company which was a part of the First North Carolina (or Bethel) regiment. Upon the disbanding of this regiment he joined a company from Chatham county, rose to the rank of lieutenant, then captain and finally major. He served in the army of Gen. Robert E. Lee throughout the war and was present at the historic surrender at Appomattox. Major Stedman was wounded three times during the war but survived his wounds to become a lawyer and to be elected from the Greensboro district of North Carolina to the Sixty-second congress 20 years ago.

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CHARLES LOCKWOOD

wine suppers every year." It was decided to hold the annual reunions on July 21, the anniversary of the Battle of Bull Run. Each year on that day the veterans would assemble at the Sawyer house after a group of them had gone to the first National bank and taken from its vault the old bottle of wine which was kept in a case along with a poem written by the late H. E. Hayden in 1887. The poem was entitled "The Last Survivor to His Dead Comrades."

"The camp fire smolders—ashest fall, The clouds are black against the sky; No taps of drums, no bugle call; My comrades, all goodbye."

By 1929 there were only three of the 34 left—Lockwood, John S. Goff of St. Paul and Peter Hall of Atwater, Minn. Within the next year both Goff and Hall had died, so when July 21, 1930, came around it fell to the lot of Lockwood to hold the last meeting of the "Last Man's Club." So he stood alone among the 23 empty chairs, black-draped, set about a table in the Lowell Inn, which stands on the site of the old Sawyer house—raised his glass in salute "to my comrades!" took a sip of what had once been sparkling Burgundy wine but which had by this time turned to vinegar, and repeated the words of "The Last Survivor to His Dead Comrades." Then with his promise fulfilled he turned away—and the "Last Man's Club" had reached its destiny of dissolution.

When the Grand Army of the Republic went to Portland, Maine, for its annual grand encampment in 1929, two veterans attracted much attention by the insignia which they wore on their hats. The ornament was the tail of a deer, for these two men, William A. McKay of Upton, Pa., and Harley Drips of Derby, Pa., both of the Samuel P. Town post of the G. A. R. in Philadelphia, are among the few survivors of the famous "Bucktail" regiments of Pennsylvania. There were two regiments of "Bucktails" in Civil war days—the First Pennsylvania Rifles and later the One Hundred and Fiftieth Pennsylvania Rifles.

So far as is known the last survivor of the original "Bucktail" regiment, the First Pennsylvania Rifles, died in 1927. An issue of the Potter County Journal at Coudersport, Pa., during that year contained this news story:

The recent death of Charles W. Dickenson, aged eighty-eight, marked the passing of the last member of the original Bucktail regiment, famous for its record during the Civil war.

The regiment, organized in 1861, through the influence of Gen. Thomas L. Kane, founder of the city of Kane, was made up largely of hardy mountaineers of this section of the country. On April 18, 1861, representatives from McKean, Elk and Cameron counties