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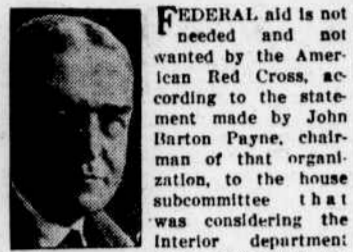
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News Review of Current Events the World Over

Red Cross Rejects Proposed Federal Aid of \$25,000,000 for Drought Relief and Opposition Senators Threaten a Filibuster.

By EDWARD W. PICKARD



J. B. Payne. FEDERAL aid is not needed and not wanted by the American Red Cross, according to the statement made by John Barton Payne, chairman of that organization, to the house subcommittee that was considering the interior department appropriation bill. Mr. Payne said the central committee of the Red Cross had adopted two resolutions, as follows:

"That it is the sense of the central committee that the Red Cross is in a position adequately to complete the task it has undertaken in the drought stricken areas, and it hereby assumes the responsibility of completing said task without public appropriations."

"That it is the sense of the central committee that the Red Cross cannot accept the administration of the funds for general relief purposes, as provided for under the terms of the bill which has passed the senate and is now pending in the house."

Senators who upheld the senate's attempt to give the Red Cross a \$25,000,000 relief appropriation rallied to the defense of that plan and, led by Robinson of Arkansas, denounced the Red Cross, President Hoover and the administration generally. They gave notice that they would filibuster against the general appropriation bills unless what they consider to be adequate relief for the drought areas is granted.

INCREASING pressure in behalf of the plan to make immediate cash payment of bonus certificates to World War veterans was met by Secretary of the Treasury Mellon with a statement to the senate finance committee that such payment was neither needed nor economically sound, and he more than intimated that legislation to that effect would be vetoed by the President.

Both he and Undersecretary Mills told the committee that the proposed bond issue of \$3,400,000,000 for the retirement of the 20-year bonus certificates would not only disturb government finances, but would prolong the business depression. Next day they repeated their arguments before the house ways and means committee.

HARRY E. ROWBOTTOM. Republican congressman from the first district of Indiana, was arrested in Evansville and placed under \$10,000 bonds by United States Commissioner C. E. Harmon. He is charged with having taken \$750 from Walter G. and Aaron Ayer in return for the promise of appointment of Gresham Ayer as a rural mail carrier at Rockport, Ind. Rowbottom's term in congress expires on March 4 next. He was an outstanding member of the 1920 Indiana house of representatives when the Ku Klux Klan began to show its great political influence.

The Post Office department in Washington announced on January 5 the dismissal of four postmasters and the suspension of a rural mail carrier, all in Rowbottom's district. The official statement of the department at that time said that reports prevalent in Indiana that "certain postmasters and others who were applicants for positions in the Post Office department had been paying and causing to be paid various sums of money to a congressman to obtain the appointments desired" were brought to its attention by Senators James E. Watson and Arthur Robinson.

THE Democrat-radical Republican coalition in the senate is still after those three members of the federal power commission, Smith, Garand and Draper, and it appeared certain that Walsh's motion to take quo warranto action to just them would be carried. The matter came up in the lower house on a motion to cut out the appropriation for their salaries, but the representatives decided the quarrel was none of their business and defeated the motion by a vote of 37 to 102.

MAJ. GEN. SMEDLEY D. RUT. Mer, commandant of the marine base at Quantico, Va., whose propensity for speaking his mind freely has

made trouble in the past, has been talking again. This time, before the Contemporary club in Philadelphia, General Butler, according to press reports, made a speech in which he severely criticized Premier Mussolini of Italy, calling him "one of those fellows who are waiting to start another war," and declaring: "He is polishing up all the brass hats in Italy. He is getting very Roman." He also said Mussolini ran over a child with his automobile.

Mussolini cabled a flat denial of the automobile story to Italian Ambassador de Martino, who promptly lodged a protest at the Department of State. Secretary of the Navy Adams called on General Butler for an explanation, and when this was received Secretary Stimson made a formal apology to Italy for Butler's statement. At the same time Mr. Adams ordered that the officer be tried by court martial.

SENATOR CAPPER'S joint resolution authorizing the federal farm board to make 20,000,000 bushels of the wheat it owns available for emergency relief was passed by the senate. The board's revolving fund is to be credited with the cost of the grain at prevailing prices.

HOLDING that as attorney general of the United States he has the right to pass on the professional and ethical fitness of candidates for places on the federal bench, William D. Mitchell has openly and vigorously attacked the qualifications of Ernest A. Michel of Minnesota, recommended for judicial appointment by Thomas Schall, blind senator from that state. Schall has retaliated by questioning the good taste of Mitchell's action and declaring that unless Michel is nominated the post will remain vacant.

The attorney general in this statement asserts that Michel is not qualified for a judgeship and infers that Schall's recommendation was in payment of a political debt. "President Hoover," he adds, "has raised a standard of judicial appointment in which political usefulness does not enter. He has refused repeatedly to be bent by such motives. I am sure that the people of Minnesota approve of his attitude. When it comes to judicial office they want men about whose qualifications there is not room for difference of opinion, not men appointed to pay political debts."

Senator Schall accepted the issue and replied: "I am forced to the conclusion that the attorney general displays less than good taste to say the least when he makes reference to the payment of political debts. It is an infernal insult to the people of our state to even intimate that they would consider political expediency rather than sound qualifications and integrity in their choice of a judicial appointee."

PIERRE LAVAL. Only forty-seven years old, became premier of France and got together a cabinet to succeed that of M. Tardieu. It is a ministry of the right whose political complexion does not differ greatly from that of its predecessor. The radical Socialists refused to participate but politicians in Paris believed the new government would survive. Tardieu accepted the ministry of agriculture, and Briand the foreign affairs portfolio. Laval himself took the portfolio of the interior. The one-legged General Maginot was made minister of war, Dumont of the navy and Dumesnil of the air, while Flandin became minister of finance and Landry of labor. For the first time a Negro is in the cabinet. He is Blaise Diagne of Senegal and is undersecretary of state for the colonies.

POSSIBILITY of another controversy with Canada loomed when it was announced that the two masted auxiliary schooner Josephine K., of Nova Scotia registry, had been captured by a coast guard cutter after a five mile chase in lower New York bay and her skipper, Capt. William F.

Cluett of Lunenburg, Nova Scotia, killed by a shot from a one-pounder. On the schooner and on a garbage scow which was in tow of a tug and also was captured the officials found a large quantity of liquor.

After a conference in the White House, Assistant Secretary of the Treasury Lowman gave out the statement that the coast guard was performing its statutory duty in preventing smuggling.

E. I. Edwards. BEFORE he committed suicide by shooting himself at his home in Jersey City, Edward L. Edwards, former governor of New Jersey and former United States senator, wrote a note to his daughter which gave no explanation of his act. However, his family and business associates knew he had been despondent, and that he was suffering from an incurable disease, so they were less surprised than shocked. In the senate Mr. Edwards was a pioneer of the wets, though he never took a drink of liquor. In 1924 he was mentioned as a Democratic presidential possibility on a wet platform.

In 1928, Mr. Edwards was called back from the convention in Houston, Texas, by the fatal illness of his wife. Broken with sorrow, he entered his campaign for re-election and was defeated by Hamilton F. Kean. Then came financial misfortunes, a break with his lifelong friend, Mayor Frank Hague of Jersey City, and not long ago the death of his favorite brother, David F. Edwards.

WHEN the king and queen of Siam pay their official visit to Washington in April they are to be provided with a residence that will have all the luxuries of a royal palace. Our government has no official home for distinguished visitors and so always borrows one when the occasion arises. This time it has accepted the offer of Larz Anderson, former ambassador to Japan, of his great castle-like house on Massachusetts avenue, and there the royal couple from the Far East and their suite will be housed.

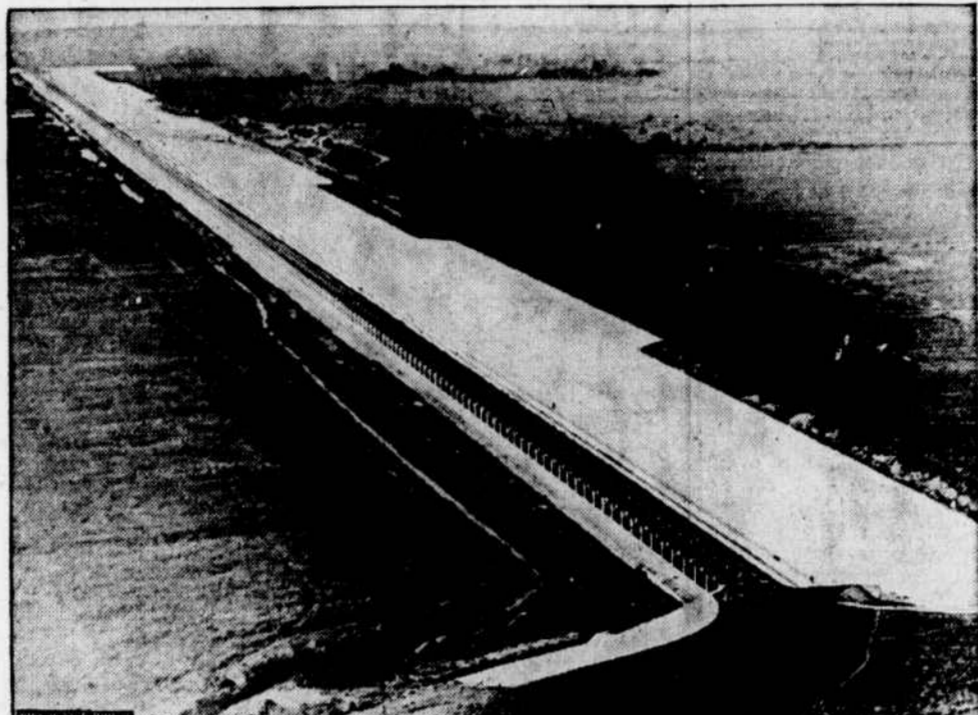
INVESTIGATION of the administration of law in the federal courts throughout the country is to be carried on under the supervision of a committee of which Dean Charles E. Clark of Yale law school has been appointed chairman. Plans for this study were approved by President Hoover's commission on law observance and enforcement.

ASSUMING that the MacDonald government remains in power, Great Britain is likely soon to imitate Italy in one respect. Philip Snowden, chancellor of the exchequer, and his associates are planning a drive to reduce costs and help the British manufacturer to recover his supremacy in the world's export markets. The scheme proposed includes a 10 per cent cut in wages and a similar reduction in the prices of all goods and commodities. The British working man, according to officials, would be as well off as ever though receiving less for his work. Mr. Snowden has been sounding out the large employers on the plan, and in a letter to prominent manufacturers has intimated that the government in its next budget would set the example by making a cut of 10 per cent in the salaries of all government employees. The trade unions have been consulted and have given the scheme their approval.

CARRYING out the policy and plans of the British government, Lord Irwin, viceroy of India, decreed the unconditional release from prison of Mahatma Gandhi and his chief lieutenants, all members of the working committee of the all-India national congress. The "holy man," desiring to avoid demonstrations, did not leave the Yeravda jail until eleven o'clock at night. Clad only in a loin cloth, he took a train for Bombay, where he was met by immense crowds of adoring and rejoicing natives.

Gandhi told interviewers that he emerged from jail with an absolutely open mind unfettered by enmity and prepared to study the whole situation and the statement of Prime Minister MacDonald. He still insisted every political prisoner in India should be freed, but said he did not yet know what would be his course if the British government would not consent to this.

Diverting the Waters of the Mississippi River



The Bonnet Carré spillway, 28 miles above New Orleans, is rapidly nearing completion, and when finished will divert the waters of the Mississippi river into Lake Pontchartrain when swirling floods threaten the city. All that remains to be done on the \$3,000,000 safety valve is the completion of side levees from the spillway to the river. This interesting airview shows the expanse of concrete.

Stool Pigeon Is Put on Spot

New York Gangsters Turn Trick That Doesn't Excite Police Much.

New York.—To wine and dine a young man, particularly a youth who fancies himself and his reputation as a "tough guy," and then to pick out a nice hot spot for him and fill him full of lead, while he is standing on it is nothing new in the realm of gangland murders.

So the police of New York and of New Jersey are not working any too hard at the task which confronts them in so far as the task concerns discovery of the murderer of Cheeks Luciano, whose parents christened him Nicholas. Should it turn out, however, as it may, that the demise of Luciano is in some way connected with one or two of his past offenses, or with the notable difference of opinion between him and Bum Rodgers, then possibly they might be willing to work a little harder.

RODGERS in "Solitary Star." It is well-known police history, in those places where such history is really recorded—and that is not in the record books or files of any department, but rather in the memory of detectives—that back in 1928 somebody told the New York police where they could find that same Bum Rodgers. They found him, too. And since then Bum who carried the reputation for being just about as tough a general crook as ever operated in and around the city, has been in solitary "stir" in New York's "Siberia," or Dannemora prison.

The Bum, as they say, faces life, if he lives that long. He is not, so say the grapevine reports, standing his imprisonment well.

It is whispered that Bum Rodgers, who was all tyrant when he was back of a revolver with his muzzle pointing toward some one else, has become fed up with his 10 or 12 feet of exercise pen, his days upon days of being alone and his inability to see or do anything without a guard watching him.

REVENGE for Rodgers? If he is in that frame of mind, and word of some such condition has reached the police, he most certainly can't be terribly enthusiastic when he thinks of the events which put him where he is. And outstanding among such events is the fact that some one told the police where he could be found.

Cheeks Luciano is dead. His mur-

Musk Oxen Herd to Find Home in Alaskan Wilds

New York.—Musk oxen, the strange creatures which make their home in the northernmost part of Greenland, are soon to try the life of Alaskan pioneers in one of the most ambitious of all game stocking experiments.

Thirty-four of these bison-like animals, valued both as noble game animals and as a food source, were captured last summer in Greenland, and after a 5,000-mile journey in crates have been landed at Fairbanks, Alaska, the United States biological survey has informed the American Game Protective association.

These 34 animals will form the nucleus of a herd with which it is hoped to stock the Alaska barrens, for it is believed that the animals will thrive in their new surroundings. For the present they are confined for study in a 40-acre enclosure at the agricultural college experiment station at College, Alaska.

When first landed the musk oxen were reluctant to leave the crates in which they had traveled all the way from Greenland, but once outside they quickly made themselves at home.

Dry Lake May Flood San Joaquin Valley

Corcoran, Calif.—Tulare lake, marked on many maps as permanently dry, may again come back and flood the 750 square miles of the San Joaquin valley it once covered.

C. E. Grunsky, government engineer, is the authority for that prediction. The lake was alternately dry and full for several decades until lately when it has been dry most of every year.

Grunsky points out that studies of trees and other natural records show the lake has covered as much as 750 square miles many times, and once covered 800 square miles. For periods of as long as half a century the lake has averaged 350 square miles in area and for equal periods it has been practically dry, he points out.

Tulare lake bottom for the last half century has proven one of the most fertile large areas devoted to wheat in the United States.

Poor Girl Wins Sight and Music From Duce

Pola, Italy.—Maria Rinoselli's life dream has come true, because she had the courage to write a letter to Mussolini.

Maria, who is twenty years old, was born blind, but to offset her affliction she had a natural gift for the piano. An operation would give her sight; but her family, poor people, could not afford it any more than they could afford to buy her a piano. She wrote the Duce, asking his aid.

In return, Mussolini sent her money for the operation, which was successful, and enough extra to buy the piano she had always wanted.



ACKLING GEESE

"Well," cackled some of the geese who were strutting and waddling around the barnyard, "it is funny to hear the turkeys talking about how much life means to them."

"They're used for holiday dinners. They were eaten at Christmas time."

"What's that?" asked some of the younger turkeys. "We said dinners," said the geese.

"Dinner for us, or are we to be the dinner?" asked some of the turkeys anxiously.

"You are to be the dinner," said the geese, "or perhaps we should say that some of the members of your family were the dinners."

"Ha, ha, ha, ha," they shrieked in their shrill voices, "turkeys are enjoyed for dinners."

"Now, children," said old Grandfather Turkey, "you must not mind if you are ever eaten for dinners."

"It's an honor that belongs to turkeys alone—that is the honor of being chosen for very special and fine and holiday dinners."

"Just imagine how fine and wonderful it is to be eaten at the greatest dinner in the year!"

But the turkey children were not happy. They didn't want to be eaten for the finest dinner in the land.

"We'd rather be eating all the time ourselves," they said.

"Ah," said Grandmother Turkey, "I remember how frightened I used to get. But you mustn't, turkeys, for it is really an honor, and you would feel as if indeed if no one thought anything of you."

"That's why you've been so well fed, and are so nicely looked after. Suppose you had to hunt and work to get good things to eat, and seek for a comfortable place to sleep."

"It's better this way. If your life is not so long as the life of another, it's much more fun to have it this way and be well fed and looked after while you're about."

"And you must remember, children," said Grandfather Turkey, "that on Christmas Day, old Santa Claus, one of the most famous old men in the world, visits all the homes of the children."

"Now, aren't you flattered?"

"Here, cheer up," came from a voice nearby.

There stood Billie Brownie.

"We're going to give you a party," he said. And the turkeys went on a party with the brownies—along on the back of Fly-High, the Elves' bird.

Fly-High had been borrowed for the occasion. You know he is a magic bird in Elfland.

The turkeys had a splendid time, and they went off gobbling for all they were worth.

When they reached Elfland the brownies and the elves gave a circus and the turkeys were delighted.

But when they came back to the barnyard the geese were cackling and talking and saying:

"They didn't ask us to the party. But do we care? No, we like to be ourselves."

And the brownies and the elves knew that.

TRICK TO TRY

This little trick is very easily performed, but you must first of all find some very thin writing paper. Now, when you have this, tear a small square off, and ask a chum to write down the name of some animal in block letters on the paper. Give him a pen to do this, and while he is writing turn away, so that you cannot see what he is writing.

Now, quickly step in front of a mirror, and then ask your chum to place the paper writing inwards, against your forehead. The ink will show through the paper, and in a mirror you will be able to read exactly what your chum has written.

Famous Cat Dead; Was Stage and Screen Fan

Laporte, Ind.—Mike, a ten-year-old cat that has not missed seeing a moving picture or vaudeville act at the Laporte theater since it was built, has died of old age.

The animal was owned by the house manager and always sat on the theater piano watching the films the first night they were shown. Other nights he walked around the screen to find where the players went.

Mike had been used in many vaudeville acts.

Three in One Family Hold Political Jobs

Rochester, N. H.—All three members of the Greenfield family will hold either state or city offices during the coming year.

Mrs. Della Greenfield will be a member of the school board. Her husband is a city councilman. Their daughter, Della, is a member of the state legislature.

HAS ISLAND POST



George C. Butte of Texas who has just been sworn in as vice governor of the Philippines and will soon leave for Manila.