

News Review of Current Events the World Over

Sugar Lobby Gift Story Under Investigation, Senator Davis Promising Help—Lame Duck Sessions Probably Will Be Abolished.

By EDWARD W. PICKARD



IN THE closing days of the session of congress the senate ran into what gave some promise of developing into another lobbying scandal. Mr. Borah read to it an article in a New York newspaper which said, in effect, that a senator, during his former occupancy of a high official position, had received \$100,000 from the president of a domestic sugar company in return for his agreement to lobby for a high sugar tariff. Senator Nye of North Dakota had already alluded to the story, deploring the fact that such an unsubstantiated report had been given publicity and credence. Replying to questions, Nye admitted that the campaign expenditure committee, of which he is chairman, had come upon the report of a \$100,000 gift to a senator, had incompletely investigated it and had turned over a memorandum to the committee on lobbying. He said he thought the senator in question was entitled to have an inquiry made and the truth established by the lobby committee, which is headed by Senator Caraway of Arkansas.

At the instance of Senator Borah, supported by Senator Robinson of Arkansas, the senate instructed the lobby committee to investigate the story.

Immediately thereafter Senator James J. Davis of Pennsylvania, former secretary of labor, announced off the senate floor that he stood ready to appear before the lobby committee at any time and that he would assure the committee of the presence of several witnesses whom it would desire to hear. Among the witnesses he named was Bror G. Dahlberg of Chicago, president of the Southern Sugar company. Mr. Davis declared he would assist the committee in investigating the charges "to the bottom."

Appearing later before the lobby committee, Senator Davis declared the charges, if directed at him, were absolutely false.

WITH little or no expectation that his veto would be sustained, President Hoover put the mark of his disapproval on the veterans' bonus loan bill. His veto message to congress included data provided by Secretary Mellon showing how the bonus loans would aggravate the financing difficulties of the treasury, and also new estimates of the number of veterans who will apply for the loans.

ABOLISHMENT of the "lame duck" session of congress seemed assured when the house adopted the Gifford resolution to that effect and providing for the inauguration of the newly elected President in January instead of March. The resolution, which proposes an amendment to the Constitution, differs somewhat from the Norris measure passed by the senate with the same purpose, but it was believed the differences would be ironed out in conference. It is planned that the terms of the President and Vice President shall end on the twenty-fourth day of January and the terms of senators and representatives at noon on the fourth day of January of the years in which such terms normally would end. Congress would assemble on January 4, and the President would be sworn in on January 24.

ONE of Oklahoma's lame duck republican congressmen, U. S. Stone of Norman, put forth a parting wall that aroused little if any sympathy among the national law makers but considerable among the public at large. Mr. Stone had introduced a bill barring relatives of members of congress and of high officials from becoming federal employees, and the other day he called at the White House to ask President Hoover's support for the measure and also to tell what this attack on nepotism was getting him. "I never dreamed," said Mr. Stone, "that a simple, constructive move on my part could make such a difference. I pass fellow house members in the hallways of the office building and they do not speak to me. My wife is

punished for my daring. Even bureau clerks in legislative departments give me the cold shoulder and interfere with my work as a member of the house.

"I have had members whisper that I am right, but that I would not succeed. Others have warned me that I would suffer for my rashness. The reaction against my proposal to make it 'unlawful' for any legislative, ministerial, or judicial officer to appoint any person related to him when the pay is to come out of public funds has been most extraordinary."

The last annual report of the clerk of the house reveals that approximately 100 relatives are now on the pay rolls of members, and a survey shows that many of these have never done a lick of work in the offices for which they got their appointments.

ONLY a veto by President Hoover can keep the government from going into the power business, for the senate joined with the house in accepting the conference report on Muscle Shoals. The senate vote was 55 to 28. This indicated that a veto would be sustained. Twenty Republicans voted for the measure, eleven of them being of the radical group which has the power question for its chief issue.

Another rebuff for the administration was administered when the house passed Senator Wagner's bill setting up federal and state employment agencies, without a record vote. It was believed President Hoover might kill the measure by a pocket veto.



MINNESOTA Democrats announced, through Chairman J. J. Farrell of their state executive committee, that they would try to unseat Senator Thomas D. Schall, Republican, who was re-elected last November in a five-cornered contest. Farrell said Schall would be charged with violating the state corrupt practices act and also with violating federal regulations governing the use of postal franking privileges, and that the state elections committee would be asked to declare the seat vacant so that a new election may be called.

When Senator Schall was told of this in Washington he said only: "That does not deserve comment."

The blind senator's dispute with President Hoover and Attorney General Mitchell over the appointment of a new federal judge for Minnesota continues. After rejecting Schall's choice for the post, Ernest D. Michel of Minneapolis, the President named Gunnar B. Nordbye, now a Minneapolis district judge, and Schall immediately announced he would contest the nomination in the senate. His course in this matter, it is said, has led some Hoover Republicans in Minnesota to support the ouster move.

ONCE again the United States Supreme court has upheld the validity of the Eighteenth amendment. This time the action, which was unanimous, was in reviewing the decision of Federal Judge William Clark of Newark, N. J., who held that the amendment should have been ratified by state legislatures instead of by state conventions. This decision was reversed, the opinion being written by Justice Owen D. Roberts, the newest member of the Supreme court.

In a case appealed from Michigan, the Supreme court held that the severe penalties of the Jones "five and ten" law are not applicable to conviction for possession of liquor.

DRY Democrats in congress were exceedingly active during the week getting ready for the meeting of the Democratic national committee scheduled for March 5. Chairman John J. Raskob had announced that the committee would consider future policies of the party, and assuming that he would try to commit it to the wet side of the prohibition controversy, the dries were lining up to fight him to the bitter end. Senator Morrison of North Carolina, one of the most arid ones, said his group

had enough votes to defeat any wet resolution. Senator George of Georgia asserted the committee had no right to form party policies, that being the function of the national convention. Other Democratic leaders were anxious to head off any discussion of the liquor issue.

Naturally the approaching committee meeting caused a lot of talk about presidential possibilities. The names heard oftenest were those of Governor Roosevelt of New York, Governor Ritchie of Maryland and Senator-elect James Hamilton Lewis of Illinois. In Chicago there developed quite a boom for Colonel Lewis on his return home from a sojourn in the Southwest.



President Cerro

COUNTER revolution broke out in Peru under the leadership of friends of the deposed president, Augusto Leguia, and threatened the regime of Provisional President Luis M. Sanchez Cerro. The uprising was quelled in Callao but the revolutionists seized Arequipa and set up a government under the name "Southern Junta." They were joined by considerable parts of the army and held control of southern Peru.

To prove the sincerity of his intentions in leading the August revolution, Cerro issued a proclamation declaring that he would not be a candidate for the presidency when the elections are held. This, he and his adherents thought, would pacify the Arequipa rebels and lead to peace through negotiations.

PEHR EVIND SVINHUFVUD, who has just been elected president of Finland, is going to have the prohibition question put up to him promptly. Distinguished women of the country, of all parties, are circulating a petition asking his support of a speedy repeal of the "pernicious prohibition law."

BECAUSE of divided opposition William Hale Thompson won re-election by the Republicans for mayor of Chicago after one of the hottest primary contests that city has ever enjoyed. The attack on him was fierce and he would have been beaten by Judge John Lyle, "nemesis" of the gunmen and gangsters, had it not been for the candidacy of Alderman Albert who was supported by Senator Deneen and his dwindling faction. The hope of those Chicagoans who seek to eliminate Thompsonianism now rests with Anton Cermak, who is the nominee of the Democrats.

THOUGH King Alfonso of Spain told American correspondents that all was calm in his country now and that danger of a revolution had passed, Admiral Juan Aznar, the new premier, was not finding the sailing weather especially fine. This was mainly because the national executive committee of the Socialist party and the labor union decided to boycott the national elections and co-operate fully with the Republican revolutionary committee. This determination was so forcible that some of the moderate leaders among the Socialists resigned from the committee, their places being filled with real revolutionists.

These resignations ended the government's dream of splitting the revolutionary ranks by divorcing the Socialists and their 800,000 workers with their terrible weapon of a general strike from the purely Republican element with their backing among the bourgeoisie and friendly soldiery.

The government announced that the municipal elections, the first in a series of elections that will end eventually in balloting for an assembly to amend the constitution, would take place on April 12 instead of March 29. Educational institutions, closed by the Berenguer government a month ago, are ordered reopened.

In his talk with correspondents Alfonso said he had done all he could to satisfy his people and that he was willing to give up almost everything but his crown, which, he added, was not his to give away, being his inheritance of which he is only the temporary holder.

Medal for the Byrd Explorers



The winning design for a medal to be presented to the members of the Byrd Antarctic expedition. The design was selected out of 17 submitted to the Navy department and approved by the commission of fine arts. It is the work of Francis N. Packer of Rockville Centre, N. Y.

Young Fascists to Drill Every Sunday

Two Million Italian Boys and Girls Enrolled in Youth Movement.

Rome.—Thousands of squads, platoons and companies of boys in Fascist uniform march in disciplined military formations every Sunday in Italy.

Athletic youths in olive-green breeches, black shirts and fezlike caps with swinging tassels go through military drill to the commands of Fascist militia officers in hundreds of towns. Some drill with rifles, others without. From rifle ranges is heard the crack of target practice.

This is an outward manifestation of one of the most notable and significant institutions of the Fascist regime—the Opera Nazionale Balilla—comprising some 2,083,240 boys and girls between eight and eighteen years. Upon this voluntary organization the Fascist state is placing its greatest reliance for the perpetuation of the regime and the moral, physical and military education of rising generations. Fascism is centering its hopes for the future in youth, physical fitness and guns.

Military Only One Phase.

The military phase is only one, and not the most important, aspect of this remarkable Fascist institution, although emphasis is laid upon semi-military training in the later stages between fourteen and eighteen.

Between the ages of eight and fourteen most emphasis is laid upon moral and physical education. This stage resembles the Boy and Girl Scout movement, although more nationalistic. Sometimes little boys march with toy rifles. Some of the older girls are taught the use of the rifle and marksmanship.

Children are inculcated with the concepts of Fascism from the beginning, in accordance with the primary purposes of the movement. The Balilla's manual says: "It must nourish their minds and form them to Fascist standards, impregnating them with all that is high, noble and pure in the doctrine of new Italy," and complete the state program by "constant intellectual propaganda."

The institution is organized on the basis of the armies of ancient Rome and is composed of a squadron of 11 children. Three squadrons form a platoon; three platoons form a company, and so on to the legion, which comprises nine companies.

497 Legions on Parade.

On the last anniversary of the Fascist "march of Rome" it was announced there were 497 legions of boys between eight and fourteen and 288 legions between fourteen and eighteen years. The movement is divided into four great divisions—two for boys and two for girls—which are, respectively: Balilla, Avanguardisti, Piccole Italiani and Giovane Italia.

The latest membership figures given by Giovanni Giurati, secretary of the Fascist party, are as follows: Balilla, 954,963; Avanguardisti, 895,708; Piccole Italiani, 640,000, and Giovane Italia, 92,630, making a total of 1,550,611 boys and 732,630 girls in the organization.

The most extensive activities of the Balilla organization are devoted to

Stork Beats Reaper in Race at Buffalo

Buffalo, N. Y.—More babies were born and fewer persons died this year in Buffalo than in 1929.

Health Commissioner Francis E. Fronczak announced that there were 6,575 deaths in Buffalo for the 11-month period ending November 30, 300 less than the same period in 1929. He also said that 24 more births were recorded for the same period, 10,684 babies being born during 1930.

Brest to Heap Honor on American Navy

Brest, France.—Officials of this port have sent invitations to Gen. John J. Pershing, Ambassador Walter Edge and officials of the Navy department in Washington to attend the dedication July 4, 1931, of the great granite memorial to the United States navy's heroism in the World war.

The naval memorial is being erected in the Cours d'AJot. It will commemorate the gallantry of the men of the United States navy.

It is expected that part of the American fleet in European waters will steam into the roads for the ceremony. The memorial is a granite tower 135 feet high, resembling a lighthouse. The design was approved by the American battle monuments commission. At the summit an electric lantern which will be seen many miles at sea will be erected. A public garden will surround the shaft. The cost is estimated at \$125,000.

Hen Takes Over Job of Raising Small Puppies

Russellville, Ark.—Fronie, the police dog, and Henny Penny, the hen, are on the "outs" with each other.

One day Fronie left her seven newly-born pups to search for something to eat and returned to find the hen sitting on as many pups as her wings would cover. Fronie objected but received only a sharp peck for her pains.

Now Henny Penny sits all day trying vainly to "protect" all seven of the puppies at once with quick pecks at anyone who dares touch her foster children.

Every now and then Fronie, by force, chases the Rhode Island hen out of the dog box and gives her offspring a light lunch.

Old Trade Gave County in Wisconsin Its Name

Lancaster, Wis.—A trader, who roamed among Indian tribes of this region wearing his brass cooking kettle as a helmet, gave Grant county its name.

Although bordering on the Illinois county where Ulysses S. Grant resided, the Wisconsin subdivision bore the name Grant before the former general and President was born.

Grant, the trader, followed the trails of Marquette and La Salle into this country, where he arrived about 1800.

Locomotive Seized in Payment of Fines

Walnut Ridge, Ark.—A Frisco locomotive was recently attached here by Sheriff R. B. Warner to obtain payment of fines assessed against the line in Circuit court.

The decision of the court for fines aggregating \$5,000 was affirmed by the United States Supreme court, and when the company refused payment the sheriff seized a fast locomotive.

Farmer Wants to Swap Cow for Auto License

Jefferson City, Mo.—Secretary of State Charles U. Becker has received concrete evidence that times are hard in the drought area of southwest Missouri.

A farmer, stating that his only means of getting to town is by a 1919 model roadster, wrote to Becker asking if he could trade a couple of good cows for a 1931 automobile license, the cost of which is \$10.50.

First of New Navy Fighting Planes

Fifteen fast Boeing wasp-powered fighting planes, which reached a speed of 350 miles per hour in a 10,000-foot vertical power dive and which will be used as deck fighters and diving bombers by the naval air service, were delivered in Seattle, Wash., to the airplane carrier Lexington by the Boeing airplane company on its contract for 46 airplanes of this type. They are said to out-speed the navy fighters of any other nation. Special flotation bags keep the plane afloat if forced down at sea. These fighters carry machine guns and bombs.



FAIRY PARTY

"We thought we'd have a fine party," the fairies said.

"What sort of a party?" asked some of the other fairies who awoke just then.

"A soap bubble party," said Fairy Ybab.

"We'll blow soap bubbles," said Fairy Princess Joy.

"Fine," said the rest of the fairies.

So Fairy Ybab and Fairy Princess Joy got some of their very fine soap which makes such wondrous soap bubbles, and the rest of the brownies got the bowls filled with water and the pipes.

Then they began to blow the soap bubbles. Ah, what fun they had.

They all put on their little green aprons so they wouldn't get wet, for in blowing soap bubbles one is apt to get wet—even a fairy.

Fairy Ybab blew so many, oh, so many! And the others did the same.

Oh, what fun they had! Such great, great fun. And then they had games to see who could blow the greatest number.

"We have such magic soap," said one of the fairies.

"Of course, it is magic soap," said Fairy Princess Joy.

"Yes, fairies," said Fairy Ybab. "It is indeed magic soap. And we have something to do with it afterward."

Most of the fairies knew what Ybab meant, but there were some new ones who didn't know.

They played all the morning and all the afternoon. They all blew bubbles



"No! We Haven't Had Nearly Enough."

at the same time and they saw whose bubbles lasted the longest.

And they thought of all sorts of games and funny tricks to play.

It was late in the afternoon when Fairy Princess Joy said:

"Have we had enough soap bubbles, or soap bubble blowing?"

All of the fairies shouted:

"No! We haven't had nearly enough."

Then, some of the fairies who thought they knew what Fairy Princess Joy meant, said:

"Why?"

"Because I thought it might be nice to come back to our own soap bubbles later on, when it is getting darker. We can ask the brownies and gnomes to come and join us and have a very big party."

"But I have something I thought we all might like to do now."

"Tell them about it, Fairy Princess Joy," said Fairy Ybab. "and I am sure they will all want to do what you suggest."

Then the fairies who thought they knew what Fairy Princess Joy was going to say were certain that they knew, and those who hadn't any idea were so anxious to hear about it and begged her to tell them right away.

Have you any idea what her suggestion was?

Well, she wanted all of them to take a little package of their magic soap and go around wherever children were blowing bubbles and scatter some of it in their bowls so that their soap bubbles would become very, very fine.

And if you were blowing bubbles that day you would have noticed that never before had your bubbles been so wonderful.

How He Got the Jam

A pet monkey one day spied some raspberry jam a neighbor had been making, and had played in the garden to cool, but had scarcely started helping himself to it when he was discovered.

With a loud outcry and a broom the lady started toward him. The mischievous beast hastily overturned the bowl on the table. Then, rolling himself in it several times joyously from head to foot, he scampered beyond her reach. For the rest of the day he was able to sit scrapping the jam from his body, and licking his paws with glee.